

Habitats Regulations Assessment of the South Norfolk Village Cluster Housing Allocations Plan

Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Addendum HRA Report

June 2024



LEPUS CONSULTING
LANDSCAPE, ECOLOGY, PLANNING & URBAN SUSTAINABILITY

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Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Addendum HRA Report

LC-654	Document Control Box
Client	South Norfolk Council
Report Title	Habitats Regulations Assessment Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Addendum
Status	Final
Filename	LC-654_South Norfolk_VCHAP_HRA_Report_10_210624SC.docx
Date	June 2024
Author	SC
Reviewed	ND
Approved	ND

Photo: Eurasian wigeon (*Anas Penelope*)

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Abbreviations

AA	Appropriate Assessment
AL	Abstraction Licencing
AWS	Anglian Water Services
CJEU	Court of Justice of the European Union
CIEEM	Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
DfT	Department for Transport
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges
DTA	David Tyldesley and Associates
EA	Environment Agency
GI	Green Infrastructure
GIRAMS	Green Infrastructure Recreational Avoidance Mitigation Strategy
GIS	Geographic Information System
GNLP	Greater Norwich Local Plan
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
IAQM	Institute of Air Quality Management
IRZ	Impact Risk Zone
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LSE	Likely Significant Effect
NE	Natural England
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NPPG	National Planning Practice Guidance
NWL	Norwich Western Link
PRoW	Public Right of Way
RAM	Resource Assessment and Management
RAMS	Recreational Avoidance Mitigation Strategy
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SANG	Suitable Area of Natural Greenspace
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SIP	Site Improvement Plan
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest

SuDS	Sustainable Urban Drainage
WCS	Water Cycle Study
WeBS	Wetland Bird Survey
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WRMP	Water Resources Management Plan
VCHAP	Village Clusters Housing Allocations Plan

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 South Norfolk Council recently adopted the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP), produced jointly with Broadland District and Norwich City Councils, which identifies how many homes need to be built between 2018 and 2038 across the three Council areas. Within the overall housing requirement, the GNLP sets a target for a minimum of 1,200 homes on new allocations across 48 Village Clusters in South Norfolk.
- 1.1.2 To meet this target, the South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Allocations Plan (VCHAP) aims to deliver sustainable growth within the villages of South Norfolk, in accordance with Government's national planning policies and guidance - see Figure 1.1 for location of plan area.
- 1.1.3 Lepus Consulting has been appointed by the Council to undertake a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) alongside the preparation of the Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Addendum Version of the VCHAP¹. This HRA provides an update to the HRA that was originally prepared to support the January 2023 Regulation 19 publication. It addresses changes made through the addendum version of the VCHAP (see **Section 2.2**).
- 1.1.4 This report is structured as follows:
- Chapter 1: Introduction;
 - Chapter 2: The South Norfolk Village Cluster Housing Allocations Plan;
 - Chapter 3: The HRA Process;
 - Chapter 4: Methodology;
 - Chapter 5: Habitats Sites;
 - Chapter 6: Impact Pathways;
 - Chapter 7: VCHAP Screening;
 - Chapter 8: Appropriate Assessment – water impacts;
 - Chapter 9: Appropriate Assessment – recreational impacts; and
 - Chapter 10: Conclusions.

¹ South Norfolk Local Plan (July, 2024) South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Allocation Plan. Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Addendum.



Figure 1.1: South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Allocations Plan (VCHAP) area location map

1.2 Purpose of this report

- 1.2.1 This HRA has been prepared in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)², known as the Habitats Regulations. When preparing development plan documents, councils are required by law to carry out an HRA. The requirement for authorities to comply with the Habitats Regulations when preparing a local plan is also noted in the Government's online planning practice guidance³.
- 1.2.2 The purpose of this report is to inform the HRA of the VCHAP using best available information. South Norfolk Council, as the Competent Authority, will have responsibility to make the Integrity Test. This can be undertaken in light of the conclusions set out in this report, having regard to representations made by Natural England under the provisions of Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations.

² The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 SI No. 2017/1012, TSO (The Stationery Office), London. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24] as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2019/9780111176573> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24]

³ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (July 2019) Planning Practice Guidance Note, Appropriate Assessment, Guidance on the use of Habitats Regulations Assessment

2 The South Norfolk Village Cluster Housing Allocations Plan

2.1 Greater Norwich Local Plan

- 2.1.1 The GNLP identifies how many homes need to be built across the three authorities of South Norfolk Council, Broadland Council and Norwich City Council between 2018 and 2038, provides up to date policy to guide development and meet Government requirements set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)⁴. The GNLP has now been adopted by South Norfolk Council.
- 2.1.2 Policies 7.1 to 7.4 of the GNLP provide details regarding the distribution of growth across Greater Norwich, along with location specific strategic policies for the different growth areas. Policy 7.4 sets out permitted and allocated housing growth in the village clusters. GNLP Policies 7.1 and 7.4 also support windfall development for affordable housing in the village clusters in both Broadland and South Norfolk, with some market housing permitted where it supports viability, including self/custom-build. The policies allow for infill and small extensions in those parts of village clusters which have a settlement boundary.

2.2 South Norfolk Village Cluster Housing Allocations Plan

- 2.2.1 The Council has prepared a new local plan document that identifies land for a minimum of 1,200 new homes in appropriate villages across South Norfolk up to 2038. This is known as the South Norfolk Village Cluster Housing Allocations Plan (VCHAP).
- 2.2.2 Within the overall housing requirement, the GNLP sets a target for a minimum of 1,200 homes on new allocations across 48 Village Clusters in South Norfolk. The VCHAP seeks to allocate a series of smaller sites, typically within the range of 12 to 50 homes, across the 48 Village Clusters, to accommodate at least 1,200 new homes. The Plan also defines the Settlement Limits for the villages within these clusters, making provision for further smaller sites and incorporating revisions to reflect development that has occurred, or has been permitted since the boundaries were last updated.
- 2.2.3 The VCHAP was published for public consultation between 7th June and 2nd August 2021, under Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012⁵. This provided members of the public and stakeholders with an opportunity to provide views on the sites that had been promoted, the assessments undertaken, the proposed changes to settlement limits and suggestions on policy wording.

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

⁵ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2012/767/contents/made>

- 2.2.4 The Council previously published a Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Version of the Village Clusters Plan between 23 January and 8 March 2023. The Regulation 19 version of the Plan was the one which the Council intended to submit to the Secretary of State for Examination in Public and, ultimately, adopt as part of the Local Plan. However, following the close of the Regulation 19 publication period it became apparent that a site of 25 dwellings in Rockland St Mary (VC ROC2) could no longer be considered achievable, as a suitable vehicular access cannot currently be delivered. Combined with a reduction in 5 dwellings on VC TAS1 (Tasburgh) in response to concerns raised by Historic England, the total allocations in the Village Clusters Plan fell below the minimum 1,200 dwellings required by the GNLP. To assess options to address this shortfall the Council undertook a focused consultation between 11 December 2023 and 5 February 2024 under Regulation 18.
- 2.2.5 The VCHAP was updated in light of the representations received and further evidence gathered. The current version of the VCHAP, as assessed in this HRA, is the Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Addendum Version of the plan⁶.
- 2.2.6 Once adopted, the VCHAP (alongside the adopted GNLP) will supersede the existing Joint Core Strategy for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk (2011 and subsequently readopted 2014)⁷ and the South Norfolk Local Plan Site Specific Allocations and Policies Document (2015)⁸. However, the 2015 Development Management Policies Document⁹ will remain in place.
- 2.2.7 Non-housing sites in the South Norfolk Village Clusters, such as employment allocations or stand-alone sites for specific uses, such as sports and recreation facilities, are dealt with through the GNLP.

2.3 Village clusters

- 2.3.1 There are 48 Village Clusters in South Norfolk (see Table 2.1 and Figure 2.1). Some contain a single parish, whilst others contain multiple parishes. In line with the approach set out in the GNLP, each one is centred around a local Primary School. The allocations within the Village Clusters are split into two categories
- New Allocations: These are sites proposed for between 12 to 50 dwellings, which will contribute towards the 1,200 dwelling requirement in the GNLP; and
 - Settlement Limit Extensions: for sites smaller than 12 dwellings, these will not contribute towards the 1,200 dwelling requirement, but will help ensure that the 'windfall allowance' in the GNLP is achieved.

⁶ South Norfolk Local Plan (July, 2024) South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Allocation Plan. Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Addendum.

⁷ Greater Norwich Development Partnership (2011) Joint Core Strategy for Broadland, Norwich and South Norfolk. Available at: <https://www.gnlp.org.uk/node/30> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

⁸ South Norfolk Local Plan Site Specific Allocations and Policies Document (2015) Available at: <https://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/residents/planning/planning-policy/adopted-south-norfolk-local-plan/site-specific-allocations-and> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

⁹ South Norfolk Council (2015) Development Management Policies Document. Available at: <https://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk/residents/planning/planning-policy/adopted-south-norfolk-local-plan/development-management-policies> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

2.3.2 The threshold of 12 dwellings is consistent with the GNLP and reflects the fact that sites smaller than this are less likely to achieve the required element of affordable housing.

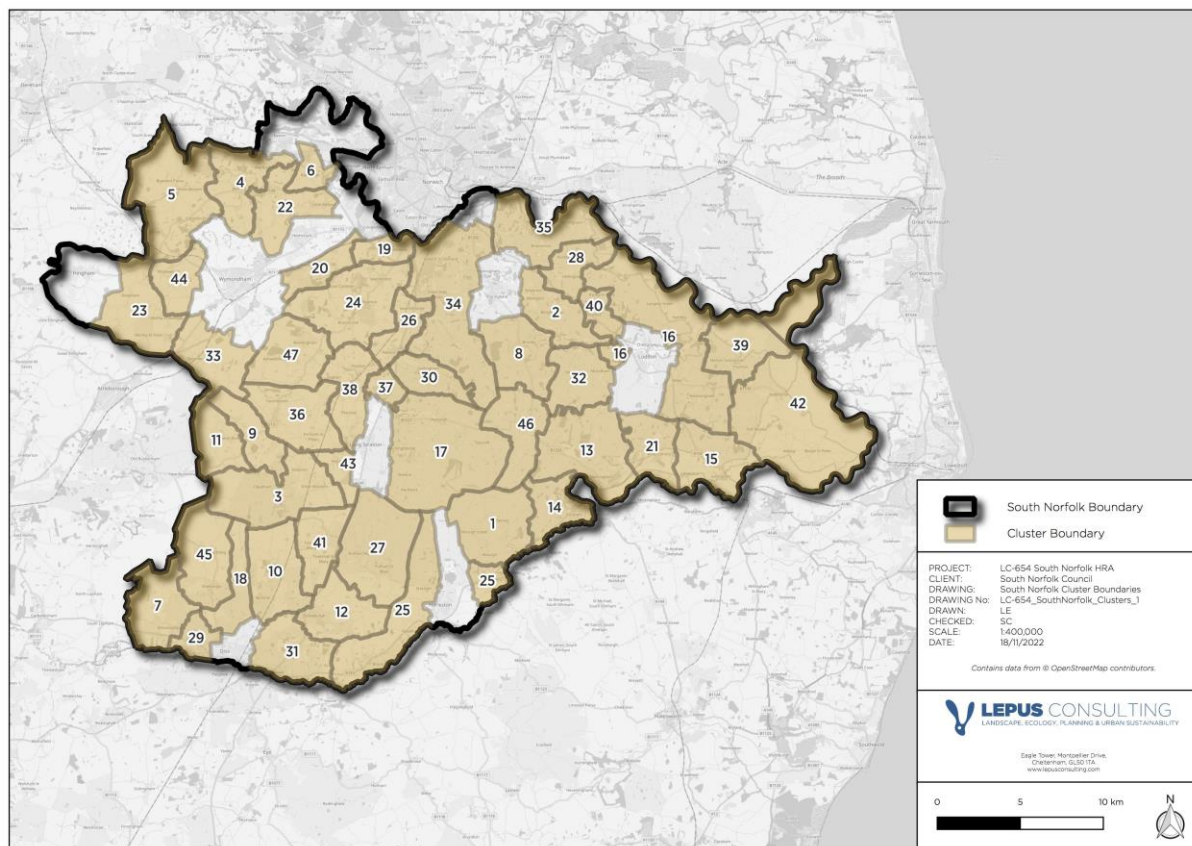


Figure 2.1: VCHAP Village Clusters (Cluster codes provided in Table 2.1)

Table 2.1: Village Clusters

Cluster Number	Village Cluster Name	Cluster Number	Village Cluster Name
1	Alburgh and Denton	25	Mulbarton, Bracon Ash, Swardeston and East Carleton
2	Alpington, Yelverton and Bergh Apton	26	Needham, Brockdish, Starston and Wortwell
3	Aslacton, Great Moulton and Tibenham	27	Newton Flotman and Swainsthorpe
4	Barford, Marlingford and Colton and Wrampingham	28	Pulham Market and Pulham St Mary
5	Barnham Broom, Kimberley, Carleton Forehore, Runhall and Brandon Parva	29	Rockland St Mary, Hellington and Holverston
6	Bawburgh	30	Roydon
7	Bressingham and Fersfield	31	Saxlingham Nethergate
8	Brooke, Kirstead and Howe	32	Scole
9	Bunwell	33	Seething and Mundham
10	Burston, Shimpling and Gissing	34	Spooner Row and Sutton
11	Carleton Rode	35	Stoke Holy Cross, Shotesham and Caistor St Edmund
12	Dickleburgh and Rushall	36	Surlingham, Bramerton and Kirby Bedon
13	Ditchingham, Broome, Hedenham and Thwaite	37	Tacolneston and Fornsett End

Cluster Number	Village Cluster Name	Cluster Number	Village Cluster Name
14	Earsham	38	Tasburgh
15	Fornsett St Mary and Fornsett St Peter	39	Tharston, Hapton and Flordon
16	Gillingham, Geldeston and Stockton	40	Thurlton and Norton Subcourse
17	Hales, Heckingham, Langley Street, Carleton St Peter, Claxton, Raveningham	41	Thurton and Ashby St Mary
18	Hempnall, Topcroft Street, Morningthorpe, Fritton, Shelton and Hardwick	42	Tivetshall St Mary and Tivetshall St Margaret
19	Heywood	43	Toft Monks, Aldeby, Haddiscoe, Wheatacre and Burgh St Peter
20	Keswick and Intwood	44	Wacton
21	Ketteringham	45	Wicklewood
22	Kirby Cane and Ellingham	46	Winfarthing and Shelfanger
23	Little Melton and Great Melton	47	Woodton and Bedingham
24	Morley and Deopham	48	Wreningham, Ashwellthorpe and Fundenhall

2.3.3 Alongside the VCHAP, as part of the requirement to deliver the 1,200 new homes, the Dickleburgh and Rushall Neighbourhood Plan is currently being prepared by the Parish Council. This plan is at the Regulation 14 stage and will make its own allocations for development based upon housing figures supplied by the Council and will be subject to its own HRA. Sites for Burston, Roydon and Scole have been selected through the Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan, which is now 'made'. The VCHAP sets the requirement for the other villages within the VCHAP plan area.

2.3.4 A slightly different approach has therefore been taken to HRA assessment at the village clusters covered by these Neighbourhood Plans. No preferred or shortlisted locations have been selected for these clusters. Scole has been identified for a 50 dwelling allocation, plus an uplift of 10 on the 2015 allocation. A total of 25 dwellings have been identified for Burston and Roydon in the Dickleburgh and Diss and District Neighbourhood Plan and 25 in Dickleburgh Neighbourhood Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan process will then be tasked with selecting and allocating preferred sites to deliver this growth requirement. This will be supported by a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and an HRA.

2.3.5 The VCHAP is comprised of a number of components as shown in Table 2.2.

Table 2.2: VCHAP Structure

Component	Content
Introduction and Background	This chapter sets the context of the plan.
The Plan Objectives	This chapter sets out the plan's objectives.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SNVC Objective 1 - Meet housing needs • SNVC Objective 2 - Protecting village communities and support rural services and facilities • SNVC Objective 3 - Protect the character of villages and their settings
The Assessment of Sites	This section outlines the process the Council has taken towards the assessment of sites.

Component	Content
Evidence Base	This chapter sets out the evidence base which has been drawn upon for site selection.
Monitoring	This section sets out the arrangements for monitoring of Local Plan documents.
Village Cluster Chapters	<p>This chapter sets out relevant information for each village cluster including information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Form and character;• Settlement limit; and• Site allocations (where made).
Monitoring Framework	This chapter provides a framework for monitoring of the VCHAP.

3 The HRA process

3.1 Overview

3.1.1 The application of HRA to land-use plans is a requirement of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)¹⁰. HRA applies to plans and projects, including all Local Development Documents in England and Wales.

3.1.2 Where a plan is likely to have a significant effect on a Habitats site (either alone or in combination) and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the European site, Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations notes that the plan making authority for that plan must, before the plan is given effect, make an Appropriate Assessment (AA) of the implications for the site in view of that site's conservation objectives. These tests are referred to collectively as a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

3.1.3 The Habitats Regulations¹¹ provide a definition of a Habitats site at Regulation 8. These sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Sites of Community Importance, Special Protection Areas (SPA) and sites proposed to the European Commission in accordance with Article 4(1) of the Habitats Directive. In addition, policy in England and Wales notes that the following sites should also be given the same level of protection as a Habitats site¹²:

- A potential SPA (pSPA)
- A possible / proposed SAC (pSAC)
- Listed and proposed Ramsar Sites (wetland of international importance)
- In England, sites identified or required as compensation measures for adverse effects on statutory European sites, pSPA, pSAC, and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.

3.1.4 HRA is a rigorous precautionary process centred around the conservation objectives of a European site's qualifying interests. It is intended to ensure that Habitats sites are protected from impacts that could adversely affect their integrity. A step-by-step guide to the methodology followed for the HRA, as outlined in the DTA Handbook, is illustrated in **Figure 3.1**. This HRA report provides outputs from Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the HRA process.

¹⁰ The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 SI No. 2017/1012, TSO (The Stationery Office), London, as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.

¹¹ Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 SI No. 2017/1012, TSO (The Stationery Office), London, as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.

¹² Department for Levelling up, Housing and Communities & Local Government (2023). National Planning Policy Framework. Para 187.

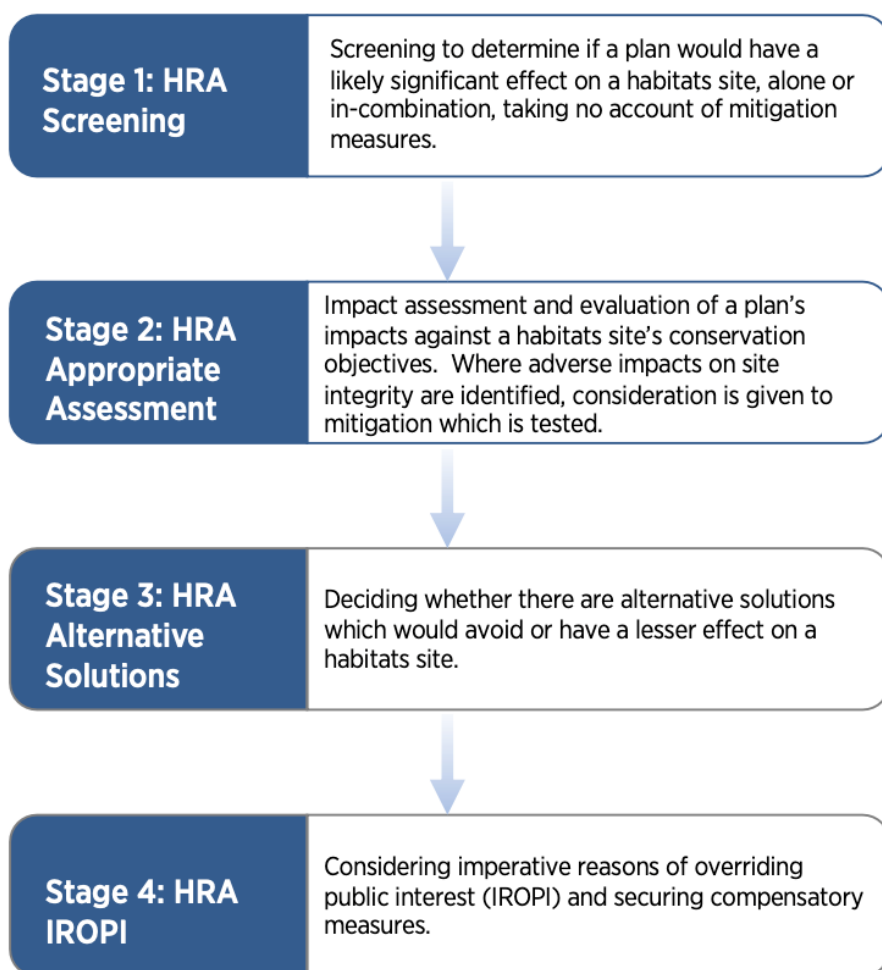


Figure 3.1: *Stages in the Habitats Regulations Assessment process¹³*

3.2 Previous HRA work

- 3.2.1 Detailed HRA work has been undertaken alongside the production of the GNLP. Whilst the GNLP, and its supporting HRA work, does not take into consideration the exact location of development set out in the VCHAP for South Norfolk, it does take into consideration the overall quantum of growth proposed in South Norfolk village clusters (including existing commitments, new allocations including uplift and a windfall allowance). The findings from the GNLP HRA are therefore relevant to the VCHAP HRA. Consideration has been given to comments made by Natural England upon the GNLP HRA work.

¹³ Tyldesley, D., and Chapman, C. (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook (January) (2021) edition UK: DTA Publications Limited.

- 3.2.2 In addition, an HRA was undertaken alongside preparation of the Regulation 18 version of the VCHAP in 2021¹⁴ and the previously published Regulation 19 Pre-Submission version of the VCHAP in 2023¹⁵ (see **Section 2.2**). The outputs of this body of HRA work have informed this Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Addendum Version of the VCHAP HRA. Table 3.1 provides a summary of the HRA work undertaken to date in support of both the GNLP and VCHAP.

¹⁴ Lepus Consulting (May 2021) Habitats Regulations Assessment of the South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Site Allocations Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment Report Publication (Regulation 18). Available at: https://southnorfolkandbroadland.oc2.uk/docfiles/2/LC-654_South%20Norfolk_Regulation%2018_HRA%20Report_8_140521SC-compressed%202.pdf [Date Accessed: 21/06/24].

¹⁵ Lepus Consulting (December 2022) Habitats Regulations Assessment of the South Norfolk Village Clusters Housing Site Allocations Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment Report Publication (Regulation 19). Available at: <https://southnorfolkandbroadland.oc2.uk/docfiles/11/VCHAP%20Habitats%20Regulations%20Assessment%20-%20main%20report.pdf> [Date Accessed: 21/06/24].

Table 3.1: Summary of HRA work undertaken to date to support the GNLP and VCHAP

HRA Report	Summary of findings
<p>Habitats Regulations Assessment of Greater Norwich Local Plan Issues and Options stage for Greater Norwich Development Partnership</p> <p>Author: The Landscape Partnership</p> <p>December 2017</p>	<p>This HRA provided an interim assessment at the Regulation 18 Issues and Options stage. It considered alternative housing numbers and options for their distribution.</p> <p>The HRA provided an assessment of impacts upon the following Habitats sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - River Wensum SAC; - Norfolk Valley Fens SAC; - The Broads SAC/ Broadland SPA, Ramsar; - Breydon Water SPA/Ramsar/SPA (Marine); - Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA; - Winterton – Horsey Dunes SAC; - Paston Great Barn SAC; - Overstrand Cliffs SAC; - Waveney & Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC; - Redgrave and South Lopham Fens Ramsar; - Breckland SPA/SAC; - Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SAC/Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA; - Dew's Ponds SAC; - The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC (inshore); - North Norfolk Coast SPA (marine)/SAC (inshore)/Ramsar; - Southern North Sea cSAC (offshore and inshore); - Outer Thames Estuary SPA (marine)/Outer Thames Estuary Extension pSAC (marine); and - Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton SCI. <p>The HRA applied a number of zones of influence for each potential impact as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recreation – by foot 1km - 8km; - Recreation to special sites e.g. coastal reserves – 8km - 20km; - Water resources – 20km; - Pollution impacts to watercourses – 8km; - Air quality – not investigated but road corridors used as zone of influence; - Urbanisation effects – 1km; and - Direct impacts – 250m. <p>The HRA found that the distributional alternatives for housing are likely to have a significant effect on Habitats sites and so further assessment is necessary as the plan develops.</p> <p>Potential significant effects of the GNLP in combination with other plans and projects were noted to include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impacts resulting from in-combination effects associated with water abstraction on internationally designated wetland sites; - Water quality impacts resulting from in-combination effects associated with wastewater discharges on internationally designated wetland sites; - Air quality impacts associated with increased traffic generation resulting from development on internationally designated sites that support vegetation sensitive to NO_x, SO₂ or total Nitrogen; and - Increased disturbance and visitor pressure resulting from in-combination effects on the wetland, grassland/heathland and coastal sites.

HRA Report	Summary of findings
	<p>Assessment of the distributional alternatives for housing identified that allocations to the north-west, west and south-west of Norwich were situated to reduce the likely impact of regular visitors to The Broads / Broadland Habitats sites. The options 'transport corridors' and 'Cambridge – Norwich tech corridor' were noted to be strong options in terms of avoiding impacts to Habitats sites. Allocations to the north-east of Norwich were marginally outside zones of influence of the popular coastal Habitats sites although as with all options some additional occasional visits to the popular coastal Habitats sites were predicted. Options for dispersal, or dispersal plus a new settlement were harder to assess as the HRA stated that the housing could be almost anywhere.</p> <p>The HRA set out a number of mitigation recommendations for incorporation into the GNLP as it develops. These included development of new recreational space and preparation of an updated Water Cycle Study (WCS).</p>
<p>Habitats Regulations Assessment of Greater Norwich Regulation 18 Draft Plan for Greater Norwich Development Partnership</p> <p>Author: The Landscape Partnership</p> <p>December 2019</p>	<p>An HRA was undertaken of the Consultation Draft stage v8.1 of the emerging Greater Norwich Local Plan.</p> <p>Impacts considered in the HRA included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water cycles (use and disposal); - Traffic related air pollution; - Water pollution or enrichment; and - Increased visitors to Habitats sites. <p>The HRA focused on the same Habitats sites as identified in the Issues and Options HRA (above).</p> <p>The HRA concluded that the GNLP would have no adverse effect upon the integrity of any Habitats site acting alone, subject to the following outstanding matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mitigation of recreational impact upon Habitats sites comprising a) a tariff based payment taken from residential, and other relevant accommodation e.g. tourist accommodation, that will be used to fund a mixture of mitigation measures, most likely of soft and hard mitigation measures at the Habitats sites; b) the provision of suitable alternative natural green space (SANGs), which would be large enough to meet a range of recreational needs, c) implementation of a wider programme of Green Infrastructure Improvements in accordance with current and emerging project plans, so that residents have an alternative to Habitats sites for regular activities such as dog walking. Reference is made to the emerging Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (GIRAMS) which, at the time of the HRA, was in preparation by the Norfolk Authorities. • Satisfactory completion of a Water Cycle Study which demonstrates no adverse impact on Habitats sites. • Update to policy wording to read that 'Habitats Regulations Assessments will be required for small scale tourism accommodation within 1km, and for larger scale tourism accommodation within 10km, of a Habitats site. Habitats Regulations Assessment will also be required for tourism, leisure, cultural and environmental activities which would utilise Habitats sites'. <p>In terms of in-combination impacts, the HRA recommended that road schemes, not allocated or promoted by the GNLP but mentioned in the plan, receive stronger recognition from the plan with respect to protection of Habitats sites.</p>

HRA Report	Summary of findings
	<p>The overall conclusion was that subject to satisfactory resolution of the outstanding matters there would be no adverse effect upon the integrity of any Habitats site.</p>
<p>Habitats Regulations Assessment of Greater Norwich Regulation 19 Draft Plan for Greater Norwich Development Partnership</p> <p>Author: The Landscape Partnership</p> <p>December 2020</p>	<p>An HRA was undertaken on the Draft Submission Reg 19 stage v1.6 of the emerging Greater Norwich Local Plan.</p> <p>The HRA provided an assessment of impacts upon the same Habitats sites as considered in 2017 and 2019 (above).</p> <p>The following likely significant effects were identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased recreational pressure. • Increased pressure on water resources. • Water pollution impacts. • Air pollution impacts. • Increased urbanisation of the countryside. <p>The HRA concluded that there would be no adverse effect upon the integrity of any Habitats site acting alone, subject to the following outstanding matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adoption of the Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance Mitigation Strategy (GIRAMS) to achieve mitigation for in-combination recreational effects. • The provision of suitable green space for developments over 50 homes. • Resolution of issues with Water Recycling Centres. • Clarification of policy with regard to tourism accommodation and development which would utilise a Habitats site. <p>It notes that in-combination effects would be taken into consideration through the adoption of the GIRAMS scheme.</p> <p>In summary it concludes that, subject to satisfactory resolution of the outstanding matters listed above, there would be no adverse effect upon the integrity of any Habitats site alone or in-combination.</p>
<p>GNLP response to Regulation 19 Habitats Regulations Assessment</p> <p>Author: GNLP</p> <p>(December 2020)</p>	<p>A note was prepared by the GNLP to provide responses to recommendations made in the Regulation 19 HRA (2020, above).</p> <p>This note confirmed the Water Cycle Study (WCS) was close to completion and shows sufficient water capacity for growth in the GNLP.</p> <p>Text has been included in policy wording around the Norwich Western Link and requirements in terms of ensuring no adverse impacts on Habitats sites.</p> <p>Text has been included in policy wording in relation to new tourism development and requirements in terms of ensuring no adverse impacts on Habitats sites.</p> <p>The note confirms that the contingency site has been included in the WCS.</p>
<p>Habitats Regulations Assessment of published Greater Norwich Local Plan for Greater Norwich Development Partnership</p>	<p>This HRA provided an update to earlier versions of the HRA to reflect modifications required at examination to Policy 2 of the GNLP in respect of nutrient neutrality and recreational impact mitigation.</p> <p>It concluded that there would be no adverse impacts on the integrity of any Habitats site as a result of modifications to Policy 2.</p>

HRA Report	Summary of findings
Updated with respect to modifications of Policy 2 Nutrient Neutrality and with respect to GIRAMS Author: The Landscape Partnership March 2023	
Habitats Regulations Assessment of the South Norfolk Village Housing Clusters Allocations Plan Regulation 18 HRA Report Author: Lepus May 2021	The Regulation 18 HRA included a screening assessment which concluded the VCHAP would be screened in for Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment because, taking no account of mitigation measures that the plan may incorporate, there was potential for likely significant effects on Habitats sites. It identified the Habitats sites for inclusion in the next stage of the HRA, methods for AA and set out some preliminary policy recommendations.
Habitats Regulations Assessment of the South Norfolk Village Housing Clusters Allocations Plan Regulation 19 HRA Report Author: Lepus December 2022	<p>The Regulation 19 HRA comprised a screening assessment which concluded the VCHAP would be screened in for Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment. It provided a detailed assessment looking at the impacts of a change in water quality and quantity and recreational impacts upon the qualifying features and conservation objectives of each Habitats site.</p> <p>In terms of water quality, the AA concluded that whilst policy wording set out in the GNLP and VCHAP provides measures to protect the water environment from contaminated run-off, policy wording in respect of nutrient neutrality issues at the Broads SAC and Broadlands Ramsar site has not yet been agreed and incorporated in the GNLP. It was therefore not possible to rule out adverse impacts on the integrity of the Broads SAC and Broadland Ramsar site due to nutrient enrichment impacts without this policy in place.</p> <p>Recreational impacts were addressed through mitigation set out through GIRAMS and secured through GNLP policy wording.</p>

3.3 Natural England advice

- 3.3.1 Natural England has been consulted upon the HRA work undertaken in support of the GNLP. The output of this consultation has been taken into consideration in the preparation of the VCHAP HRA and is summarised in Table 3.2.

Table 3.2: Review of Natural England HRA Report related representations

Organisation	Summary of representation
Natural England 21 March 2018	<p>Natural England note the requirement of the GNLP to provide a range of avoidance and mitigation measures to address recreation impacts. These include the provision of new well-designed GI either on-site and/or off-site, with suitable and accessible green space for recreational activities, including dog walking, together with good connectivity to the surrounding PROW network, and costs towards the mitigation of impacts on designated sites.</p> <p>Natural England state that “residential and commercial development, and waste water discharges affecting water quality. Water-dependent designated sites, including the River Wensum, those in The Broads, the Norfolk Valley Fens and the Waveney Valley Fens, are affected by these issues which can arise from a single development or in combination with other developments. A detailed water cycle study will need to be</p>

Organisation	Summary of representation
	<p>undertaken to determine where allocations should be located and what measures will be required to address water quantity and quality issues identified, which should then need to be addressed through policies and allocations in the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP).”</p>
<p>Natural England 16 March 2020</p>	<p>Natural England provided comments on the 2019 Regulation 18 version of the HRA. These comments are summarised below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NE note that the Habitats designated sites have been identified correctly and that they agree with the likely significant effects identified. - NE note that water resources are required for both residential and employment allocations. - NE highlighted some concern regarding securing mitigation set out within the HRA. - NE advised that the HRA be re-examined to take into consideration the findings of the GIRAMS. NE recognise that the findings of GIRAMS will need to be reflected in the Local Plan regarding tariffs, Natural England does not consider the two other strands of suitable alternative natural green space (SANGs) and the implementation of a cohesive programme of GI improvements, have been covered adequately in the Plan to conclude that these will be delivered in a coherently and timely approach at the appropriate locations. - NE note that the proposed Norwich Western Link (NWL) road will pass within 200m of the River Wensum Special Area of Conservation (SAC), and although the road is proposed by Norfolk County Council, it has been identified as necessary in order to support the future housing and employment growth in the Greater Norwich area. The Plan references the NWL, including under Policy 4 - Strategic Infrastructure, and the road should be considered in combination with the other proposals under Policy 4 that have the potential to affect designated sites through increases in air pollution. - In addition, to examining the distance of proposed allocations from Habitats sites, further assessment of air quality is required where changes to the road network or traffic volumes might increase daily traffic flows by 1,000 Average Annual Daily Traffic (AADT) or more where the road stretch has sensitive habitats within 200 m of the road. Air quality considerations need to have appropriate regard for any impacts that may act in combination. NE note that it is unclear whether this work has been done. - NE note that the WCS outputs need to feed into the Plan policies and inform the HRA. NE note that they would expect future iterations of the HRA to recognise the need for water efficiency planning policies to support water efficiency requirements in new builds. Solutions to any water quality issues or water supply issues identified in the WCS need to form part of the detailed master plan stage so there is certainty in what is required and timely delivery, prior to any planning application being made. - With regard to any water treatment issues identified, the HRA will need to examine if the Local Plan contains clear wording in relation to assuring timely delivery of required infrastructure and treatment capabilities for phosphate, ammonia and nitrogen. - Whilst NE agrees that the Policy will not have an adverse effect on any Habitats site, they do not consider the current wording and supporting text to be sufficient to secure the delivery of the mitigation measures identified in the HRA. NE does not consider it possible at this stage to conclude no adverse effect upon the integrity of any Habitats site. - NE has concerns whether the current wording and supporting text of various Plan policies are sufficient to secure the delivery of the mitigation measures identified in the HRA including GI, whether on-site or off-site, and SANGS.

Organisation	Summary of representation
	<p>- Where GI is required, reference should be incorporated into the policy and supporting text of each individual site allocation policy, making it clear that the allocation will only be deliverable if a project level HRA can demonstrate no adverse effects. Similarly, the policy and supporting text of each individual site allocation policy will need to include details of any other non-recreational related mitigation measures where these are identified at a subsequent stage of the Plan (together with a requirement for a project level HRA). The requirement for individual project level HRAs needs to be covered in the revised HRA, (and reflected in the relevant policy wording within the Local Plan) in light of the ZoI in the GIRAMS.</p> <p>- In conclusion NE does not consider that it is possible at this stage to conclude no adverse effect upon the integrity of any Habitats site arising from the GNLP alone.</p>

3.3.2 On 16 March 2022, advice was received from the Chief Planning Officer from the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC)¹⁶ and from Natural England¹⁷. This highlighted the importance of nutrient impacts on The River Wensum SAC, The Broads SAC and Broadlands Ramsar. This is relevant to components of these SACs and Ramsar which are in an unfavourable condition due to elevated and exceeded nutrient thresholds. These components include those underpinned by the following SSSIs:

- River Wensum SSSI;
- Ant Broads and Marshes SSSI;
- Bure Broads and Marshes SSSI;
- Trinity Broads and Marshes SSSI;
- Upper Thurne Broads and Marshes SSSI; and
- Yare Broads and Marshes SSSI.

3.3.3 Water quality data indicates that the SSSI designation underpinning the River Wensum are overall exceeding the targets for Total Phosphorus. Data for the SSSI designations underpinning the Broads SAC and Broadlands Ramsar are overall exceeding the targets for Total Phosphorus and Total Nitrogen.

3.3.4 Natural England's advice requires South Norfolk Council (as the Competent Authority) to fully consider nutrients implications on these sites when determining relevant plans or projects and to secure appropriate mitigation measures. Natural England suggests nutrient neutrality may be a potential solution to enable developments to proceed in the catchment(s) (see Appendix A for relevant nutrient neutrality catchment maps) where an adverse effect on site integrity cannot be ruled out¹⁸.

¹⁶ Letter from DLUHC to Chief Planning Officers and Local Planning Authorities affected by nutrient pollution. NUTRIENT POLLUTION: NEUTRALITY, SUPPORT AND FUNDING. 16 March 2022. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1061531/Chief_Planner_Letter_about_nutrient_pollution_March_2022.pdf [Date Accessed: 16/11/22]

¹⁷ Letter from Natural England. Advice for development proposals with the potential to affect water quality resulting in adverse nutrient impacts on habitats sites. Available at: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/downloads/file/4481/ne-water-quality-and-nutrient-neutrality-advice-16-03-2022-issue-1-final> [Date Accessed: 16/11/22]

¹⁸ Letter from Natural England to LPA Chief Executives & Heads of Planning, County Council Chief Executives and Heads of Planning, EA Area and National Team Directors, Planning Inspectorate, Natural Resources Wales (Cross border sites only) &

3.3.5 Developments with the potential to increase nutrients includes the following¹⁹:

- New homes;
- Student accommodation;
- Care homes;
- Tourism attractions;
- Tourist accommodation;
- Permitted development (which gives rise to new overnight accommodation) under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015; and
- Any development not involving overnight accommodation, but which may have non-sewerage water quality implications.

Secretary of State for Department for Levelling Up Housing & Communities (DLUHC). Advice for development proposals with the potential to affect water quality resulting in adverse nutrient impacts on habitats sites. 16 March 2022.

¹⁹ South Norfolk Council Planning Advice available at: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/planning-applications/apply/2> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

4 Methodology

4.1 HRA guidance

4.1.1 As noted in Section 1.2, the application of HRA to land-use plans is a requirement of the Habitats Regulations. HRA applies to plans and projects, including all Local Development Documents in England and Wales.

4.1.2 This report has been informed by the following guidance:

- Planning Practice Guidance: Appropriate Assessment²⁰; and
- The Habitat Regulations Assessment Handbook - David Tyldesley and Associates (referred to hereafter as the DTA Handbook), 2013 (in particular Part F: '*Practical Guidance for the Assessment of Plans under the Regulations*').

4.2 HRA methodology

4.2.1 HRA is a rigorous precautionary process centred around the conservation objectives of a Habitats site's qualifying interests. It is intended to ensure that Habitats sites are protected from impacts that could adversely affect their integrity, as required by the Habitats Regulations. A step-by-step guide to this methodology is outlined in Figure 3.1.

4.3 Stage 1: Screening for likely significant effects

4.3.1 The first stage in the HRA process comprises the screening stage (see **Figure 3.1**). The purpose of the screening process is to firstly determine whether a plan is either (1) exempt (because it is directly connected with or necessary to the management of a Habitats site), (2) whether it can be excluded (because it is not a plan), or (3) eliminated (because there would be no conceivable effects), from the HRA process. If none of these conditions apply, it is next necessary to identify whether there are any aspects of the plan which may lead to a Likely Significant Effect (LSE) at a Habitats site, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects.

4.3.2 Where elements of the VCHAP will not result in LSEs on a Habitats site (alone or in-combination) these are screened out and are not considered in further detail in the process. Where LSEs are identified, the HRA process moves to an AA of LSEs (Stage 2 - **Figure 3.1**).

4.3.3 Evaluation codes have been used to summarise whether or not each component of the MLP is likely to have an LSEs alone or in-combination. These codes are subsequently used to inform the formal screening decision (Column 2, **Table 4.1**). The results are presented in **Chapter 7** of this report.

²⁰ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (July 2019) Planning Practice Guidance Note, Appropriate Assessment, Guidance on the use of Habitats Regulations Assessment.

Table 4.1: Assessment and reasoning categories from Part F of the DTA Handbook

Screening evaluation and reasoning categories from Chapter F of the Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook (DTA Publications, 2013):	Screen in / Screen out
A. General statements of policy / general aspirations	Screen Out
B. Policies listing general criteria for testing the acceptability / sustainability of proposals.	Screen Out
C. Proposal referred to but not proposed by the Plan.	Screen Out
D. General plan-wide environmental protection / designated site safeguarding / threshold policies.	Screen Out
E. Policies or proposals that steer change in such a way as to protect European sites from adverse effects.	Screen Out
F. Policies or proposals that cannot lead to development or other change.	Screen Out
G. Policies or proposals that could not have any conceivable or adverse effect on a site.	Screen Out
H. Policies or proposals the (actual or theoretical) effects of which cannot undermine the conservation objectives (either alone or in-combination with other aspects of this or other plans or projects).	Screen Out
I. Policies or proposals with a Likely Significant Effect on a site alone.	Screen In
J. Policies or proposals unlikely to have a significant effect alone.	Screen Out
K. Policies or proposals unlikely to have a significant effect either alone or in-combination.	Screen Out
L. Policies or proposals which might be likely to have a significant effect in-combination.	Screen In
M. Bespoke area, site or case-specific policies or proposals intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a European site.	Screen In

4.4 What is a Likely Significant Effect?

- 4.4.1 HRA screening provides an analysis of LSEs identified during the HRA screening process. It considers the nature, magnitude and permanence of potential effects in order to inform the plan making process.
- 4.4.2 The DTA Handbook guidance provides the following interpretation of LSEs:
- 4.4.3 *"In this context, 'likely' means risk or possibility of effects occurring that cannot be ruled out on the basis of objective information. 'Significant' effects are those that would undermine the conservation objectives for the qualifying features potentially affected, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects ... even a possibility of a significant effect occurring is sufficient to trigger an 'appropriate assessment'".²¹*
- 4.4.4 With reference to the conservation status of a given species in the Habitats or Birds Directives, the following examples would be considered to constitute a significant effect:

²¹ Tyldesley, D., and Chapman, C., (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook. December 2019 edition UK: DTA Publications Ltd, www.dtapublications.co.uk

- Any event which contributes to the long-term decline of the population of the species on the site;
- Any event contributing to the reduction, or to the risk of reduction, of the range of the species within the site; and
- Any event which contributes to the reduction of the size of the habitat of the species within the site.

4.4.5 Rulings from the 2012 'Sweetman'²² case provide further clarification:

4.4.6 *"The requirement that the effect in question be 'significant' exists in order to lay down a de minimis threshold. Plans or projects that have no appreciable effect on the site are thereby excluded. If all plans or projects capable of having any effect whatsoever on the site were to be caught by Article 6(3), activities on or near the site would risk being impossible by reason of legislative overkill".*

4.4.7 Therefore, it is not necessary for the Council to show that the VCHAP will result in no effects whatsoever on any Habitats site. Instead, the Council is required to show that the VCHAP, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects, will not result in an effect which undermines the conservation objectives of one or more qualifying features.

4.4.8 Determining whether an effect is significant requires careful consideration of the environmental conditions and characteristics of the Habitats site in question, as per the 2004 'Waddenzee'²³ case:

4.4.9 *"In assessing the potential effects of a plan or project, their significance must be established in the light, inter alia, of the characteristics and specific environmental conditions of the site concerned by that plan or project".*

4.5 In-combination effects

4.5.1 Where screening has concluded that there are no LSEs from the VCHAP alone, it is next necessary to consider whether the effects of the policies in-combination with other plans and projects would combine to result in an LSE on any Habitats site. It may be that the VCHAP alone may not have a significant effect but could have a residual effect that may contribute to in-combination effects on a Habitats site.

4.5.2 The DTA Handbook²⁴ notes that *"where an aspect of a plan could have some effect on the qualifying feature(s) of a European site, but that aspect of the plan alone are unlikely to be significant, the effects of that aspect of the plan will need to be checked in combination firstly, with other effects of the same plan, and then with the effects of other plans and projects"*.

²² Source: EC Case C-258-11 Reference for a Preliminary Ruling, Opinion of Advocate General Sharpston 'Sweetman' delivered on 22nd November 2012 (para 48)

²³ Source: EC Case C-127/02 Reference for a Preliminary Ruling 'Waddenzee' 7th Sept 2004 (para 48)

²⁴ Tyldesley, D., and Chapman, C., (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook. December 2019 edition UK: DTA Publications Ltd, www.dtapublications.co.uk

- 4.5.3 As such an in-combination assessment was undertaken as part of the HRA process at both the screening stage (where no LSE are considered possible alone, but in-combination effects are likely) and at the Appropriate Assessment stage (where, following Appropriate Assessment and mitigation, an insignificant adverse effect is still likely which has the potential to act in-combination with other plans and projects).
- 4.5.4 Plans and projects which are considered to be of most relevance to the in-combination assessment of the VCHAP include those that have similar impact pathways. These include those plans and projects that have the potential to increase development in the HRA study area. In addition, other plans and projects with the potential to increase traffic across the study area which may act in-combination with the VCHAP, such as transport, waste and mineral plans and projects, have been taken into consideration. Plans which allocate water resources or are likely to influence water quality in the study area have been considered. Finally, neighbouring authority local plans which may increase development related public access and disturbance pressures at Habitats sites have also been considered.
- 4.5.5 The following points describe how in-combination effects have been taken into account in the Regulation 19 HRA.
- Consideration of in-combination impacts upon water quality have been taken into consideration in terms of increased nutrient loading within sensitive catchments of the River Wensum SAC, The Broads SAC and Broadlands Ramsar.
 - Consideration of recreational in-combination effects from development across Norfolk has been taken into consideration.
- 4.5.6 The assessment of potential in-combination effects (Appendix B) has not resulted in additional impact pathways being screened in, however, several links between other plans and projects and the VCHAP have been identified.
- 4.6 **Consideration of mitigation measures**
- 4.6.1 The European Court Judgement on the interpretation of the Habitats Directive in the case of People Over Wind and Sweetman vs Coillte Teoranta (Case C-323/17²⁵) determined that mitigation measures are only permitted to be considered as part of an appropriate assessment.
- 4.6.2 It is useful to define mitigation measures. The DTA Handbook notes that there are two types of measures as follows²⁶:
- *“Measures intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a European site; or*
 - *Features or characteristics of a plan which are essential in defining the nature, scale, location, timing, frequency or duration of the plan’s proposals, or they may be inseparable aspects of the plan, without which an assessment of the plan could not properly be made, in the screening decision, even though these*

²⁵ InfoCuria (2018) Case C-323/17. Available at:

<http://curia.europa.eu/juris/document/document.jsf?docid=200970&doclang=EN> [Date Accessed: 15/11/22]

²⁶ Tyldesley, D., and Chapman, C., (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook. November 2018 edition UK: DTA Publications Ltd, www.dtapublications.co.uk

features or characteristics may incidentally have the effect of avoiding or reducing some or all of the potentially adverse effects of a plan”.

- 4.6.3 The HRA screening process undertaken for the VCHAP has not taken account of incorporated mitigation or avoidance measures that are intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a Habitats site when assessing the LSE of the VCHAP on Habitats sites. These are measures, which if removed (i.e. should they no longer be required for the benefit of a Habitats site), would still allow the lawful and practical implementation of a plan.

4.7 Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment and Integrity Test

- 4.7.1 Where LSEs are identified from the VCHAP either alone or in-combination it is necessary to move to Stage 2 of the HRA process – the Appropriate Assessment and Integrity Test.
- 4.7.2 The purpose of the Appropriate Assessment (as defined by the DTA Handbook) is to *"undertake an objective, scientific assessment of the implications for the European site qualifying features potentially affected by the plan in light of their consideration objectives and other information for assessment"*²⁷.
- 4.7.3 As part of this process decision makers should take account of the potential consequences of no action, the uncertainties inherent in scientific evaluation and should consult interested parties on the possible ways of managing the risk, for instance, through the adoption of mitigation measures. Mitigation measures should aim to avoid, minimise or reduce significant effects on Habitats sites. Mitigation measures may take the form of policies within the VCHAP or GNLIP or mitigation proposed through other plans or regulatory mechanisms. All mitigation measures must be deliverable and able to mitigate adverse effects for which they are targeted.
- 4.7.4 The Appropriate Assessment aims to present information in respect of all aspects of the VCHAP and ways in which it could, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects, affect a Habitats site.
- 4.7.5 The Council (as the Competent Authority) must then ascertain, based on the findings of the Appropriate Assessment, whether the VCHAP will adversely affect the integrity of a Habitats site either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects. This is referred to as the Integrity Test and will draw on the conclusions of this report and take into consideration representations made by Natural England.

4.8 Dealing with uncertainty

- 4.8.1 Uncertainty is an inherent characteristic of HRA, and decisions can be made only on currently available and relevant information. This concept is reinforced in the 7th September 2004 'Waddenzee' ruling²⁸:

²⁷ Tyldesley, D., and Chapman, C., (2013) The Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook. November 2018 edition UK: DTA Publications Ltd, www.dtapublications.co.uk

²⁸ EC Case C-127/02 Reference for a Preliminary Ruling 'Waddenzee' 7th September 2004 Advocate General's Opinion (para 107)

4.8.2 *"However, the necessary certainty cannot be construed as meaning absolute certainty since that is almost impossible to attain. Instead, it is clear from the second sentence of Article 6(3) of the habitats directive that the competent authorities must take a decision having assessed all the relevant information which is set out in particular in the appropriate assessment. The conclusion of this assessment is, of necessity, subjective in nature. Therefore, the competent authorities can, from their point of view, be certain that there will be no adverse effects even though, from an objective point of view, there is no absolute certainty".*

4.9 The Precautionary Principle

4.9.1 The HRA process is characterised by the precautionary principle. This is described by the European Commission as being:

4.9.2 *"If a preliminary scientific evaluation shows that there are reasonable grounds for concern that a particular activity might lead to damaging effects on the environment, or on human, animal or plant health, which would be inconsistent with protection normally afforded to these within the European Community, the Precautionary Principle is triggered".*

5 Habitats sites

5.1 Identification of Habitats sites

- 5.1.1 There is no guidance that defines the study area for inclusion in HRA. Planning Practice Guidance for Appropriate Assessment (listed above) indicates that:
- 5.1.2 *“The scope and content of an appropriate assessment will depend on the nature, location, duration and scale of the proposed plan or project and the interest features of the relevant site. ‘Appropriate’ is not a technical term. It indicates that an assessment needs to be proportionate and sufficient to support the task of the competent authority in determining whether the plan or project will adversely affect the integrity of the site”.*
- 5.1.3 Therefore, in order to determine a study area for the HRA, consideration has been given to the nature and extent of potential impact pathways from the VCHAP and their relationship to Habitats sites.
- 5.1.4 The HRA work undertaken for the GNLP and Regulation 18 VCHAP (see Table 3.1) considered the scope of the HRA to include Habitats sites within a number of different threat specific zones of influence. It is noted that Natural England indicated their agreement with the scope of Habitats sites considered within the GNLP HRA (Table 3.2).
- 5.1.5 The Habitats sites to be assessed in the Regulation 19 VCHAP HRA, taking into consideration individual impact pathways and drawing on HRA work undertaken alongside the GNLP and the Regulation 18 VCHAP, are set out in Table 5.1 (and illustrated in Figures 5.1 to 5.3):

Table 5.1: Habitats sites for consideration in the VCHAP HRA

Habitats site	Location in relation to the VCHAP plan area (listed by distance from Plan area)
River Wensum SAC	Located within the Plan area
Norfolk Valley Fens SAC	Located within the Plan area
The Broads SAC	Located within the Plan area
Broadland SPA	Located within the Plan area
Broadland Ramsar	Located within the Plan area
Breydon Water SPA	Located immediately adjacent to the Plan area
Breydon Water Ramsar	Located immediately adjacent to the Plan area
Waveney & Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC	Located approximately 252m to the west of the Plan area
Redgrave and South Lopham Fens Ramsar	Located approximately 252m to the west of the Plan area
Outer Thames Estuary SPA	Located approximately 5,384m to the east of the Plan area
Breckland SPA	Located approximately 6,603m to the west of the Plan area

Habitats site	Location in relation to the VCHAP plan area (listed by distance from Plan area)
Southern North Sea SAC	Located approximately 6,278m to the east of the Plan area
Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA	Located approximately 7,119m to the north east of the Plan area
Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SAC	Located approximately 8,309m to the south of the Plan area
Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA	Located approximately 8,309m to the south of the Plan area
The Greater Wash SPA	Located approximately 9,290m to the north east of the Plan area
Breckland SAC	Located approximately 11,933m to the west of the Plan area
Winterton-Horsey Dunes SAC	Located approximately 13,000m to the north east of the Plan area
Hainsborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC	Located approximately 15,250m to the east of the Plan area
Dew's Ponds SAC	Located approximately 18,897m to the south east of the Plan area
Paston Great Barn SAC	Located approximately 25,600m to the north east of the Plan area
Overstand Cliffs SAC	Located approximately 28,666m to the north east of the Plan area
North Norfolk Coast SPA	Located approximately 30,550m to the north of the Plan area
North Norfolk Coast SAC	Located approximately 30,550m to the north of the Plan area
North Norfolk Coast Ramsar	Located approximately 30,550m to the north of the Plan area
The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC	Located approximately 30,750m to the north of the Plan area
Roydon Common and Dersingham Bog SAC	Located approximately 38,350m to the north of the Plan area
Dersingham Bog Ramsar	Located approximately 38,350m to the north of the Plan area
The Wash SPA	Located approximately 45,400m to the north of the Plan area
The Wash Ramsar	Located approximately 45,400m to the north of the Plan area

5.1.6 The locations of these Habitats sites are shown in Figures 5.1 to 5.3.

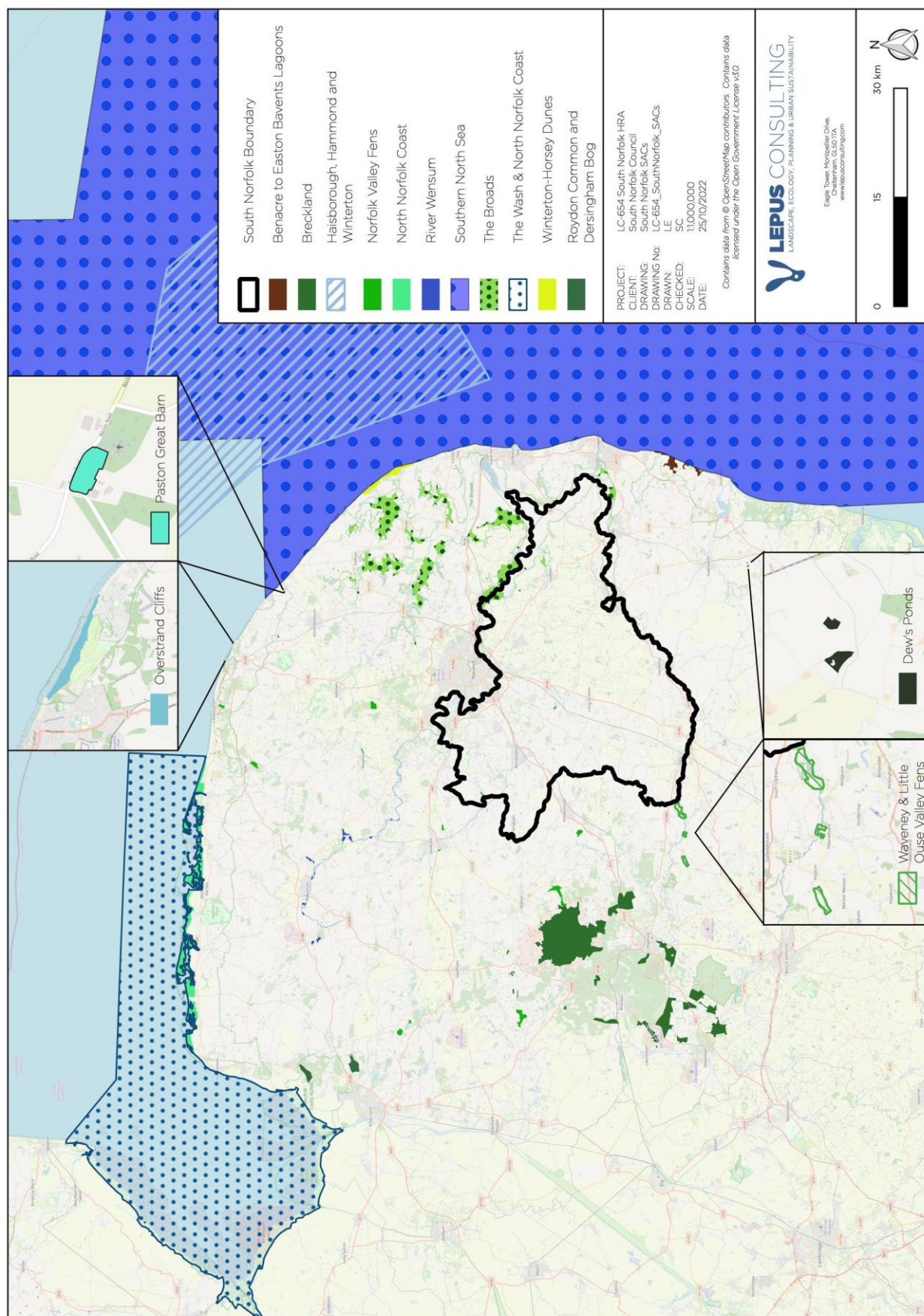


Figure 5.1: SAC location plan

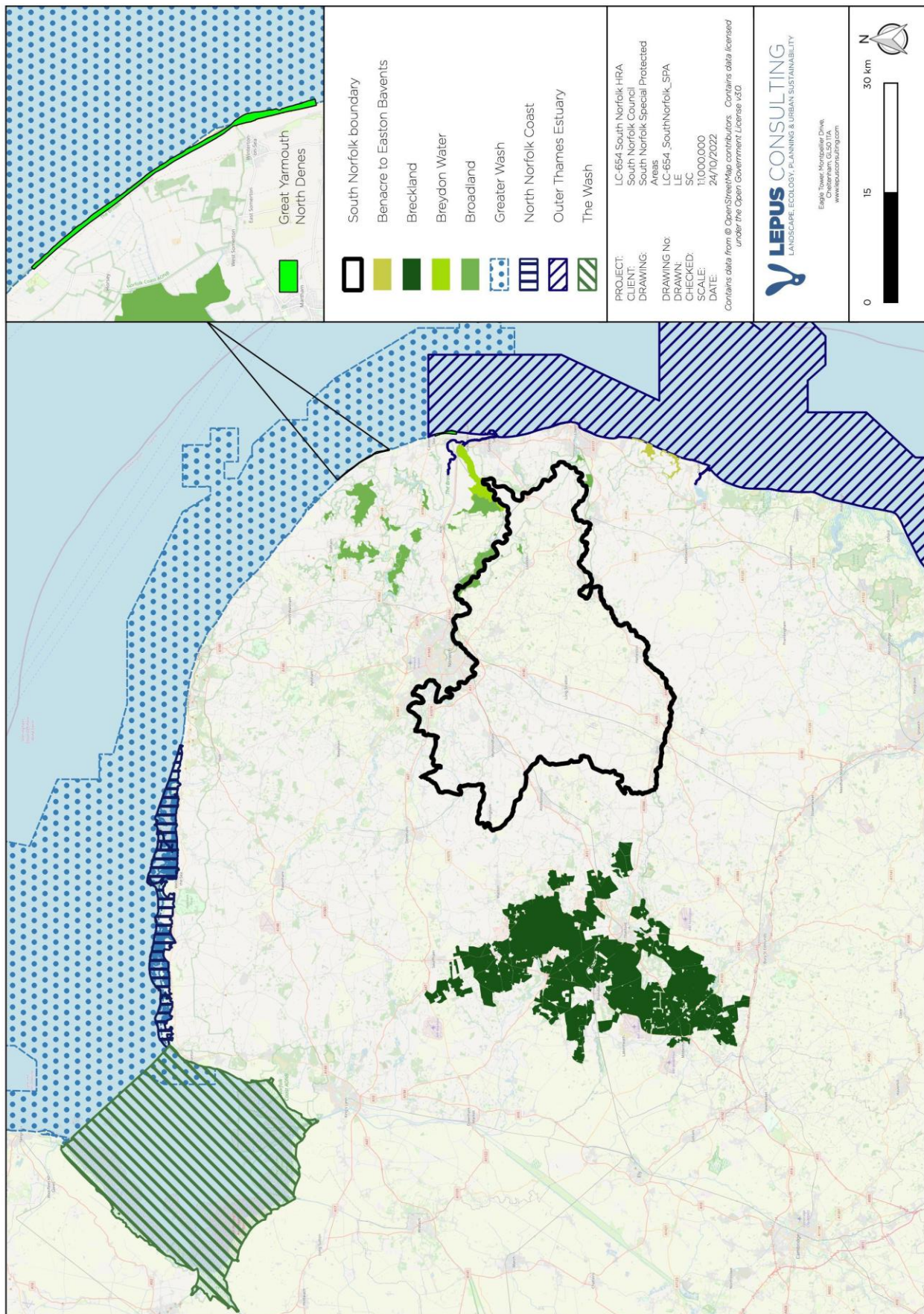


Figure 5.2: SPA location plan

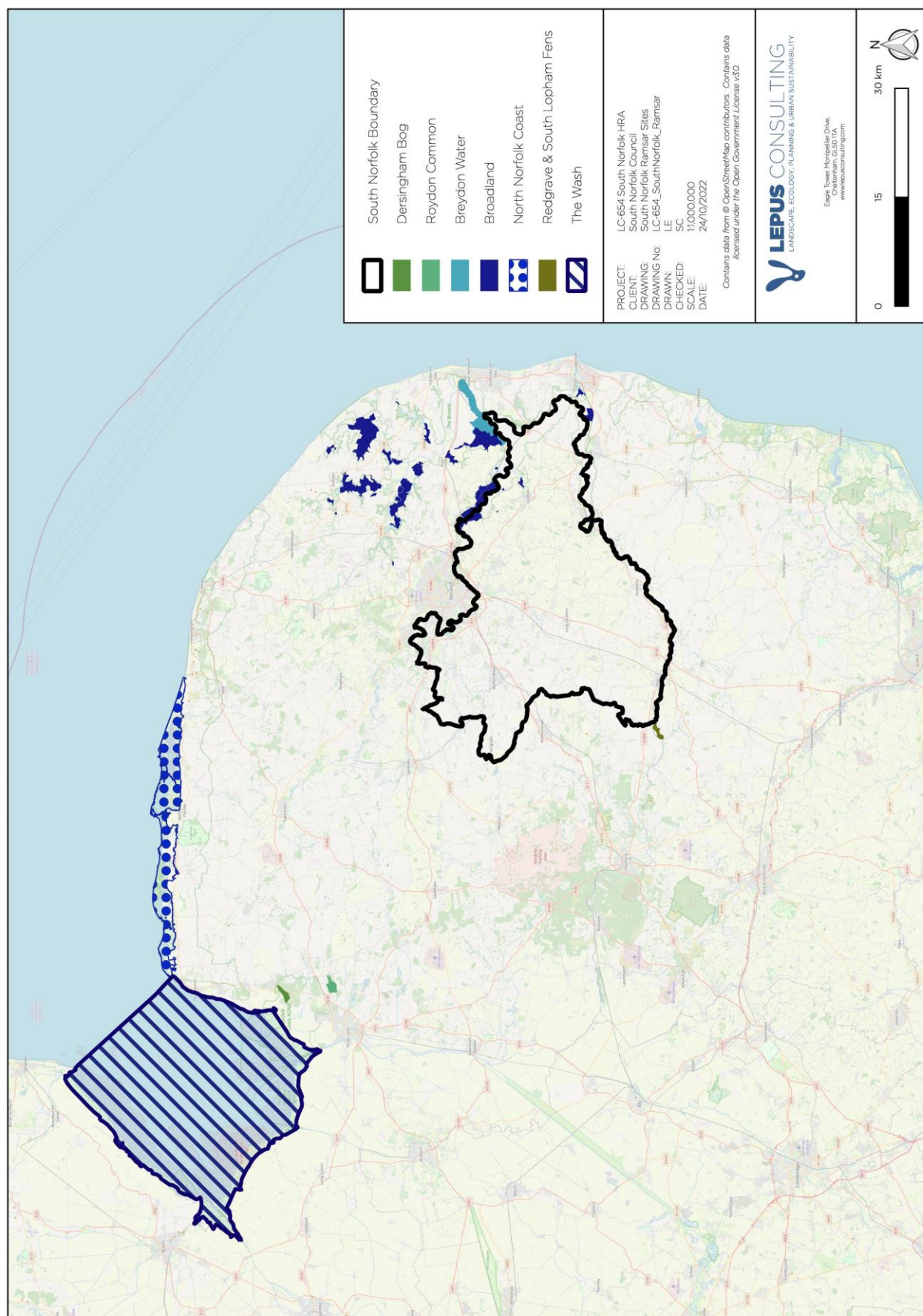


Figure 5.3: Ramsar location plan

- 5.1.7 Each Habitats site has its own intrinsic qualities, besides the habitats or species for which it has been designated, that enables the site to support the ecosystems that it does. An important aspect of this is that the ecological integrity of each site can be vulnerable to change from natural and human induced activities in the surrounding environment (known as pressures and threats). For example, sites can be affected by land use plans in a number of different ways, including the direct land take of new development, the type of use the land will be put to (for example, an extractive or noise-emitting use), the pollution a development generates, and the resources used (during construction and operation for instance).
- 5.1.8 An intrinsic quality of any Habitats site is its functionality at the landscape ecology scale. This refers to how the site interacts with the zone of influence of its immediate surroundings, as well as the wider area. This is particularly the case where there is potential for developments resulting from the plan to generate water or air-borne pollutants, use water resources or otherwise affect water levels. Adverse effects may also occur via impacts to mobile species occurring outside a designated site, but which are qualifying features of the site. For example, there may be effects on protected birds that use land outside the designated site for foraging, feeding, roosting or other activities.

5.2 Ecological information

- 5.2.1 The CJEU ruling in the Holohan case (C-461/17²⁹) confirmed that Appropriate Assessment should: (i) catalogue (i.e. list) all habitats and species for which the site is protected and (ii) include in its assessment other (i.e. non-protected) habitat types or species which are on the site and habitats and species located outside of the site if they are necessary to the conservation of the habitat types and species listed for the protected area.
- 5.2.2 This report fully considers the potential for effects on species and habitats. This includes those not listed as a qualifying feature for the Habitats site, but which may be important to achieving its conservation objectives. This ensures that the functional relationships underlying Habitats sites and the achievement of their conservation objectives are adequately understood.
- 5.2.3 Appendix C identifies the qualifying features of each of these sites and presents details of their conservation objectives. This information is drawn from the Joint Nature Conservancy Council (JNCC)³⁰ and Natural England³¹.
- 5.2.4 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are protected areas in the United Kingdom designated for conservation. SSSIs are the building blocks of site-based nature conservation in the UK. A SSSI will be designated based on the characteristics of its fauna, flora, geology and/or geomorphology. Whilst typically analogous in ecological function, the reasons for its designation can be entirely different to those for which the same area is designated as a SAC, SPA or Ramsar.

²⁹ EUR-Lex (2018) Case C-461/17. Available at: <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:62017CJ0461&from=EN> [Date Accessed 02/02/22]

³⁰ JNCC (2019) Available at: <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1458> [Date Accessed: 02/02/22]

³¹ Natural England (2019) Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/> [Date Accessed: 02/02/22]

- 5.2.5 Natural England periodically assesses the conservation conditions of each SSSI unit, assigning it a status. SSSIs located either entirely or partially within the Habitats sites considered in this report are listed in Appendix D along with their current conservation status. The conservation status of each SSSI highlights any SAC/SPA that is currently particularly vulnerable to threats/pressures. Conservation status is defined as follows:
- Favourable;
 - Unfavourable – recovering;
 - Unfavourable – no change; or
 - Unfavourable – declining.
- 5.2.6 SSSI units in either an 'Unfavourable – no change' or 'Unfavourable – declining' condition indicate that the Habitats site may be particularly vulnerable to certain threats or pressures. It is important to remember that the SSSI may be in an unfavourable state due to the condition of features unrelated to its Habitats designation. However, it is considered that the conservation status of SSSI units that overlap with Habitats designated sites offer a useful indicator of habitat health at that location.
- 5.2.7 Natural England defines zones around each SSSI which may be at risk from specific types of development, these are known as Impact Risk Zones (IRZ). These IRZs are *"a GIS tool developed by Natural England to make a rapid initial assessment of the potential risks to SSSIs posed by development proposals. They define zones around each SSSI which reflect the particular sensitivities of the features for which it is notified and indicate the types of development proposal which could potentially have adverse impacts. The IRZs also cover the interest features and sensitivities of European sites, which are underpinned by the SSSI designation and "Compensation Sites", which have been secured as compensation for impacts on Natura 2000/Ramsar sites"*³². The location of IRZs has been taken into consideration in this assessment as they provide a useful guide as to the location of functionally linked land and likely vulnerabilities to development proposed within the VCHAP.

³² Natural England (2019) Natural England's Impact Risk Zones for Sites of Special Scientific Interest User Guidance. Available at: https://magic.defra.gov.uk/Metadata_for_magic/SSSI%20IRZ%20User%20Guidance%20MAGIC.pdf [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

6 Impact Pathways

6.1 Gathering information about Habitats sites and impact pathways

- 6.1.1 It is important to understand how the VCHAP may affect a Habitats site in order to determine LSEs. Consideration must first be given to potential links or causal connections between the effects of the VCHAP and Habitats sites. This section therefore scopes potential impact pathways at the Habitats sites in Table 5.1.

6.2 Threats and pressures

- 6.2.1 Threats and pressures to which each Habitats site is vulnerable have been identified through reference to data held by the JNCC on Natura 2000 Data Forms, Ramsar Information Sheets and Site Improvement Plans (SIPs). This information provides current and predicted issues at each Habitats site and is summarised in Appendix C.
- 6.2.2 A number of similar threats and pressures have been considered together, for instance 'recreation' is considered under 'public access and disturbance'. A number of threats and pressures are considered to be beyond the scope of the potential impacts of VCHAP. These threats and pressures have not been included in this assessment having been scoped out.
- 6.2.3 Following a review of HRA assessment work undertaken to date for the Regulation 18 HRA and to support the GNL, and an identification of causal connections and links, the remaining threats and pressures that are considered to be within the scope of influence of the VCHAP include:
- Atmospheric pollution – consideration of commuting data for the plan area and consultation with the County Highways Team on key commuting routes³³;
 - Hydrological changes – consideration of water quality (changes in nutrient levels) and water quantity; and
 - Public access and disturbance – consideration of recreational disturbance and urbanisation threats, drawing on recreational survey data and established zones of influence where available.
 - Habitat loss and fragmentation – of potentially functionally linked land.
- 6.2.4 The tests set out under the Habitats Regulations need to be applied in respect of plans or projects which may significantly affect functionally linked habitat that plays an important role in contributing to the favourable conservation status of the relevant species for which a Habitats site is designated.

³³ Office for National Statistics (2011) Location of usual residence and place of work by method of travel to work (2011 census data). Available at: <https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/census/2011/wu03uk/chart> [Date accessed: 04/06/24].

- 6.2.5 The term 'functional linkage' is defined by Natural England as *"the role or 'function' that land or sea beyond the boundary of a European site might fulfil in terms of ecologically supporting the populations for which the site was designated or classified. Such land is therefore 'linked' to the European site in question because it provides an important role in maintaining or restoring the population of qualifying species at favourable conservation status"*³⁴.
- 6.2.6 The CJEU ruling in the Holohan case confirmed that habitat and / or species which are located outside of a designated site, if they are necessary to the conservation of the habitat types and species listed for the protected area, must be considered in an Appropriate Assessment.
- 6.2.7 Supporting habitat, also referred to as functionally linked habitat, may be located some distance from a Habitats site. The fragmentation of habitats through the loss of connecting corridors, indirect and direct impacts also have the potential to hinder the movement of qualifying species.
- 6.2.8 The pathways of impact listed above will be considered at designated sites themselves and also at areas of potentially functionally linked habitat.

6.3 Air Pollution Scoping

- 6.3.1 Air pollution can affect Habitats sites if it has an adverse effect on its features of qualifying interest. The main mechanisms through which air pollution can have an adverse effect is through eutrophication (nitrogen), acidification (nitrogen and sulphur) and direct toxicity (ozone, ammonia and nitrogen oxides)³⁵. Deposition of air pollutants can alter the soil and plant composition and species which depend upon these.
- 6.3.2 As highlighted through the review of threats and pressures at Habitats sites, (Appendix C) air pollution, and in particular atmospheric nitrogen deposition, has been identified as a threat or pressure for qualifying features of several Habitats sites within the relevant Natural England SIPs.

³⁴ Natural England. 2016. Commissioned Report. NECR207. Functional linkage: How areas that are functionally linked to European sites have been considered when they may be affected by plans and projects - a review of authoritative decisions.

³⁵ APIS (2016) Ecosystem Services and air pollution impacts. Available at: <http://www.apis.ac.uk/ecosystem-services-and-air-pollution-impacts>. [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

- 6.3.3 Natural England has developed a standard methodology for the assessment of traffic related air quality impacts under the Habitats Regulations which is relevant to the HRA of land use plans³⁶. In addition, the Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM)³⁷ and the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)³⁸ have also prepared advice on the assessment of air quality impacts at designated sites. This guidance sets a number of thresholds for screening of Likely Significant (air quality) Effects (LSEs) at the HRA screening stage (Stage 1 of the HRA process) and methodologies for further Appropriate Assessment and ecological interpretation of air quality impacts.
- 6.3.4 The Natural England staged approach to screening of likely significant air quality effects has been applied here³⁹. The first step is to determine if the plan will give rise to emissions which are likely to reach a Habitats site.
- 6.3.5 The VCHAP will trigger housing development and as such increase traffic related emissions. Consultation with the Norfolk County Council Transport Team indicates that the key commuting area for development within the South Norfolk village clusters is likely to occur within South Norfolk itself and the immediate adjacent neighbouring authority areas, including Norwich, Broadland, Breckland, Waveney (now part of East Suffolk), Mid Suffolk and Great Yarmouth. These authority areas have therefore been taken as the HRA air quality study area for the purposes of this assessment. It is however noted that there is likely to be considerable variance between these destinations, as travel patterns will invariably focus on routes/journeys to significant attractors, such as towns centres and other major employment, retail and leisure areas. It is therefore likely that more remote sites in districts, with lower journey numbers to/from South Norfolk, are less likely to be affected. The Habitats sites listed in Table 6.1 are within this study area.
- 6.3.6 It is widely accepted that air quality impacts are greatest within 200m of a road source, decreasing with distance^{40,41,42}. Table 6.1 identifies roads within 200m of any Habitats site that has been identified as being sensitive to changes in air quality (in either Natural England's SIPs or on the Air Pollution Information System (APIS) – see Appendix C) and which is located within the air quality study area. Table 6.1 indicates which Habitats sites will be considered further in the HRA screening assessment.

Table 6.1: Air quality scoping

³⁶ Natural England (2018) Natural England's approach to advising competent authorities on the assessment of road traffic emissions under the Habitats Regulations (NEA001). Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4720542048845824> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

³⁷ Holman et al (2020). A guide to the assessment of air quality impacts on designated nature conservation sites – version 1.1, Institute of Air Quality Management, London.

³⁸ CIEEM (2021) Advice on Ecological Assessment of Air Quality Impacts. Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management. Winchester, UK.

³⁹ Natural England (2018) Natural England's approach to advising competent authorities on the assessment of road traffic emissions under the Habitats Regulations (NEA001). Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4720542048845824> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

⁴⁰ The Highways Agency, Transport Scotland, Welsh Assembly Government, The Department for Regional Development Northern Ireland (2007) Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1: Air Quality.

⁴¹ Natural England (2016) The ecological effects of air pollution from road transport: an updated review. Natural England Commissioned Report NECR 199.

⁴² Bignal, K., Ashmore, M. & Power, S. (2004) The ecological effects of diffuse air pollution from road transport. English Nature Research Report No. 580, Peterborough.

Habitats site vulnerable to changes in air quality (as identified in Natural England's SIPs - Appendix C)	Review of APIS data ⁴³	Strategic road links (A and B roads) located within 200m of Habitats site	Considered further in HRA screening process.
Norfolk Valley Fens SAC	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads. Not all qualifying features are sensitive to acidification.	A47, B1149 and B1075	Yes
The Broads SAC	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads. Not all qualifying features are sensitive to acidification.	B1150, A149, A47, A1064 and A146	Yes
Broadland SPA	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads for habitat types. Not all qualifying features are sensitive to nitrogen deposition or acidification.	B1150, A1064 and A146	Yes
Broadland Ramsar	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads. Not all qualifying features are sensitive to nitrogen deposition or acidification.	B1150, A1064 and A146	Yes
Breckland SAC	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads. Not all qualifying features are sensitive to nitrogen deposition or acidification.	A11, A134 and A1075	Yes
Breckland SPA	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads for habitat types. Not all qualifying features are sensitive to nitrogen deposition or acidification.	A11, A1066, B1111, A1088, A134, A1075, A1134, A1065, A1122,	Yes
Great Yarmouth North Deans SPA	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads for habitat types.	None	No
Winterton-Horsey Dunes SAC	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads. Not all qualifying features are sensitive to nitrogen deposition or acidification.	None	No
Paston Great Barn SAC	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads.	The B1159 terminates at the Gas Works before Paston Barn, is located approx. 25km to the north east of the Plan area, is unlikely to link to key housing / areas of employment associated with the Plan area and therefore is unlikely to result in an alone / in-combination breach of air quality thresholds.	No
Waveney & Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads. Not all qualifying features are sensitive to nitrogen deposition or acidification.	B1113	Yes
Redgrave & South Lopham Fens Ramsar	SSSI air quality data indicates exceed or are within critical loads. Not all qualifying	B1113 Sensitivity to air quality is not identified in Ramsar	Yes

⁴³ Air Pollution Information System. Available at <https://www.apis.ac.uk/> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

Habitats site vulnerable to changes in air quality (as identified in Natural England's SIPs - Appendix C)	Review of APIS data ⁴³	Strategic road links (A and B roads) located within 200m of Habitats site	Considered further in HRA screening process.
	features are sensitive to nitrogen deposition or acidification.	information sheet but identified in SAC SIP for Waveney & Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC which is coincident with Ramsar designation.	
Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA	Current levels exceed or are within critical loads. Not all qualifying features are sensitive to nitrogen deposition or acidification.	B1127	Yes

6.4 Water Scoping

- 6.4.1 Urban development can reduce catchment permeability and the presence of drainage networks may be expected to remove runoff from urbanised catchments. This may result in changes in run off rates from urbanised areas to Habitats sites or watercourses which connect to them. Water mains leakage and sewer infiltration may also affect the water balance.
- 6.4.2 Urbanisation also has the potential to reduce the quality of water entering a catchment during the construction of a development through processes such as sedimentation, accidental spillage of chemicals and materials. Water quality may also be reduced through effluent discharges and pollution as well as an increased water temperature.
- 6.4.3 Features for which a Habitats site is designated are often sensitive to changes in water quality and water quantity. Therefore, urbanisation affecting drainage streams which is connected to a Habitats site has the potential to adversely affect the features for which it is designated.
- 6.4.4 The Plan area lies predominantly within the Anglian river management basin and within the Broadland Rivers surface water management catchment area. A small area to the of west of the Plan area is also in the Cam and Ely Ouse management catchment and the Anglian TraC management catchment follows the River Chet into the Plan area. The upper reaches of the Broadland Rivers' management catchment include the River Wensum and the River Waveney. The River Wensum is a calcareous groundwater dominated river which originates in northwest Norfolk, flowing in a south easterly direction before joining the River Yare to the south east of Norwich. Further down the catchment the land is mostly at or below sea level and forms an area of slow-flowing rivers and interconnected lakes and wetlands. These lower reaches are affected by tidal surges from the North Sea as well as upstream inputs. The Broadland Rivers management catchment is further divided into four operational management catchments associated with the following rivers⁴⁴:
- The River Bure, is located to the north of the Plan area. It rises at Melton Constable and flows south west through the Broads towards the sea at Great Yarmouth. Downstream of Wroxham, it is joined by the Ant and then the Thurne. This low-lying area incorporates many of the broads.

⁴⁴ Environment Agency. Catchment Data Explorer. Available at: <https://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/RiverBasinDistrict/5> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

- The River Waveney runs along the southern Plan boundary. It begins in the Regrave and Lopham Fen National Nature Reserve flowing east through the towns of Diss, Harleston, Bungay and Beccles. Finally joining the River Yare to reach the sea at Great Yarmouth. The Waveney branches off to Oulton Broad towards Lowestoft where a sea lock divides sea water, linking Oulton Broad with Lake Lothing and the sea.
- The River Wensum which flows along the northern boundary of the Plan area, through Fakenham and the Pensthorpe nature reserve, and on through Swanton Morley, Taverham and Norwich, joining the river Yare at Whitlingham.
- The River Yare rises south of Dereham close to the village of Shipdham, and then flows east towards Norwich across the north of the Plan area. It has two major tributaries, the river Tiffey which flows north through Wymondham and joins the Yare at Barford, and the River Tas, which flows north through Long Stratton before joining the Yare at Trowse⁴⁵.

6.4.5 AECOM prepared a Water Cycle Study (WCS)⁴⁶ in support of the GNLP. This aimed to help the Greater Norwich Authorities determine the most appropriate options for development within the study area with respect to water infrastructure and the water environment. This provides an assessment of GNLP combined planned growth in terms of water supply, environmental capacity and wastewater capacity and includes growth in the VCHAP. The WCS looked at hydrology impacts upon ecologically designated sites and applied water quality thresholds set through implementation of the WFD, and site-specific standards, to ensure the protection of environmental receptors.

6.4.6 In order to scope Habitats sites that will be considered further in the HRA process in terms of water impacts (alone and in-combination), an assessment has been made of their hydrological connectivity with the Plan area. The WCS identifies that the following Habitats sites will be sensitive to hydrological impacts from development set out in the GNLP (and therefore the VCHAP):

- River Wensum SAC;
- Broadlands SPA; and
- The Broads SAC.

6.4.7 As noted in Section 3.3, advice received from DLUHC and Natural England highlighted the importance of nutrient impacts on the River Wensum SAC, the Broads SAC and Broadlands Ramsar. Given the VCHAP will lead to an increase of development within the catchments of these Habitats sites, there is the potential for likely significant water quality effects from the Plan alone.

6.4.8 In addition, the following Habitats sites, which are known to be sensitive to hydrological impacts and within the Broadland Rivers surface water management catchment, are also hydrologically linked to the Plan area and will therefore also be considered further in the screening process.

- Norfolk Valley Fens SAC (at Flordon Common SSSI within the Plan area);

⁴⁵ Data taken from Environment Agency Catchment Data Explorer. Environment Agency. Catchment Data Explorer. Available at: <https://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/RiverBasinDistrict/5> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

⁴⁶ AECOM. January 2021. Greater Norwich Water Cycle Study. Final Draft.

- Breydon Water SPA (adjacent to the River Yare and downstream of the Plan area); and
- Breydon Water Ramsar (as above).

6.4.9 All other Habitats sites within the HRA study area are not considered to be hydrologically linked to the Plan area either due to their location or because they are not considered to be sensitive to hydrological impacts. As such these sites have been scoped out of the HRA in terms of hydrological impacts (including water quality and water quantity issues).

6.5 Public access and disturbance

6.5.1 Public access and disturbance can take a number of forms. It can include both physical and non-physical disturbance, which can be caused by urbanisation pressures and increased recreational activity.

6.5.2 These activities can result in damage to habitats through erosion and compaction, troubling of grazing stock, spreading invasive species, cat predation, dog fouling, litter and fly-tipping, tree climbing, wildfire and arson, noise, vibration, light pollution and vandalism.

Recreational Pressure

6.5.3 Across the UK, public access and disturbance threats at Habitats sites are often considered in terms of buffer distances. For recreational impacts, these are often determined through analysis of visitor and recreational survey data, baseline site information and take into consideration the proximity of new development.

6.5.4 In 2015 and 2016 Footprint Ecology was commissioned by Norfolk County Council/the Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership (NBP) on behalf of all local planning authorities, to undertake a number of visitor surveys to determine current and projected visitor patterns to Habitats sites across Norfolk⁴⁷. The Habitats sites which formed the focus of this commission included the following:

- Breydon Water Ramsar;
- Breydon Water SPA;
- Breckland SAC;
- Breckland SPA;
- Broadland SPA;
- Broadland Ramsar;
- Norfolk Valley Fens SAC;
- North Norfolk Coast SAC;
- North Norfolk Coast SPA;
- North Norfolk Coast Ramsar;
- Roydon Common & Dersingham Bog SAC;
- Roydon Common & Dersingham Bog Ramsar;
- The Broads SAC;
- The Wash SPA;
- The Wash Ramsar;
- Winterton Horsey Dunes / Great Yarmouth North Denes SAC; and

⁴⁷ Panter, C., Liley, D. & Lowen, S. (2016). Visitor surveys at European protected sites across Norfolk during 2015 and 2016. Unpublished report for Norfolk County Council. Footprint Ecology.

- Winterton Horsey Dunes / Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA.

- 6.5.5 Visitor surveys were undertaken in 2015 and 2016 at 35 agreed sites across the above Habitats sites following input from a range of stakeholders. Following analysis of the findings Footprint Ecology concluded that over half of interviewees were visiting from home and resident within Norfolk, with 16% of interviewees travelling from home on a short visit/day trip from outside Norfolk. The most popular activities undertaken on site were shown to be dog walking and walking. A high number of trips were made from holiday makers to the North Coast and Broads (66%), with the majority staying locally or on boats in the Broads. Over three quarters (77%) of all interviewees were shown to have arrived at the interview location by car.
- 6.5.6 The Footprint Ecology research identified a number of strategic mitigation options on a site-by-site basis, such as access management, wardening, raising public awareness, site management and delivery of high-quality green space. The report indicated where people travel from and provided an assessment of the links between the cumulative impact of new housing development across all planning authorities in Norfolk and increased recreation use at Habitats sites. The report noted that increased recreation pressure has the potential to impact a Habitats site's qualifying features for instance through disturbance to Annex I birds. The results showed a range of different use and recreational draw for the different sites and as such the mitigation suggestions were tailored to suit individual sites.
- 6.5.7 Drawing on the visitor survey data collated by Footprint Ecology, the Councils of Broadland District Council, Breckland District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, The Borough Council of King's Lynn & West Norfolk, North Norfolk District Council, Norwich City Council, South Norfolk Council and the Broads Authority (working together to address cross-boundary issues and offer a strategic solution through a Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework (NSPF)), have prepared a Norfolk Green Infrastructure (GI) and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS)⁴⁸. This strategy forms part of the evidence base for each local planning authority (LPA) Local Plan and provides the basis for future agreements through the NSPF.
- 6.5.8 The Norfolk GIRAMS identifies particular Zones of Influence (ZOIs) which represent the extent of land around Habitats sites within which residents travel to the relevant site for recreational activities, as evidenced by extensive survey work⁴⁹. These ZOI cover the administrative area of the Council, and contain the following designated Habitats sites:
- Broads ZOI: Broadland SPA, Broadland Ramsar, Breydon Water SPA, The Broads SAC;
 - East Coast ZOI: Winterton – Horsey Dunes SAC, Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA;
 - Norfolk Brecks ZOI: Breckland SPA, Breckland SAC;

⁴⁸ Place Services. March 2021. Norfolk Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (GIRAMS). Habitats Regulations Strategy Document. Available at: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/downloads/file/4390/norfolk-gi-rams-strategy-march-2021> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

⁴⁹ See Table 6 (ZOI Calculations for Norfolk Habitats Sites with regard to recreational impacts) of the GIRAMS. Source: Place Services. March 2021. Norfolk Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (GIRAMS). Habitats Regulations Strategy Document.

- Norfolk Coast ZOI: North Norfolk Coast SAC, North Norfolk Coast SPA, North Norfolk Coast Ramsar;
- Valley Fens ZOI: Norfolk Valley Fens SAC; and
- Wash ZOI: The Wash SPA, The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC, The Wash Ramsar.

6.5.9 These ZOIs have been applied to the scoping of Habitats sites for consideration in the HRA screening process.

6.5.10 In response to HRA work undertaken in support of the Great Yarmouth Borough Council Core Strategy, Great Yarmouth Borough Council established a monitoring and mitigation advisory group to deliver required mitigation measures to protect the main local Habitats sites to this Council area including: Winterton-Horsey Dunes SAC, Breydon Water SPA/Ramsar site and North Denes SPA, from any significant effects resulting from increased recreational pressures which may arise from new housing and tourism development. As a result, a Habitats Monitoring and Mitigation Strategy⁵⁰ was approved by Great Yarmouth Borough Council. This has been taken into consideration in development of GIRAMS and incorporated into the strategic approach to mitigation for these east coast sites to ensure a continued strategic approach.

6.5.11 North of the River Blyth, Footprint Ecology recognised that the key concern from recreation pressure was disturbance to populations of Little Tern (*Sternula albifrons*). As such they extended the zone of influence along the coastline to include the northern part of Waveney District. This links into the area where the Norfolk strategic mitigation commences for Great Yarmouth Borough, as discussed above, therefore ensuring a continued strategic approach for Little Terns across the relevant Habitats sites for this species in Norfolk and Suffolk.

6.5.12 In summary, Table 6.2 presents the Habitats sites which will be considered further in terms of recreational pathways of impact in the screening assessment.

Table 6.2: *Habitats sites potentially affected by increased recreational pressures*

SAC	SPA	Ramsar
- Norfolk Valley Fens	- Broadland	- Broadland
- The Broads	- Breydon Water	- Breydon Water
- Winterton-Horsey Dunes	- Great Yarmouth and North Denes	- The Wash
- Breckland	- Breckland	- North Norfolk Coast
- The Wash and North Norfolk Coast	- The Wash	
- North Norfolk Coast	- North Norfolk Coast	

⁵⁰ Great Yarmouth Borough Council. 2019. Habitats Monitoring and Mitigation Strategy.

Urbanisation Pressure

- 6.5.13 Urbanisation effects are caused where development is located close to a Habitats site designated boundary. These effects often include cat predation of ground nesting birds, lighting (illumination), visual disturbance, fly tipping, noise and vandalism. As with recreational impacts, urbanisation mitigation strategies have been implemented across the UK through the establishment of buffer zones. Commonly applied urbanisation zones of influence extend around 400m from the edge of a designation as this reflects likely impacts from pets (e.g. cat predation) and the distance from which people access a site on foot. The Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area Delivery Framework⁵¹ is one such strategy which makes recommendations for accommodating development while also protecting the SPA's qualifying features by establishing a 400m zone where development does not take place.
- 6.5.14 Given the distance over which urbanisation pressures are felt, it is considered that this pathway of impact will only effect Habitats sites within or immediately adjacent to the Plan area which are sensitive to public access and disturbance impacts. These sites include the following:
- Breydon Water SPA;
 - Breydon Water Ramsar;
 - Broadland SPA;
 - Broadland Ramsar;
 - Norfolk Valley Fens SAC;
 - River Wensum SAC; and
 - The Broads SAC.

6.6 Habitat loss and fragmentation

- 6.6.1 As set out in Section 6.2, functionally linked habitat may be located some distance from a Habitats site designated boundary. This habitat may however be necessary to the conservation of qualifying habitat types and / or species. In particular the loss or fragmentation of functionally linked habitat has the potential to affect qualifying species which may be mobile, for example birds which may use habitat outside designated sites as migratory routes, foraging areas or roosting sites.
- 6.6.2 There are a number of Habitats sites located within the VCHAP area as listed below.
- Broadland SPA;
 - Broadland Ramsar;
 - Norfolk Valley Fens SAC;
 - River Wensum SAC; and
 - The Broads SAC.

⁵¹ Thames Basin Heaths Joint Strategic Partnership Board (2009). Thames Basin Heaths SPA Delivery Framework. <https://www.bracknell-forest.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2021-08/thames-basin-heaths-spa-delivery-framework.pdf> [Date Accessed: 30/05/22].

- 6.6.3 At the HRA screening stage (Section 7) each VCHAP allocation is analysed in the context of their potential to provide suitable habitat to support the qualifying features of each Habitats site listed above. Where suitable habitat was identified, its likelihood to provide an important role in maintaining or restoring the qualifying features at a favourable conservation status (i.e. to be functionally linked) was taken into consideration.
- 6.6.4 The majority of qualifying features associated with the Habitats sites listed above (as detailed in Appendix C) are specifically associated with rivers, streams and wetland / fen habitat types. However, a number of bird species associated with the Broadland SPA and Broadland Ramsar may potentially use the surrounding landscape for foraging and/or nesting. For example, the Bewick's swan (*Cygnus columbianus bewickii*), Whooper swan (*Cygnus cygnus*), Eurasian wigeon (*Anas penelope*), Pink footed goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*) and Greylag goose (*Anser anser*) forage on farmland for leftover potatoes and grains; the hen harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) and Eurasian marsh harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*) predate on small birds and mammals. Unlike the hen harrier, the marsh harrier may also use the wider landscape for breeding⁵².
- 6.6.5 The Broadland SPA and Broadland Ramsar sites have therefore been scoped into the HRA for further consideration in terms of screening of habitat fragmentation and/or loss.
- 6.7 **Habitats sites**
- 6.7.1 Table 6.3 provides a summary of the scoping outputs in terms of Habitats sites which will form the basis of the HRA screening assessment.

⁵² Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) website. Available at: <https://www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife/wildlife-guides/bird-a-z/>

Table 6.3: *Scoping summary of potential pathways of impact to Habitats sites within VCHAP HRA study area*

Habitats sites	Air Pollution	Water quality and water quantity	Public Access and Disturbance (recreational pressure and urbanisation effects)	Habitat Loss and Fragmentation
River Wensum SAC	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Norfolk Valley Fens SAC	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
The Broads SAC	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
Broadland SPA	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Broadland Ramsar	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	Vulnerable
Breydon Water SPA	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
Breydon Water Ramsar	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
Great Yarmouth North Deans SPA	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
Winterton-Horsey Dunes SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
Paston Great Barn SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Overstrand Cliffs SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Waveney & Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Redgrave and South Lopham Fens Ramsar	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Breckland SAC	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure

Breckland SPA	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SPA	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Dew's Ponds SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
Roydon Common and Dersingham Bog SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Roydon Common Ramsar	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Dersingham Bog Ramsar	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
The Wash SPA	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
The Wash Ramsar	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
The Greater Wash SPA	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
North Norfolk Coast SPA	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
North Norfolk Coast SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
North Norfolk Coast Ramsar	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	Vulnerable	No threat or pressure
Southern North Sea SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure

Outer Thames Estuary SPA	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure
Hainsborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure	No threat or pressure

7 Screening (HRA Stage 1)

7.1 Policy and allocations pre-screening

7.1.1 Each policy and allocation of the Regulation 19 Publication version of the VCHAP has been appraised against the HRA pre-screening criteria (see Table 4.1), taking into consideration case law and best practice. Appendix E provides the output of this screening exercise. It is noted that this screening exercise was undertaken at Regulation 18 and has been updated at Regulation 19 to capture changes to the VCHAP which have occurred over the plan making period.

7.1.2 It is concluded that LSEs, either from the VCHAP alone or in- combination with other plans or projects, could be screened out for some elements of the VCHAP. This is because they fell into the following categories (see Table 4.1 for a description of each category):

- Category B: Policies listing general criteria for testing the acceptability / sustainability of proposals;
- Category D: Environmental protection / site safeguarding; and
- Category F: Policies or proposals that cannot lead to development or other change.

7.1.3 A number of policies were however considered likely to have an LSE on the basis of this assessment as they fell into the following categories:

- Category I: Policies or proposals with a likely significant effect on a site alone; and
- Category L: Policies or proposals which might be likely to have a significant effect in combination.

7.2 Air quality screening

7.2.1 HRA work undertaken in support of the GNLP concluded that no new roads are proposed within 200m of any Habitats site, and notes that the siting of proposed allocations further than 1km from any Habitats site indicates that road traffic associated with the developments would be sufficiently far that there would be no air pollution impacts. To ensure a consistent approach is taken in the VCHAP HRA, a similar method has been adopted in applying Natural England's screening methodology when asking 'determine if the plan will give rise to emissions which are likely to reach a Habitats site'. There are three allocations within 1km of a Habitats site (as listed below).

- Rockland St Mary – VCROC1 – Approximately 450m to the west of the Broads SAC, Broadland SPA and Broadlands Ramsar.
- Gillingham – VCGIL1 – Approximately 665m to the east of the Broads SAC, Broadland SPA and Broadlands Ramsar.
- Geldeston – VCGEL1 - Approximately 716m to the west of the Broads SAC, Broadland SPA and Broadlands Ramsar.

- 7.2.2 A review of aerial mapping data indicates that, with the exception of the Brecklands SAC and SPA, there are only short sections of road within 200m of each Habitats site when compared against the overall coverage of each designation. Given the scale of development proposed at the VCHAP allocations, the rural nature of roads across Norfolk as a whole, the dispersed nature of all allocations and, importantly, taking a consistent approach to the overarching GNLP HRA, air quality impacts have been screened out of the assessment alone and in-combination. It is noted that this approach is a departure from Natural England's screening guidance to LPAs⁵³. Given the small-scale nature of housing proposed across the village cluster allocations, traffic modelling has not been undertaken as the costs for doing this would be disproportionate. Traffic data was therefore not available to compare against air quality impact screening thresholds.

7.3 Water screening

- 7.3.1 A number of allocations proposed within the VCHAP are located within the hydrological catchment of the Broads SAC and Broadland Ramsar which are sensitive to nutrient enrichment (see Section 3.3). No allocation is located within the River Wensum SAC nutrient neutrality hydrological catchment and therefore this Habitats site can be screened out.
- 7.3.2 Breydon Water Ramsar and Breydon Water SPA are located adjacent to the River Yare, downstream of the Plan area and within close proximity to a number of allocations in the west of the Plan area. In addition, one component of the Norfolk Valley Fens SAC (underpinned by Flordon Common SSSI) is within the Plan area and downstream of VCHAP allocations.
- 7.3.3 Hydrological impacts at these sites are therefore screened in for further consideration in the HRA process through Appropriate Assessment.

7.4 Public access and disturbance screening

- 7.4.1 The screening exercise indicates that all allocations are located in one or more recreational ZOI for the Habitats sites listed in Table 6.2 and therefore potential in-combination recreational impacts have been screened into the HRA process for further consideration in the Appropriate Assessment. Two allocations are linked via the existing Public Rights of Way (PRoW) network to components of the Broadlands SPA and Broadlands Ramsar site and therefore alone impacts are considered possible. Recreational impacts are unlikely at any other Habitats site.
- 7.4.2 No allocation is located within 400m of any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation LSEs can be screened out.

⁵³ Natural England (2018) Natural England's approach to advising competent authorities on the assessment of road traffic emissions under the Habitats Regulations (NEA001). Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/4720542048845824> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

7.5 Habitat loss and fragmentation screening

7.5.1 A screening review has been undertaken of habitat types at each allocation and possible opportunities for them to provide functionally linked / supporting habitat for the qualifying features of the Broadland SPA and Broadland Ramsar designations. This included land for foraging, roosting, nesting and migrating. In particular, the review took into consideration the potential of each allocation to provide an important role in maintaining or restoring the qualifying features at a favourable conservation status.

7.5.2 The output of this review is presented in Appendix E. The following factors were explored at each allocation site:

- Distance from the designated site (sites closer to components of the SPA and/or Ramsar site are more likely to provide roosting and /or foraging opportunities for birds).
- Site characteristics including details on:
 - Habitat type
 - Use as agricultural field
 - Visibility (for example are there unrestricted sight-lines to designated sites)
 - Details of any field boundaries (trees/hedgerows/field drains)
 - Details of any permanent waterbodies, areas of seasonal flooding
- The size of the site
- Details of any existing factors (where available) that may affect the habitat suitability, including:
 - Existing PRoW and their usage, especially by users with dogs
 - Proximity to existing built up areas
 - Existing farming practices
 - Noise and visual disturbance such as busy road and rail infrastructure
 - Presence of large and/or multiple overhead power lines

7.5.3 All allocations are situated on the edge of existing settlements, within village clusters, and are therefore in close proximity to existing development and road infrastructure associated with these villages. These features may provide a source of disturbance to birds. In addition, due to their distance from the designations (all greater than 400m), the overall small size of each allocation, absence of water bodies and presence of features such as hedgerows, power lines and trees which restrict bird sight lines, it can be concluded that habitat loss and fragmentation effects can be screened out of the HRA.

7.6 Screening conclusion

- 7.6.1 As required under Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations, an assessment has been undertaken of LSEs of the VCHAP upon Habitats sites. The VCHAP is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any Habitats site. The screening checks (contained at Appendix E) indicate the VCHAP has the potential to have water and recreational LSEs on a number of Habitats sites, both alone, and for a number of policies / allocations, in-combination. The screening assessment takes no account of mitigation measures that the VCHAP may incorporate to mitigate adverse impacts upon Habitats sites. It is therefore concluded that the VCHAP will be screened into the HRA process. The next stage of the HRA process is Stage 2 - Appropriate Assessment. This assessment will focus on water and recreational LSEs.

8 Appropriate Assessment – Water Impacts

8.1 Introduction

8.1.1 SNVC Objective 1 – Meet housing needs – was screened in as it will trigger development with potential for LSEs in-combination with other plans and projects upon water quality and quantity. All village cluster allocation policies set out in the VCHAP when taken cumulatively, were considered to have the potential to cause LSEs in terms of a change in water quality and water quantity at the Habitats sites listed below due to hydrological connectivity. This is based on their location upstream from Habitats sites and within the Anglian River Basin and the Broadland Rivers surface water management catchment area.

- Breydon Water Ramsar;
- Breydon Water;
- Broadland SPA;
- Broadland Ramsar;
- Norfolk Valley Fens SAC. and
- The Broads SAC;

8.1.2 The following village cluster policy allocations are located within the nutrient neutrality catchment associated with the Broads SAC and the Broadland Ramsar designations. These allocations were therefore considered likely to have significant water quality impacts alone at the above Habitats sites.

- Policy VC ASL1 - Land off Church Road, Aslacton
- Policy VC GRE1 - North of High Green, west of Heather Way, Great Moulton
- Policy VC GRE2 – Land north of High Green opposite White House Farm Bungalow
- Policy VC BAR1 – Land at Cock Street and Watton Road Barford
- Policy VC BAR2 – Land at Chapel Street
- Policy VC BB1 – Corner of Norwich Road and Bell Road, Barnham Broom
- Policy VC BAW1 - Land to the east of Stocks Hill
- Policy VC BUN1 -Land to the north of Bunwell Street, Bunwell
- Policy VC BUN2 – Land opposite Lilac Farm, Bunwell Street
- Policy VC CAR1 – Land west of Rode Lane
- Policy VC HEM1 - Land at Millfields, Hempsall
- Policy VC LM1 - South of School Lane and East of Burnthouse Lane, Little Melton
- Policy – VC MUL1 – Land east of Bluebell Road and north of The Rosery Mulbarton
- Policy VC SWA1 - Land off Bobbins Way, Swardeston
- Policy BRA1 - Land at Norwich Road, Bracon Ash
- Policy VC NEW1 - Land off Alan Avenue, Newton Flotman
- Policy NEW2 – Land adjacent to Alan Avenue

- Policy VC SPO1 - Land west of Bunwell Road, Spooner Row
- Policy VC SPO2 Land South of Station Road, Spooner Row
- Policy VC SPO3 – Land at School Lane
- Policy VC SPO4 – Land at Chapel Road
- Policy VC – Land on Main Road;
- Policy VC STO1 - Land north of Long Lane
- Policy VC TAC1 - Land to the west of Norwich Road
- Policy VC TAC2 – Land adjacent The Fields
- Policy VS TAS1 – North of Church Road, Tasburgh
- Policy VC WIC1 - Land to the south of Wicklewood Primary School
- Policy VC WIC2 - Land off Hackford Road
- Policy VC WIC3 – Land at Hackford Road
- Policy VC ASH1 - Land west of New Road, Ashwellthorpe

8.1.3 The following Appropriate Assessment focuses on assessing more precisely the ecological impacts associated with a deterioration in water quality and quantity due to VCHAP growth at each Habitats site in view of its qualifying features and conservation objectives.

8.2 Mitigation

8.2.1 Water efficiency is now required by the Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework for local plans across the county⁵⁴. Under this framework the Norfolk Authorities have agreed that when preparing Local Plans, they will seek to include the optional higher water efficiency standard (110 litres/per person/per day) for residential development. They have also agreed through this framework to provide regular and timely updates to each other on the delivery of development sites and proposed utility projects to ensure that development is aligned with water and wastewater infrastructure.

8.2.2 GNLP Policy 2 – Sustainable Communities – supports efficient water management. It requires development to protect water quality, both surface and groundwater, and be water efficient. To achieve the latter it states that:

- Housing development will meet the Building Regulations part G (amended 2016) water efficiency higher optional standard; and
- Non-housing development will meet the BREEAM “Very Good” water efficiency standard, or any equivalent successor.

8.2.3 It also notes that if the potential to set more demanding standards locally is established by the Government, the highest potential standard will be applied in Greater Norwich.

8.2.4 Policy 4 of the GNLP – Strategic Infrastructure – requires water supply and sewerage network improvements for new development, including the waste-water network at Whitlingham water recycling centre, the Yare Valley sewer and elsewhere to protect water quality and designated habitats.

⁵⁴ Norfolk strategic Planning Framework. Shared Spatial Objectives for a Growing County and Emerging Statement of Common Ground. Available at: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/partnerships/strategic-member-forum/draft-norfolk-strategic-framework.pdf> [Date Accessed: 21/11/22]

- 8.2.5 A number of the village allocation policies require early engagement between developers and Anglian Water regarding the capacity of receiving water recycling centres and the need to phase sites until capacity is available. They also require consultation with the Environment Agency to ensure water quality is not adversely affected.
- 8.2.6 Following the advice received from DLUHC and Natural England in relation to nutrient neutrality (see **Section 3.3**), to ensure compliance with the Habitats Regulations, the Council (as the Competent Authority) cannot lawfully grant planning permission unless it can conclude that development within the catchment of the Broads SAC and Broadlands Ramsar site will not have an adverse effect. All development within this catchment area is therefore required to demonstrate nutrient neutrality and be accompanied by an application with a shadow HRA.
- 8.2.7 To ensure requirements around nutrient neutrality are secured, Policy 3 of the GNLP was updated following examination as part of the GNLP main modifications (**Box 1**). Modifications to this policy were supported by a Nutrient Neutrality Evidence Note (G2.1 in the Examination documents library⁵⁵). This note included a statement of common ground with Natural England which contained proposed main modifications to Policy 3 required to address nutrient neutrality, along with an updated viability evidence. The Norfolk Nutrient Strategy Mitigation Solutions document (G2.2 in the GNLP examination library)⁵⁶ was also published.

Box 1: Extract from Policy 3 which relates to nutrient neutrality

Within the catchments of the River Wensum Special Area of Conservation (SAC), The Broads SAC and the Broadland Ramsar:

- Residential development that results in an increase in the level of overnight stays; and
- Non-residential development that by virtue of its scale and type may draw people from outside the catchments of the SACs, and/or may generate unusual quantities of surface water, and/or, by virtue of the processes undertaken, may contain unusual pollutants within surface water run-off, must provide evidence to enable the local planning authority to conclude through a Habitats Regulations Assessment that the proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of sites in an unfavourable condition.

⁵⁵ Greater Norwich Local Plan - Nutrient Neutrality Evidence Note [G1.1]. Available at: <https://www.gnlp.org.uk/local-plan-examination-local-plan-examination-document-library-g-2023-hearings/g2-nutrient> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

⁵⁶ Royal HaskoningDHV (2023) Norfolk Nutrient Strategy Mitigation Solutions. Available at: <https://www.gnlp.org.uk/sites/gnlp/files/2023-02/PC3719-RHD-ZZ-XX-RP-Z-0002-Norfolk%20Nutrient%20Solutions%202023.01.23.pdf> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

- 8.2.8 The Greater Norwich Partnership has committed to work with other Norfolk LPAs, Anglian Water and Natural England to assist developers in accessing a wide portfolio of mitigation opportunities suitable for different scales of housing development. Evidence gathered in support of the GNLP suggested that large-scale greenfield sites should be able to provide dedicated on-site mitigation and some brownfield sites in Norwich will benefit from mitigation from a programme of retrofitting water efficiency measures in council housing. Therefore, the mitigation solutions provided in the Norfolk Nutrient Strategy Mitigation Solutions⁵⁷ document are likely to be of most importance to the developers of small and medium-scale greenfield sites and brownfield sites not benefitting from the retrofitting programme. These measures include a combination of short, medium and long-term mitigation options.
- 8.2.9 The government and Chief Planner provided updates on measures being developed nationally to address nutrient pollution on 20th July 2022 which included the following⁵⁸:
- A new legal duty on water companies in England to upgrade wastewater treatment works by 2030 in nutrient neutrality areas to the highest achievable technological levels; and
 - A new Nutrient Mitigation Scheme established and accredited by NE, allowing LPAs to grant planning permission for new developments in areas with nutrient pollution issues. Defra and Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities will provide funding towards the scheme.
- 8.2.10 Improvements to water recycling centres to the highest technically achievable limits to reduce nutrients in sewage discharge are required through the Levelling Up and Regeneration Act. These upgrades will reduce the pollution burden from housing in sensitive areas and reduce the amount of mitigation required by developers. These upgrades are complementary to modifications to Policy 3 as set out in **Box 1**.
- 8.2.11 Policy 4 of the GNLP (Strategic Infrastructure) commits the Greater Norwich planning authorities to working with utilities providers, to improve waste-water management including at Whitlingham Trowse WRC. It notes that '*Water supply and sewerage network improvements including the wastewater network at Whitlingham water recycling centre, the Yare Valley sewer and elsewhere to protect water quality and designated habitats*'. This gives confidence that the water recycling centres improvement works will be consistent with national requirements.
- 8.2.12 Natural England's Nutrient Mitigation Scheme is currently only available for developments within the River Tees catchment area. Natural England is investing in feasibility studies in further catchments to determine the schemes next mitigation sites, which include the Broads and River Wensum.

⁵⁷ Royal HaskoningDHV (2023) Norfolk Nutrient Guidance Nutrient Mitigation Solutions. Available at: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/downloads/file/6673/royal-haskoning-norfolk-nutrient-strategy-nutrient-mitigation-solutions-report-oct-2023> [Date Accessed: 04/03/24].

⁵⁸ Government's Press Release Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-plan-to-reduce-water-pollution> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

- 8.2.13 The Norfolk Authorities⁵⁹ have progressed a joint venture arrangement to deliver nutrient neutrality mitigation. This is known as Norfolk Environmental Credits and is a not-for-profit organisation where developers can buy nutrient neutrality credits for both phosphorus and nitrogen and environmental schemes benefit from the investment generated by the sale of credits. The first credits available are for the River Yare catchment area⁶⁰.
- 8.2.14 The Nutrient Mitigation Fund⁶¹ is a government grant available to support mitigation projects and is administered by Broadland District Council on behalf of the Norfolk Local Planning Authorities that are affected by nutrient neutrality issues.
- 8.2.15 The nutrient impact of the quantum of development set out in the VCHAP has been considered through the GNLP plan making process and supporting nutrient neutrality evidence base. The modifications made to Policy 3 address the issue of nutrient neutrality and will secure an overarching mitigation policy framework to allow development to come forward. GNLP Policy 3 policy applies to all VCHAP allocations which trigger overnight accommodation, and which are located in nutrient neutrality catchments.

8.3 Water Quantity Appropriate Assessment

- 8.3.1 Anglian Water is the potable water provider for the Greater Norwich Authorities. The East of England is one of the driest regions of the UK with the Anglian region being classed by the Environment Agency as being under serious water stress⁶².
- 8.3.2 The Anglian River Basin Management Plan (RBMP)⁶³ provides a framework for protecting and enhancing the benefits provided by the water environment. To achieve this, and because water and land resources are closely linked, it also informs decisions on land-use planning. It provides strategic level policy guidance in relation to baseline classification of water bodies, statutory objectives for protected areas and water bodies and a summary of measures to achieve statutory protection.

⁵⁹ Breckland Council, Broadland District Council, North Norfolk Council, and South Norfolk Council.

⁶⁰ Information on Norfolk Environmental Credits is available at: <https://www.norfolkenvironmentalcredits.co.uk/>

⁶¹ Information on the Nutrient Mitigation Fund is available at: <https://www.nmfnorfolk.co.uk/>

⁶² Environment Agency. Areas of water stress: final classification. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/water-stressed-areas-2021-classification> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

⁶³ Environment Agency (2015) Anglian River Basin Management Plan. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/718327/Anglian_RBMP_Part_1_river_basin_management_plan.pdf [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

- 8.3.3 The Anglian RBMP outlines a number of measures to tackle water management issues and achieve a series of environmental objectives set out within the plan. Local measures are set out on a catchment basis. As noted, the Plan area sits predominantly within the Broadland Rivers management catchment area. Within this catchment the priority river basin management issues include tackling diffuse pollution from rural areas, physical modification of rivers and lakes, and pollution from wastewater. An HRA was undertaken alongside the preparation of the RBMP⁶⁴. This HRA concluded that, at the strategic plan level, and given the range of potential mitigation options available, the RBMP is not likely to have any significant effects on any Habitats site, alone or in combination with other plans or projects. It notes the requirement for project level HRA where necessary for lower tier plans.
- 8.3.4 It is a statutory requirement that every five years water companies produce and publish a Water Resources Management Plan (WRMP). The WRMP demonstrates long term plans to accommodate the impacts of population growth, drought, environmental obligations and climate change uncertainty in order to balance supply and demand. Anglian Water has prepared a revised draft of WRMP24⁶⁵, which covers the period to 2050, sets out a series of measures to ensure the water supply - demand balance is achieved. This includes measures such as smart metering, leakage reduction, water efficiency, strategic water planning / transfers and water reuse.
- 8.3.5 An HRA was undertaken alongside the preparation of the current WRMP⁶⁶. This concluded there would be no adverse effects on the integrity of any Habitats site subject to implementation of mitigation measures. It highlighted the importance of lower tier project-level HRA of future plans, projects, or permissions which may act in-combination with WRMP options to refine mitigation strategies and assessment conclusions once appropriate detailed design is available.
- 8.3.6 Water companies divide their supply into Water Resource Zones (WRZs). South Norfolk lies within the Norwich and the Broads WRZ and Norfolk Rural WRZs. The AECOM WCS⁶⁷ looked at the impact of growth in the whole GNLP area upon water supply (and as such water supply in the VCHAP area)⁶⁸. It also looked at the implication of growth upon ecologically designated sites including Habitats sites. The WCS sets out options to ensure the minimisation of water use over the GNLP period and explored a number of water neutrality scenarios which were taken into considered in the development of GNLP policies.

⁶⁴ Environment Agency (2015). River basin management plan for the Anglian River Basin District Habitats Regulations Assessment Updated December 2015. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/496430/RBMP_HRA_Anglian_FINAL_Jan_2016.pdf [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

⁶⁵ Anglian Water. 2024. Revised Draft Water Resources Management Plan 2024. Available at: <https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/SysSiteAssets/household/about-us/wrmp/rdwrmp24-main-report.pdf> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

⁶⁶ Mott McDonald. 2023. Anglian Water - Water Resources Management Plan 2024 Environmental Report. Sub-Report (A) Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

⁶⁷ AECOM. January 2021. Greater Norwich Water Cycle Study. Final Draft.

⁶⁸ AECOM. January 2021. Greater Norwich Water Cycle Study. Final Draft.

- 8.3.7 CAMS are six-year water abstraction licensing strategies developed by the EA for managing water resources at the local level, produced for every river catchment area in England and Wales. The CAMS process comprises three stages, including resource assessment and management (RAM), interpreting the results of RAM to achieve sustainable abstraction and an abstraction licensing (AL) strategy. It aims to assess the amount of water available for further abstraction licensing, taking into account what the environment needs and implement the RBMPs and Water abstraction plan⁶⁹ into licensing policy. Habitats sites within the Plan area lie within the Broadland Catchment Abstraction Management Area CAMS area⁷⁰. Abstraction licences, issued through the CAMS process, outline the site-specific flow standards developed for Habitats sites and measures to prevent unsustainable abstraction. Changes to abstraction and discharge regimes as a result of new development would not be permitted unless the applicant can demonstrate compliance with the Habitats Regulations.
- 8.3.8 Water supply issues will be addressed through the higher-level water planning framework (RBMP, WRMP and CAMS) and GNLP policies to improve water efficiency and ensure adequate water supply for growth and to meet the requirements of designated sites. Therefore, it can be concluded that there will be no adverse impacts on the integrity of any Habitats site, either alone or in-combination, due to a change in water quantity as a result of the VCHAP.

8.4 Water Quality Appropriate Assessment

- 8.4.1 The Water Framework Directive (WFD) provides an indication of the health of the water environment and whether a water body is at good status or potential. This is determined through an assessment of a range of elements relating to the biology and chemical quality of surface waters and quantitative and chemical quality of groundwater. To achieve good ecological status or potential, good chemical status or good groundwater status every single element assessed must be at good status or better. If one element is below its threshold for good status, then the whole water body's status is classed below good. Surface water bodies can be classed as high, good, moderate, poor or bad status.
- 8.4.2 The WFD sets out areas which require special protection. These include areas designated for "the protection of habitats or species where the maintenance or improvement of the status of water is an important factor in their protection including relevant Natura 2000 sites designated under Directive 92/43/EEC (*the Habitats Directive*) and Directive 79/409/EEC (*the Birds Directive*)"⁷¹.

⁶⁹ DEFRA. July 2021. Policy Paper: Water Abstraction Plan. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/water-abstraction-plan-2017/water-abstraction-plan> [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

⁷⁰ Environment Agency. May 2017. Broadland Abstraction Licensing Strategy.

⁷¹ Official Journal of the European Communities (2000) Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy. Available at: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:5c835afb-2ec6-4577-bdf8-756d3d694eeb.0004.02/DOC_1&format=PDF [Date Accessed: 04/06/24].

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- 8.4.3 Wastewater treatment in the Plan area is provided via wastewater recycling centres (WRCs) operated and maintained by Anglian Water Services (AWS). Treated wastewater is ultimately discharged to nearby water bodies. Each of the WRCs is connected to development by a network of wastewater pipes (the sewerage system) which collects wastewater generated by homes and businesses to the WRC. The Environment Agency control discharges to WRC through the issue of permits.
- 8.4.4 GNL Policy 2 requires new development to protect water quality and advocates the use of sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS) to protect water quality and provide environmental benefits. Funding for water infrastructure improvements will be captured through developer charges for connections to water supply network and foul sewerage networks. To ensure that development does not have a detrimental impact on the water environment, particularly in relation to water quality and the potential for impacts on the water-based sites protected under the Habitats Regulations, GNL Policy 4 requires adequate water infrastructure to be in place capable of accommodating major development up front.
- 8.4.5 These policy provisions will address urbanisation run off at Habitats sites which are hydrologically connected to the Plan area and not sensitive to nutrient enrichment; Breydon Water Ramsar, Breydon Water SPA and Norfolk Valley Fens SAC.
- 8.4.6 As noted in Section 8.2, the nutrient impact of the quantum of development set out in the VCHAP has been considered through the GNL plan making process and supporting nutrient neutrality evidence base. Policy 3 of the GNL addresses the issue of nutrient neutrality and will secure an overarching mitigation policy framework to allow development to come forward. This will give certainty that development outlined in the GNL (and also the VCHAP) within the catchment of the Broads SAC and Broadlands Ramsar site can be delivered with no adverse impacts on site integrity (either alone or in-combination).

9 Appropriate Assessment – Recreation Impacts

9.1 Introduction

- 9.1.1 SNVC Objective 1 – Meet housing needs – was screened in as it will trigger development with potential for likely significant recreational impacts in-combination with other plans and projects. Based on a review of established recreational ZOIs (as presented in 6.5 Section), all village cluster allocation policies set out in the VCHAP were considered to have the potential to increase recreational pressures in-combination upon one or more of the Habitats sites listed in Table 6.2. A review of mapping data indicates that Allocation Policies VC ROC1 (Land south of New Inn Hill) and VC GEL1 (North of Kell's Way, Geldeston) are directly linked to components of the Broadland SPA and Broadland Ramsar site through the local Public Right of Way (PRoW) network and as such may result in alone recreational impacts upon these sites.
- 9.1.2 The following Appropriate Assessment focuses on assessing more precisely the ecological impacts associated with increased recreational pressure due to VCHAP growth at each Habitats site in view of its qualifying features and conservation objectives.

9.2 Mitigation

- 9.2.1 The Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework includes county-wide policy objectives on environmental protection, landscape protection and biodiversity⁷². It recognises the ecological importance of the area and the need to protect these features from development in Norfolk through a strategic Green Infrastructure (GI) strategy.
- 9.2.2 As noted in Section 6.5, a Norfolk-wide study, known as GIRAMS, provides two overarching recommendations in relation to GI and RAMS to mitigate adverse impacts that might arise from visitor pressure related to new housing developments at sensitive Habitats sites (listed in Table 6.2).
- 9.2.3 GI and RAMS provide a two-stage approach to recreational mitigation at Habitats sites. Firstly, GI seeks to avoid impacts on the protected sites through the provision of sufficient and suitable informal recreational greenspace elsewhere. The aim of this is to reduce the number of visits to the protected sites. Secondly, a financial contribution from each new home is to be made towards direct mitigation measures implemented at the protected sites (RAMS). This comprises measures such as funding for rangers to educate visitors on the sensitivities of these sites, signage, monitoring, a dog project and providing strategic mitigation projects.

⁷² Norfolk Strategic Planning Framework. Shared Spatial Objectives for a Growing County and Emerging Statement of Common Ground. Available at: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/partnerships/strategic-member-forum/draft-norfolk-strategic-framework.pdf> [Date Accessed: 05/04/24].

- 9.2.4 Policy 3 of the GNLP – Environmental Protection – secures the mitigation set out in the GIRAMS by requiring all residential development to address the potential visitor pressure, caused by residents of new development, that would detrimentally impact on sites protected under the Habitats Regulations (**Box 2**).

Box 2: Extract from Policy 3 which relates to the implementation of visitor pressure mitigation

All residential development will address the potential visitor pressure caused by residents of the development that would detrimentally impact on sites protected under the Habitats Regulations through:

- The payment of a contribution towards the cost of mitigation measures at the protected sites and
- The provision or enhancement of adequate green infrastructure, either on the development site or nearby, to provide for the informal recreational needs of the residents as an alternative to visiting the protected sites. This will equate to a minimum of 2 hectares per 1,000 population and will reflect Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard.

- 9.2.5 The Greater Norwich Infrastructure Plan⁷³ was prepared in support of the GNLP and includes the South Norfolk Council area. It looks at key infrastructure requirements that support the major growth locations including GI. It sets out a number of projects for delivery of GI. Whilst this not intended to replace detailed site survey and design work, it is intended to assist the Development Management process.
- 9.2.6 South Norfolk Council provide planning advice for new development with the potential for recreational impacts upon Habitats sites. This includes a shadow HRA template and accompanying guidance notes⁷⁴. These reflect the requirements of GIRAMS and require a financial contribution towards RAMS of £185.93 per dwelling and provision of GI. Where GI provision cannot be met on-site, a relevant commuted sum is sought based upon the total number of dwellings and respective housing mix.

9.3 Recreational impacts Appropriate Assessment

- 9.3.1 As noted in Section 6.5, visitor surveys were undertaken in 2015 and 2016 at various locations at the Habitats sites set out in Table 6.2⁷⁵. These surveys highlighted the varying level of access across these sites, including access from the public rights of way network, access at nature reserves with marked trails and hides, open access land with right of access on foot under the CRoW Act (2000) and access via water-based activities.

⁷³ Greater Norwich Growth Board. May 2020. Greater Norwich Infrastructure Plan. Available at: <https://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/reports/gnip/> [Date Accessed: 05/06/24].

⁷⁴ South Norfolk Council planning guidance is available at: <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/downloads/download/807/green-infrastructure-recreation-avoidance-mitigation-strategy> [Date Accessed: 05/06/24].

⁷⁵ Panter, C., Liley, D., Lowen, S., 2017. Visitor surveys at European Protected Sites across Norfolk in 2015 and 2016. Unpublished report by Footprint Ecology for Norfolk County Council.

- 9.3.2 The survey work provided a summary of potential effects from increased recreational pressure to the qualifying features of the Habitats sites across Norfolk. These effects include disturbance to breeding birds, wintering / passage birds and non-avian interest, trampling and erosion of habitats, increased fire risk, eutrophication (from dog fouling) and contamination.
- 9.3.3 A review of Natural England SIP information highlighted the key sensitivities at each site to recreational disturbance. At the Broads sites⁷⁶ the SIP indicates that habitats associated with the SAC and wintering waterfowl are particularly sensitive to disturbance. Water based recreational disturbance is noted to be a particular issue. At the Norfolk Brecks sites⁷⁷ recreational impacts upon nightjar and woodlark populations are a particular issue, with SAC features noted to be vulnerable to eutrophication, unauthorised fires and disturbance of soils. At the Wash and North Norfolk coast sites⁷⁸ a range of recreational threats are identified for the bird qualifying species including boating, motorised vehicles, bird/wildlife watching and dog walking. Natural England's for the Norfolk Valley Fens SAC indicates that the *Molinia* meadows and purple moor-grass (*Molinia caerulea*) meadows are sensitive to recreational pressures. At the East Coast sites,⁷⁹ SIP data indicates these sites are at carrying capacity in terms of recreational disturbance, with the breeding Little Terns, as well as the lichen dune grassland and dune heath being particularly sensitive to disturbance.
- 9.3.4 The research undertaken by Footprint Ecology provides an assessment of the cumulative, in-combination effects of development⁸⁰ across all local planning authorities in Norfolk. It identifies the following implications of this growth at sensitive Habitats site:
- A 14% increase in access by Norfolk residents to the sites surveyed (in the absence of any mitigation), as a result of new housing during the plan period (at the time of the survey).
 - The increase will be most marked in the Brecks sites, where the study predicts an increase of around 30%. For the Broads sites the figure is 14%; 11% for the East Coast sites; 9% for North Norfolk sites; 15% for Roydon & Dersingham; 28% for the Valley Fens SAC and 6% for the Wash sites⁸¹.
 - For parts of the North Coast, the Broads, and parts of the East Coast, the links between an increase in local housing and recreation impacts were shown to be less clear as these sites attract a high number of visitors coming from a wide geographical area, both inside and outside Norfolk. There are

⁷⁶ Broadland SPA, Broadland Ramsar, Breydon Water SPA, The Broads SAC.

⁷⁷ Breckland SPA and Breckland SAC.

⁷⁸ The Wash SPA, The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC, The Wash Ramsar, North Norfolk Coast SAC, North Norfolk Coast SPA and North Norfolk Coast Ramsar.

⁷⁹ Winterton – Horsey Dunes SAC and Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA.

⁸⁰ At the time the assessment was undertaken (2015/2016).

⁸¹ Note these figures relate to the surveyed access points only and to visits by Norfolk residents

therefore likely to be pressures from overall population growth both from within the county and further afield⁸².

- 9.3.5 An increase in housing set out in the VCHAP, in-combination with other growth in Norfolk, has the potential to further increase recreational pressures at these sensitive Habitats sites and result in adverse impacts upon their qualifying features.
- 9.3.6 GNLP Policy 3 will ensure that mitigation set out in the GIRMAS is secured for all development in the Greater Norwich area, including development set out in the VCHAP. This will address the in-combination impact of increased recreational pressure from growth upon Habitats sites. As set out in South Norfolk Council's Shadow HRA template guidance notes⁸³, depending on the size of the development, mitigation outlined in GIRMAS will be secured through either Section 106 agreements or via a Unilateral Undertaking under Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 at the planning permission stage. All applications within the specified ZOI will also need to be supported by a shadow HRA.
- 9.3.7 As noted in Section 9.1, two policy allocations (VC GEL1 and VC ROC1) were identified in the screening process to be linked via the current PRoW network to the closest component of the Broadlands SPA and Broadlands Ramsar site. Given their proximity and potential connection, there is a risk that recreational pressures from dog walking in particular may increase at these sites and birds may be disturbed.
- 9.3.8 At allocation VC GEL1 (Land off Kells Way), the PRoW network runs from the settlement of Geldeston in a southerly direction to the River Waveney and then follows this along the southern boundary of the closest component of the Broadlands SPA and Ramsar (approximately 735m to the south of the allocation). A review of aerial photography indicates that the footpath which follows the course of the River Waveney is separated from these designations by a mature hedge / tree buffer. No PRoWs extend into the designated sites themselves. Given the total allocation is for 20 dwellings, and taking into consideration the screening effect provided by the vegetation along the river, adverse alone impacts from this allocation upon the site integrity of the Broadlands SPA and Broadlands Ramsar site can be ruled out. In-combination impacts will be addressed through GIRMAS mitigation as outlined above.
- 9.3.9 At allocation VC ROC1 (South New Inn Hill / West Lower Road), the PRoW network runs in a northerly direction from the allocation (and settlement of Rockland St Mary) to the closest component of the Broadlands SPA and Broadlands Ramsar site (approximately 451m to the north of the allocation). At its closest point, the PRoW network passes adjacent to these designated sites, but is separated by a block of woodland within the designation. The PRoW network also runs to the south of these designated sites in an easterly direction, but is on the opposite bank of the River Yare at this point. Given the total allocation is for 25 dwellings, and taking into consideration the screening effect provided by woodland and river, adverse alone impacts from this allocation upon the site integrity of the Broadlands SPA and Broadlands Ramsar site can be ruled out. In-combination impacts will be addressed through GIRMAS mitigation as outlined above.

⁸² Panter, C., Liley, D., Lowen, S., 2017. Visitor surveys at European Protected Sites across Norfolk in 2015 and 2016. Unpublished report by Footprint Ecology for Norfolk County Council.

⁸³ <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/downloads/download/807/green-infrastructure-recreation-avoidance-mitigation-strategy>

- 9.3.10 In conclusion there will be no adverse impacts upon the integrity of any Habitats site, either alone or in-combination, as a result of growth set out in the VCHAP.

10 Conclusions

10.1 Summary

- 10.1.1 The VCHAP is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of any Habitats site. A screening assessment was therefore undertaken, taking no account of mitigation. This identified a number of likely significant effects associated with the VCHAP at Habitats sites. The HRA therefore progressed to an Appropriate Assessment. This detailed assessment looked at the impacts of a change in water quality and quantity and recreational impacts upon the qualifying features and conservation objectives of each Habitats site.
- 10.1.2 Water impacts were identified for a number of hydrologically connected Habitats sites. Water quantity issues will be addressed through the higher-level water planning framework (RBMP, WRMP and CAMS) alongside GNLP policy and therefore no adverse impacts on Habitats sites, alone or in-combination, in respect of water quantity was concluded. Policy wording set out in the GNLP (Policy 3) and the VCHAP provides measures to protect the water environment from contaminated run-off and secure mitigation in relation to nutrient neutrality issues at the Broads SAC and Broadlands Ramsar site. It can therefore be concluded that there will be no adverse impacts on the integrity of the Broads SAC and Broadland Ramsar site due to nutrient enrichment impacts.
- 10.1.3 Recreational impacts were identified for two allocations alone and for all allocations cumulatively and in-combination with other plans and projects. The Appropriate Assessment included a detail review of accessibility from the two allocations to the closest components of the Broadlands SPA and Broadland Ramsar site. This concluded that risks are unlikely due to the scale of development and route of the PRow network. Alone impacts on site integrity from these allocations was therefore ruled out. Strategic mitigation set out in the GIRMAS will be secured through GNLP Policy 3. This policy applies to all residential development set out in the VCHAP. It can therefore be concluded that there will be no adverse effects on the integrity of any Habitats site, alone or in-combination, from recreational impacts associated with development set out in the VCHAP.

10.2 Next Steps

- 10.2.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the HRA of the Regulation 19 Pre-Submission Addendum Version of the VCHAP using best available information.
- 10.2.2 The Council, as the Competent Authority, have responsibility to make the Integrity Test, which can be undertaken in light of the conclusions set out in this report.
- 10.2.3 This report will be submitted to Natural England, the statutory nature conservation body, for formal consultation. The Councils must take into consideration representations from Natural England under the provisions of the Habitats Regulations at Regulation 105(2).

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Habitats Regulations Assessments

Sustainability Appraisals

Strategic Environmental Assessments

Landscape Character Assessments

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments

Green Belt Reviews

Expert Witness

Ecological Impact Assessments

Habitat and Ecology Surveys

Biodiversity Net Gain



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CHELTENHAM

Appendix A: Nutrient Neutrality Catchment Maps



European protected sites requiring nutrient neutrality strategic solutions

Scale: 1:330,000

**Component SSSIs of
The Broads SAC**

- Local Authorities
- SSSI subject to nutrient neutrality strategy
- Nutrient neutrality SSSI catchment





European protected sites requiring nutrient neutrality strategic solutions Scale: 1:190,000

Component SSSIs of River Wensum SAC

- Local Authorities
- SSSI subject to nutrient neutrality strategy
- Nutrient neutrality SSSI catchment
- National Parks



Appendix B: In-Combination Assessment

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Summary of housing/employment	HRA Output and Key Considerations
Greater Norwich Authorities Local Plan ¹	The GNLP covers the three authorities of South Norfolk Council, Broadland District Council and Norwich City Council from the period 2018-2038. A review of the GNLP and supporting HRA documentation is provided in Section 2 of the HRA Regulation 19 Report.	The GNLP sets out targets for 45,000 new homes by 2038. The GNLP encourages economic growth particularly within the agri-tech and life sciences sectors to contribute to the national move towards a low carbon economy. Strategic allocations of 360ha are made for employment land ² .	An HRA ³ was undertaken in support of the GNLP at Regulation 19. This focused on risks associated with proposed housing, transport, and employment land. It drew on mitigation policy wording in respect of recreational impacts (GIRAMS) and nutrient neutrality alongside a detailed evidence base which supported this. It concluded that with this mitigation in place, there would be no adverse impacts upon the integrity of any European site. To ensure requirements around nutrient neutrality were secured a Nutrient Neutrality Evidence Note was prepared as part of the examination ⁴ . The HRA was updated to reflect modifications required at examination to Policy 2 of the GNLP in respect of nutrient neutrality and recreational impact mitigation. It concluded no adverse impacts upon site integrity.

¹ Greater Norwich Authorities. March 2024. Greater Norwich Local Plan: Growing stronger communities together. Available at: <https://www.gnlp.org.uk> [Accessed 05/06/24].

² The Landscape Partnership. March 2023. Habitats Regulations Assessment of published Proposed Submission Greater Norwich Local Plan. Updated with respect to modification of Policy 2 Nutrient Neutrality and with respect to GIRAMS. Available at: <https://www.gnlp.org.uk/sites/gnlp/files/2023-03/E16845%20GNLP%20Reg%2019%20HRA%202023-03-17.pdf> [Accessed 05/06/24].

³ The Landscape Partnership. July 2021. Habitats Regulations Assessment of published Proposed Submission Greater Norwich Local Plan. Available at: <https://www.gnlp.org.uk/sites/gnlp/files/2021-10/E16845%20GNLP%20Reg%2019%20submission%20plan%20HRA%202021-07-07%20%28003%29.pdf> [Accessed 05/06/24].

⁴ Greater Norwich Local Plan - Nutrient Neutrality Evidence Note [G1.1]. Available at: <https://www.gnlp.org.uk/local-plan-examination-local-plan-examination-document-library-g-2023-hearings/g2-nutrient> [Date Accessed: 05/06/24].

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Summary of housing/employment	HRA Output and Key Considerations
Local Plan for the Broads ⁵	<p>Adopted May 2019.</p> <p>The Executive Area of the Broads Authority includes parts of Broadland District, South Norfolk District, North Norfolk District, Great Yarmouth Borough, Norwich City, and East Suffolk Council area.</p> <p>The Local Plan for the Broads is currently being reviewed. The Authority undertook a preferred options Regulation 18 consultation in 2024 following an Issues and Options consultation in 2022.</p>	<p>The LP sets out a vision for the Broads until 2036, particularly focusing on the importance of managing land and water to meet environmental, economic and social needs. The Broads National Park is highlighted as fundamental.</p> <p>The LP contains policies and site-specific policies. Housing delivery will be 286 dwellings / year.</p> <p>The Local Plan review looks to allocate 358 dwellings over the plan period.</p>	<p>An HRA was undertaken in support of the Local Plan for the Broads⁶. This focused on risk associated with new housing and the promotion of tourism, boating and water's edge development and navigation. LSEs considered included disturbance to wildlife, and deterioration of habitat, particularly through nutrient enrichment, arising or increasing as a result of the plan. The HRA noted the requirement for lower tier project level HRA for a number of projects promoted through the local plan.</p> <p>It concluded that the plan would not lead to adverse effects on European site integrity and would be compliant with the Habitats Regulations upon adoption.</p> <p>The combined impact of neighbouring authority growth, in-combination with the VHCAP, on air quality, hydrology and public access and disturbance impacts will be considered further in the HRA process.</p> <p>The Regulation 18 consultation was supported by an HRA⁷. This screened in air quality, water, recreation and urbanisation LSEs for further consideration in the HRA process.</p>

⁵ Broads Authority. May 2019. Local Plan for the Broads Plan period 2015 to 2036. Available at: https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0036/259596/Local-Plan-for-the-Broads.pdf [Accessed: 05/06/24].

⁶ : Liley, D., Hoskin, R., Lake, S. and Panter, C. 2019. Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Local Plan for the Broads at Modifications stage. Unpublished report by Footprint Ecology. Available at: https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0021/257151/Local-Plan-for-the-Broads-HRA-Modifications-stage-080119.pdf [Accessed 05/06/24].

⁷ Lepus Consulting (2024) Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Local Plan for the Broads. Available at: <https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/planning/planning-policies/local-plan-for-the-broads/local-plan-for-the-broads-review> [Date Accessed: 21/06/24].

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Summary of housing/employment	HRA Output and Key Considerations
The Breckland Local Plan ⁸	<p>Adopted 21st September 2023.</p> <p>The Council is undertaking a review of the Local Plan and undertook a Regulation 18 consultation in 2024.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will provide for no less than 15,298 new homes between 2011 and 2036, an average of 612 dwellings per annum.</p> <p>For the period 2011 – 2036, 64 hectares of employment land will be allocated to allow for a range and choice of employment sites to meet economic need and demand.</p>	<p>An HRA was undertaken in support of the Breckland Local Plan⁹. This drew on mitigation measures to protect the European sites such as buffer zones for Stone Curlew. It also recommended other mitigation measures for integration into the Plan in particular at Policy ENV02 and ENV03. It focused on the following impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impacts of built development on stone curlew - Recreational disturbance to birds - Urbanisation effects on habitats - Air quality and road improvements - Water supply, water quality, wastewater discharge and flood risk <p>It concluded no adverse effects upon site integrity at any European site.</p> <p>The combined impact of neighbouring authority growth, in-combination with the VHCAP, on air quality, hydrology and public access and disturbance impacts will be considered further in the HRA process.</p> <p>The Regulation 18 consultation included an integrated assessment (IA) which noted that an HRA will be undertaken separately and summarised in the IA once available¹⁰.</p>

⁸ Breckland Council. September 2023. Breckland Local Plan. Available at: https://www.breckland.gov.uk/media/16659/Adopted-Breckland-Local-Plan/pdf/Appendix_4_-_Breckland_District_Council_Local_Plan.pdf?m=1704795365193 [Accessed: 05/06/24].

⁹ Liley, D. & Hoskin, R. 2017. Habitat Regulations Assessment of the Breckland Local Plan Part 1 Publication Stage. Footprint Ecology, unpublished report for Breckland Council. Available at: https://www.breckland.gov.uk/media/7400/LP-S-4-Habitats-Regulations-Assessment/pdf/LP_S_4_Habitats_Regulations_Assessment.pdf [Accessed: 05/06/24].

¹⁰ Land Use Consultants (2024) Integrated Assessment of the Breckland Local Plan Scoping and Initial Options Appraisals Breckland Council. Available at: <https://brecklandlocalplan.commonplace.is/en-GB/proposals/consultation-paper-integrated-assessment-scoping-and-initial-options/step1> [Date Accessed: 21/06/24].

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Summary of housing/employment	HRA Output and Key Considerations
Great Yarmouth Local Plan Part 2 ¹¹ Great Yarmouth Core Strategy (Local Plan Part 1) ¹²	The Great Yarmouth Local Plan was adopted in December 2021. The Core Strategy was adopted in December 2015. The Council is currently reviewing the local plan and published a Regulation 18 consultation in 2024.	Part 2 makes provision for at least 5,303 new homes over the plan period (to 2030).	An HRA was undertaken in support of the Local Plan Part 2 ¹³ . It refers to the HRA undertaken for the Great Yarmouth Local Plan Part 1: the Core Strategy ¹⁴ . It draws on mitigation provided through the Great Yarmouth Borough Monitoring and Mitigation Strategy which was put in place at the time of the Core Strategy HRA. Following input to policy wording it concludes no adverse effects on site integrity. The combined impact of neighbouring authority growth, in-combination with the VHCAP, on air quality, hydrology and public access and disturbance impacts will be considered further in the HRA process. The Regulation 18 consultation was supported by an HRA which could not rule out air quality adverse impacts ¹⁵ .

¹¹ Great Yarmouth Borough Council. 2020. Great Yarmouth Local Plan Part 2. Available at: https://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/media/5062/Local-Plan-Part-2---Final-Draft-Plan/pdf/Local_Plan_Part_2_Final_Draft_Plan.pdf [Accessed: 05/06/24].

¹² Great Yarmouth Borough Council. 2015. Great Yarmouth Local Plan. Core Strategy 2013 – 2030. Available at: https://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/media/1884/Adopted-Local-Plan-Core-Strategy-December-2015/pdf/Local_Plan_Core_Strategy_Adopted_2015_NF.pdf [Accessed: 05/06/24].

¹³ Hoskin, R., Liley, D. & Caals, Z. 2019. Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Great Yarmouth Local Plan Part 2. Unpublished report for Great Yarmouth Borough Council. Available at: https://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/media/5048/Habitats-regulations-assessment-of-the-Local-Plan-Part-2/pdf/Habitat_Regulations_Assessment.pdf?m=1649667648867 [Accessed: 05/06/24].

¹⁴ Footprint Ecology. 2015. Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Great Yarmouth Local Plan - Core Strategy at Submission for Examination. Report for Great Yarmouth Borough Council. Available at: <https://www.footprint-ecology.co.uk/reports/Footprint%20Ecology%20-%202014%20-%20Habitats%20Regulations%20Assessment%20of%20the%20Great%20Yarmo.pdf> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

¹⁵ Land Use Consultants (2024) Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Great Yarmouth New Local Plan HRA Report Great Yarmouth Borough Council. Available at: https://localplan.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/media/7822/Habitat-Regulations-Assessment-of-the-Great-Yarmouth-Local-Plan-February-2024/pdf/Draft_Habitat_Regulations_Assessment_of_the_Great_Yarmouth_Local_Plan_Feb_24.pdf?m=1708434159280 [Date Accessed: 21/06/24].

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Summary of housing/employment	HRA Output and Key Considerations
East Suffolk District - Waveney Local Plan ¹⁶ (East Suffolk District comprises Waveney District Council and Suffolk Coastal District)	Adopted 20 th March 2019.	The LP covers the period 2014-2036. It sets out to deliver at least 8,223 new homes.	An HRA was undertaken in support of the local plan ¹⁷ . The HRA informed policy wording and recommended a mitigation approach for Minsmere – Walberswick SPA/SAC/Ramsar site and Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA/SAC, to mitigate for potential increased recreation pressure and disturbance of site interest features. Following incorporation of these measures it concluded no adverse effects on any European site integrity. The combined impact of neighbouring authority growth, in-combination with the VHCAP, on air quality, hydrology and public access and disturbance impacts will be considered further in the HRA process.
Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan ¹⁸	Part 1 of the Joint Local Plan (JLP) was adopted by the Mid Suffolk District Council on the 20 th November 2023 and by the Babergh District Council on the 21 st November 2023. Part 2 of the Joint Local Plan is scheduled to be adopted in Autumn 2026.	In Babergh, 7,904 net additional dwellings (416 dwellings per annum) are required over the plan period (2018-2037). In Mid Suffolk, 10,165 net additional dwellings (535 dwellings per annum) are required over the plan period (2018-2037).	An HRA was undertaken in support of the local plan at the pre-submission Regulation 19 stage ¹⁹ . It concluded that the Plan would not have any adverse effect on integrity (AEIOI) on any European Sites, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. It noted inclusion of mitigation including requirement for project level HRA. The combined impact of neighbouring authority growth, in-combination with the VHCAP, on air quality, hydrology and public access and disturbance impacts will be considered further in the HRA process.

¹⁶ East Suffolk Council. 2019. Waveney Local Plan. Covering the former Waveney Local Planning Authority Area. Available at: <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Planning/Waveney-Local-Plan/Adopted-Waveney-Local-Plan-including-Erratum.pdf> [Date Accessed: 05/06/24].

¹⁷ Hoskin, R. & Liley, D. 2018. Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Waveney Local Plan. Unpublished report for Waveney District Council. Available at: <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/assets/Planning/Waveney-Local-Plan/Habitats-Regulations-Assessment.pdf> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

¹⁸ Babergh District Council and Mid Suffolk District Council. November 2023. Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan – Part 1. Available at: <https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/documents/d/asset-library-54706/babergh-and-mid-suffolk-joint-local-plan-part-1-nov-2023> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

¹⁹ Place Services. October 2020. Babergh and Mid Suffolk Joint Local Plan: Pre-Submission (Regulation 19). Habitats Regulations Assessment. Available at: <https://www.babergh.gov.uk/documents/d/asset-library-54706/bmsdc-jlp-reg-19-hra-aa-oct20> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Summary of housing/employment	HRA Output and Key Considerations
Norfolk County Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review ²⁰	<p>Currently a Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan is being prepared to consolidate the three adopted plans into one LP, update the policies and extend the period to the end of 2038.</p> <p>The LP is currently at Regulation 24.</p>	<p>The M&WLPR includes a vision and strategic objectives for waste management and minerals development for the Plan period to 2036.</p> <p>It includes a spatial strategy (allocating sites) for new waste management facilities and new minerals development.</p>	<p>The M&WLPR was supported by a draft HRA²¹. It applied a 5km study area for consideration of LSEs at European sites. It concluded no LSEs from any policies forming the plan, noting that developers wanting to extract mineral from specific sites or land within a preferred area or area of search contained in the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan will still need to apply for and be granted planning permission before mineral extraction can take place.</p> <p>The combined impact of minerals and waste allocations, in-combination with VHCAP growth, on air quality and hydrology will be considered further in the HRA process.</p>
Norfolk County Council Local Transport Plan 4 Strategy 2021 – 2036 ²²	The plan (LTP4) was adopted by the County Council on the 19 th July 2022.	The plan aims to address issues such as air quality and carbon reduction and tackles infrastructure issues in relation to major road, bus and rail connections. It sets out a series of strategies and policies for the period 2020-2036.	<p>An HRA was prepared in support of the LTP4²³. 37 European sites were identified within the ZoI. The HRA concluded that it is not possible to categorically demonstrate that the LTP4 will not have any adverse effects on the European sites. The actions are primarily related to proposed new infrastructure, for which limited information is currently available.</p> <p>No further HRA work was considered necessary for the LTP4 to be adopted by Norfolk County Council subject to the condition that consideration is given for project-level HRA be undertaken for the proposed infrastructure schemes in the County as required by legislation and/or advised by policy and guidance.</p>

²⁰ Norfolk County Council. 2019. Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review. Available at: <https://norfolk.oc2.uk/document/49/4016#d4016> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

²¹ Norfolk County Council. July 2019. Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review. Draft Habitats Regulations Assessment – Test of Likely Significant Effects. Available at: https://norfolk.oc2.uk/docfiles/50/draft_hra_task_1.pdf [Accessed: 05/06/24].

²² Norfolk County Council. Nd. Norfolk County Council Local Transport Plan 4 Strategy 2021 – 2036. Available at: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/-/media/norfolk/downloads/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/roads-and-transport/local-transport-plan-4-draft-strategy.pdf> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

²³ WSP. July 2022. Norfolk County Council: Norfolk Local Transport Plan 4 Implementation Plan. Information to Inform Habitats Regulations Screening and Appropriate Assessment. Available at: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/media/18697/Ltp4-Hra-2022/pdf/Onltp4-hra-2022.pdf?m=1713193915863> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Summary of housing/employment	HRA Output and Key Considerations
Anglian Water Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP24) ²⁴	The current plan (WRMP19) was published in 2019 and covers the period 2020-2045. Anglian Water is currently developing a new plan (WRMP24) for the period 2025-2050.	The WRMP24 sets out how Anglian Water will maintain a sustainable and secure supply of drinking water over the plan period. Without action, the plan estimates a region shortfall of 593Ml/day by 2050.	An HRA was prepared in support of this plan ²⁵ . The HRA concludes that there will not be a significant adverse effect on European sites provided all proposed mitigation measures are implemented.
Environment Agency Broadland Catchment Abstraction Licencing Strategy ²⁶	The strategy sets out the approach to managing new and existing abstraction and impoundment within the Broadland catchment to ensure water resource objectives are met and avoid deterioration.	n/a	See detail provided in Section 6.4 of the Regulation 19 HRA Report. This will be taken into consideration in the assessment of hydrology impacts.
Greater Norwich Water Cycle Study ²⁷	The study sets out the water environment and infrastructure baseline for the GNA and provides information on the three Districts that inform the Council's new Local Plan.	n/a	See detail provided in Section 6.4 of the Regulation 19 HRA Report. This will be taken into consideration in the assessment of hydrology impacts.

²⁴ Anglian Water. September 2023. Our Water Resources Management Plan 2024: Revised Draft WRMP24 Main Document. Available at: <https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/SysSiteAssets/household/about-us/wrmp/rdwrmp24-main-report.pdf> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

²⁵ Mott MacDonald. August 2023. Anglian Water Revised Draft Water Resource Management Plan 2024 Environmental Report. Sub-Report A: Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). Available at: <https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/SysSiteAssets/household/about-us/wrmp/revised-draft-wrmp24-environmental-report-sub-report-a---hra.pdf> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

²⁶ Environment Agency. May 2017. Broadland Abstraction Licensing Strategy. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a821229ed915d74e3401912/ALS_2017_Broadland.pdf [Accessed: 05/06/24].

²⁷ AECOM. January 2021. Greater Norwich Water Cycle Study. Final Draft. Available at: https://www.gnlp.org.uk/sites/gnlp/files/2021-11/Greater%20Norwich%20Water%20Cycle%20Study_Final%20Version%20March%202021.pdf [Accessed: 05/06/24].

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Summary of housing/employment	HRA Output and Key Considerations
Anglian River Basin Management Plan ²⁸	The RBMP was updated in 2022 and describes the challenges threatening the water environment and how these can be managed.	n/a	See detail provided in Section 6.4 of the Regulation 19 HRA Report. An HRA was undertaken alongside the preparation of the RBMP ²⁹ . This will be taken into consideration in the assessment of hydrology impacts. At this strategic plan level, the HRA concluded there are no likely significant effects.
Norfolk Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (GIRAMS) ³⁰	The plan aims to achieve mitigation through the provision of green infrastructure at development sites and at the Plan making level to deflect and divert residents from European sites.	n/a	See detail provided in Section 6.5 of the Regulation 19 HRA Report. This will be taken into consideration in the assessment of public access and disturbance impacts.
Greater Norwich Infrastructure Plan ³¹	The final Plan was devised in June 2023 and provides a summary of the infrastructure required to support growth. The Plan is updated annually. Currently a Joint Five-Year Infrastructure Investment Plan is being developed. It is	n/a	See detail provided in Section 6.5 of the Regulation 19 HRA Report. This will be taken into consideration in the assessment of public access and disturbance impacts.

²⁸ Environment Agency. 2022. Anglian river basin district: river basin management plan: updated 2022. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/anglian-river-basin-district-river-basin-management-plan-updated-2022> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

²⁹ Environment Agency. September 2022. River basin management plan for the Anglian River Basin District: Habitats Regulations Assessment. Available at: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/496430/RBMP_HRA_Anglian_FINAL_Jan_2016.pdf [Accessed: 05/06/24].

³⁰ Place Services. March 2021. Norfolk Green Infrastructure and Recreational Impact Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy. Habitats Regulations Strategy Document. Available at: https://www.north-norfolk.gov.uk/media/7417/girams_strategy_march-2021.pdf [Accessed: 05/06/24].

³¹ Greater Norwich Growth Board. June 2023. Greater Norwich Infrastructure Plan. Available at: <https://www.greaternorwichgrowth.org.uk/dmsdocument/2910> [Accessed: 05/06/24].

Plans and Policies	Plan Status	Summary of housing/employment	HRA Output and Key Considerations
	proposed to be adopted in 2024/2025.		

Appendix C: Habitats Sites Conservation Objectives

River Wensum SAC¹

Conservation objectives:

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

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

Qualifying Features:

H3260. Water courses of plain to montane levels with the *Ranunculus fluitantis* and *Callitriche-Batrachion* vegetation; Rivers with floating vegetation often dominated by water-crowfoot

S1016. *Vertigo moulinsiana*; Desmoulin's whorl snail

S1092. *Austropotamobius pallipes*; White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish

S1096. *Lampetra planeri*; Brook lamprey

S1163. *Cottus gobio*; Bullhead

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{2,3}:

- Water Pollution;
- Water Abstraction; and
- Impacts on riparian zone habitats.

¹ Natural England (2018) River Wensum SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4906653837426688> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

² Natural England (2014) River Wensum SAC SIP. Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5795274547003392> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

³ Natural England (2019) River Wensum SAC Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6254570196172800> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

Norfolk Valley Fens SAC⁴

Conservation objectives:

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

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

Qualifying Features:

H4010. Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix*; Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath

H4030. European dry heaths

H6210. Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*); Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone

H6410. Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinion caeruleae*); Purple moor-grass meadows

H7210. Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae*; Calcium-rich fen dominated by great fen sedge (saw sedge)*

H7230. Alkaline fens; Calcium-rich springwater-fed fens

H91E0. Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*); Alder woodland on floodplains*

S1014. *Vertigo angustior*; Narrow-mouthed whorl snail

S1016. *Vertigo moulinsiana*; Desmoulin's whorl snail

* Priority natural habitats or species

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{5,6}:

- Hydrological Change;
- Water Pollution;
- Water Abstraction; and
- Air Pollution – impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition.

⁴ Natural England (2019) Norfolk Valley Fens SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4744233475112960> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁵ Natural England (2014) Norfolk Valley Fens SAC SIP. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4592297601662976> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁶ Natural England (2019) Norfolk Valley Fens SAC Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5508865827536896> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

The Broads SAC⁷

Conservation objectives:

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

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

Qualifying Features:

H3140. Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of *Chara spp.*; Calcium-rich nutrient-poor lakes, lochs and pools

H3150. Natural eutrophic lakes with *Magnopotamion* or *Hydrocharition*-type vegetation; Naturally nutrient-rich lakes or lochs which are often dominated by pondweed

H6410. Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinia caerulea*); Purple moor-grass meadows

H7140. Transition mires and quaking bogs; Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface

H7210. Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae*; Calcium-rich fen dominated by great fen sedge (saw sedge)*

H7230. Alkaline fens; Calcium-rich springwater-fed fens

H91E0. Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*); Alder woodland on floodplains*

S1016. *Vertigo moulinsiana*; Desmoulin's whorl snail

S1355. *Lutra lutra*; Otter

S1903. *Liparis loeselii*; Fen orchid

S4056. *Anisus vorticulus*; Little whirlpool ram's-horn snail

* Priority natural habitats or species

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{8,9}:

- Water Pollution;
- Inappropriate Water Levels;

⁷ Natural England (2018) The Broads SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6427605842788352> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁸ Natural England (2018) Broadland SIP (covering Broadland SPA and The Broads SAC). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6218680128241664> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁹ Natural England (2019) The Broads SAC Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6067900213624832> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

- Hydrological Changes;
- Water Abstraction; and
- Air Pollution.

Broadland SPA¹⁰

Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- 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.

Qualifying features:

A021 *Botaurus stellaris*; Great bittern (Breeding)

A037 *Cygnus columbianus bewickii*; Bewick's swan (Non-breeding)

A038 *Cygnus cygnus*; Whooper swan (Non-breeding)

A050 *Anas penelope*; Eurasian wigeon (Non-breeding)

A051 *Anas strepera*; Gadwall (Non-breeding)

A056 *Anas clypeata*; Northern shoveler (Non-breeding)

A081 *Circus aeruginosus*; Eurasian marsh harrier (Breeding)

A082 *Circus cyaneus*; Hen harrier (Non-breeding)

A151 *Philomachus pugnax*; Ruff (Non-breeding)

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{11,12}:

- Water Pollution;
- Inappropriate Water Levels;
- Hydrological Changes;
- Water Abstraction;
- Public Access and Disturbance; and
- Air Pollution.

¹⁰ Natural England (2019) Broadland SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5433101912375296> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

¹¹ Natural England (2018) Broadland SIP (covering Broadland SPA and The Broads SAC). Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6218680128241664> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

¹² Natural England (2019) Broadland SPA Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4516754755944448> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

Broadland Ramsar¹³

Ramsar sites do not have the Conservation Objectives in the same way as SPAs and SACs. Information regarding the designation of Ramsar sites is contained in INCC Ramsar Information Sheets. Ramsar Criteria are the criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance. The relevant criteria and ways in which this site meets the criteria are presented below.

Justification for its Application of each criterion

Ramsar criterion 2 - The site supports a number of rare species and habitats within the biogeographical zone context, including the following Habitats Directive Annex I feature

H7210 Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae* Calcium-rich fen dominated by great fen sedge (saw sedge).

H7230 Alkaline fens Calcium-rich springwater-fed fens.

H91E0 Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*) Alder woodland on floodplains, and the Annex II species

S1016 *Vertigo moulinsiana* Desmoulin's whorl snail

S1355 *Lutra lutra* Otter

S1903 *Liparis loeselii* Fen orchid.

The site supports outstanding assemblages of rare plants and invertebrates including nine British Red Data Book plants and 136 British Red Data Book invertebrates.

Ramsar criterion 6 – species/populations occurring at levels of international importance.

Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation): Species with peak counts in winter:

Tundra swan , *Cygnus columbianus bewickii*, NW Europe

196 individuals, representing an average of 2.4% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Eurasian wigeon , *Anas penelope*, NW Europe

6769 individuals, representing an average of 1.6% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Gadwall , *Anas strepera strepera*, NW Europe

545 individuals, representing an average of 3.1% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Northern shoveler , *Anas clypeata*, NW & C Europe

247 individuals, representing an average of 1.6% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

¹³ JNCC. 2008. Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands. Broadland Ramsar <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/RIS/UK11010.pdf> [Date Accessed: 22/11/22].

Species/populations identified subsequent to designation for possible future consideration under criterion 6. Species with peak counts in winter:

Pink-footed goose , *Anser brachyrhynchus*, Greenland, Iceland/UK

4263 individuals, representing an average of 1.7% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Greylag goose , *Anser anser anser*, Iceland/UK, Ireland

1007 individuals, representing an average of 1.1% of the population (Source period not collated)

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP:
None identified in Ramsar Information Sheet.

Breydon Water SPA¹⁴

Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- 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.

Qualifying Features:

A037 *Cygnus columbianus bewickii*; Bewick's swan (Non-breeding)

A132 *Recurvirostra avosetta*; Pied avocet (Non-breeding)

A140 *Pluvialis apricaria*; European golden plover (Non-breeding)

A142 *Vanellus vanellus*; Northern lapwing (Non-breeding)

A151 *Philomachus pugnax*; Ruff (Non-breeding)

A193 *Sterna hirundo*; Common tern (Breeding)

A Waterbird assemblage

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP¹⁵:

- Public Access and Disturbance; and
- Hydrology Changes.

¹⁴ Natural England (2019) Breydon Water SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4822248376762368> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

¹⁵ Natural England (2018) Breydon Water SPA SIP. Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5893824219447296> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

Breydon Water Ramsar¹⁶

Ramsar sites do not have the Conservation Objectives in the same way as SPAs and SACs. Information regarding the designation of Ramsar sites is contained in INCC Ramsar Information Sheets. Ramsar Criteria are the criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance. The relevant criteria and ways in which this site meets the criteria are presented in the table below.

Justification for the application of each criterion

Ramsar criterion 5 - Assemblages of international importance

Species with peak counts in winter: 68175 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1998/99-2002/2003)

Ramsar criterion 6 – species/populations occurring at levels of international importance.

Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation): Species with peak counts in winter:

Tundra swan , *Cygnus columbianus bewickii*, NW Europe

171 individuals, representing an average of 2.1% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Northern lapwing , *Vanellus vanellus*, Europe - breeding

20142 individuals, representing an average of 1.3% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Species/populations identified subsequent to designation for possible future consideration under criterion 6. Species with peak counts in winter:

Pink-footed goose , *Anser brachyrhynchus*, Greenland, Iceland/UK

5816 individuals, representing an average of 2.4% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Eurasian wigeon , *Anas penelope*, NW Europe

15624 individuals, representing an average of 1% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Northern shoveler , *Anas clypeata*, NW & C Europe

478 individuals, representing an average of 1.1% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

European golden plover *Pluvialis apricaria apricaria*, *P. a. altifrons* Iceland & Faroes/E Atlantic

10656 individuals, representing an average of 1.1% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Black-tailed godwit , *Limosa limosa islandica*, Iceland/W Europe

¹⁶ JNCC. 2008. Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands. Breydon Water Ramsar <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/RIS/UK11008.pdf> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

1100 individuals, representing an average of 3.1% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP:
None identified in Ramsar Information Sheet.

Great Yarmouth North Deans SPA¹⁷

Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- 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.

Qualifying Features:

A195 *Sterna albifrons*; Little tern (Breeding)

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{18,19}:

- Public Access and Disturbance;
- Hydrological Changes;
- Air Pollution.

Winterton-Horsey Dunes SAC²⁰

Conservation objectives:

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

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

Qualifying Features:

¹⁷ Natural England (2019) Great Yarmouth North Deans SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6450939770961920> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

¹⁸ Natural England (2018) Great Yarmouth Winterton Horsey SIP (to cover Great Yarmouth North Deans SPA and Winterton-Horsey Dunes SAC). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6277135286665216> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

¹⁹ Natural England (2012) Great Yarmouth and North Deans SPA Regulation 33 Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/3957913> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

²⁰ Natural England (2018) Winterton-Horsey Dunes SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6564347065401344> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

H2110. Embryonic shifting dunes
H2120. Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* ("white dunes"); Shifting dunes with marram
H2150. Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (*Calluno-Ulicetea*)*
H2190. Humid dune slacks

*Priority Species.

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{21,22}:

- Public Access and Disturbance;
- Hydrological Changes; and
- Air Pollution.

Paston Great Barn SAC²³

Conservation objectives:

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

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

Qualifying Features:

S1308. *Barbastella barbastellus*; Barbastelle bat

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{24,25}:

- Offsite habitat availability / management (loss and changes to hydrological conditions supporting foraging habitat);
- Public access and disturbance (unauthorised access);
- Air Quality (impacts upon broadleaved woodland habitat).

²¹ Natural England (2018) Great Yarmouth Winterton Horsey SIP (to cover Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA and Winterton-Horsey Dunes SAC). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6218680128241664> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

²² Natural England (2019) Winterton-Horsey Dunes SAC Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5063465840672768> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

²³ Natural England (2019) Paston Great Barn SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5114399593594880> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

²⁴ Natural England (2015) Paston Great Barn SAC SIP. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5348069707087872> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

²⁵ Natural England (2019) Paston Great Barn SAC Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5001414501990400> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

Overstrand Cliffs SAC²⁶

Conservation objectives:

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

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

Qualifying Features:

H1230. Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{27,28}:

- Water quality; and
- Air Quality.

Waveney & Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC²⁹

Conservation objectives:

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

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

Qualifying Features:

H6410. *Molinia* meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (*Molinia caerulea*); Purple moor-grass meadows

H7210. Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae*; Calcium-rich fen dominated by great fen sedge (saw sedge)*

S1016. *Vertigo moulinsiana*; Desmoulin's whorl snail

* Priority natural habitats or species

²⁶ Natural England (2018) Overstrand Cliffs SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at:

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6578860724584448> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

²⁷ Natural England (2014) Overstrand Cliffs SAC SIP. Available at:

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6475449683148800> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

²⁸ Natural England (2015) Overstrand Cliffs SAC Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at:

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5574891690524672> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

²⁹ Natural England (2018) Waveney & Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at:

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5174901589934080> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{30,31}:

- Water Pollution;
- Water Levels' and
- Air pollution.

Redgrave and South Lopham Fens Ramsar³²

Ramsar sites do not have the Conservation Objectives in the same way as SPAs and SACs. Information regarding the designation of Ramsar sites is contained in INCC Ramsar Information Sheets. Ramsar Criteria are the criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance. The relevant criteria and ways in which this site meets the criteria are presented in the table below.

Justification for the application of each criterion

Ramsar Criterion 2 - The site supports many rare and scarce invertebrates, including a population of the fen raft spider *Dolomedes plantarius*.

Ramsar Criterion 3 - The site supports many rare and scarce invertebrates, including a population of the fen raft spider *Dolomedes plantarius*. The diversity of the site is due to the lateral and longitudinal zonation of the vegetation types characteristic of valley mires.

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP:

- Water quality.

Breckland SAC³³

Conservation objectives:

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

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

³⁰ Natural England (2015) Waveney & Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC SIP. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5005196964921344> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

³¹ Natural England (2019) Waveney & Little Ouse Valley Fens SAC Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6068391618281472> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

³² JNCC. 2008. Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands. Redgrave and South Lopham Fens Ramsar <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/RIS/UK11056.pdf> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

³³ Natural England (2018) Breckland SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6441039158312960> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

Qualifying Features:

H2330. Inland dunes with open *Corynephorus* and *Agrostis* grasslands; Open grassland with grey-hair grass and common bent grass of inland dunes

H3150. Natural eutrophic lakes with Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition-type vegetation; Naturally nutrient-rich lakes or lochs which are often dominated by pondweed

H4030. European dry heaths

H6210. Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*); Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone

H91E0. Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Alno-Padion*, *Alnion incanae*, *Salicion albae*); Alder woodland on floodplains*

S1166. *Triturus cristatus*; Great crested newt

* Priority natural habitats or species

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{34,35}:

- Water pollution;
- Planning permission general (housing noted);
- Air pollution;
- Public access and disturbance; and
- Habitat fragmentation.

Breckland SPA³⁶

Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- 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.

Qualifying Features:

A133 *Burhinus oedicephalus*; Stone-curlew (Breeding)

A224 *Caprimulgus europaeus*; European nightjar (Breeding)

A246 *Lullula arborea*; Woodlark (Breeding)

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{37,38}:

³⁴ Natural England (2015) Breckland SIP (Covering Breckland SAC and Breckland SPA). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5005196964921344> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

³⁵ Natural England (2019) Breckland SAC. Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6754976231849984> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

³⁶ Natural England (2019) Breckland SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4973014479536128> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

³⁷ Natural England (2015) Breckland SIP (Covering Breckland SAC and Breckland SPA). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5005196964921344> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

³⁸ Natural England (2019) Breckland SPA. Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5048975426322432> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

- Water pollution;
- Planning permission general (housing noted);
- Air pollution;
- Public access and disturbance; and
- Habitat fragmentation.

Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SAC³⁹

Conservation objectives:

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

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

Qualifying Features:

H1150. Coastal lagoons*

* Priority natural habitats or species

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{40,41}:

- Public access and disturbance;
- Air quality; and
- Water pollution.

Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SPA⁴²

Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- 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.

Qualifying Features:

³⁹ Natural England (2019) Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6005842830950400> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁴⁰ Natural England (2015) Benacre to Easton Bavents SIP (Covering Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SAC and Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5868757182316544> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁴¹ Natural England (2019) Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SAC. Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5503127986110464> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁴² Natural England (2019) Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5222146070806528> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

A021 *Botaurus stellaris*; Great bittern (Breeding)
A081 *Circus aeruginosus*; Eurasian marsh harrier (Breeding)
A195 *Sterna albifrons*; Little tern (Breeding)

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{43,44}:

- Public access and disturbance;
- Air quality; and
- Water pollution.

Dew's Ponds SAC⁴⁵

Conservation objectives:

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

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

Qualifying Features:

S1166. *Triturus cristatus*; Great crested newt

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP^{46,47}:

- Water quality; and
- Air quality.

The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC⁴⁸

Conservation objectives:

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

⁴³ Natural England (2015) Benacre to Easton Bavents SIP (Covering Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SAC and Benacre to Easton Bavents SPA). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5868757182316544> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁴⁴ Natural England (2019) Benacre to Easton Bavents Lagoons SPA. Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5503127986110464> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁴⁵ Natural England (2018) Dew's Point SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5809266204344320> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁴⁶ Natural England (2014) Dew's Point SAC SIP. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5689361702060032> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁴⁷ Natural England (2015) Dew's Point SAC. Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6663816760786944> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁴⁸ Natural England (2018) The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5213489320951808> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

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

Qualifying Features:

H1110. Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time; Subtidal sandbanks

H1140. Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Intertidal mudflats and sandflats

H1150. Coastal lagoons*

H1160. Large shallow inlets and bays

H1170. Reefs

H1310. Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Glasswort and other annuals colonising mud and sand

H1330. Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima*)

H1420. Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (*Sarcocornetea fruticosi*);

Mediterranean saltmarsh scrub

S1355. *Lutra lutra*; Otter

S1365. *Phoca vitulina*; Common seal

* Priority natural habitats or species

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP⁴⁹:

- Water levels;
- Public access and disturbance; and
- Air pollution.

The Wash SPA⁵⁰

Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- 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.

Qualifying Features:

A037 *Cygnus columbianus bewickii*; Bewick's swan (Non-breeding)

A040 *Anser brachyrhynchus*; Pink-footed goose (Non-breeding)

⁴⁹ Natural England (2014) The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SIP (to cover Gibraltar Point SPA, N Norfolk Coast SPA, North Norfolk Coast SAC, The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC and The Wash SPA). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6240487188987904> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁵⁰ Natural England (2019) The Wash SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4748062010638336> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

A046a *Branta bernicla bernicla*; Dark-bellied brent goose (Non-breeding)
 A048 *Tadorna tadorna*; Common shelduck (Non-breeding)
 A050 *Anas penelope*; Eurasian wigeon (Non-breeding)
 A051 *Anas strepera*; Gadwall (Non-breeding)
 A054 *Anas acuta*; Northern pintail (Non-breeding)
 A065 *Melanitta nigra*; Black (common) scoter (Non-breeding)
 A067 *Bucephala clangula*; Common goldeneye (Non-breeding)
 A130 *Haematopus ostralegus*; Eurasian oystercatcher (Non-breeding)
 A141 *Pluvialis squatarola*; Grey plover (Non-breeding)
 A143 *Calidris canutus*; Red knot (Non-breeding)
 A144 *Calidris alba*; Sanderling (Non-breeding)
 A149 *Calidris alpina alpina*; Dunlin (Non-breeding)
 A156 *Limosa limosa islandica*; Black-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)
 A157 *Limosa lapponica*; Bar-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)
 A160 *Numenius arquata*; Eurasian curlew (Non-breeding)
 A162 *Tringa totanus*; Common redshank (Non-breeding)
 A169 *Arenaria interpres*; Ruddy turnstone (Non-breeding)
 A193 *Sterna hirundo*; Common tern (Breeding)
 A195 *Sterna albifrons*; Little tern (Breeding)
 Waterbird assemblage

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP⁵¹:

- Water levels;
- Public access and disturbance; and
- Air pollution.

The Wash Ramsar⁵²

Ramsar sites do not have the Conservation Objectives in the same way as SPAs and SACs. Information regarding the designation of Ramsar sites is contained in INCC Ramsar Information Sheets. Ramsar Criteria are the criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance. The relevant criteria and ways in which this site meets the criteria are presented in the table below.

Justification for the application of each criterion

Ramsar criterion 1

The Wash is a large shallow bay comprising very extensive saltmarshes, major intertidal banks of sand and mud, shallow water and deep channels.

Ramsar criterion 5

Qualifies because of the inter-relationship between its various components including saltmarshes, intertidal sand and mud flats and the estuarine waters. The saltmarshes and the plankton in the estuarine water provide a primary source of organic material which, together with other organic matter, forms the basis for the high productivity of the estuary.

⁵¹ Natural England (2014) The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SIP (to cover Gibraltar Point SPA, N Norfolk Coast SPA, North Norfolk Coast SAC, The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC and The Wash SPA). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6240487188987904> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁵² JNCC. 2008. The Wash Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands. The Wash Ramsar <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/RIS/UK11072.pdf> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

Ramsar criterion 5

Assemblages of international importance: Species with peak counts in winter:

292541 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1998/99-2002/2003)

Ramsar criterion 6 – species/populations occurring at levels of international importance.

Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation):

Species with peak counts in spring/autumn

Eurasian oystercatcher , *Haematopus ostralegus ostralegus*, Europe & NW Africa -wintering
15616 individuals, representing an average of 1.5% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Grey plover , *Pluvialis squatarola*, E Atlantic/W Africa -wintering
13129 individuals, representing an average of 5.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3 - spring peak)

Red knot , *Calidris canutus islandica*, W & Southern Africa (wintering)
68987 individuals, representing an average of 15.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Sanderling , *Calidris alba*, Eastern Atlantic
3505 individuals, representing an average of 2.8% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Eurasian curlew , *Numenius arquata arquata*, *N. a. arquata* Europe (breeding)
9438 individuals, representing an average of 2.2% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Common redshank , *Tringa totanus totanus*,
6373 individuals, representing an average of 2.5% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Ruddy turnstone , *Arenaria interpres interpres*, NE Canada, Greenland/W Europe & NW Africa
888 individuals, representing an average of 1.7% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Species with peak counts in spring/autumn:

Pink-footed goose , *Anser brachyrhynchus*, Greenland, Iceland/UK
29099 individuals, representing an average of 12.1% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Dark-bellied brent goose, *Branta bernicla bernicla*,
20861 individuals, representing an average of 9.7% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Common shelduck , *Tadorna tadorna*, NW Europe

9746 individuals, representing an average of 3.2% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Northern pintail , *Anas acuta*, NW Europe

431 individuals, representing an average of 1.5% of the GB population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Dunlin , *Calidris alpina alpina*, W Siberia/W Europe

36600 individuals, representing an average of 2.7% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Bar-tailed godwit , *Limosa lapponica lapponica*, W Palearctic

16546 individuals, representing an average of 13.7% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Species/populations identified subsequent to designation for possible future consideration under criterion 6.

Species with peak counts in spring/autumn:

Ringed plover , *Charadrius hiaticula*, Europe/Northwest Africa

1500 individuals, representing an average of 2% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Black-tailed godwit , *Limosa limosa islandica*, Iceland/W Europe

6849 individuals, representing an average of 19.5% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Species with peak counts in winter:

European golden plover , *Pluvialis apricaria apricaria*, *P. a. altifrons* Iceland & Faroes/E Atlantic

22033 individuals, representing an average of 2.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Northern lapwing , *Vanellus vanellus*, Europe - breeding

46422 individuals, representing an average of 1.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP:

None identified in Ramsar Information Sheet.

The Greater Wash SPA⁵³

Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- 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.

Qualifying Features:

A001 *Gavia stellata*; Red-throated diver (Non-breeding)

A065 *Melanitta nigra*; Common scoter (Non-breeding)

A177 *Hydrocoloeus minutus*; Little gull (Non-breeding)

A191 *Sterna sandvicensis*; Sandwich tern (Breeding)

A193 *Sterna hirundo*; Common tern (Breeding)

A195 *Sternula albifrons*; Little tern (Breeding)

North Norfolk Coast SPA⁵⁴

Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- 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.

Qualifying Features:

A021 *Botaurus stellaris*; Great bittern (Breeding)

A040 *Anser brachyrhynchus*; Pink-footed goose (Non-breeding)

A046a *Branta bernicla bernicla*; Dark-bellied brent goose (Non-breeding)

A050 *Anas penelope*; Eurasian wigeon (Non-breeding)

A081 *Circus aeruginosus*; Eurasian marsh harrier (Breeding)

A084 *Circus pygargus*; Montagu's harrier (Breeding)

A132 *Recurvirostra avosetta*; Pied avocet (Breeding)

A143 *Calidris canutus*; Red knot (Non-breeding)

A191 *Sterna sandvicensis*; Sandwich tern (Breeding)

A193 *Sterna hirundo*; Common tern (Breeding)

A195 *Sterna albifrons*; Little tern (Breeding)

Waterbird assemblage

⁵³ Natural England (2019) The Greater Wash SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4748062010638336> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁵⁴ Natural England (2019) North Norfolk Coast SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at:
<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4597105251581952> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP⁵⁵:

- Water levels;
- Public access and disturbance; and
- Air pollution.

North Norfolk Coast SAC⁵⁶

Conservation objectives:

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

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

Qualifying Features:

H1150. Coastal lagoons*

H1220. Perennial vegetation of stony banks; Coastal shingle vegetation outside the reach of waves

H1420. Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (*Sarcocornetea fruticosi*);

Mediterranean saltmarsh scrub

H2110. Embryonic shifting dunes

H2120. Shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* ("white dunes"); Shifting dunes with marram

H2130. Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes"); Dune grassland*

H2190. Humid dune slacks

S1355. *Lutra lutra*; Otter

S1395. *Petalophyllum ralfsii*; Petalwort

* Priority natural habitats or species

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP⁵⁷:

- Water levels;
- Public access and disturbance; and
- Air pollution.

⁵⁵ Natural England (2014) The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SIP (to cover Gibraltar Point SPA, N Norfolk Coast SPA, North Norfolk Coast SAC, The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC and The Wash SPA). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6240487188987904> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁵⁶ Natural England (2018) North Norfolk Coast SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5187288007180288> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁵⁷ Natural England (2014) The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SIP (to cover Gibraltar Point SPA, N Norfolk Coast SPA, North Norfolk Coast SAC, The Wash and North Norfolk Coast SAC and The Wash SPA). Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/6240487188987904> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

North Norfolk Coast Ramsar⁵⁸

Ramsar sites do not have the Conservation Objectives in the same way as SPAs and SACs. Information regarding the designation of Ramsar sites is contained in INCC Ramsar Information Sheets. Ramsar Criteria are the criteria for identifying Wetlands of International Importance. The relevant criteria and ways in which this site meets the criteria are presented in the table below.

Justification for the application of each criterion

Ramsar criterion 1 The site is one of the largest expanses of undeveloped coastal habitat of its type in Europe. It is a particularly good example of a marshland coast with intertidal sand and mud, saltmarshes, shingle banks and sand dunes. There are a series of brackish-water lagoons and extensive areas of freshwater grazing marsh and reed beds.

Ramsar criterion 2 Supports at least three British Red Data Book and nine nationally scarce vascular plants, one British Red Data Book lichen and 38 British Red Data Book invertebrates.

Ramsar criterion 5. Assemblages of international importance:

Species with peak counts in winter:

98462 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1998/99-2002/2003)

Ramsar criterion 6 – species/populations occurring at levels of international importance.

Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation):

Species regularly supported during the breeding season:

Sandwich tern , *Sterna (Thalasseus) sandvicensis sandvicensis*, W Europe

4275 apparently occupied nests, representing an average of 7.7% of the breeding population (Seabird 2000 Census)

Common tern , *Sterna hirundo hirundo*, N & E Europe

408 apparently occupied nests, representing an average of 4% of the GB population (Seabird 2000 Census)

Little tern , *Sterna albifrons albifrons*, W Europe

291 apparently occupied nests, representing an average of 2.5% of the breeding population (Seabird 2000 Census)

Species with peak counts in spring/autumn:

Red knot , *Calidris canutus islandica*, W & Southern Africa (wintering)

30781 individuals, representing an average of 6.8% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

⁵⁸ JNCC. 2008. Information Sheet on Ramsar Wetlands. North Norfolk Coast Ramsar <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/RIS/UK11048.pdf> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

Species with peak counts in winter:

Pink-footed goose , *Anser brachyrhynchus*, Greenland, Iceland/UK

16787 individuals, representing an average of 6.9% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Dark-bellied brent goose, *Branta bernicla bernicla*,

8690 individuals, representing an average of 4% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Eurasian wigeon , *Anas penelope*, NW Europe

17940 individuals, representing an average of 1.1% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Northern pintail , *Anas acuta*, NW Europe

1148 individuals, representing an average of 1.9% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Species/populations identified subsequent to designation for possible future consideration under criterion 6.

Species with peak counts in spring/autumn:

Ringed plover , *Charadrius hiaticula*, Europe/Northwest Africa

1740 individuals, representing an average of 2.3% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Sanderling , *Calidris alba*, Eastern Atlantic

1303 individuals, representing an average of 1% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Bar-tailed godwit , *Limosa lapponica lapponica*, W Palearctic

3933 individuals, representing an average of 3.2% of the population (5 year peak mean 1998/9-2002/3)

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP:

None identified in Ramsar Information Sheet.

Southern North Sea SAC⁵⁹

Conservation objectives:

⁵⁹ JNCC (2019) Southern North Sea SAC Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://data.jncc.gov.uk/data/206f2222-5c2b-4312-99ba-d59dfd1dec1d/SouthernNorthSea-conservation-advice.pdf> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

To ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained and that it makes the best possible contribution to maintaining Favourable Conservation Status (FCS) for Harbour Porpoise in UK waters:

In the context of natural change, this will be achieved by ensuring that:

- 1. Harbour porpoise is a viable component of the site;
- 2. There is no significant disturbance of the species; and
- 3. The condition of supporting habitats and processes, and the availability of prey is maintained.

Qualifying Features:

1351: Harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*)

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP⁶⁰:

- Public access and disturbance (boating).

Outer Thames Estuary SPA⁶¹

Conservation objectives:

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;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features;
- 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.

Qualifying Features:

A001 *Gavia stellata*; Red-throated diver (Non-breeding)

A193 *Sterna hirundo*; Common tern (Breeding)

A195 *Sternula albifrons*; Little tern (Breeding)

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP⁶²:

- No threats identified that could be increased / effected by VCHAP.

Hainsborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC⁶³

Conservation objectives:

⁶⁰ JNCC. Natural England. March 2019. Harbour Porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) Special Area of Conservation: Southern North Sea Conservation Objectives and Advice on Operations. Available at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN010079/EN010079-002860-ExA%3B%20ISH6%3B%2010.D7.12%20Harbour%20Porpoise%20SAC%20Conservation%20Objectives%20and%20Advice.pdf> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁶¹ Natural England (2019) Outer Thames Estuary SPA Conservation Objectives. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5184120712069120> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁶² Natural England (2015) Outer Thames Estuary SPA SIP. Available at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/5877617494327296> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

⁶³ JNCC Hainsborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC. Available at: <https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/haisborough-hammond-and-winterton-mpa/> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

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;

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

Qualifying Features:

1170 Reefs

1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time

Threats and Pressures at Habitats site which may be affected by VCHAP⁶⁴:

- Recreation.

⁶⁴ Natural England. Hainsborough, Hammond and Winterton SAC. Available at:

<https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/Marine/FAPMatrix.aspx?SiteCode=UK0030369&SiteName=hais&SiteNameDisplay=Haisborough%2c+Hammond+and+Winterton+SAC&countyCode=&responsiblePerson=&SeaArea=&IFCAArea=&NumMarineSeasonality=0> [Date Accessed: 19/06/24].

Appendix D: Site of Special Scientific Interest Condition Data

River Wensum SAC

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units ¹	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
River Wensum SSSI	6 Favourable	n/a
River Wensum SSSI	12 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
River Wensum SSSI	37 Unfavourable – declining	Dominant vegetation. Opportunities for river restoration. Hydrological connectivity not appropriate.

Norfolk Valley Fens SAC

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units ²	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
Badley Moor SSSI	4 Favourable	n/a
Booton Common SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Buxton Heath SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Coston Fen, Funhall SSSI	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
East Walton and Adcock's Common SSSI	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Flordon Common SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Flordon Common SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Foulden Common SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
Foulden Common SSSI	4 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Foulden Common SSSI	1 Unfavourable – declining	The designated interest features S2, S25, M13, M22 & M24 all failed the condition assessment on the quantity of positive indicator species present. The cover of litter was also above the desired threshold and the unit is at risk from the development of scrub.

¹ Natural England. Designated Site View. <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/>. Site condition data is provided for the SSSIs which legally underpin European site designations [Accessed: 05/06/24].

² Natural England. Designated Site View. <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/>. Site condition data is provided for the SSSIs which legally underpin European site designations [Accessed: 05/06/24].

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units ²	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
Great Cressingham Fen SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Hotl Lowes SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Hotl Lowes SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Potter & Scarning Fens, East Dereham SSSI	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Sheringham and Beeston Regis Commons SSSI	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Southrepps Common SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Swangey Fen, Attleborough SSSI	5 Favourable	n/a
Swangey Fen, Attleborough SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Thompson Water, Carr and Common SSSI	8 Favourable	n/a
Thompson Water, Carr and Common SSSI	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Thompson Water, Carr and Common SSSI	1 Unfavourable – declining	Currently this site is considered unfavourable, due to the lack of any broad-leaved pondweeds, not meeting the TP target and oxygen concentrations too low to support characteristic fauna. The change in macrophyte community structure is likely to be a response to the availability of nutrients and is also a cause for concern.

The Broads SAC

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units ³	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
Alderfen Broad SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Alderfen Broad SSSI	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Ant Broads and Marshes SSSI	24 Favourable	n/a
Ant Broads and Marshes SSSI	8 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Ant Broads and Marshes SSSI	3 Unfavourable – declining	Possible nutrient enrichment.

³ Natural England. Designated Site View. <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/>. Site condition data is provided for the SSSIs which legally underpin European site designations [Accessed: 05/06/24].

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units ³	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
Barnby Broad and Marshes SSSI	11 Favourable	n/a
Barnby Broad and Marshes SSSI	13 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Broad Fen, Dilham SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Bure Broads and Marshes SSSI	5 Favourable	n/a
Bure Broads and Marshes SSSI	4 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Bure Broads and Marshes SSSI	5 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Burgh Common and Muckfleet Marshes SSSI	4 Favourable	n/a
Burgh Common and Muckfleet Marshes SSSI	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Burgh Common and Muckfleet Marshes SSSI	4 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Calthorpe Broad SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
Calthorpe Broad SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Cantley Marshes SSSI	23 Favourable	n/a
Croswick Marsh SSSI	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Damgate Marshes, Acle SSSI	6 Favourable	n/a
Damgate Marshes, Acle SSSI	4 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Decoy Car, Acle SSSI	4 Favourable	n/a
Decoy Car, Acle SSSI	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Duncan's Marsh, Claxton SSSI	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Geldeston Meadows SSSI	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Geldeston Meadows SSSI	2 Unfavourable – declining	No comment provided.
Hall Farm Fen, Hemsby SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Halvergate Marshes SSSI	21 Favourable	n/a
Halvergate Marshes SSSI	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Halvergate Marshes SSSI	9 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Hardley Flood SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units ³	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
Limpenhoe Meadows SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Ludham – Potter Heigham Marshes SSSI	6 Favourable	n/a
Poplar Farm Meadows, Langley SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Priory Meadows, Hickling SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Priory Meadows, Hickling SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Shallam Dyke Marshes, Thurne SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
Shallam Dyke Marshes, Thurne SSSI	6 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Sprat's Water and Marshes, Carlton Colville SSSI	7 Favourable	n/a
Sprat's Water and Marshes, Carlton Colville SSSI	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Sprat's Water and Marshes, Carlton Colville SSSI	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Smallburgh Fen SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Stanley and Alder Carrs, Aldeby SSSI	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Trinity Broad's SSSI	15 Favourable	n/a
Trinity Broad's SSSI	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Trinity Broad's SSSI	7 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Upper Thurne Broad's and Marshes SSSI	11 Favourable	n/a
Upper Thurne Broad's and Marshes SSSI	3 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Upper Thurne Broad's and Marshes SSSI	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Upper Thurne Broad's and Marshes SSSI	3 Unfavourable – declining	Water quality and abstraction.
Upton Broad & Marshes SSSI	8 Favourable	n/a
Upton Broad & Marshes SSSI	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Upton Broad & Marshes SSSI	9 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units ³	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
Yare Broads and Marshes SSSI	7 Favourable	n/a
Yare Broads and Marshes SSSI	9 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Yare Broads and Marshes SSSI	5 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Yare Broads and Marshes SSSI	5 Unfavourable – declining	Nutrient enrichment. Overfeeding of duck for shooting with possible contribution from agricultural run-off.

Broadland SPA and Ramsar

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
Alderfen Broad SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Alderfen Broad SSSI	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Ant Broads and Marshes SSSI	24 Favourable	n/a
	8 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	3 Unfavourable – declining	Possible nutrient enrichment.
Barnby Broad and Marshes SSSI	11 Favourable	n/a
	13 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Broad Fen, Dilham SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Bure Broads and Marshes SSSI	5 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	5 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Burgh Common and Muckfleet Marshes SSSI	4 Favourable	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	4 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Calthorpe Broad SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Cantley Marshes SSSI	23 Favourable	n/a
Crostick Marsh SSSI	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Decoy Car, Acle SSSI	4 Favourable	n/a

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Duncan's Marsh, Claxton SSSI	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Geldeston Meadows SSSI	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – declining	No comment provided.
Hall Farm Fen, Hemsby SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Halvergate Marshes SSSI	21 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	9 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Hardley Flood SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
Limpenhoe Meadows SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Ludham – Potter Heigham Marshes SSSI	6 Favourable	n/a
Poplar Farm Meadows, Langley SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Priory Meadows, Hickling SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Shallam Dyke Marshes, Thurne SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
	6 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
Sprat's Water and Marshes, Carlton Colville SSSI	7 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Smallburgh Fen SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Stanley and Alder Carrs, Aldeby SSSI	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Upper Thurne Broad and Marshes SSSI	11 Favourable	n/a
	3 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	3 Unfavourable – declining	Water quality and abstraction.
	8 Favourable	n/a

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
Upton Broad & Marshes SSSI	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	9 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Yare Broads and Marshes SSSI	7 Favourable	n/a
	9 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	5 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	5 Unfavourable – declining	Nutrient enrichment. Overfeeding of duck for shooting with possible contribution from agricultural run-off.
Breydon Water SSSI	15 Favourable	n/a
Halvergate Marshes SSSI	29 Favourable	n/a
	3 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	10 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Great Yarmouth North Denes SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
Winterton-Horsey Dunes SSSI	7 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Winterton-Horsey Dunes SSSI	7 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Blo' Norton and Thelnetham Fens SSSI	3 Favourable	n/a
	3 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Redgrave and Lopham Fens SSSI	4 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Weston Fen, Suffolk SSSI	5 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Redgrave and Lopham Fens SSSI	4 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Barnhamcross Common SSSI	2 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
Berner's Heath, Icklingham SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	2 Destroyed	Agriculture. Unit 6 and 7 are part of a field designated as Berner's Heath SSSI. Specialist advice is to undertake a notification amendment to include this area of land within the Breckland Farmland SSSI and to have stone curlew as the sole interest feature. Following such an amendment this area could be considered favourable.
Bridgham & Brettenham Heaths SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Cavenham – Icklingham Heaths SSSI	14 Favourable	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	11 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	1 Destroyed	Site is destroyed therefore no change since last assessment.
Cranwich Camp SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Deadman's Grave, Icklingham SSSI	3 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - declining	Agriculture
East Wretham Heath SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - declining	Ringmere: there has been a considerable loss of aquatic species since the last assessment, but all terrestrial and amphibious characteristic species previously recorded were present. High nutrient levels recorded in previous water analysis suggest nutrients are impacting the mere. Langmere: the near absence of open water made it impossible to assess the aquatic zone, but the mud and inundation zones were well developed and in good condition. However, there are some factors that point towards elevated nutrient levels at Langmere,.
Field Barn Heaths, Hilborough SSSI	1 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
Foxhole Heath, Eriswell SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Gooderstone Warren SSSI	4 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Grime’s Grave SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Lakenheath Warren SSSI	5 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	6 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
RAF Lakenheath SSSI	4 Favourable	n/a
Stanford Training Area	29 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	28 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	2 Unfavourable - declining	Unsuitable bat habitat (Unit 072). Poor diversity of aquatic vegetation (Unit 089).
Thetford Golf Course & Marsh SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	5 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Thetford Heaths SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Wangford Warren and Carr SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Weather and Horn Heaths, Eriswell SSSI	2 Unfavourable - declining	Agriculture
	Partially destroyed	The majority of this unit has been destroyed by the construction of the dualled A11.
Weeting Heath SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Barnham Heath SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Barnhamcross Common SSSI	2 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Berner's Heath, Icklingham SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	2 Destroyed	Agriculture. Unit 6 and 7 are part of a field designated as Berner's Heath SSSI. Specialist advice is to undertake a notification amendment to include this area of land within the Breckland Farmland SSSI and to have stone curlew as the sole interest feature. Following such an amendment this area could be considered favourable.
Breckland Farm SSSI	70 Favourable	n/a
Breckland Forest SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Bridgham & Brettenham Heaths SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Cavenham – Icklingham Heaths SSSI	14 Favourable	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	11 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	1 Destroyed	Site is destroyed therefore no change since last assessment.
Cranberry Rough Hockham SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Cranwich Camp SSSI	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Deadman's Grave, Icklingham SSSI	3 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - declining	Agriculture
East Wretham Heath SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - declining	Ringmere: there has been a considerable loss of aquatic species since the last assessment, but all terrestrial and amphibious characteristic species previously

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
		recorded were present. High nutrient levels recorded in previous water analysis suggest nutrients are impacting the mere. Langmere: the near absence of open water made it impossible to assess the aquatic zone, but the mud and inundation zones were well developed and in good condition. However, there are some factors that point towards elevated nutrient levels at Langmere,.
Eriswell Low Warren SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Field Barn Heaths, Hilborough SSSI	1 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Foxhole Heath, Eriswell SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Gooderstone Warren SSSI	4 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
Grime's Grave SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – recovering	n/a
How Hill Track SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Lakenheath Warren SSSI	5 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	6 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Little Heath, Barnham SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – declining	Agriculture
Old Bodney Camp SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
Rex Graham Reserve SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
Stanford Training Area	29 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	28 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	2 Unfavourable - declining	Unsuitable bat habitat (Unit 072). Poor diversity of aquatic vegetation (Unit 089).
Thetford Golf Course & Marsh SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable – no change	n/a

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
	5 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Thetford Heaths SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Wangford Warren and Carr SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Weather and Horn Heaths, Eriswell SSSI	2 Unfavourable - declining	Agriculture
	Partially destroyed	The majority of this unit has been destroyed by the construction of the dualled A11.
Weeting Heath SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
West Stow Heath SSSI	1 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Pakefield to Easton Barents SSSI	30 Favourable	n/a
	4 Unfavourable – no change	n/a
	17 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – declining	Water pollution
	Partially destroyed	Coastal erosion
Gibraltar Point SSSI	2 Favourable	n/a
	2 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – declining	Air pollution
North Norfolk Coast SSSI	67 Favourable	n/a
	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
The Wash SSSI	48 Favourable	n/a
	11 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a

SSSI Name	Conservation Status of SSSI Units	Reason for unfavourable declining status where applicable.
	1 Unfavourable – declining	No reason stated
The Wash SSSI	48 Favourable	n/a
	11 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
	1 Unfavourable – declining	No reason stated
North Norfolk Coast SSSI	67 Favourable	n/a
	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
North Norfolk Coast SSSI	67 Favourable	n/a
	3 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a
Morston Cliff	1 Unfavourable - recovering	n/a

Appendix E: Publication 19 Pre-Submission Addendum HRA Screening Summary

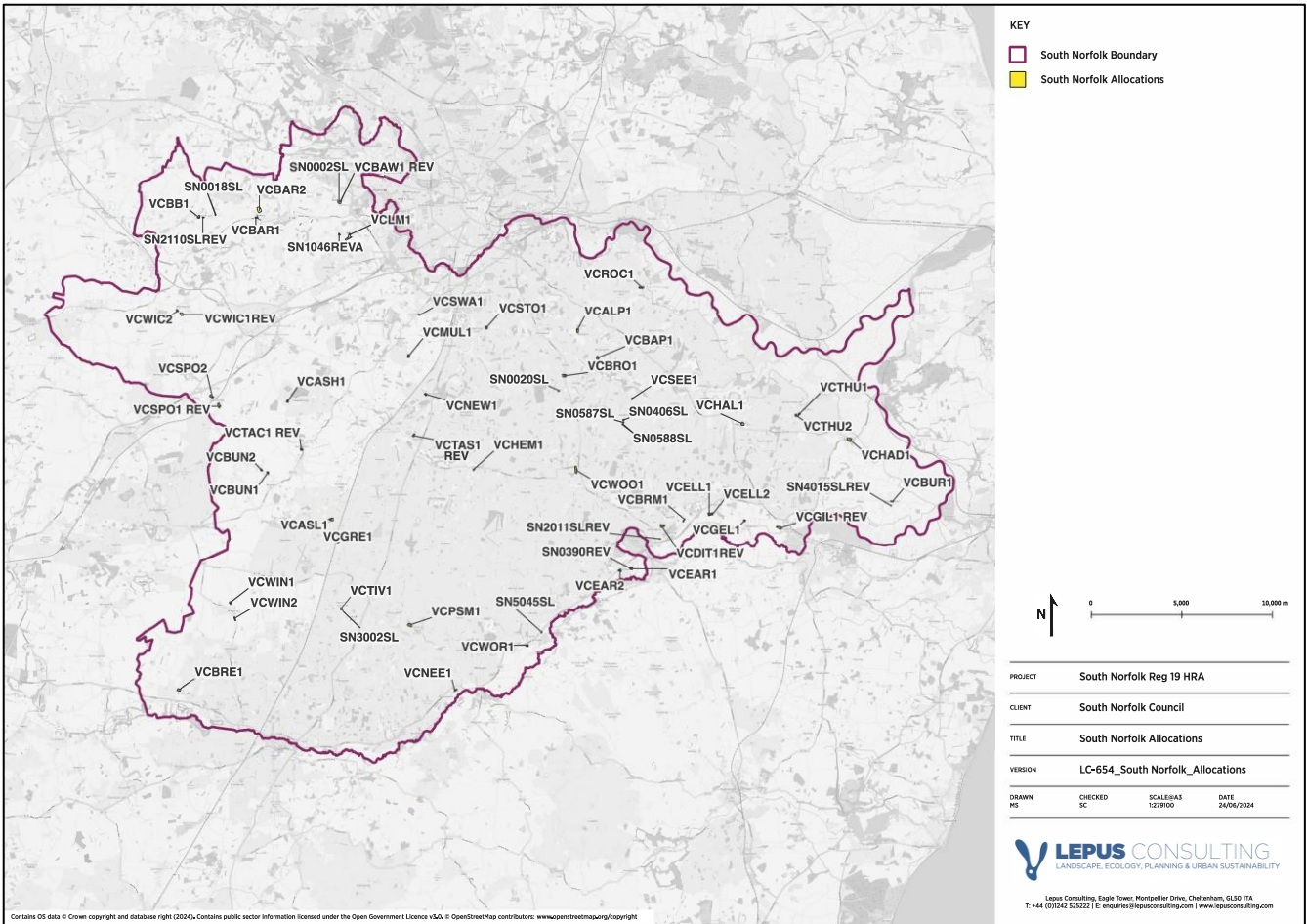


Figure E.1: Allocated sites - Regulation 19 VCHAP

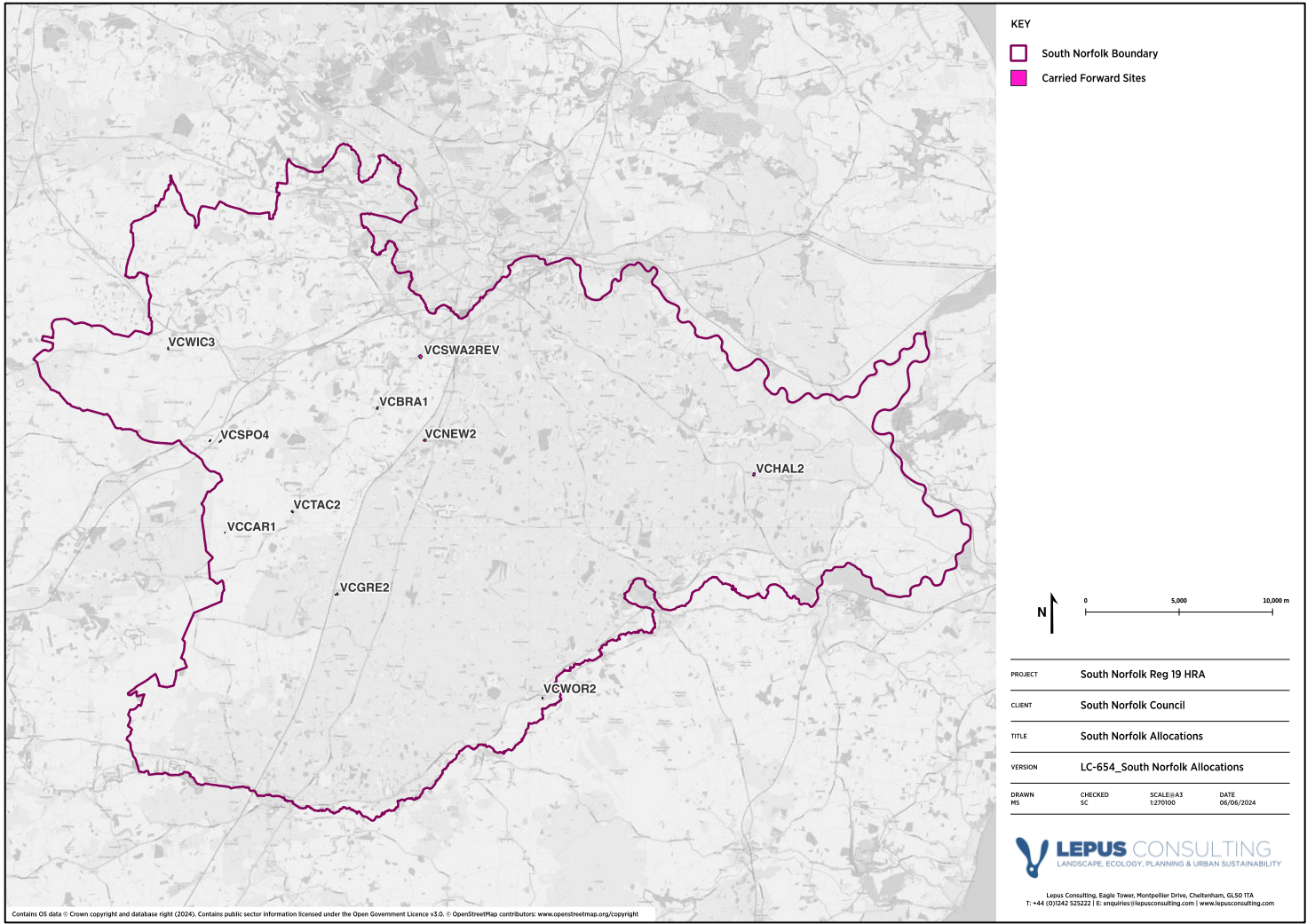


Figure E.2: Carried forward sites - Regulation 19 VCHAP

Table E.1: Pre-screening summary of the Regulation 19 VCHAP

The Plan Objectives

Objective Number	Objective Name	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
SNVC Objective 1	SNVC Objective 1 - Meet housing needs	This objective sets out the requirements to deliver housing in accordance with the GNLP. This policy triggers development with potential for LSEs in-combination with other plans and projects in terms of water quality, public access and disturbance and habitat loss and fragmentation LSEs – Category L.	Screened in.
SNVC Objective 2	SNVC Objective 2 - Protecting village communities and support rural services and facilities	This objective aims to guide housing development to support communities and village facilities and services. It does not trigger any development or change and can therefore be screened out under Category B.	Screened out.
SNVC Objective 3	SNVC Objective 3 - Protect the character of villages and their settings	This objective aims to guide housing development to protect the character of villages and their settings. The policy is positive in nature aiming to protect village character, it does not trigger any development or change and can therefore be screened out under Category D.	Screened out.

Village Cluster Allocations Policies

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
1 – Alburgh and Denton	No Allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screen out.
2 - Alington, Yelverton and Bergh Apton	Policy VC ALP1 - West of Church Meadow, Alington	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads Sites, the Wash sites, the East Coast sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Alington. The closest component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar is more than 4,250m to the east of the site. The A146 and numerous field boundaries separate the allocation from these designations restricting bird sight lines and providing a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
2 - Alington, Yelverton and Bergh Apton	Policy VC BAP1 – Former Concrete Batching	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
	Plant, south of Church Road, Berg Apton		<p>other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads Sites, the Wash sites, the East Coast sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a brownfield site (former concrete batching plant). There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	
3 - Aslacton, Great Moulton and Tibenham	Policy VC ASL1 - Land off Church Road, Aslacton	35 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Aslacton. The closest component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar is more than 22km to the east of the site. Strategic road, rail infrastructure and numerous field boundaries separate the allocation from these designations restricting bird sight lines and providing a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).	
3 - Aslacton, Great Moulton and Tibenham	Policy VC GRE1 - North of High Green, west of Heather Way, Great Moulton	12 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Great Moulton. The closest component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar is more than 22km to the east of the site. Strategic road, rail infrastructure and numerous field boundaries separate the allocation from these designations restricting bird sight lines and providing a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
3 - Aslacton, Great Moulton and Tibenham	Policy VC GRE2 – Land north of High Green opposite White House	14 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
	Farm Bungalow		<p>Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is green field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Great Moulton. The closest component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar is more than 22km to the east of the site. Strategic road, rail infrastructure and numerous field boundaries separate the allocation from these designations restricting bird sight lines and providing a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	
4 - Bardford Barford, Marlingford, Colton and Wramplingham	Policy VC BAR1 – Land at Cock Street and Watton Road Barford	20 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology: This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is part developed (used car sales garage) and part a greenfield surrounded by hedgerow with either road infrastructure or residential development on all sides. It is located in the north of the plan area, a</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			considerable distance from the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).	
4 - Barford Barford, Marlingford, Colton and Wramplingham	Policy VC BAR2 – Land at Chapel Street	40 dwellings	AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VCHAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination. Hydrology: This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in. Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out. Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a greenfield surrounded by hedgerow with residential development to its south. It is located in the north of the plan area, a considerable distance from the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
5 - Barnham Broom, Kimberley, Carleton Forehoe, Runhall and Brandon Parva	Policy VC BB1 – Corner of Norwich Road and Bell Road, Barnham Broom	40 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites, North Coast and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a grassed field bordered to the north, west and east by residential development in Banham Broom. It is located in the north of the plan area, a considerable distance from the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
6 - Bawburgh	Policy VC BAW1 REV - Land to the east of Stocks Hill	35 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites, North Coast and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an agricultural field bordered to the north, west and south by residential development in Bawburgh. It is located in the north of the plan area, a considerable distance from the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	
7 - Bressingham	Policy VC BRE1 - Land east of School Road, Bressingham	40 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Bressingham. It is located in the north of the plan area, a considerable distance from the Broadland SPA / Ramsar, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites.</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).	
8 - Brooke, Kirstead and Howe	Policy VC BRO1 - East and West of the B1332, Norwich Road, Brooke	50 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VCHAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites, East Coast sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of two agricultural fields located either side of Norwich Road immediately adjacent to the developed area of Brooke. It is located in the centre of the plan area, a considerable distance (more than 6km) from the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
9 - Bunwell	Policy VC BUN1 -Land to the north of Bunwell Street, Bunwell	15 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation an agricultural field located to the north of Bunwell Street and the developed area of Bunwell. It is located in the west of the plan area, a considerable distance from the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
9 - Bunwell	Policy VC BUN2 – Land opposite Lilac Farm, Bunwell Street	20 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation an agricultural field located to the north of Bunwell Street and the developed area of Bunwell. It is located in the west of the plan area, a considerable distance from the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
10 - Burston, Shimpling and Gissing	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
11 - Carleton Rode	Policy VC CAR1 – Land west of Rode Lane	5 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation comprises the edge of an agricultural field bordered to the north and east by residential development in Carleton Rode. It is located in the west of the plan area, a considerable distance from the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	
12 - Dickleburgh	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
13 - Ditchingham, Broome, Hedenham and Thwaite	Policy VC DIT1 REV - Land between Thwaite Road and Tunneys Lane	45 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an agricultural field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Ditchingham. It is located in the south of the plan area, approx. 5,000m from the closest component of the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure (A143), existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites. These are likely to restrict bird sight lines and provide a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
13 - Ditchingham, Broome, Hedenham and Thwaite	Policy VC BRM1 – Land west of Old Yarmouth Road, Broome	12 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (the Broads SAC and Broadland SPA) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an agricultural field immediately to the north of Broome. It is located in the south of the plan area, approx. 4km from the closest component of the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and the SAC and SPA sites. These are likely to restrict bird sight lines and provide a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
14 - Earsham	Policy VC EAR1 – Land east of School Road, Earsham	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an agricultural field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Earsham. It is located in the south of the plan area, approx. 7,000m from the closest component of the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure (A143 and A144), existing development and fields between the allocation and the SPA/Ramsar sites. These are likely to restrict bird sight lines and provide a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	
14 - Earsham	Policy VC EAR2 – Land north of The Street, Earsham	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an agricultural field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Earsham. It is located in the south of the plan area, approx. 7.8km from the closest component of the designated sites, with strategic road infrastructure, existing development and fields between the allocation and</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>the SAC/SPA/Ramsar sites. These are likely to restrict bird sight lines and provide a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	
15 - Forncett St Mary and Forncett St Peter	No allocation	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
16 - Gillingham, Geldeston, and Stockton	Policy VC GIL1 REV - South of Geldeston Road and Daisy Way, Gillingham	40 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (such as Broadland SPA and Ramsar, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Gillingham. This allocation is located approximately 660m to the east of the closest component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. Aerial photography indicates a mature hedgerow binds the western border of the site, which is likely to restrict bird sight lines. In addition, there are a number of other fields with hedgerows and minor roads between this allocation and the designated sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).	
16 - Gillingham, Geldeston, and Stockton	Policy VC GEL1 – North of Kell's Way, Geldeston	20 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (such as Broadland SPA and Ramsar, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. There are public rights of way linking this allocation to the closest component of the Broadlands SPA and Broadland Ramsar site (which is 735m to its south). As such alone recreational impacts are also likely. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of a green field with hedgerow boundary immediately adjacent to the developed area of Geldeston. This allocation is located approx. 730m to the north west of the closest component of the Broadland SPA / Ramsar. The village of Geldeston sites between the allocation and the designated sites and is likely to restrict bird sight lines and provide a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
17 - Hales and Heckingham, Langley with Hardley, Carleton St Peter, Claxton,	Policy VC HAL1 - Land off Briar Lane, Hales	35 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (such as Broadland SPA and Ramsar, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
Raveningham and Sisland			<p>Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of a green field with hedgerow boundary immediately adjacent to the developed area of Hales. This allocation lies approximately 1900m to the south of the closest components of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar designations. The settlement of Hales is likely to provide a source of disturbance, there is also a power line and a large number of field boundaries located in between the designated sites and this allocation which are likely to restrict bird slight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	
17 - Hales and Heckingham, Langley with Hardley, Carleton St Peter, Claxton, Raveningham and Sisland	Policy VC HA2 – Land at Yarmouth Road west of Hales Hospital	23 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (such as Broadland SPA and Ramsar, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the East Coast and the Wash sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of a green field with hedgerow boundary immediately adjacent to the developed area of</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>Hales. This allocation lies approximately 2000m to the south of the closest components of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar designations. The settlement of Hales is likely to provide a source of disturbance, there is also a power line and a large number of field boundaries located in between the designated sites and this allocation which are likely to restrict bird flight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	
18 - Hempnall, Topcroft Street, Morningthorpe, Fritton, Shelton and Hardwick	Policy VC HEM1 - Land at Millfields, Hempnall	15 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VCHAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an agricultural field bordered to the north by allotments and to the east by residential development in Hempnall with an access road in the eastern section of the site. The allocation is located in the centre of the plan area a considerable distance from the closest component of the Broadlands SPA and Broadlands Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, agricultural fields and associated hedgerows and existing development between the allocation and designated sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
19 - Heywood	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
20 - Keswick and Intwood	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
21 - Kettingham	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
22 - Kirby Cane and Ellingham	Policy VC ELL1 – South of Mill Road Ellingham	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VCHAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of a field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Ellingham which is likely to provide a source of disturbance. This allocation is located approx. 2,500m to the west of the closest component of the Broadland SPA and Broadland Ramsar. Given this distance there are a number of fields and associated field boundaries between the allocation and designated sites which are likely to restrict bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
22 - Kirby Cane and Ellingham	Policy VC ELL2 - Land at Florence Way, Ellingham	12 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of a field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Ellingham which is likely to provide a source of disturbance. This allocation is located approx. 2,500m to the west of the closest component of the Broadland SPA and Broadland Ramsar. Given this distance there are a number of fields and associated field boundaries between the allocation and designated sites which are likely to restrict bird sight lines. . There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
23 - Little Melton and Great Melton	Policy VC LM1 - South of School Lane and East of Burnthouse Lane, Little Melton	35 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites, North Coast sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is grassed fields surrounded by residential development in Little Melton. This allocation is located in the north west of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closet component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
24 - Morley and Deopham	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
25 - Mulbarton, Bracon Ash, Swardston and East Carleton	Policy – VC MUL1 – Land east of Bluebell Road and north of	35 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
	The Rosery Mulbarton		<p>Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an agricultural field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Mulbarton. This allocation is located in the centre of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closet component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	
25 - Mulbarton, Bracon Ash, Swardeston and East Carleton	Policy VC SWA1 - Land off Bobbins Way, Swardeston	20 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a garden nursery immediately adjacent to the developed area of Swardeston. This allocation is</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			located in the centre of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closet component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).	
25 - Mulbarton, Bracon Ash, Swardeston and East Carleton	Policy VC SWA2 – Land on Main Road	40 dwellings	AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination. Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in. Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out. Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a agricultural land adjacent to the developed area of Swardeston. This allocation is located in the centre of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closet component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).	Screened in.
25 - Mulbarton, Bracon Ash,	Policy BRA1 - Land at Norwich	23 dwellings	AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
Swardeston and East Carleton	Road, Bracon Ash		<p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Brecks sites, the Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a agricultural field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Brecon Ash. This allocation is located in the centre of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closet component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
26 - Needham, Brockdish, Starston and Wortwel	Policy VC NEE1 - Land north of High Road and east of Harmans Lane	15 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites and the Broads sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an agricultural field immediately to the north of Needham. This allocation is located to the south of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closest component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
26 - Needham, Brockdish, Starston and Wortwel	Policy VC WOR1 – North and south of High Road, Wortell	12 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: This allocation is split across two sites on either side of High Road. A review of aerial photography indicates the northern site comprises part of an agricultural field immediately adjacent to Wortell. The southern section of the allocation comprises a previously developed site. This allocation is located to the south of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closet component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
26 - Needham, Brockdish, Starston and Wortwel	Policy VC WOR2 – Land at the junction of High Road and Low Road	5 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of a grassed field immediately to the north of Wortell with mature boundaries. This allocation is located to the south of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closet component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
27 - Newton Flotman and Swainsthorpe	Policy VC NEW1 - Land off Alan Avenue, Newton Flotman	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an agricultural field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Newton Flotman. This allocation is located in the centre of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closet component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	
27 - Newton Flotman and Swainsthorpe	Policy VC NEW2 – Land adjacent to Alan Avenue	31 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is green field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Newton Flotman. This allocation is located in the centre of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closet component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).	
28 - Pulham Market and Pulham St Mary	Policy VC PSM1 - Land north of Norwich Road and west of Poppy's Lane	50 dwellings	AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination. Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in. Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out. Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Pulham St Mary. This allocation is located to the south of the plan area and a considerable distance from the closet component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar. There is a large amount of road infrastructure and existing development between the allocation and designated sites which provides a source of disturbance and limits bird sight lines. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).	Screened in.
29 - Rockland St Mary, Hellington and Holverston	Policy VC ROC1 - Land south of New Inn Hill,	25 dwellings	AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSE have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination. Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
	Rockland St Mary		<p>unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. There are public rights of way linking this allocation to the closest component of the Broadlands SPA and Ramsar site (which is 451m to its north). As such alone recreational impacts are also likely. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Rockland St Mary. This allocation is located approximately 450m to the west of the closest component of the Broadland SPA and Broadland Ramsar. The aerial photography indicates that there are a number of woodland components between the allocation and designated sites. In addition, the surrounding urban development is likely to provide a source of noise disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category J (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	
30 - Roydon	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
31 - Saxlingham Nethergate	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
32 - Scole	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
33 - Seething and Mundham	Policy VC SEE1 - Land West of Mill	12 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VCHAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
	Road, Seething		<p>unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites, East Coast sites and Norfolk Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of a field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Seething. This allocation is located in the centre of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	
34 - Spooner Row and Sutton	Policy VC SPO1 REV - Land west of Bunwell Road, Spooner Row	35 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Spooner Row. This allocation is located to the west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	
34 - Spooner Row and Sutton	<p>Policy VC SPO2</p> <p>Land South of Station Road, Spooner Row</p>	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Spooner Row. This allocation is located to the west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
34 - Spooner Row and Sutton	Policy VC SPO3 – Land at School Lane	7 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Spooner Row. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. This allocation is located to the west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
34 - Spooner Row and Sutton	Policy SPO4 – Land at Chapel Road	14 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Spooner Row. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. This allocation is located to the west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	
35 - Stoke Holy Cross, Shotesham and Caistor St Edmund & Bixley	Policy VC STO1 - Land north of Long Lane	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites, East Coast sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Stoke Holy Cross. This allocation is located towards the centre of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).	
36 - Surlingham, Bramerton and Kirby Bedon	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
37 - Tacolneston and Forncett End	Policy VC TAC1 REV - Land to the west of Norwich Road	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites, the Broads sites, the Wash sites, and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Tacolneston. This allocation is located to the west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
37 - Tacolneston and Forncett End	Policy VC TAC2 – Land adjacent The Fields	20 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSE have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites, the Broads sites, the Wash sites, and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a grassed field bound on all sides by the developed area of Tacolneston. This allocation is located to the west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screened out.
38 - Tasburgh	Policy VS TAS1 – North of Church Road, Tasburgh	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p>	Screened out.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites, the Broads sites, the Wash sites, and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an agricultural field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Tasburgh. This allocation is located towards the centre of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	
39 - Tharston, Hapton and Flordon	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
40 - Thurlton and Norton Subcourse	Policy VC THU1 - Land north of Blacksmiths Gardens, Thurlton	12 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Thurlton which is likely to present a source of disturbance. This allocation is located approximately 2,900m to the south east of the closest component of the Broadland SPA and Broadland Ramsar. There are a number of minor roads, woodland blocks and field hedgerows which would restrict bird site lines between the allocation and designated sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	
40 - Thurlton and Norton Subcourse	Policy VC THU2 - Land adjacent to Holly Cottage, west of Beccles Road, Thurlton	15 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Thurlton which is likely to present a source of disturbance. This allocation is located approximately 2,900m to the south east of the closest component of the Broadland SPA and Broadland Ramsar. There are a number of minor roads, woodland blocks and field hedgerows which would restrict bird site lines between the allocation and designated sites. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
41 - Thurton and Ashby St Mary	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
42 - Tivetshall St Mary and Tivetshall St Margaret	Policy VC TIV1 - Land at Pear Tree Farm, west of The Street	20 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VCHAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of some developed land and fields immediately adjacent to the developed area of Tivetshall. This allocation is located towards the south west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category J (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
43 - Toft Monks, Aldeby, Haddiscoe, Wheatacre and Burgh St Peter	Policy VC HAD1 - Land south of Haddiscoe Manor Farm, Haddiscoe	25 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VCHAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Haddiscoe. This allocation is located approximately 3,700m to the north of the closest component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar designations. There is development, field boundaries and road infrastructure between the allocation and the designated sites which is likely to restrict bird sight lines and also provide a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	
43 - Toft Monks, Aldeby, Haddiscoe, Wheatacre and Burgh St Peter	Policy VC BUR1 – Land north of Staithe Road, Burgh St Peter	12 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites and East Coast sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Burgh St Peter. This</p>	Screen in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			allocation is located approximately 1,500m to the north of the closest component of the Broadland SPA and Ramsar designations. There are woodland blocks, field boundaries and road infrastructure between the allocation and the designated sites which is likely to restrict bird sight lines and also provide a source of disturbance. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).	
44 - Wacton	No allocations	n/a	This section of the VCHAP cannot lead to development or other change and is therefore screened out under Category F.	Screened out.
45 - Wicklewood	Policy VC WIC1 REV - Land to the south of Wicklewood Primary School	40 dwellings	AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination. Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in. Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites, North Coasts sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out. Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Wicklewood. This allocation is located towards the north west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out. This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
45 - Wicklewood	Policy VC WIC2 - Land off Hackford Road	12 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites, North Coasts sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Wicklewood. This allocation is located towards the north west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screened in.
45 - Wicklewood	Policy VC WIC2 – Land at Hackford Road	6 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites, North Coast sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is a field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Wicklewood. This allocation is located towards the north west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	
46 - Winfarthing and Shelfanger	Policy VC WIN1 - Land west of Hall Road, Winfarthing	20 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites and Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Winfarthing. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. This allocation is located towards the south west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
			<p>closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	
46 - Winfarthing and Shelfanger	Policy VC WIN2 - Land off Mill Road	20 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Norfolk Brecks sites the Broads sites and Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Winfarthing. This allocation is located towards the south west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
47 - Woodton and Bedingham	Policy VC WOO1 - Land south of Church Road, Woodton	50 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC, Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are unlikely and have been screened out. The site is however located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs in-combination on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the Broads sites, the Wash, East Coast sites and Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is comprised of an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Woodton. This allocation is located towards the centre of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance) and Category L (hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
48 - Wrenningham, Ashwellthorpe and Fundenhall	Policy VC ASH1 - Land west of New Road, Ashwellthorpe	15 dwellings	<p>AQ: Given scale of development proposed in the VHCAP, air quality LSEs have been screened out for all policies alone and / or in-combination.</p> <p>Hydrology. This allocation is not located in the River Wensum SAC hydrological catchment but is within the Broads SAC or Broadland Ramsar hydrological catchment (see Appendix A) and therefore nutrient enrichment LSEs are likely and have been screened in. The site is also potentially located in the hydrological catchment for other Habitats sites (Broadland SPA, Breydon Water SPA and Breydon Water Ramsar) and possible issues may include in-combination contaminated surface run off and /or increased demand for water. LSEs alone on hydrology have therefore been screened in.</p> <p>Public access and disturbance: This allocation is located within the North Brecks sites, Broads sites, the Wash sites and the Norfolk Valley Fens sites recreational ZOIs for residential development (see Section 6.5 of main HRA report for more information on recreational ZOIs). As such, in-combination recreational LSEs have been screened in. The site is located more than 400m from any Habitats site and therefore urbanisation impacts are screened out.</p> <p>Habitat loss and fragmentation: A review of aerial photography indicates that this allocation is an arable field immediately adjacent to the developed area of Ashwellthorpe. This allocation is located towards the west of the plan area. There is a large amount of road infrastructure, existing development and field boundaries and hedgerows between the site and closest component of the SPA and Ramsar. There is unlikely to be loss of functionally linked / supporting habitat associated with any Habitats site. Likely significant habitat loss and fragmentation impacts have therefore been screened out.</p> <p>This policy is screened in under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screened in.

Village Cluster Number and Name	Policy Number and Name	Other relevant information	Pre-Screening for LSE	Pre-Screening Conclusion
Settlement boundaries	n/a	n/a	<p>The VCHAP defines Settlement Limits for the villages within the above 48 village clusters, making provision for further smaller sites and incorporating revisions to reflect development that has occurred, or has been permitted since the boundaries were last updated.</p> <p>Settlement Limit Extensions are for sites smaller than 12 dwellings, and will not count towards the 1,200 dwelling requirement, but will help ensure that the 'windfall allowance' in the GNLP is achieved.</p> <p>Any windfall development has the potential to have a LSE upon habitats sites which are hydrologically linked to the plan area or within recreational zones of influence. The exact location and nature of windfall development is unknown at this stage. Taking a precautionary approach, such extensions to settlement boundaries have been screened into the HRA process for further consideration under Category I (recreational disturbance and hydrology).</p>	Screen in



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