

North Somerset Council
Local Development Framework

Core Strategy

**Habitats Regulations
Assessment Report**

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Habitats Regulations Assessment Report

North Somerset Council Core Strategy

April 2016

Executive summary, including summary of latest changes to the HRA in response to Natural England comments

ES1.0 What is this report about?

- ES1.1 This report documents Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) work which has been carried out on the Core Strategy for North Somerset at all its stages of preparation.
- ES1.2 Screening has occurred at the various stages of the Core Strategy, taking account of any changes to the levels of development proposed, and the HRA has been updated at each stage. The council has worked closely with Natural England throughout, and has consulted them on each revision of the HRA. The council has taken account of comments made by Natural England at each revision.
- ES1.3 A revision to the Core Strategy in September 2014 raised the housing requirement to 20,985 dwelling for 2006-2026. This followed re-examination of policy CS13 of the Core Strategy, and in June 2015 the HRA report was updated (with purple text), in consideration of that raised housing requirement, and sent to Natural England to comment.
- ES1.4 This housing requirement was endorsed by Brandon Lewis, Minister of State for Housing and Planning in a letter of 18 September 2015, and is now part of the development plan. (Note that the housing requirement will be reviewed within three years, by the end of 2018, and the Joint Spatial Strategy 2016-2036 will identify a new North Somerset housing requirement.)
- ES1.5 At each revision of the Core Strategy, including the raising of the housing requirement to 20,985 dwellings, and subsequent updating of the HRA, the council has concluded that, with appropriate mitigation measures specified in the HRA, there would not be likely significant effects (LSEs) on European sites.
- ES1.6 Natural England have accepted these assessments, but have stressed the importance of the mitigation measures specified in the screening matrices, and have particularly stressed this point regarding the increased housing requirement to 20,985 dwellings.
- ES1.7 Following liaison with Natural England, the council made further amendments to the HRA, which are incorporated in this final version. The amendments can be summarised as follows:
- Reference to the need for more detailed HRA of the emerging Site Allocations Plan particularly regarding the potential for effects of development on bats associated with the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC, recognising that the Core Strategy provisions would be likely to translate into specific housing allocations in that plan.
 - Reference to the need to prepare guidance for development which could potentially impact on the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC. (The following has been added at relevant points in the matrices: "Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared. More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, which will cover specific site allocations".)

- Reference to the need for implementation of avoidance and/or mitigation measures for a proposed coastal path near the Severn Estuary SPA/Ramsar site, regarding potential impacts from recreation.

ES1.8 The HRA has also now been updated (green text in the main body of this report) to take account of proposed consequential changes to remitted policies CS16, CS14, CS19, CS28, CS30, CS31, CS32 and CS33 which were subject to public consultation in autumn 2015. They were considered to be necessary to ensure delivery of the provisions of policy CS13, relating to the housing requirement. Where relevant the implications of these changes are considered in the assessment matrices in Appendix C, and have been added to the rows of purple text, since they relate to the raised housing requirement.

ES1.9 Again the updated HRA concludes that, with appropriate mitigation, the revised Core Strategy, with the increased housing requirement and the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies would not have likely significant effects on European sites.

Detail

1.0 Introduction.

- 1.1 This report documents the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) work which has been carried out on the North Somerset Core Strategy, which forms part of the North Somerset Local Development Framework. The relevant regulations are the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, which relate to Articles 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive.
- 1.2 Screening work has been undertaken at each stage/revision of the Core Strategy, taking account of any changes to the levels of development proposed. Screening considers whether policies in the Core Strategy are likely to have significant effects on the integrity of European Sites having regard to their conservation objectives. Screening determines whether an Appropriate Assessment is necessary, under section 102 of the above regulations.
- 1.3 "European sites" are Natura 2000 sites. They include Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar sites, under the EC Birds and Habitats Directives.
- 1.4 Consistent with the regulations, the screening exercises have taken account of whether significant effects are likely from the Core Strategy alone, and also whether in-combination effects are likely (taking account of other plans and projects in combination with the Core Strategy).

2.0 North Somerset Core Strategy-summary of progress of the plan and its HRA

- 2.1 The Core Strategy is part of the emerging North Somerset Local Development Framework and sets out strategic planning policies for the district up to 2026. It is a strategic, not a detailed document. The HRA has been at an appropriate level of detail for this high level document. More

detailed plans such as the Site Allocations Plan are emerging and will need to be subject to separate HRA.

- 2.2 A Consultation Draft version of the Core Strategy was subject to public consultation in November 2009. A Publication version was produced for public consultation in February 2011. Screening was carried out at both stages. Modifications to the plan were proposed in January 2012, and an assessment was made as to whether they would have likely significant effects (LSEs) on European sites. No LSEs were predicted, subject to appropriate mitigation, at any of these stages. The Core Strategy was adopted in April 2012.
- 2.3 The 2009 Consultation Draft, 2011 Publication and 2012 adopted versions of the Core Strategy can be seen at the following links: [Consultation Draft Plan](#) [Publication version](#) [Adopted Core Strategy](#).
- 2.4 However, following a legal challenge to the Core Strategy, and remittance of policy CS13 on the housing number, and some other policies, for re-examination, the council recommended changes to the Core Strategy relating to housing numbers, including raising the housing requirement from 14,000 to 17,130 for 2006-2026, and advertised them for consultation in November 2013 for six weeks. Further information on this is in this [Consultation Statement](#).
- 2.5 The council updated the HRA by considering whether those changes would be likely to have LSEs, and concluded that, subject to appropriate mitigation, they would not.
- 2.6 However following hearings in March 2014, the Inspector produced his Report, indicating that the increase in the housing target was not sufficient. As a result of the Inspector's findings the council published proposed main modifications to the Core Strategy in September 2014, raising the housing requirement to a minimum of 20,985 dwellings for 2006-2026, but stating that the appropriate level of new homes will be reviewed by 2018 in the light of the new West of England Strategic Housing Market Assessment which was being prepared in conjunction with other relevant authorities in the West of England sub region. These proposed main modifications were advertised for consultation for six weeks, and further hearings were held in January 2015. In March 2015 the Inspector reported on his consideration of Policy CS13 and concluded that the housing requirement should be 20,985 dwellings for 2006-2026. However, the Secretary of State subsequently indicated that he would be formally intervening in the process to review and consider the Inspector's conclusions, and that this would be subject to the Secretary of State's approval. The housing requirement of 20,985 dwellings was eventually endorsed by the Minister of State for Housing and Planning in a letter of 18 September 2015, and is now part of the Development Plan.
- 2.7 In spring 2015 the council undertook further screening and updating of the HRA of the Core Strategy (shown by purple text) considering whether the increase in the housing requirement from 17,130 to 20,985 for 2006-2026 would be likely to have LSEs on European sites. Natural England commented on this update, and advocated changes which have now been incorporated, as indicated in the Executive summary above.

- 2.8 (Note that any new housing figure arising from the review in 2018 would be likely to be for a longer period to 2036, and likely to be subject to a separate process of HRA. Review in 2018 will reflect the Joint Spatial Plan for West of England, which is timetabled for adoption in early 2018).
- 2.9 Following the approval of the increased housing requirement, regarding policy CS13, the council went on to propose consequential changes to eight other remitted policies of the Core Strategy: CS6 (Green Belt), CS14 (Distribution of new housing), CS19 (Strategic gaps), CS28 (Weston super Mare), CS30 (Weston Villages), CS31 (Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead), CS32 (Service Villages) and CS33 (Smaller settlements and countryside). The consequential changes were advertised for public consultation in autumn 2015, and the consultation document can be seen at this [link](#), which explains the background to the changes: the fact that following the legal challenge, policy CS13 on the housing number was remitted back to the Planning Inspectorate for re-examination, but the Judge also concluded that there were a number of other policies which should be remitted on the grounds that any increase in the total housing provision may result in the need for alterations to other policies. The Judge emphasised that even if further housing provision will need to be made it is most unlikely to affect all the policies remitted, the other remitted policies are perfectly lawful and are remitted simply because of the possibility that they may need a consequential amendment that can be accommodated through the examination process. The Judge stated that there is nothing unlawful per se about these other policies and that they can still be accorded appropriate weight in any decision making”.
- 2.10 This HRA report has been further updated to take account of those consequential changes, with relevant text added in green type in the main body of this report, and where relevant, updating of the purple text in the assessment matrices.

3.0 How has the HRA been carried out?

- 3.1 The HRA work has been carried out by the Council, (including Planning Policy officers and the Council’s Ecologist), with the help of consultants (Halcrow) who were commissioned to provide expertise on technical matters, notably air quality.
- 3.2 Natural England have been involved throughout, and have attended progress meetings. These meetings agreed the scope of the exercise and the format of the screening matrices to be used. It was agreed that all four European Sites within North Somerset district, (the Severn Estuary SAC/ SPA/ Ramsar, Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC, North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC and Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC) should be considered in the assessment. Details on these European sites are shown in Appendix A, including their qualifying interests and conservation objectives.
- 3.3 The screening exercises have been undertaken using Screening Assessment Matrices covering potential sources of effects, and taking account of Air Quality Assessment Matrices covering possible effects on air quality.
- 3.4 At each stage, in completing the Screening Assessment matrices, officers initially categorised each Core Strategy policy on whether (without

considering any avoidance/mitigation measures) the policy seemed potentially likely to have a significant effect on the relevant European site, alone or in combination etc. (See third column of Screening Assessment matrices in Appendix C). In doing so they used the categories recommended in Natural England guidance on carrying out HRA. Eg. B: No significant effect, C: Likely significant effect alone, etc. That guidance is Revised Draft Guidance: The Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents, (David Tyldesley and Associates for Natural England, January 2009.)

- 3.5 Potential possible impacts were considered, and following consideration of these, and potential avoidance/mitigation measures, the policies were then reassessed and re-categorised where appropriate, assuming that avoidance/mitigation measures would be carried out. (See penultimate column of Screening Assessment matrices in Appendix C). Consideration was also given (in the final column of the matrices) to whether further HRA might be required, notably at the project level (planning application stage).
- 3.6 Halcrow produced detailed Air Quality Assessment matrices in respect of policies which were considered likely to have possible effects regarding air quality. (See Appendix D. The methodology is set out at the end of that appendix). The Air Quality assessment matrices were then used to help complete the impacts section of the Screening Assessment matrices, cross referring where appropriate.
- 3.7 Also, since it was considered that there might be potential for in-combination effects relating to air quality (from emissions from road traffic and point sources such as energy from waste plants), Halcrow carried out further work on this. They considered whether there would be such in-combination effects, looking at the Core Strategy alongside other projects and plans. That assessment is in table 15 towards the end of Appendix D.

4.0 Summary of the HRA findings at the various stages of the Plan

Consultation Draft stage

- 4.1 The high level assessment of the 2009 Consultation Draft Core Strategy found that, with avoidance/mitigation measures, no significant effects were predicted on European sites, either alone or in combination. The level of housing development proposed in the Consultation Draft Core Strategy was approximately 17,750 dwellings, 2006-2026.
- 4.2 That assessment was sent to Natural England, for comment, in September 2010. Natural England replied in a letter of 27 October 2010, stating that they were "in general agreement" with the assessment's findings. However they noted that the HRA related to the Consultation Draft version and advised that the HRA should be updated in due course so that it relates to the Publication version of the document.

Publication stage

- 4.3 Accordingly, following production of the Publication version of the Core Strategy, the Council updated the HRA. A table was produced identifying the main changes to policies made between the Consultation Draft and Publication stages, and their implications; (See Appendix B). The main changes were a reduction in the levels of development to be accommodated in the district (notably a new housing requirement of a minimum of 13,400

dwellings for 2006-2026 relating to a locally derived housing requirement rather than the South West Regional Spatial Strategy). The Publication version policies were assessed using the Screening Assessment matrices in Appendix C, by the insertion of rows in red type.

- 4.4 Screening assessment of the Publication version found that no likely significant effects (LSEs) would result from the changes it introduced.
- 4.5 In updating the HRA to take account of the Publication version, the Council responded to points made by Natural England. We amended the Screening Assessment matrices to indicate what mechanisms may underpin delivery of certain avoidance/mitigation measures. We also added specific reference to such measures in the Core Strategy itself, stressing the importance of their delivery, in paragraph 1.10.

January 2012 Proposed Modifications stage

- 4.6 Our subsequent assessment of the January 2012 proposed modifications to the Core Strategy similarly found no LSEs on European sites. That part of the HRA can be seen at [HRA of Jan 2012 proposed mods to Core Strategy](#). The main modification to the plan regarding housing numbers was a slight increase in housing requirement from a minimum of 13,400 to 14,000 to correct an error in the locally derived housing requirement. (The latter figure was in the subsequently adopted Core Strategy.)

November 2013 changes

- 4.7 The HRA was further updated to take account of the November 2013 changes for Core Strategy policies, notably the proposed increase in housing number from 14,000 to a minimum of 17,130 for 2006-2026, a figure less than the 17,750 dwellings that was in the Consultation Draft plan. This updating included addition of rows in blue text to the matrices in Appendix C.
- 4.8 This stage of updating involved further discussions with the Council's Ecologist and with Natural England. It was recognised that time had elapsed between the identification of mitigation measures at earlier stages of HRA, particularly the HRA of the Consultation Draft plan, completed in September 2010. Therefore, in response to a request by Natural England, we considered whether those mitigation measures were still relevant, in consultation with the Council's Ecologist.
- 4.9 In most cases the measures were considered to still be relevant, (as indicated in blue in the matrix) although in some cases it was felt that, on reflection, some measures mentioned may not be necessary, and a note was added to the matrix to explain why. For example, this was done for policy CS20 (on supporting a successful economy) concerning the Severn Estuary site, regarding the mitigation measure of promotion of non-car modes of transport. (We realised that the air quality assessment predicted no significant air quality-related impacts on Severn Estuary habitats.)
- 4.10 Discussions with the Ecologist suggest that in some cases factors outside the Core Strategy may be potential causes of impacts on European Sites, factors over which the Core Strategy has little influence. An example is the potential for inappropriate grazing of land in the Mendip Grasslands SAC, affecting the ability of rare plants to thrive. For such impacts appropriate mitigation might include promotion of education of farmers and landowners, and perhaps

encouraging them to take up agri-environment schemes, so that appropriate grazing schemes are implemented.

September 2014 change (raising of housing requirement to 20,985 dwellings)

- 4.11 We carried out further updating of the HRA, which considered the increase in the housing requirement from 17,130 to 20,985 dwellings, for 2006-2026, and whether that would have likely significant effects (LSEs) on European sites. The updating can be seen by the purple text in this report, including the addition of rows of purple text in the Appendix C matrices. The housing increase is referred to as the proposed September 2014 change, although the increase was more recently endorsed in the Inspector’s report, and then by the Secretary of State.
- 4.12 This updating process has taken account of liaison with Natural England, and included updating of the citation and conservation objectives of the European sites to include the latest information, as shown in Appendix A, and consideration of Site Improvement Plans (SIPs) for European sites, as shown in Appendix E. It has also included updating of consideration of in-combination effects, having regard to the latest (Scottish) guidance on HRA, as shown in Appendix F.
- 4.13 However it has been difficult to update the HRA insofar as, so far, only policy CS13, on the housing number, has been re-examined. Policies concerning broad distribution/location of dwellings (such as CS14 etc.) were remitted for re-examination but have not yet been re-examined.
- 4.14 In June 2015 when the HRA was updated regarding the 20,985 dwellings, and sent to Natural England for comment, we did not know for certain how the increased housing requirement will be distributed. However, for the purposes of updating the HRA, we assumed that the broad pattern of distribution of the increased housing number would be similar to that as for the 17,130 dwellings, and that the principles underlying that distribution, (which were set out in policy CS14 in the adopted plan), would continue to apply. (Note that the November 2013 main modifications to the Core Strategy which proposed the 17,130 dwellings also did not propose change to the principles set out in policy CS14, in relation to the adopted plan.)
- 4.15 The assumption that the broad distribution would be similar to that for the 17,130 dwellings has in fact been borne out by figures the council subsequently produced, as shown in Table 1 below, in preparing proposed consequential changes to remitted policies in autumn 2015.

Table 1

Area	Net additional dwellings 2006-2026, as proposed in Nov 2013 main modifications to the Core Strategy	Net additional dwellings 2006–2026, as proposed in proposed amendments to policy CS14; (in advertised “Proposed amendments to the other remitted policies” of the Core Strategy).
Weston urban area (excluding Weston Villages)	5,136 (30%)	6,459 (30.7%)

Weston Villages	5,800 (34%)	6,500 (31%)
Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead	4,180 (24%)	4,976 (23.7%)
Service Villages	1,168 (7%)	1861 (8.8%)
Other settlements and countryside	846 (5%)	1,189 (5.6%)
Total	17,130	20,985

- 4.16 The relevant principles of policy C14 which it was assumed would continue to apply, were notably that Weston super Mare would be the focus for residential development in the district, including the strategic allocation at Weston Villages, and that outside Weston most additional development will occur in the towns of Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead, with, in all cases priority given to reuse of previously developed land. Also that new housing development must not conflict with environmental protection, Green Belt, nature conservation or any other relevant policies of the Development Plan, and should provide any necessary mitigating or compensatory measures to address any adverse implications. (This assumption has again now been borne out in the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies in autumn 2015, which do not propose change to policy CS14 except for the housing figures themselves and retain all the written text, including the above principles. The HRA further considers the proposed consequential changes towards the end of this report).
- 4.17 It was considered that the above principles, particularly the focus for residential development on Weston, then the other towns, and so on, and especially the priority to reuse of previously developed land, would help reduce the likelihood of the increased housing requirement of 20,985 dwellings affecting European sites
- 4.18 It was also considered significant that much of that increased housing requirement (for 2006-26) has been built, is under construction and/or has planning permission, and the residual number for which sites needs to be identified is relatively small. Again this has been borne out by figures produced by the council in the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies, autumn 2015. (See Table 2 below)

Table 2

a) Housing target for 2006-2026	20,985 dwellings
b) Dwelling completions 2006-2015	7,426
c) Permissions (full or outline consent, or resolution to grant permission subject to a legal agreement)	6,558
d) Allocations (comprises capacity remaining on residential allocations in NSRLP and Core Strategy Weston Villages strategic allocation, totalling 1,472 dwellings, plus 2,025 dwellings in the Sites and Policies Plan Consultation Draft Feb 2013 proposed for carrying	3,497

forward)	
e) Other identified sites (previously developed sites consistent with spatial strategy with no significant constraints and reasonable prospect of development)	589
f) Windfall (a windfall allowance has been calculated in line with national guidance, based on annual average for plan period so far reduced to allow for previous developments on garden land. The expected quantum is scaled up for remaining plan period, reduced re small sites with permission, to avoid double counting.)	1,200
Total a) to f) inclusive	19,270
Shortfall in relation to housing target, for which sites need to be identified for remaining 11 years of plan period	1,715

4.19 Indeed, the consultation document on the proposed consequential changes (paragraph 25) indicate that the residual figure of 1,715 is a “relatively small” size of shortfall (7%) to be accommodated in relation to the overall housing requirement, and could be delivered in whole or in part through site allocations.

4.20 The actual location of the residual dwellings will depend on more detailed plans, notably the emerging Site Allocations Plan, which will include housing allocations. That plan will be subject to more detailed HRA. At this more strategic level of HRA, for the Core Strategy, assessment of the likely implications of the housing increase has not been easy. However screening has been undertaken, as indicated by the addition of rows of purple text in the matrices.

4.21 Screening largely shows that, without mitigation, similar impacts on European sites to those identified at previous stages of the Core Strategy and HRA would be likely, such as the potential impact of development on foraging areas for greater and lesser horseshoe bats, particularly regarding artificial lighting, and the potential for increased recreational pressure on the Mendip Limestone Grasslands and Severn Estuary sites. However, again, notwithstanding the housing increase, with appropriate mitigation, as identified in the matrices, no LSEs (likely significant effects) are predicted.

4.22 Since the same potential impacts are largely identified, the purple text in the matrices largely includes mitigation measures referred to in earlier stages of HRA. For example for the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC, measures such as control of lighting and where appropriate, retention of dark corridors, etc., are again referred to. (Note that such measures have been particularly fully explored, in liaison with Natural England, through the Weston Villages Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which has been subject to its own HRA.)

- 4.23 However we have also added additional information on potential impacts and mitigation to the matrices where appropriate. This partly reflects liaison with Natural England, notably on Site Improvement Plans (SIPs) for European sites. For instance, regarding policy CS13 on the housing number, there is new text in the mitigation column referring to the draft SIP for the Severn Estuary, and measures within it which would be likely to help address recreational pressure; eg. consideration of potential for a strategic approach to visitor management, including appropriate zonation to protect undisturbed areas.
- 4.24 We have also considered the SIP for the North Somerset and Mendip Bats site, which promotes the production and promotion of guidance on development control and strategic planning to help address the possible impacts of development on the SAC. A specific section on the SIP has been added to this report as Appendix E. Relevant to this, and in response to consultation with Natural England (both on this HRA and the Sites and Policies Plan Part 1 Development Management Policies Publication Version, February 2015) the council is working with Natural England towards producing guidance for development regarding the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC.
- 4.25 Also in updating the HRA, we have looked again at the potential for in-combination impacts, taking account of other projects and plans, as indicated in Appendix F. In so doing we have taken the advice of Natural England and considered the most up to date guidance on HRA, for Scotland. We have had regard to HRA reports produced for the other projects and plans, and the mitigation measures they advocate, together with the mitigation measures in this report. Taking account of this, we have concluded that, notwithstanding the housing increase to 290,985 dwellings, assuming those mitigation measures would be implemented, there would not be significant in-combination effects on the European sites.
- 4.26 Relevance of lower tier work
The Core Strategy is a high level, strategic document, and this HRA is appropriately at a high, relatively non-detailed level. It is likely that HRA of lower tier plans, and particularly HRA at project (planning application) level would be more detailed. For instance, Natural England have drawn the council's attention to the fact that the England Coast Path: Aust (in South Gloucestershire) to Brean Down stretch, currently being planned and due to be rolled out in 2017, is likely to be subject to a project level HRA. Natural England is gathering relevant evidence to inform the project level HRA for the route, including the location of and status of high tide bird roosts. That evidence is also likely to be relevant to HRA of the Site Allocations Plan.
- 4.27 The above points (purple ordinary text) were in the updated HRA report that was sent to Natural England in June 2015. However, Natural England responded indicating that further changes were needed, relating to mitigation for possible impacts on the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC and the Severn Estuary site, and they have now been incorporated below and in the Screening Assessment matrices as underlined purple italics text.
- 4.28 *It is acknowledged that the Core Strategy is a high level document, which only gives the broad distribution of housing (numbers) between different categories of settlement, and does not make site specific allocations. This means that assessment of the impacts of development can only be at a*

certain level, and there is generally less scope for detailed assessment than at lower tiers (such as with site allocation plans, or at project level.) The HRA, and the mitigation measures identified, reflect this. However the Core Strategy provisions would translate into specific housing allocations in the emerging Site Allocations Plan , and that plan would be subject to HRA, so any potential adverse effects on the integrity of European sites would be further avoided by appropriate mitigation measures to be identified in that plan, as a result of its HRA. This would be in addition to any HRAs carried out at the planning application level (project level).

- 4.29 This point is particularly noteworthy regarding possible impacts on the Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC (the Bats SAC) because the precise location of development could be significant regarding impact on horseshoe bats, (regarding possible impacts of lighting and foraging space near important roosts, for example.) Therefore appropriate reference has been added to the assessment matrices, regarding this site. As indicated above, the council is working with Natural England towards preparation of guidance on development regarding potential for impacts on the Bats SAC. Reference to this has also been added to the matrices.
- 4.30 The potential for the revised Core Strategy to have potential impacts on the Severn Estuary, regarding recreational pressure and impact on birds, without appropriate mitigation, is referred to in this HRA. As indicated above, ensuring that the proposed coastal path between Aust and Brean Down is appropriately located and designed relative to important bird roosts is relevant to this. The council recognises the importance of this and that of the implementation of the avoidance and/or mitigation measures for the coastal path, including ongoing maintenance and monitoring regimes. Reference to this has been added to the assessment matrices.

Consideration of proposed consequential changes to the other remitted policies, autumn 2015

- 4.31 As indicated in paragraph 2.9 above, in the light of approval of the housing requirement of 20,985 dwellings, in autumn 2015 the council produced proposed consequential changes to the eight other remitted policies, including policy CS14 on housing distribution, CS6 (Green Belt), CS19 (strategic gaps), CS28 (Weston super Mare), CS30 Weston Villages, CS31 (Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead), CS32 (Service Villages) and CS33 (Smaller settlements and countryside). The council advertised the proposed consequential changes for public consultation in autumn 2015. Comments received will be considered by the Inspector who will undertake the re-examination of those policies.
- 4.32 The HRA has now been further updated to consider the implications of the proposed consequential changes, (in green text here in the main body of this report, and where relevant, by updating of the purple text in the assessment matrices.)
- 4.33 The consultation document on the proposed consequential changes indicates that amendments to the other remitted policies are only required as a consequence of the increase in the housing requirement. Other than for some changes to housing figures in four policies CS14 (housing distribution) CS28

(Weston super Mare), CS30 (Weston Villages), CS31 (Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead), no changes to the remitted policies are proposed, and no changes at all are proposed for the other four policies: CS6 (Green Belt) CS19 (strategic gaps), CS32 (Service Villages) and CS33 (Smaller settlements and countryside). For instance, policy CS6 still states that Green Belt boundaries will remain unchanged during the plan period. The proposed consequential changes indicate that the “2014 SHLAA demonstrates that sufficient sites in sustainable locations can be identified to meet the new housing requirement without using Green Belt. Exceptional circumstances have not been met to justify any change from national Green Belt policy”. Protection of Green Belt is potentially likely to have benefits for European sites, notably the Avon Gorge Woodlands and the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SACs because they are located, or have component SSSIs, within the Green Belt.

- 4.34 Protection of strategic gaps has potentially less relevance to European sites since while policy CS19 (supporting text) identifies possible locations for investigation for strategic gaps, none of them have component SSSIs for European sites in the broad vicinity, and detailed designation of strategic gaps is a task for the Site Allocations Plan.
- 4.35 As indicated above, the proposed consequential changes to Policy CS14 on distribution of new housing leave its wording unchanged from that of the plan adopted in 2012, (and indeed from later versions of the Core Strategy) except for amended housing figures. Table 3 below shows how those amended figures compare to those in the plan adopted in 2012.

Table 3

Area	Net additional dwellings 2006–2026, as proposed in policy CS14 of previously adopted Core Strategy	Net additional dwellings 2006–2026, as proposed in proposed amendments to policy CS14; (in advertised “Proposed amendments to the other remitted policies” of the Core Strategy).
Weston urban area (excluding Weston Villages)	3,458 (24.7%)	6,459 (30.7%)
Weston Villages	5,500 (39.3%)	6,500 (31%)
Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead	3,715 (26.5%)	4,976 (23.7%)
Service Villages	805 (5.75%)	1861 (8.8%)
Other settlements and countryside	522 (3.7%)	1,189 (5.6%)
Total	14,000	20,985

- 4.36 While the housing figures increase, it should be noted that many of the dwellings are already either built, have planning permission, or are already allocated. Also the percentages suggest that the broad pattern of distribution would remain similar.

- 4.37 The distribution reflects the unchanged spatial strategy which is based on well-established sustainability principles, focussing most growth at the principal settlement of Weston super Mare, then the three towns, the service villages, and lastly infill villages and countryside locations. This spatial hierarchy prioritises growth at the most sustainable settlement categories and has been tested through Sustainability Appraisal undertaken at regular stages through the plan making process.
- 4.38 The focus of development mainly on the towns, particularly Weston super Mare, and the continued giving of “priority to re-use of previously developed land”, (policy CS14) should minimise the potential for development to affect European sites. This is particularly the case given that policy CS14 still retains the wording that “in all cases, new housing development must not conflict with environmental protection, Green Belt, nature conservation or any other relevant policies of the Development Plan, and should provide any necessary mitigating or compensatory measures to address any adverse implications.” Policy CS14 demonstrates that the housing requirement of 20,985 dwellings can be delivered over the plan period without change to the existing policy framework.
- 4.39 Similarly while the proposed consequential changes increase the housing figure in policy CS28 for Weston super Mare (including Weston Villages) for 2011-2026 from 6,913 (adopted plan) to 10,914, the policy retains relevant text which again would be likely to reduce any impact on European sites, such as priority to development of previously developed land, and enhancement of green infrastructure and biodiversity, including woodland areas and the rhynes network. The policy continues to focus development in the town at the town centre and gateway, where the emphasis is on the regeneration of a range of key sites to stimulate investment, and at Weston Villages, which has been subject to preparation of a detailed Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) that has been subject to thorough HRA in consultation with Natural England. As indicated in the assessment matrices, mitigation measures identified include provision/retention of dark corridors for horseshoe bats. Policy CS8 also states that no strategic development will be permitted to the east of the M5 motorway.
- 4.40 Weston Villages are also subject to their own specific remitted policy CS30 for which the only proposed change is an increase in their housing figure from about 5,500 in the adopted plan to about 6,500 dwellings, and again many have been built, are being built, or have planning permission. The policy retains text which should help to reduce impact on bats, reflecting the HRA work on the SPD, including reference to green corridors to be “linked through development allowing wildlife movement and access to open space, wetlands and water corridors linking through development, including the retention and enhancement of existing rhynes where appropriate”.
- 4.41 For policy CS31 on Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead the only proposed changes are increases in the numbers of dwellings for 2006-26, which for Clevedon is a rise from 454 (adopted plan) to 812, for Nailsea a rise from 210 to 917, and for Portishead a rise from 3,051 to 3,247. Again many of the dwellings have been built, are being built or have planning consent, and the policy retains text which should help to reduce any potential impacts on European sites, for example: “residential development within the settlement boundaries of the three towns will be acceptable in principle provided it reflects the character of the local environment and doesn’t cause any adverse

impacts". Nailsea is the only town which is within the 5km consultation zone for the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC and it is significant that the council is working with Natural England to produce guidance for development in relation to that SAC, for North Somerset. The policy retains the following wording regarding Nailsea, which suggests that any development would need to be through allocations adjacent to the settlement boundary,: "Proposals at Nailsea for new mixed use schemes adjacent to the settlement boundary to meet identified local needs will be supported provided that the site is not in the Green Belt, is supported by the local community and any necessary site allocations and changes to the settlement boundary have been addressed in the Sites and Policies Development Plan Document". Part 2 of the latter plan, (now called the Site Allocations Plan) is to be subject to separate HRA.

- 4.42 For policies CS32 (Service Villages) and CS33 (Smaller settlements and countryside) no changes are proposed. As the consultation document on the proposed consequential changes indicates, policy CS32 helps to show how the Core Strategy allows for sites to come forward through the plan making process, and how the role of the Core Strategy is to set out the broad strategic framework capable of delivering a minimum housing target, rather than to define exactly where new development will occur, while detailed site allocations will be made in the Site Allocations Plan. For example policy CS32 states that "where small scale residential or mixed use schemes which demonstrate clear local benefits are supported by the local community cannot be accommodated within existing settlement boundaries then these must be brought forward in the Sites and Policies DPD or a Neighbourhood Development Plan, including an amendment to the settlement boundary where appropriate. " Again, for Service Villages within the 5km consultation zone for the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC, the preparation of the guidance for development is likely to be important. As indicated in the assessment matrices in Appendix C below, locational and other factors should help to reduce the potential for impacts regarding policies CS32 and CS33.
- 4.43 It is considered that, notwithstanding the increase in housing figures reflected in some of the remitted policies, the retention of the relevant policy wordings, and the fact that mitigation measures, indicated in the assessment matrices in purple text, are relevant, would mean that, with this appropriate mitigation, the proposed consequential changes would not have likely significant effects on European sites. As indicated above the consequential changes retain the references in policies to the fact that development would largely be through allocations in the Site Allocations Plan, which will be subject to separate detailed HRA.
- 4.44 The council has already applied identified mitigation measures in some cases. For example, in line with a measure indicated in the assessment matrices (against policy CS13 regarding the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC), the council has proposed a change to policy DM8 of the Sites and Policies Plan Part 1 Development Management Policies in its proposed main modifications (January 2016). That change amends policy DM8 to refer to "where necessary, effective lighting design to avoid artificial light spill to wildlife habitats/corridors to avoid impacts on light averse wildlife".

5.0 Conclusions from the HRA work

- 5.1 Screening has found that, despite the increase in housing number to 20,985 dwellings, and the consequential changes to some of the remitted policies, with the avoidance/mitigation measures identified in the Appendix C matrices, no likely significant effects (LSEs) on European sites are predicted from the Core Strategy, either alone or in combination with other projects and plans.
- 5.2 Therefore the screening suggests that there is not a need for Appropriate Assessment of the Core Strategy.
- 5.3 However this is a high level assessment and there might be instances where project level HRA is required. The Screening Assessment matrices suggest that such detailed HRA may need to be carried out in respect of some individual planning applications. The Council's Ecologist would be involved in determining which applications need HRA. Natural England would be consulted where appropriate.
- 5.4 This HRA report is a supporting document to the Core Strategy. We are pleased to have carried out the HRA process in liaison with Natural England.
- 5.5 The importance of protecting European Sites, and of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in general, is reflected in the Core Strategy itself. Policy CS4 on nature conservation is particularly relevant here, referring to protection and enhancement of important habitats, particularly designated sites. Its supporting text refers to all the European sites in North Somerset and the HRA process.

APPENDIX A

The European Sites considered, their citations and conservation objectives

Severn Estuary SAC, SPA, Ramsar

EC Directive 92/43 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora

Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Name: Severn Estuary/ Môr Hafren

Unitary Authority/County: England: Bristol City, Gloucestershire, Bath & North East Somerset, Somerset, South Gloucestershire.

Wales: Bro Morgannwg/Vale of Glamorgan, Caerdydd/Cardiff, Casnewydd/ Newport, Sir Fynwy/ Monmouthshire.

SAC status: Designated on 10 December 2009

Grid reference: ST321748

SAC EU code: UK0013030

Area (ha): 73715.40

Component SSSI: Upper Severn Estuary SSSI, Severn Estuary SSSI, Bridgwater Bay SSSI.

Site description:

The Severn Estuary lies on the south west coast of Britain at the mouth of four major rivers (the Severn, Wye, Usk, and Avon). The immense tidal range (the second highest in the world) and classic funnel shape make the Severn Estuary unique in Britain and very rare worldwide. This tidal range creates strong tidal streams and high turbidity, producing communities characteristic of the extreme physical conditions of liquid mud and tide-swept sand and rocks.

The **Estuary** includes a wide diversity of habitats including **Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time, Mudflats and sandflats not covered by sea water at low tide, Atlantic salt meadows, and Reefs**, which are identified as Annex I habitat types in their own right.

The intertidal zone of mudflats, sand banks, rocky platforms and saltmarsh is one of the largest and most important in Britain. The estuary has a diverse geological setting and a wide range of geo-morphological features, especially sediment deposits. It is important for the interpretation of coastline dynamics and land-forms, and also past changes, in sea level, sediment supply, climate and river flow. The estuary's overall interest depends on its large size, and on the processes and interrelationships between the intertidal and marine habitats and its fauna.

The fluctuating salinity and highly mobile sediments with consequent high turbidity limits the benthic invertebrates of the mud and sandflats to relatively few species. Those which are tolerant of such conditions occur in very high densities on the more stable mudflats. Beds of eel-grass *Zostera* spp. also occur on some mudflats. A greater variety of invertebrates occurs on the intertidal rock platforms, a more stable habitat with rock pools and a relatively high cover of seaweeds.

Conservation objectives for SAC:

(Main source: Natural England web site:

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/file/4513629940482048>

With regard to the SAC and the natural habitats and/or species for which the site has been designated (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

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

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

H1130. Estuaries

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

H1170. Reefs

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

S1095. *Petromyzon marinus*; Sea lamprey

S1099. *Lampetra fluviatilis*; River lamprey

S1103. *Alosa fallax*; Twaite shad

Citation for Severn Estuary SPA

EC Directive 79/409 on the Conservation of Wild Birds: Special Protection Area

Severn Estuary (Gloucestershire, Avon, Somerset, South Glamorgan, Mid Glamorgan, Gwent)

The Severn Estuary is one of the largest estuaries in Britain and it has the second largest tidal range in the world. Its classic funnel shape and south west orientation makes it susceptible to extreme conditions in the east Atlantic. There are large urban developments on the estuary including the cities of Bristol and Cardiff.

The Severn Estuary qualifies under Article 4.1 of the Birds Directive by regularly supporting an internationally important wintering population of Bewick's Swan *Cygnus columbianus bewicki*, an Annex 1 species. During the period 1988/89 to 1992/93 a mean peak of 289 birds (1.7% of the north west European population, 4.1% of the British wintering population) used the estuary.

The Severn Estuary qualifies under Article 4.2 as a wetland of international importance by regularly supporting in winter over 20,000 waterfowl. In the five year period 1988/89 to 1992/93 the average peak count was 68,026 waterfowl comprising 17,502 wildfowl and 50,524 waders.

The Severn Estuary also qualifies under Article 4.2 by regularly supporting in winter internationally important numbers of the following 5 species of migratory waterfowl (average peak means for the period 1988/89 to 1992/93): 3,002 European white-fronted goose *Anser albifrons albifrons* (1.0% NW European, 50% British), 2,892 shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* (1.2% NW European, 3.9% British), 330 gadwall *Anas strepera* (2.8% NW European, 5.5% British), 41,683 dunlin *Calidris alpina* (2.9% east Atlantic flyway (EAF), 9.6% British) and 2,013 redshank *Tringa totanus* (1.3% EAF, 2.6% British).

The Severn Estuary also supports internationally important wintering populations of a further 10 species: 3,977 wigeon *Anas Penelope* (1.6% British, 1,998 teal *Anas crecca* (2% British), 523 pintail *Anas acuta* (2.1% British), 1,686 pochard *Aythya ferina* (3.8% British), 913 tufted duck *Aythya fidigula* (1.5% British), 227 ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula* (1% British), 781 grey plover *Pluvialis squatarola* (3.7% British), 3,096 curlew *Numenius arquata* (3.4% British), 246 whimbrel *N.phacopus* (4.9% British total) and 3 spotted redshank *Tringa erythropus* (1.5% British).

In addition during passage periods, the estuary supports nationally important numbers of ringed plover (spring migration: 442 birds, (1.4% British passage), autumn migration: 1,573 birds (5.2% British passage), dunlin (spring: 3,510 birds (1.7% British passage), autumn 5,500 birds (2.7% British passage), whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* (spring: 246 birds (4.9% British passage), autumn: 66 birds (1.3% British passage) and redshank (autumn 2,546 birds (2% British passage).

The Severn Estuary also supports a nationally important breeding population of a migratory species. In 1993 2040 pairs of lesser black-backed gulls *Larus fuscus* bred on the islands of Steep Holm and Flat Holm within the estuary. This represents 2.5% of the British total. (SPA Citation Dec 19893).

European Site Conservation Objectives for Severn Estuary Special Protection Area Site Code: UK9015022

With regard to the SPA and the individual species and/or assemblage of species for which the site has been classified (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

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.**

This document should be read in conjunction with the accompanying *Supplementary Advice* document, which provides more detailed advice and information to enable the application and achievement of the Objectives set out above.

Qualifying Features:

A037 *Cygnus columbianus bewickii*; Bewick's swan (Non-breeding)
A048 *Tadorna tadorna*; Common shelduck (Non-breeding)
A051 *Anas strepera*; Gadwall (Non-breeding)
A149 *Calidris alpina alpina*; Dunlin (Non-breeding)
A162 *Tringa totanus*; Common redshank (Non-breeding)
A394 *Anser albifrons albifrons*; Greater white-fronted goose (Non-breeding)
Waterbird assemblage

This is a cross border site

This site crosses the border between England and Wales. Some features may only occur in one Country.

This is a European Marine Site

This SPA is a part of the Severn Estuary European Marine Site (EMS). These Conservation Objectives should be used in conjunction with the Regulation 35 Conservation Advice document for the EMS. For further details about this please visit the Natural England website at:

<http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/marine/protectandmanage/mpa/europeansites.aspx> or contact Natural England's enquiry service at enquiries@naturalengland.org.uk or by phone on 0845 600 3078.

Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC**EC Directive 92/43 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora****Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)**

Name: Mendip Limestone Grasslands

Unitary Authority/County: North Somerset, Somerset

SAC status: Designated on 1 April 2005

Grid reference: ST401557

SAC EU code: UK0030203

Area (ha): 417.47

Component SSSI: Brean Down SSSI, Crook Peak to Shute Shelve Hill SSSI, Uphill Cliff SSSI

Site description:

This site comprises coastal and inland sections of the Carboniferous Limestone outcrops of the Mendips. It contains a wide range of habitats including ancient and secondary semi-natural broadleaved woodland, unimproved calcareous grassland and a complex mosaic of calcareous grassland and acidic dry dwarf-shrub heath.

The coastal headland and inland hills support the largest area of sheep's-fescue – carline-thistle (*Festuca ovina* – *Carlina vulgaris*) grassland in England, including two sub-types (the dwarf sedge *Carex humilis* and honewort *Trinia glauca* sub-communities) known from no other site in the UK. Areas of short-turf sheep's-fescue – meadow oat-grass *Helictotrichon pratense* grassland also occur inland.

The site is exceptional in that it supports a number of rare and scarce vascular plants typical of the oceanic southern temperate and Mediterranean elements of the British flora. These include white rock-rose *Helianthemum apenninum*, Somerset hair-grass *Koeleria vallesiana* and honewort. Transitions to limestone heath situated on flatter terrain also occur. Heath species such as heather *Calluna vulgaris*, bell heather *Erica cinerea* and western gorse *Ulex gallii* are well represented and bracken *Pteridium aquilinum* is often locally dominant.

Rose Wood and King's Wood (in Crook Peak to Shute Shelve Hill SSSI) are ancient woodlands. Canopy species include ash *Fraxinus excelsior*, pedunculate oak *Quercus robur*, small-leaved lime *Tilia cordata* and common whitebeam *Sorbus aria* agg. The understorey is dominated by hazel *Corylus avellana* with some field maple *Acer campestre* and spindle *Euonymus europaeus*. Ground

flora species include dog's mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, columbine *Aquilegia vulgaris* and meadow saffron *Colchicum autumnale*. The nationally rare purple gromwell *Lithospermum purpurocaeruleum* occurs at Rose Wood.

Qualifying habitats: The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following habitats listed in Annex I:

- Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines. (Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes)*
- Caves not open to the public
- European dry heaths
- Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*). (Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone)

Qualifying species: The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following species listed in Annex II:

- Greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*

Annex I priority habitats are denoted by an asterisk (*).

Conservation objectives:

With regard to the SAC and the natural habitats and/or species for which the site has been designated (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

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:

- 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
- H8310. Caves not open to the public
- H9180. *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines; Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes*
- S1304. *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*; Greater horseshoe bat

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC

EC Directive 92/43 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora

Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Name: North Somerset and Mendip Bats

Unitary Authority/County: Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset, Somerset

SAC status: Designated on 1 April 2005

Grid reference: ST480544

SAC EU code: UK0030052

Area (ha): 561.19

Component SSSI: Banwell Caves SSSI, Banwell Ochre Caves SSSI, Brockley Hall Stables SSSI, Compton Martin Ochre Mine SSSI, King's Wood and Urchin Wood SSSI, The Cheddar Complex SSSI, Wookey Hole SSSI

Site description:

The Cheddar complex and Wookey Hole areas support a wide range of habitats which provide feeding grounds for bats. These include semi-natural dry grasslands of which the principal community present is sheep's-fescue – meadow oat-grass (*Festuca ovina* – *Helictotrichon pratense*) grassland which occurs on rock ledges and on steep slopes with shallow limestone soil, especially in the dry valleys and gorges and on the south-facing scarp of the Mendips. King's Wood and Urchin Wood have developed over limestone which outcrops in parts of the site and forms a steep scarp to the south-east. There is mostly oak *Quercus robur* and ash *Fraxinus excelsior* woodland, though some areas are dominated by small-leaved lime *Tilia cordata* with both maiden and coppice trees. Other canopy trees include yew *Taxus baccata*, cherry *Prunus avium* and wild service tree *Sorbus torminalis*. There is a rich ground flora including many ferns and mosses.

The limestone caves and mines of the Mendips and the north Somerset hills provide a range of important breeding and hibernation sites for lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* and greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*.

Qualifying habitats: The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following habitats listed in Annex I:

- Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines. (Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes)*
- Caves not open to the public
- Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*). (Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone)

Qualifying species: The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following species listed in Annex II:

- Greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*
- Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*

Annex I priority habitats are denoted by an asterisk (*).

Conservation objectives:

With regard to the SAC and the natural habitats and/or species for which the site has been designated (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

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:

H6210. Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*); Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone
 H8310. Caves not open to the public
 H9180. *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines; Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes*
 S1303. *Rhinolophus hipposideros*; Lesser horseshoe bat
 S1304. *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*; Greater horseshoe bat

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC

EC Directive 92/43 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora

Citation for Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Name: Avon Gorge Woodlands

Unitary Authority/County: City of Bristol, North Somerset

SAC status: Designated on 1 April 2005

Grid reference: ST560741

SAC EU code: UK0012734

Area (ha): 152.35

Component SSSI: Avon Gorge SSSI

Site description:

The Avon Gorge is in south-west England. Natural cliffs, quarries and scree of Carboniferous limestone dramatically rise about 100m either side from the tidal River Avon, with grassland and woodland where slopes are less sheer. The site is important because of the small-leaved lime *Tilia cordata* woodland and the associated species-rich transitions to scrub and herb-rich calcareous grasslands. The open limestone grassland and cliff ledges support a high number of uncommon species, including rare whitebeams *Sorbus* spp., with two unique to the Avon Gorge, *S. bristoliensis* and *S. wilmottiana*, and other important plants, such as Bristol rock-cress *Arabis scabra* and honewort *Trinia glauca*. Small groves of yew *Taxus baccata* also occur on some of the stonier situations.

Qualifying habitats: The site is designated under **article 4(4)** of the Directive (92/43/EEC) as it hosts the following habitats listed in Annex I:

- Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines (mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes)*
- Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*) (dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone)

Annex I priority habitats are denoted by an asterisk (*)

Conservation objectives

With regard to the SAC and the natural habitats and/or species for which the site has been designated (the 'Qualifying Features' listed below), and subject to natural change;

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;

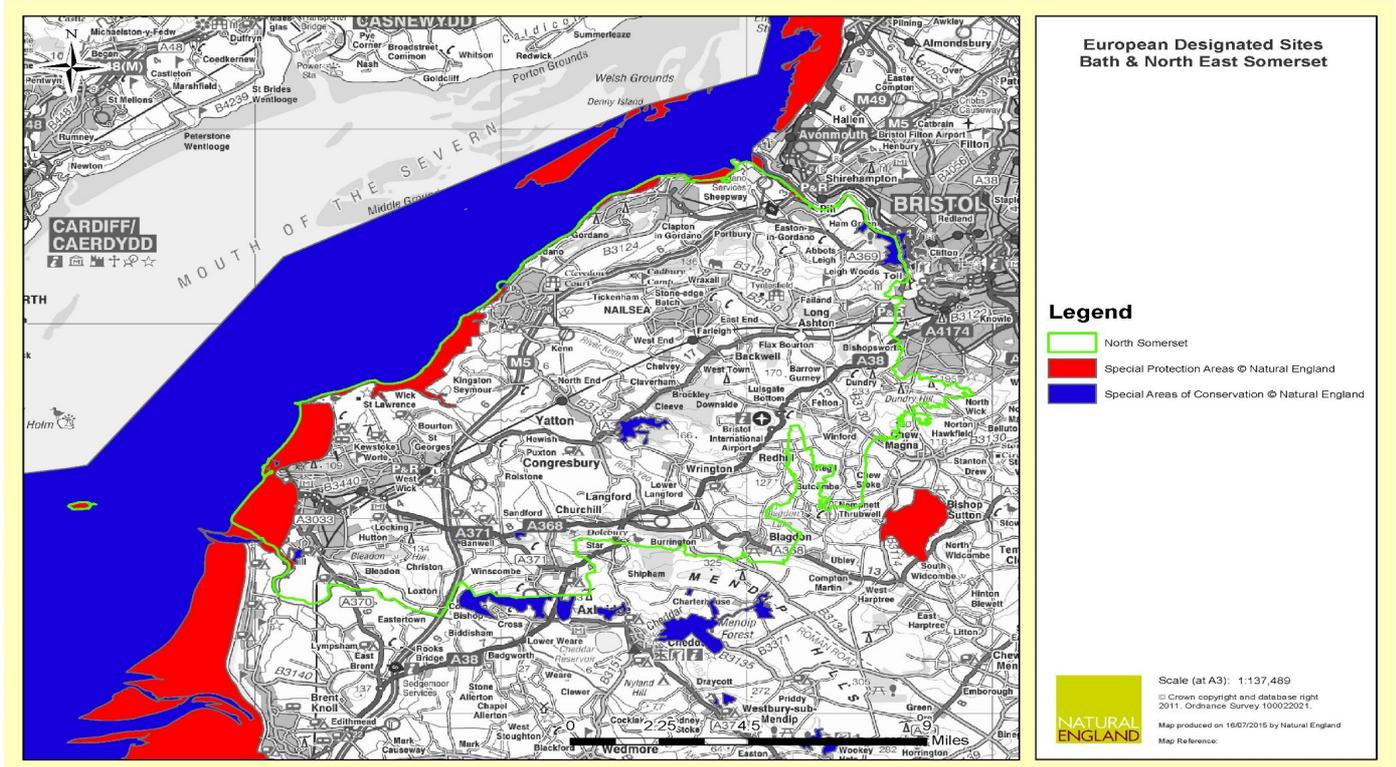
- **The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats**
- **The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and**
- **The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely**

This document should be read in conjunction with the accompanying *Supplementary Advice* document, which provides more detailed advice and information to enable the application and achievement of the Objectives set out above.

Qualifying Features:

H6210. Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*); Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone
H9180. *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines; Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes*

Map of European Sites within North Somerset and wider area
 (Please note the Legend erroneously refers to Bath and North East Somerset)



APPENDIX B

Table summarising changes made to Core Strategy policies between the Consultation Draft and Publication stages, and their implications

Core Strategy Policy	Main changes to policy made by Publication version of Core Strategy (from 2009 Consultation Draft version)	Implications: Do Likely Significant Effects (LSEs) for European Sites result from the changes?
CS1 Addressing climate change and carbon reduction	Very minor changes to wording, none detrimental, and some positive; eg. addition that green infrastructure would "include not only green spaces but also creation and enhancement of woodland areas". Policy is still positive environmentally (eg. commitment to reducing carbon emissions, etc.)	No LSEs
CS2 Delivering sustainable design and construction	Minor changes not affecting generally positive nature of policy, eg. slight variations in requirements regarding Code for Sustainable Homes requirements. Some improvements environmentally: eg addition of requirement for Sustainable Drainage Systems.	No LSEs
CS3 Environmental impacts and flood risk assessment	None.	No LSEs
CS4 Nature Conservation	Minor changes not affecting positive nature of policy for nature conservation.	No LSEs
CS5 Landscape and Historic Environment	None.	No LSEs
CS6 North Somerset's Green Belt	No significant change: proposal to not change the Green Belt boundaries retained and effectively strengthened.	No LSEs
CS7 Planning for Waste	None.	No LSEs
CS8 Minerals Planning	Minor positive change for environment: reference to local testing of North Somerset's apportionment share for provision of aggregates, including environmental acceptability.	No LSEs
CS9 Green Infrastructure	Minor changes not affecting generally positive nature of policy, and some enhancing it: eg. reference to value of trees and tree planting to	No LSEs

	biodiversity, and of Sustainable Drainage Systems for Green Infrastructure.	
CS10 Transportation and Movement	Minor change, positive: addition of text stating that transport schemes should contribute towards carbon reduction.	No LSEs
CS11 Parking	No significant change, just added reference to promoting town centre attractiveness and vitality	No LSEs
CS12 Achieving high quality design and place-making	No significant change, just added reference to maintaining and enhancing historic built environment, coastal areas, historic rural settlements.	No LSEs
CS13 Scale of new housing	Significant reduction in number of dwellings in North Somerset for which land will be identified 2006-2026, from 17,750 to minimum of 13,400	No LSEs
CS14 Distribution of new housing	No significant change, Weston still to be focus for new residential development, with some in the other towns, and small scale development in Service Villages. Positive elements retained (priority to previously developed land and no conflict with nature conservation).	No LSEs
CS15 Mixed and balanced communities	Very minor change, just reference to supporting greater community cohesion.	No LSEs
CS16 Affordable housing	Very minor change to thresholds for size of developments for which affordable housing will be sought.	No LSEs
CS17 Rural exception sites	Minor change making policy stricter in not allowing exception schemes in locations other than within or adjoining Service Villages and Infill Villages.	No LSEs
CS18 Gypsies, travellers and travelling show people	No significant change, some of detail moved to supporting text.	No LSEs
CS19 Strategic gaps	No change	No LSEs

CS20 Supporting a successful economy	Significant reduction in number of jobs to be provided in North Somerset, from 29,500 to 10,100 2006-2026, reflecting introduction of reduced (locally derived) housing requirement. Supporting text shows indicative employment land allocations (B1,B2 and B8 allocations) to be as in adopted Replacement Local Plan, except for about 38ha at the Weston Villages (a reduction from the 61 ha that was proposed in that broad location in the Consultation Draft Core Strategy, for the Weston Urban Extension).	No LSEs
CS21 Delivering a prosperous economy	Minor change requiring all proposals for town centre uses outside existing centres to meet sequential test etc, rather than those above a size threshold.	No LSEs
CS22 Tourism Strategy	No significant change. Addition to statement on improving the range and quality of tourist accommodation, including hotels, giving priority to locations within Weston's seafront area. However Screening Assessment matrices already include mitigation measures regarding potential impacts of increased recreational pressures, for Severn Estuary site	No LSEs.
CS23 Bristol airport	No change	No LSEs
CS24 Royal Portbury Dock	No change	No LSEs
CS25 Children, young people and higher education	No change	No LSEs
CS26 Supporting healthy living and the provision of health care facilities	No significant change. New references to making provision for needs of an ageing population, and to resisting new developments likely to have an adverse impact on the wider community.	No LSEs
CS27 Sport, recreation and community facilities	No change	No LSEs
CS28 Weston super Mare	Reduction in housing provision for Weston, (from about 12,000 dwellings 2006-2026 to 5,850 2010-2026), reflecting introduction of reduced (locally derived) housing requirement.	No LSEs
CS29 Weston super Mare town centre	No significant changes. Major retail development still proposed at retail core, with tourism and entertainment uses at seafront and commercial office development at the Gateway area.	No LSEs
CS30 Weston Villages	Significant reduction in housing provision for this area (formerly referred to as the Weston Urban Extension area) from about 9,000 new	No LSEs

	<p>dwellings 2006-2026 to 5,500, reflecting introduction of reduced (locally derived) housing requirement.</p>	
CS31 Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead	<p>No significant changes. Principles still to support development within settlement boundaries of these towns where they increase self containment, improve availability of jobs and services, and improve town's role as a service centre.</p>	No LSEs
CS32 Service Villages	<p>Some changes but overall potential impact on European sites unlikely to increase. Consultation Draft policy permitted employment development of "appropriate" scale within or adjacent to settlement boundaries of these villages. Publication version tends to restrict residential or employment development to within those boundaries, but where this is not possible allows scope for <u>small scale</u> mixed use schemes outside the limits to come forward as allocations.</p>	No LSEs
CS33 Infill villages, smaller settlements and countryside	<p>Some changes with introduction of Infill Villages, but they are restricted to small scale developments. Overall potential impact on European sites unlikely to increase. Reference to strict control of development outside Service Villages retained.</p>	No LSEs
CS34 Infrastructure Delivery and Development Contributions	<p>Policy condenses the Consultation Draft policies CS34 and CS35 into one. (CS35 is deleted from the Publication version). The resultant policy makes no significant changes to the principles of those policies (that there should be mechanisms and funding for delivery of infrastructure requirements, such as development contributions.)</p>	No LSEs
CS35 Implementation	<p>Policy is deleted in the Publication version.</p>	No LSEs

Appendix C(a)

Screening Assessment Matrices

(Note: For each policy the upper row (black) text relates to the Consultation Draft North Somerset Core Strategy, November 2009, the lower row (red) to the Publication version, February 2011), the blue row to the proposed (November 2013) changes to the Core Strategy, and the purple row to the housing increase to 20,985 which was proposed in September 2014, including reference to the autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant.)

Screening Assessment Matrix for Severn Estuary SAC, SPA, Ramsar

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
Living within Environmental Limits										
Policy CS1: Addressing Climate Change and Carbon Reduction	Renewable energy in development ;e.g. Energy from Waste Plant at Weston urban extension, green	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning application

¹ Based on the Natural England Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents by David Tyldesley, Jan 2009

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	infrastructure networks, sustainable transport, enhancing and /protecting biodiversity, re-use of previously developed land etc.		part of the planning process. Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix D). Only specific reference to energy from waste plant is for Weston urban extension.					planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency).		ns. Energy from Waste Plants may require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.
Policy CS1 of Publication version of Core Strategy	As above	As above	As above. Note: Weston Villages now replace Weston Urban Extension	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS1 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted	As above, although the C classification is	As above. Note: Weston Villages now	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The additions that were made at Modifications stage are likely to have environmental benefits: (need for development to demonstrate water efficiency measures, and promotion of public transport). Policy refers to creation of waste to energy facilities at Weston Villages.	arguably pessimistic, given that the only reference to a particular type of renewable energy is waste to energy facilities at Weston Villages. They are unlikely to impact on the Severn Estuary since the Weston Villages area is 2km away from it, and the Air Quality Assessment suggests that air pollution impacts on this European site are unlikely.	replace Weston Urban Extension					Draft stage is still relevant,		
Policy CS1 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes reducing carbon emissions and tackling climate change. There is reference to reduction/recycling of waste, and creation of waste to energy facilities in Weston villages	Note: The C assessment category is now considered to be overly pessimistic, given that the only reference to a particular type of renewable energy is waste to energy facilities at Weston Villages. They are unlikely to impact	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .	B (No significant effect)	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
		on the Severn Estuary since the Weston Villages area is 2km away from it, and the Air Quality Assessment suggests that air pollution impacts on this European site are unlikely to be significant. The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy..	Quality Appendix D). Only specific reference to energy from waste plant is for Weston urban extension (now referred to as Weston Villages)							
Policy CS2: Delivering Sustainable Design and Construction.	Sustainable design and construction. Policy sets targets e.g. for on site renewable energy, Code for Sustainable Homes BREEAM ratings, etc	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
CS2 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS2 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Modifications stage added requirement to apply best practice in sustainable urban drainage systems. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS2 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes sustainable design and construction. . No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.. .	B (No significant effect) The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy..	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS3: Environmental Risk Management.	Sets out the Sequential Test for development with regard to flood zones.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS3 Publication Environmental	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
Impacts and Flood Risk Assessment										
Policy CS3 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Reference to NPPF rather than PPS25. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS3 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which requires acceptable mitigation for environmental impacts of development, and following the sequential test regarding flooding. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect) The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy..	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS4: Nature Conservation.	Maintain and enhance biodiversity within the district.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS4 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS4 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Documents such as Green Infrastructure Strategy and Biodiversity and Trees SPD are referred to in supporting text. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS4 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS5: Landscape and the Historic Environment.	Protect and enhance the character, distinctiveness, diversity and quality of North Somerset's landscape and townscape.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS5 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS5 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Reference to heritage assets rather than just assets. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS5 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes protection and enhancement of the landscape. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA..	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS6: North Somerset's Green Belt	Protect the existing Green Belt.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS6 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS6 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. A difference is that it no longer refers to	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	possibility of taking land out of the Green Belt in exceptional circumstances, by local review. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS6 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	This policy, which states that the Green Belt will remain unchanged during the plan period, was remitted but still carries "appropriate weight". It is envisaged that the increase in housing number could be met without significant change to the existing spatial strategy, which does not imply changing the Green Belt.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS7: Planning for Waste in North Somerset	Support for sustainable management of waste, recovery of energy from waste in line with Joint Waste Core Strategy policies	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Air pollution impacts unlikely to be	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .	No significant effect	Potentially on individual planning applications. Energy from Waste Plants may

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
			significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix).							require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.
CS7 Publication Planning for Waste	As above	As above.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS7 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Refers to Sites and Policies DPD rather than "a Development Management DPD".	As above.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	As above	As above
Policy CS7 as at September 2014,	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes	C (Likely significant effect alone).	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology/desi	B (No)	Potentially on individual

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
(including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	prevention/minimisation of waste, design for ease of waste collection, and use of Joint Waste Core Strategy policies and development management policies on waste. Promotes recovery of energy from waste in line with Joint Waste Core Strategy policies	The housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy. Note: The C assessment category is now considered to be overly pessimistic, given that air pollution impacts are unlikely to be significant.	individually assessed as part of the planning process. Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix).					gn (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) . This mitigation is still relevant.	significant effect)	planning applications. Energy from Waste Plants may require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.
Policy CS8: Minerals Planning in North Somerset	Provision will be made for North Somerset to contribute towards approximately 40% of the West of England's aggregates requirement. The council will seek to maintain a land bank for	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.	N/A	Potential impacts of quarrying activity	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology. Strict locational control of quarrying, leaving	B (No significant effect)	Potentially required on individual planning applications. There

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	crushed rock of at least 10 years.		Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix (D))					adequate minimum distance between quarry and European site		is likely to be adequate scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.
CS8 Publication Minerals Planning	As above	As above	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS8 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The addition that was made at Modifications stage to quantify the crushed rock apportionment for North Somerset in tonnes, did not alter the earlier HRA conclusions.	As above	As above	N/A	In theory quarrying close to the Severn Estuary site could potentially cause disturbance to birds due to quarrying activity, such as noise from blasting. However this is not particularly likely to occur; most quarrying in North	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
					Somerset is for carboniferous limestone, and currently occurs east of Backwell. The limited limestone areas near the Severn Estuary are largely constrained by factors like wildlife designations (eg LNRs), and settlements.					
Policy CS8 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which sets out the requirement for crushed rock provision, and maintenance of a landbank, and promotes protection of mineral resources through mineral safeguarding areas..	C (Likely significant effect alone). The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy..	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix (D))	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology. Strict locational control of quarrying, leaving adequate minimum distance between quarry and European site. This mitigation is still relevant.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially required on individual planning applications. There is likely to be adequate scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
										n measures, as necessary.
Policy CS9: Green Infrastructure	Safeguard, improve and enhance the existing network of green infrastructure.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	N/A	N/A	Potential for increased recreational use of beaches and potential disturbance of waders and wildfowl	N/A	N/A	Consider use of interpretation if necessary.	B (No significant effect)	No
CS9 Publication	As above	As above	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS9 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Includes reference to tree planting, Reference to Green Infrastructure SPD in supporting text.	As above	As above	N/A	More relevant to say: Potential for increased recreational use of green space overlooking Severn Estuary and possibly of nearby beaches and potential disturbance of waders and wildfowl	N/A	N/A	As above The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	As above	As above
Policy CS9 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes safeguarding, improvement and enhancement of the	As above. C (Likely significant effect alone) While the housing increase could	N/A	N/A	More relevant to say: Potential for increased recreational use of green space overlooking	N/A	N/A	Consider use of interpretation if necessary. This mitigation is still relevant. Consider the	B (No significant effect)	No

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	existing network of green infrastructure.	potentially increase the likelihood of recreational disturbance (see column 6) it is likely that this could be satisfactorily mitigated; (see column 9).			Severn Estuary and possibly of nearby beaches and potential disturbance of waders and wildfowl			potential for a strategic approach to visitor management, including appropriate zonation to protect undisturbed areas		
Policy CS10: Transport and Movement	Encouragement for travel management policies and development proposals that encourage an improved and integrated transport network and allow for wide choice of transport modes. Lists proposed transport schemes over the plan period.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. However air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Implementation of measures to promote non-car travel modes as promoted in policies such as CS10 and in LTP3.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially required on individual planning applications.
CS10 Publication Transportation and Movement	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS10 as at	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
November 2013.	to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Includes addition of requirement for transport schemes to contribute towards carbon reduction, and support movement of freight by rail, which should have beneficial environmental effects. List of transport schemes is the same except for addition of Airfield Bridge Link (ABL) between Weston Airfield and Winterstoke Rd, and Weston Southern Rail Chord (WSRC). ABL is a more direct road link so should help reduce distance travelled and hence emissions. WSRC should help promote train rather than car transport which should have environmental benefits.									
Policy CS10 as at September 2014, (including reference	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is the same as described as	C (Likely significant effect alone) It is now	Projects will need to be individually assessed as	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Implementation of measures to promote non-car travel modes as	B (No significant effect)	Potentially required on

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	blue text above. Encouragement of improved and integrated transport network, and reference to major transport schemes. Inclusion of reference to reducing the adverse environmental impacts of transport.	considered that this classification is unduly pessimistic: the air pollution impacts re the Severn Estuary site are unlikely to be significant; (see column 4). Also there is scope for mitigation; (see column 9). For these reasons the assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy.	part of the planning process. However air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)						promoted in policies such as CS10 and in LTP3.	individual planning applications.
Policy CS11: Parking	Provision of adequate car parking to meet the needs of anticipated users.	B (No significant effect)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. However, air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix).	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Implementation of measures to promote non-car travel modes as promoted in policies such as CS10 and in LTP3.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially required on individual planning applications.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
CS11 Publication	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above
Policy CS11 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Only difference is that policy refers to Sites and Policies DPD rather than Development Management DPD.	As above	As above	N/A	The policy is seeking adequate provision of parking and does not influence its locations, so no LSEs are predicted. However it is worth noting that location of car parks may influence the degree to which parts of the Severn Estuary site are affected by disturbance, particularly disturbance to birds from dogs, if dog walkers allow them to run unrestrained on intertidal sand and mud flats important to the European site.	N/A	N/A	The above comment at Consultation Draft stage may overstate things, as Halcrow's work suggests air pollution impacts are unlikely to be significant for Severn Estuary habitats. While not addressing an LSE of this policy, it may be beneficial to promote management of location of car parks, especially free car parks, to try to minimise potential for disturbance. Eg. Where car parks have to be located near	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
								areas of intertidal mud and sand flats important to the European site, promote use of interpretation boards requesting dogs on leads, and explaining why that is appropriate .		
Policy CS11 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which concerns provision of adequate car parking to meet the needs of anticipated users.)	B (No significant effect) The housing increase is unlikely to make the impact of this policy significant, since it is the location of car parking, rather than its quantity, which is likely to have the greater potential to have impact ,regarding bird disturbance, and the policy does not influence the location. However mitigation is suggested	Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process, However air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above. Also consider the location of car parks, as an access point to the coastline, regarding their distance from high tide roost sites and bird foraging sites where known. Consider the potential for a strategic approach to visitor management, including appropriate zonation to	B (No significant effect)	Potentially required on individual planning applications.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
		anyway. (See the points in blue text above in columns 6 and 9). Also this policy is relevant regarding the potential for in-combination effects; (see Appendix x).						protect undisturbed areas		
Delivering Strong and Inclusive Communities										
Policy CS12: Achieving High Quality Design and Place Making	High quality architecture and urban design will be expected from all developments.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS12 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS12 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. While some paragraphs differ the thrust of the policy is on promoting well designed building and places, and there is still	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	reference to environmental sustainability. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS12 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes high quality design of buildings and places. Reference to contribution to environmental sustainability. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS13: Scale of New Housing.	Provision of 17,750 dwellings across the district over the plan period. 3000 dwellings in Weston-super-Mare urban area and 9,000 dwellings as an urban extension to Weston-super-Mare. The remainder of 5,750 dwellings will be met by land from existing identified sources and no additional allocation will be required in the	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	Water abstraction has been assessed as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of development	Disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light and increased recreational pressures from new development in Weston-super-Mare.	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Require best practice construction techniques at sites close to	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site			
	plan period.			proposed in North Somerset it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further Specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.			<p>the Estuary to ensure minimal disruption.</p> <p>Ensure (through planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300 m (guideline only) of wading bird foraging zones.</p> <p>Consider use of interpretation if necessary.</p> <p>A site-wide lighting</p>		

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
								strategy, may be required		
CS13 Publication	Provision of minimum of 13,400 dwellings across the district over the plan period. 3,300 net additional dwellings in Weston-super-Mare urban area and 5,500 dwellings at Weston villages. Outside Weston most additional development to occur in towns on existing site allocations, or new development in their settlement boundaries, or Nailsea through site allocations outside Green Belt	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS13 as at November 2013.	Proposed change in housing number from the minimum of 14,000 in adopted plan (the figure introduced at Modifications stage) to minimum of 17,130 dwellings within North Somerset 2006 -2026 . (Note: while this is an increase, the 17,130 is less than the 17,750 dwellings at the	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	As above	As above	As above	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	Consultation Draft stage. The main issue regarding the Severn Estuary site is the same (possible disturbance of birds) and the same mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage (in black text above) is still relevant.									
Policy CS13 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	This policy on the housing number, was remitted for re-examination. The Inspector supported an increase in the housing requirement from 17,130 to 20,985 for 2006-2026.	C (Likely significant effect alone) This concerns potential for disturbance, but, notwithstanding the increase in housing requirement, this is mitigatable; see columns 6 and 9).	Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Air pollution impacts on Severn estuary site unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix,)	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	As above, regarding potential for disturbance.	As above	As above	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant. In addition, liaison with Natural England suggests that measures referred to in the draft Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for the Severn Estuary European site may also be appropriate, such as : Consider the potential for a strategic approach to	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site				Other
								visitor management, including appropriate zonation to protect undisturbed areas; <i>The council is working with Natural England to ensure appropriate mitigation relating to the proposed coast path from Aust to Brean Down.</i>		
Policy CS14: Distribution of New Housing	New housing development will be concentrated in Weston-super-Mare. At Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea residential development will be acceptable within their existing settlement boundaries on brownfield land. Within the Service Villages small scale infill development may be	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality	Water abstraction has been assessed as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of	Disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light and increased recreational pressures for new development in Weston-super-Mare.	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Require best practice construction techniques at	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	appropriate where it will support the retention of existing services. Elsewhere housing development will not be permitted unless it is for essential workers in rural enterprises, replacement dwellings or affordable housing need.		Appendix)	development proposed in North Somerset it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further Specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.				<p>sites close to the Estuary to ensure minimal disruption.</p> <p>Ensure (through planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300 m (guideline only) of wading bird foraging zones.</p> <p>Consider use of interpretation if necessary).</p>		
CS14 Publication	Weston will be focus of new housing	As above	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	development. Outside Weston most additional development to occur at Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea, on existing allocations, within their existing settlement boundaries, or in Nailsea at allocations outside Green Belt. Priority to previously developed land. Within the Service Villages small scale infill development or site allocations can occur. All new housing to not conflict with nature conservation policies									
Policy CS14 as at November 2013.	Proposed policy wording is unchanged from the adopted plan except for the housing figures in the table. Weston will be focus of new housing development. Outside Weston most additional development to occur at Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea, on existing allocations, within their existing settlement boundaries, or in Nailsea at allocations	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	As above	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	As above	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	outside Green Belt. Priority to previously developed land. At Service Villages small scale infill development or site allocations can occur. All new housing to not conflict with nature conservation policies. While the proposed distribution of the housing has changed slightly from the Consultation Draft stage, mainly due to a reduction in the amount of housing proposed at Weston Villages, the main issue regarding the Severn Estuary site is the same (possible disturbance of birds) and the mitigation is still relevant.									
Policy CS14 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted	As above. In the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies which were subject to public consultation in autumn 2015 the principles in policy CS14 remained unchanged, only the	C (Likely significant effect alone) This concerns potential for disturbance, However, even with the increase in housing	Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	As above	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant. In addition, liaison with Natural England suggests that	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site				Other
policies where relevant) .	housing figures changed, and the broad distribution was similar to that in the CS14 of the Core Strategy adopted in 2012. A significant proportion of the new housing is likely to be on brownfield land within towns. As before, the main issue regarding the Severn Estuary site is the same (possible disturbance of birds) and the mitigation in column 9 is still relevant.	requirement, this is mitigatable; see columns 6 and 9).	Air pollution impacts on Severn estuary site unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix,)					measures referred to in the draft Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for the Severn Estuary European site may also be appropriate, such as : Consider the potential for a strategic approach to visitor management, including appropriate zonation to protect undisturbed areas. <i><u>The council is working with Natural England to ensure appropriate mitigation relating to the proposed coast path from Aust</u></i>		

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
Policy CS15: Mixed and Balanced Communities	The Council will seek to ensure a genuine mix of housing types within existing and future communities.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	<i>to Break Down</i> N/A	N/A	N/A
CS15 Publication	<i>As above</i>	<i>As above</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Policy CS15 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	<i>As above</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Policy CS15 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes a genuine mix of housing types within existing and future communities. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Policy CS16: Affordable Housing	On-site affordable housing will be sought to meet local needs on all residential developments of 15	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	dwelling or more (or site of 0.5ha or above). On other sites the Council will seek to negotiate a financial contribution towards the provision of affordable housing.									
CS16 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS16 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The addition made at Modifications stage to widen the definition of affordable housing to include affordable rented did not have significant implications for HRA. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS16 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes provision of on-site affordable housing on all residential developments of 10	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	dwelling or more (or sites of 0.3ha or above). On sites of 5-9 dwellings the Council will seek to negotiate a financial contribution towards the provision of affordable housing. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS17: Residential Sites Providing Affordable Housing Only	Housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local need within small rural communities will be supported provided it meets certain criteria. Specific sites may also be allocated in W-s-M, Portishead, Nailsea and Clevedon and the service villages for 100% affordable housing to meet an identified local need.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS17 Publication Rural Exceptions Schemes	Housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local need within small rural communities will be supported provided it meets certain criteria.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
Policy CS17 as at November 2013, Rural Exceptions Schemes	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS17 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) , Rural Exceptions Schemes .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. It promotes provision of housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local needs within small rural communities subject to criteria, including one giving priority to sites within settlement boundary, and one on scale being appropriate for location. Also states that rural exceptions schemes will be acceptable adjacent to the settlement boundaries of Service Villages and Infill Villages, and elsewhere adjacent to main body of settlement, but not in the Green Belt, unless justified by very special	B (No significant effect) Notwithstanding the housing increase, it is unlikely that housing schemes of a scale appropriate for a rural location would have significant effects on European Sites, particularly the Severn Estuary. Note that planning applications would be likely to be subject to policies on biodiversity	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	circumstances. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS18: Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show People	Provision will be made for an additional 36 residential and 10 transit pitches for Gypsies and travellers for the period 2006 – 2011.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS18 Publication	Sets out considerations for determination of locations for sites for Gypsies, travellers and travelling show people	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS18 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version in so far as the criteria are broadly similar. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS18 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which sets out considerations for determination of	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	Locations for sites for Gypsies, travellers and travelling show people. This includes preference for brownfield sites. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS19: Green Wedges/Strategic Gaps.	The Council will seek to protect green wedges/strategic gaps to help retain the separate identity, character or landscape setting of settlements.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS19 Publication Strategic gaps	As above, but reference to strategic gaps, not green wedges	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS19 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS19 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes protection of strategic gaps to help retain the	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	separate identity, character or landscape setting of settlements.									
Delivering a Prosperous Economy										
Policy CS20: Supporting a Successful Economy	Employment-led strategy to both deliver significant employment development and to ensure that new residential development is provided in association with employment opportunities. The Core Strategy provides for around 29,500 jobs. Supporting text suggests indicative employment requirement for B1-B8 uses would include 61 ha at Weston Urban Extension	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	Water abstraction has been assessed as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of development proposed in North Somerset it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further	Disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light and increased population due to amount of new development in Weston-super-Mare.	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Require best practice construction techniques at sites close to the Estuary to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure (through planning conditions etc) that key	B (No significant effect)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
				specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.				construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300 m (guideline only) of wading bird foraging zones.		
CS20 Publication	The Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs. Supporting text suggests indicative employment land allocations (B1-B8 uses) to be as in adopted Replacement Local Plan, plus about 38ha at Weston Villages.	As above	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS20 as at November 2013.	The policy is not proposed to change	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on	As above	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	from the adopted plan version. It states that the Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs, which is less than at Consultation Draft stage, with consequentially lower employment land implications. The main issue regarding the Severn Estuary site is the same (possible disturbance of birds) and the mitigation is still relevant.			water issues after this table.)				Consultation Draft stage is still relevant, with the possible exception of the references to promoting sustainable transport modes, since air pollution impacts are unlikely to be significant for the site.		
Policy CS20 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which states that the Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs, which is less than at Consultation Draft stage, with consequentially lower employment land implications. The main issue regarding the Severn Estuary site is the same (possible disturbance of birds) and the mitigation is still relevant.	C (Likely significant effect alone) This concerns potential for disturbance, but, this is mitigatable; see columns 6 and 9). The housing increase is not likely to affect the impact of this policy.	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	As above	N/A	N/A	As above.	B (No significant effect)	Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
Policy CS21: Retail Hierarchy and Provision.	Identifies retail hierarchy across the district.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS21 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS21 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	C (Likely significant effect alone) (see column 6)	N/A	N/A	It is considered that as the policy refers to regeneration of town centre sites, some of which are on the seafront, this policy too could be judged to have potential impacts, regarding disturbance to birds from noise and light, without mitigation. This point was not recognised in earlier HRA work.	N/A	N/A	The reference to mitigation under policy CS20 (in blue) is appropriate.	As above	N/A
Policy CS21 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which identifies retail hierarchy across the district, and states in what circumstances proposals for town centre uses will be supported.	C (Likely significant effect alone) (see column 6)	N/A	N/A	It is considered that as the policy refers to regeneration of town centre sites, some of which are on the seafront, this policy too could be judged to	N/A	N/A	Require best practice construction techniques at sites close to the Estuary to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure (through	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site				Other
policies where relevant)	While some of the housing increase could be on town centre sites, some of which are on the seafront at Weston, these sites are largely allocated already, and impacts are likely to be mitigatable. (See columns 6 and 9).				have potential impacts, regarding disturbance to birds from noise and light, without mitigation			planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300 m (guideline only) of wading bird foraging zones.		
Policy CS22: Tourism Strategy	Supports visitor facilities and accommodation across the district provided they meet certain criteria.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.	Water abstraction has been assessed as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment which	Disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light and increased recreational pressures.	Some leisure developments within the seafront area in Weston-super-Mare may have potential impacts (including land take in some	The sites that include land take from the Severn Estuary have generally had Appropriate Assessment	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Require best	B (No significant effect)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
				concluded that despite the amount of development proposed in North Somerset it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.		cases) on the Severn Estuary SAC.	ts undertaken as part of the planning application process.	practice construction techniques to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300 m (guideline only) of wading bird foraging zones. Consider use of interpretation if necessary.		
CS22 Publication	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS22	Effectively as above. No	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely	As above	As above	As above	As above. The	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site				Other
as at November 2013.	changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version The main issue regarding the Severn Estuary site is the same (possible disturbance of birds) and the mitigation is still relevant.			(see note on water issues after this table.)				mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	above	
Policy CS22 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	<p>No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which supports new, improved and replacement visitor and tourist facilities and accommodation across the district provided they meet certain criteria.</p> <p>Criteria include appropriate scale and no adverse implications for environment. Also (for Weston) the need to comply with sequential approach giving priority to town centre or seafront sites.</p>	<p>C (Likely significant effect alone) Mainly concerns scope for disturbance, but this is mitigatable.</p> <p>The housing increase is unlikely to increase the impact of the policy.</p>	Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. However air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant for Severn Estuary; (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	Potential for disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to possible increased noise and light and increased recreational pressures.	Some leisure developments within the seafront area in Weston-super-Mare may have potential impacts (including land take in some cases) on the Severn Estuary SAC.	Careful consideration of location of car parks serving access to potentially sensitive areas for SPA birds (eg feeding/ high tide roost sites, to be informed by results of Natural England review of high tide roost sites.)	Require best practice construction techniques to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300 m (guideline	B (No significant effect)	Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
								only) of wading bird foraging zones. Consider use of interpretation if necessary. In addition, liaison with Natural England suggests that measures referred to in the draft Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for the Severn Estuary European site may also be appropriate, such as : Consider the potential for a strategic approach to visitor management, including appropriate zonation to protect undisturbed areas. <i>The council is</i>		

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
									working with Natural England to ensure appropriate mitigation relating to the proposed coast path from Aust to Brean Down	
Policy CS23: Bristol International Airport	Proposals will be required to demonstrate the satisfactory resolution of environmental issues, including the impact of growth on surrounding communities and surface access infrastructure.	B (No significant effect)	Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.
CS23 Publication Bristol Airport	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above
Policy CS23 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA. The airport is over 11km	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	from the Severn Estuary (crow fly).									
Policy CS23 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy for the airport which requires proposals to demonstrate the satisfactory resolution of environmental issues, including the impact of growth on surrounding communities and surface access infrastructure.	B (No significant effect)	Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.
Policy CS24: Royal Portbury Dock	Identified land will continue to be safeguarded for port uses, subject to demonstrable need for those uses that cannot be accommodated elsewhere within the existing port estate. Further expansion of the port within North Somerset is not supported.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Dock located near to SAC but dock uses not likely to be enough source of NOx air pollution to have a significant effect (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	N/A	Potential disturbance of wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light.	N/A	N/A	Require best practice construction techniques to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure (through planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as	B (No significant effect)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Project-level HRA/EIA may be needed for any develop

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
								<p>piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300 m (guideline only) of wading bird foraging zones.</p> <p>Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .</p>		<p>ments at Royal Portbury Dock.</p>
CS24 Publication	As above	As above	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS24 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version; (only a	As above	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	difference in the name of the site allocations document referred to.) The main issue regarding the Severn Estuary site is the same (possible disturbance of birds) and the mitigation is still relevant.									
Policy CS24 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which continues to be to maintain and enhance the role of the dock, and to safeguard land at Court House Farm for port uses, subject to demonstrable need for those uses that cannot be accommodated elsewhere within the existing port estate. Further expansion of the port within North Somerset is not supported.	C (Likely significant effect alone) The housing increase is unlikely to increase the impact of the policy.	Dock located near to SAC but dock uses not likely to be enough source of NOx air pollution to have a significant effect (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	N/A	Some potential for disturbance of wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light, but may not be significant given that the dock already exists, and Court House Farm is inland of the Severn Estuary site..	N/A	N/A	Require best practice techniques to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure (through planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300	B (No significant effect)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Project-level HRA/EIA may be needed for any developments at Royal Portbury Dock, or project level consultation with

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
								<p>m (guideline only) of wading bird foraging zones.</p> <p>Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .</p>		Natural England.
Ensuring Safe and Healthy Communities										
Policy CS25: Children, Young People and Higher Education	Provision of educational facilities.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS25 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS25 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS25 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which seeks educational provision where local provision will be inadequate to meet the needs of new residential developments. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS26: Supporting Healthy Living and the Provision of Health Care Facilities.	Requires HIA on all large scale developments, Joint working with health providers to deliver a district wide network of health facilities, reduce health inequalities in the district, encourage development that promotes active lifestyles.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS26 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS26 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS26 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which supports strategies which increase and improve health services, promote healthier lifestyles and aim to reduce health inequalities. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS27: Sport, Recreation and Community Facilities.	Provision of sport, recreation and community facilities	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS27 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS27 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS27	No changes are	B	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	proposed to adopted policy, which promotes additional provision of sport, recreation and community facilities where local provision is inadequate to meet projected needs and standards. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	(No significant effect)							(No significant effect)	
Area Policies										
Policy CS28: Weston-super-Mare	W-s-M will be the primary focus for development within North Somerset. The town will accommodate 12,000 new dwellings and 10,000 new jobs between 2006-2026 as part of an employment-led strategy to deliver improved self-containment and reduced out-commuting over the plan period.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	Water abstraction has been assessed as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of development proposed in Weston-super-Mare it won't result in a likely	Disturbance of wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light and increased recreational pressures.	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Require best practice construction techniques to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure (through	B (No significant effect)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
				significant effect on water abstraction. Further specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.				planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300m of (guideline only) wading bird foraging zones. Consider use of interpretation if necessary.		
CS28 Publication	W-s-M will be the primary focus for development within North Somerset. The town will accommodate around 5,850 additional	As above	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	new dwellings with approx 10,500 employment opportunities between 2010-2026 as part of an employment-led strategy to deliver improved self-containment and reduced out-commuting over the plan period.									
Policy CS28 as at November 2013.	The only change being proposed to the adopted plan policy is a change in the number of dwellings to be built in Weston from around 6,913 to 5,136 in Weston urban area, 2011-2026. The Consultation Draft plan had referred to a figure of 12,000 dwellings for 2006-2026, but this was reduced in the Publication version due to determination of a locally derived housing requirement. The main issue regarding the Severn Estuary is the same: potential disturbance, without mitigation, for birds; (see 6 th column).	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	As above	N/A	N/A	The reference to mitigation under policy CS20 (in blue) is appropriate.	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
Policy CS28 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	While the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies raise the housing figure for Weston super Mare including Weston Villages for 2011-2026 in policy CS28 from 6,913 (adopted plan) to 10,914 the policy retains relevant text which again would be likely to reduce any impact on European sites, such as priority to development of previously developed land, and enhancement of green infrastructure and biodiversity. The policy continues to focus development in the town at the town centre and gateway, where the emphasis is on the regeneration of a range of key sites to stimulate investment, and at Weston Villages, which has been subject to preparation of a detailed Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) that has been subject to thorough HRA in	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	Disturbance of wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light and increased recreational pressures.	N/A	N/A	Promote best practice construction techniques to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure (through planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300m of (guideline only) wading bird foraging zones. Consider use of	B (No significant effect)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	consultation with Natural England. While some of the town centre sites could be on the seafront, impacts are likely to be mitigatable. (See columns 6 and 9).							interpretation if necessary. In addition, liaison with Natural England suggests that measures referred to in the draft Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for the Severn Estuary European site may also be appropriate, such as : Consider the potential for a strategic approach to visitor management, including appropriate zonation to protect undisturbed areas. <i>The council is working with Natural England to ensure</i>		

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
								<i>appropriate mitigation relating to the proposed coast path from Aust to Brean Down</i>		
Policy CS29: Weston-super-Mare Town Centre	Town centre regeneration: major retail-led development in retail core; entertainment and leisure uses, tourist facilities and accommodation at seafront; creation of an office quarter within the gateway area	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	Water abstraction has been assessed as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of development proposed in Weston-super-Mare it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further specialist advice was provided by the	Disturbance of wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light and increased recreational pressures.	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Require best practice construction techniques to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure (through planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant vibration and	B (No significant effect)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
				Environment Agency which confirmed this.				noise, such as piling, is undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300m of (guideline only) wading bird foraging zones. Consider use of interpretation if necessary.		
CS29 Publication	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS29 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The main issue regarding the Severn Estuary is the same: potential disturbance, without mitigation, for birds; (see 6 th column).	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	As above	N/A	N/A	The reference to mitigation under policy CS20 (in blue) is appropriate.	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
Policy CS29 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	As above. This was not a remitted policy and so was not affected by the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies. Policy promotes regeneration of town centre, including seafront and gateway sites. It is likely that a significant proportion of development would be on brownfield sites, and impacts are likely to be mitigatable. (See columns 6 and 9).	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	Disturbance of wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light and increased recreational pressures.	N/A	N/A	Promote best practice construction techniques to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure (through planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as undertaken between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300m of (guideline only) wading bird foraging zones. Consider use of interpretation if necessary. In	B (No significant effect)	Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
								<p>addition, liaison with Natural England suggests that measures referred to in the draft Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for the Severn Estuary European site may also be appropriate, such as :</p> <p>Consider the potential for a strategic approach to visitor management, including appropriate zonation to protect undisturbed areas.</p> <p><i><u>The council is working with Natural England to ensure appropriate mitigation</u></i></p>		

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
								relating to the proposed coast path from Aust to Brean Down		
Policy CS30: Weston Urban Extension	A major mixed use, employment-led urban extension will be developed south-east of Weston-super-Mare. This will include 9,000 homes, 42ha of employment land along with other necessary community, social and transport infrastructure to support the development.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	Water abstraction has been assessed as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of development proposed in Weston-super-Mare it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.	Disturbance of wading birds and wildfowl in the Severn Estuary, due to increased noise and light and increased recreational pressures.	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Require best practice construction techniques to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure (through planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken	B (No significant effect)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
								generally between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300 m (guideline only) of wading bird foraging zones. Consider use of interpretation if necessary.		
CS30 Publication Weston Villages	Employment-led development in two villages on mainly previously developed land at Weston airfield and Locking Parklands (the "Weston Villages"). To include total of 5,500 new homes and at least 37.7ha of B use employment land.	As above	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS30 as at November 2013.	The only change being proposed to the adopted plan policy is a slight change in the number of	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	Some potential for increased recreational pressure and	N/A	N/A	The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage .	As above	As above

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	<p>dwelling to be built at Weston Villages from about 5,500 to about 5,800. The Consultation Draft plan had referred to a figure of 9,000 dwellings for that area, but this was reduced in the Publication version. Arguably the HRA assessments at both Consultation Draft and Publication stages were unduly pessimistic in predicting disturbance impacts from development without mitigation, since the Weston Villages area is 2km from the Severn Estuary. However there is potential for increased recreational pressure, but also scope for mitigation for that; (see columns 6 and 9).</p>				hence disturbance to birds.			regarding possible use of interpretation. is still relevant.		
<p>Policy CS30 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential</p>	<p>This is a remitted policy, for which the only change in the proposed consequential changes is an increase in the housing figure for Weston Villages from about 5,500 in the</p>	<p>C (Likely significant effect alone)</p>	<p>Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)</p>	<p>LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)</p>	<p>Some potential for increased recreational pressure and hence disturbance to birds.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Mitigation regarding possible use of interpretation. is still relevant. In addition, liaison with Natural England</p>	<p>B (No significant effect)</p> <p>Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the</p>	

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site			
changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	<p>adopted plan to about 6,500 dwellings, and many have been built, are being built, or have planning permission The increased figure is still lower than the figure of 9,000 dwellings that was in the Consultation Draft Core Strategy.</p> <p>The policy still refers to possible provision of a waste to energy plant, but air quality impacts are unlikely to be significant. (See column 4).</p> <p>Weston Villages area is 2km from the Severn Estuary and potential for increased recreational pressure is limited, with scope for mitigation (see columns 6 and 9).</p>						<p>suggests that measures referred to in the draft Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for the Severn Estuary European site may also be appropriate, such as :</p> <p>Consider the potential for a strategic approach to visitor management, including appropriate zonation to protect undisturbed areas.</p> <p><i>The council is working with Natural England to ensure appropriate mitigation relating to the proposed coast path from Aust</i></p>		planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
								<i>to Brean Down.</i>		
Policy CS31: Market and Coastal Towns	Proposals for development at Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead will be supported if they increase self-containment, ensure the availability of jobs and services for the town and surrounding catchments, and improve the town's role as a service centre.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS31 Publication Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS31 as at November 2013.	The only changes being proposed to the adopted plan policy are the following changes in the number of dwellings to be built from 2006-2026 as follows: Clevedon: change from 454 to 493; Nailsea: change from 210 to 647; Portishead: change from 3,051 to 3,040. The policy at Consultation Draft stage did not	C (Likely significant effect alone)	N/A	N/A	Theoretically, given that the settlement limits of Clevedon and Portishead extend to the seafronts, there could be scope for seafront development with associated potential for disturbance of birds from construction. However much of	N/A	N/A	Require best practice construction techniques to ensure minimal disruption. Ensure (through planning conditions etc) that key construction activities which cause significant	B (No significant effect)	Projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	<p>specify housing numbers, although they were given in the supporting text .</p> <p>The adopted policy permits development within settlement limits at all three towns, and mixed use schemes adjacent to the settlement boundary at Nailsea outside the Green Belt, subject to criteria.</p> <p>It is considered that, without mitigation there may be potential for impacts which were not identified in the earlier HRA work, but which can be mitigated. (See columns 6 and 9.)</p>				<p>the development proposed in these towns has already been built or has consent, particularly at Portishead on key sites like the harbourside. However there could be some increased recreation pressure, from development at all three towns and associated potential for disturbance. .</p>			<p>vibration and noise, such as piling, is undertaken generally between April and August to avoid disturbance to wading birds and wildfowl, if site is within 300 m (guideline only) of wading bird foraging zones.</p> <p>Consider use of interpretation if necessary.</p>		
<p>Policy CS31 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .</p>	<p>This is a remitted policy for which the only changes are increases in the numbers of dwellings for 2006-26, which for Clevedon is a rise from 454 (adopted plan) to 812, for Nailsea a rise from 210 to 917, and for Portishead a rise from 3,051 to 3,247. Many of the dwellings</p>	<p>C (Likely significant effect alone)</p>	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	<p>As above. In addition, liaison with Natural England suggests that measures referred to in the draft Site Improvement Plan (SIP) for the Severn Estuary</p>	<p>B (No significant effect)</p>	<p>Projects may need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.</p>

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	<p>have been built, are being built or have planning consent, and the policy retains text which should help to reduce any potential impacts on European sites, for example: "residential development within the settlement boundaries of the three towns will be acceptable in principle provided it reflects the character of the local environment and doesn't cause any adverse impacts".</p> <p>The relevant issues are still likely to be some potential for disturbance to birds from possible recreation pressure, and to some extent from seafront development, but this is mitigatable. (See column 9)</p>							<p>European site may also be appropriate, such as : Consider the potential for a strategic approach to visitor management, including appropriate zonation to protect undisturbed areas.</p> <p>The council is working with Natural England to ensure appropriate mitigation relating to the proposed coast path from Aust to Breen Down</p>		
Policy CS32: Service Villages	Proposals for development which support or enhance their roles as local hubs for community facilities and	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	services, employment and affordable housing, including public transport will be supported.									
CS32 Publication	Support for small scale development within settlement boundaries which supports and enhances village's role as local hub.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS32 as at November 2013.	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Latter differs from Consultation Draft version in allowing small scale residential or mixed use developments outside settlement boundaries subject to criteria. However reference to small scale and fact that only one of the proposed Service Villages (Easton in Gordano/Pill) is adjacent to the Severn Estuary site suggests that LSEs are unlikely. The Sites and Policies Plan which would make any allocations in Service Villages is likely	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	to be subject to its own HRA.									
Policy CS32 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. The fact that only one of the proposed Service Villages (Easton in Gordano/Pill) is adjacent to the Severn Estuary site reduces the likelihood of significant effects. The Site Allocations Plan which would make any allocations in Service Villages is likely to be subject to its own HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS33: Smaller Settlements and Countryside.	Proposals for development within the rural areas outside of Service Villages will be strictly controlled in order to protect their character and prevent unsustainable development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS33 Publication Infill Villages, smaller settlements and countryside	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS33 as at November 2013.	No changes are proposed to adopted	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
	policy. Latter differs from Consultation Draft version in allowing some market housing within infill villages but restricted to one or two infill dwellings or small scale residential development within the settlement limits, subject to criteria. Reference to small scale and fact that only one of the proposed infill villages (Kewstoke) is adjacent to the Severn Estuary site suggests that LSEs are unlikely.									
Policy CS33 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. The fact that only one of the proposed infill villages (Kewstoke) is adjacent to the Severn Estuary site reduces the likelihood of significant effects. The Site Allocations Plan which would make any allocations in Service Villages is likely to be subject to its own HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Delivery Policies										

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
Policy CS34: Developer Contributions to Infrastructure.	Financial contributions will be sought in the form of a standardised tariff scheme applied across the district to ensure the effective and timely delivery of the key infrastructure requirements to support new development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS34 Publication Infrastructure delivery and development contributions	Concerns mechanisms for funding and delivery of infrastructural elements, with regard to the Weston villages, Weston urban area and rest of district	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS34 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS34 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which concerns the collection of development contributions towards infrastructure, rather than development itself.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Severn Estuary Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ¹	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to wildlife	Land take from European site	Other			
changes to remitted policies where relevant)	The blue text above applies.									
Policy CS35: Implementation	Implementation will take place as part of a co-ordinated strategy, provided in step with the necessary infrastructure, utilities and service provision needed to support and enable the development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS35 is deleted in the Publication version	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS35 is deleted in the adopted plan, and no change is being proposed to that situation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS35 is deleted in the adopted plan, and no change is being proposed to that situation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Screening Assessment Matrix for Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
Living within Environmental Limits										
Policy CS1: Addressing Climate Change and Carbon Reduction	Renewable energy in development; e.g. Energy from Waste Plant at Weston urban extension, green infrastructure networks, sustainable transport, enhancing/protecting biodiversity, re-use of previously developed land etc.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site. Only specific reference to energy from waste plant is for Weston urban extension,	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications. Energy from waste plants may require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to

² Based on the Natural England Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents by David Tyldesley, Jan 2009

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propoal	Description	Assessme nt Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessme nt Category post mitigation	HRA re quired ?
			Decrease d Air Quality	Decrease d Water Quality	Recreation al Disturbanc e	Land take from Europea n Site	Other			
			within that distance of Uphill Cliff.							include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.
Policy CS1 of Publication version of Core Strategy	As above	As above	As above. Note: Weston Villages now replace Weston Urban Extension	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS1 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Has addition of need for development to demonstrate water efficiency measures. Policy refers to creation of waste to energy facilities at Weston Villages.	As above	As above. Note: Weston Villages now replace Weston Urban Extension	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant,	As above	As above
Policy CS1 as at September 2014, (including	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which	C (Likely significant effect	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be	N/A	N/A	N/A	Greater horseshoe bats are a	Use of appropriate technology/design	B (No	Potentiall y on individual

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	promotes reducing carbon emissions and tackling climate change. There is reference to reduction/recycling of waste, and creation of waste to energy facilities in Weston villages	alone) The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy.	individually assessed as part of the planning process. Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site. Only specific reference to energy from waste plant is for Weston Villages, within that distance of Uphill Cliff.				qualifying species. Potential for renewable energy to include wind turbines; bats could be at risk from these, although horseshoe bats may be at lower risk . Natural England has produced interim guidance, latest TIN051 2014	(through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) This mitigation is still relevant. Locational control.	significant effect)	planning applications. Energy from waste plants may require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.
Policy CS2: Delivering Sustainable Design and Construction.	Sustainable design and construction. Policy sets targets e.g. for on site renewable energy, Code for Sustainable homes, BREEAM ratings etc	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
CS2 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above
Policy CS2 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Addition of requirement to apply best practice in sustainable urban drainage systems. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS2 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes sustainable design and construction. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA..	B (No significant effect) The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy..	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Reference to renewable energy generation could include wind turbines which could potentially impact on greater horseshoe bats, a qualifying species for this site. Bats are known to be	Locational control for wind turbines. Natural England has produced interim guidance regarding bats and wind turbines, latest TIN051 2014	B (No significant effect)	Project level HRA may be needed.

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propoal	Description	Assessme nt Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessme nt Category post mitigation	HRA re quired ?
			Decrease d Air Quality	Decrease d Water Quality	Recreation al Disturbanc e	Land take from Europea n Site	Other			
								at risk of mortality from wind turbines, although horseshoe bats may be at lower risk .		
Policy CS3: Environmental Risk Management.	Sets out the Sequential Test for development with regard to flood zones.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS3 Publication Environmental Impacts and Flood Risk Assessment	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS3 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Reference to NPPF rather than PPS25. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS3 as at September 2014,	No changes are proposed to adopted	B (No significant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
(including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	policy, which requires acceptable mitigation for environmental impacts of development, and following the sequential test regarding flooding. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	effect) The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy..								
Policy CS4: Nature Conservation.	Maintain and enhance biodiversity within the district.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Part 5 of policy refers to tree planting. Inappropriate planting could impact on features like grasslands, but policy is positive for biodiversity overall.	Planting needs to take into account the possible risk of impact on interest features of European Sites.	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS4 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above	N/A
Policy CS4 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propo sal	Description	Assesse ment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assesse ment Category post mitigation	HRA re quired ?
			Decrease d Air Quality	Decrease d Water Quality	Recreation al Disturbanc e	Land take from Europea n Site	Other			
	Consultation Draft version, but refers to well targeted woodland creation, reducing the likelihood of inappropriate tree planting. Documents such as Green Infrastructure Strategy and Biodiversity and Trees SPD are referred to in supporting text. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS4 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS5: Landscape and the Historic	Protect and enhance the character, distinctiveness, diversity and quality	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
Environment.	of North Somerset's landscape and townscape.								effect)	
CS5 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS5 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Reference to heritage assets rather than just assets. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS5 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes protection and enhancement of the landscape. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS6: North Somerset's Green Belt	Protect the existing Green Belt.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
									effect)	
CS6 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS6 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. A difference is that it no longer refers to possibility of taking land out of the Green Belt in exceptional circumstances, by local review. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS6 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which states that the Green Belt will remain unchanged. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect). While this is a remitted policy, it is envisaged that the housing increase can be met within the existing spatial strategy which does not include change to the	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
		Green Belt. Also the SAC component sites are not near the Green Belt.								
Policy CS7: Planning for Waste in North Somerset	Support for sustainable management of waste, recovery of energy from waste in line with Joint Waste Core Strategy policies	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site. (See HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications. Energy from Waste Plants may require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
CS7 Publication Planning for Waste	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	y. As above
Policy CS7 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Refers to Sites and Policies DPD rather than "a Development Management DPD".	As above.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	As above	As above
Policy CS7 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes prevention/minimisation of waste, design for ease of waste collection, and use of Joint Waste Core Strategy policies and development management policies on waste. Promotes recovery of energy from waste in line with Joint Waste Core	C (Likely significant effect alone). The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy.	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site. (See HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) This mitigation is still relevant.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications. Energy from Waste Plants may require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	Strategy policies									flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.
Policy CS8: Minerals Planning in North Somerset	Provision will be made for North Somerset to contribute towards approximately 40% of the West of England's aggregates requirement. The council will seek to maintain a land bank for crushed rock of at least 10 years.	C (likely significant effect alone)	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Unlikely to be significant air pollution impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology. Locational control of quarrying, leaving adequate distance between quarry and European site	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
CS8 Publication Minerals Planning	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS8 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The addition that was made at Modifications stage to quantify the crushed rock apportionment for North Somerset in tonnes , did not alter the earlier HRA conclusions.	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	It is considered that this entry should be altered from N/A to "very unlikely". The likelihood of adverse impact from quarrying on this SAC is very limited. (It would only be probable if habitat, such as semi natural dry grasslands, was lost due to direct land take from the SAC itself from quarrying , and being a European site that is extremely unlikely to	N/A	As above . The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	As above	As above

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
Policy CS8 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which sets out the requirement for crushed rock provision, and maintenance of a landbank, and promotes protection of mineral resources through mineral safeguarding areas..	C (likely significant effect alone). The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy..	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Unlikely to be significant air pollution impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	N/A	Very unlikely; (see above)	N/A	Use of appropriate technology. Locational control of quarrying, leaving adequate distance between quarry and European site . This mitigation is still relevant.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.
Policy CS9: Green Infrastructure	Safeguard, improve and enhance the existing network of green infrastructure.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	N/A	N/A	Promoting an accessible green infrastructure network could lead to extra pressure from increased visitor numbers – eg. recreational impacts including	N/A	N/A	The NSC Green Infrastructure Strategy is likely to encourage provision of opportunities for green infrastructure elsewhere, such as public open	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
					trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter on Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC.			space provision, which is likely to provide alternative locations for recreation .		
CS9 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS9 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Includes reference to tree planting. Reference to Green Infrastructure SPD in supporting text.	As above	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the following is more appropriate: Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDS, and SPDs.(For example, the Weston Villages SPD proposes provision of extensive green infrastructure at	As above	As above

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
								Weston Villages, including a network of green corridors with multifunctional recreational benefits including a strategic cycleway/footpath network, and community parks.) Encourage provision of interpretation boards at the SAC sites, encouraging restriction of walking to established public footpaths		
Policy CS9 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Concerns safeguarding, improving and enhancing the existing network of green infrastructure. Refers to protection and enhancement of biodiversity.	B (No significant effect) It is considered that the policy has been too pessimistically assessed at earlier stages of HRA. Policy refers to protection and	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
where relevant) .		enhancement of biodiversity. Reference to green infrastructure is one of further provision, which would help to provide alternative areas to the SAC for recreation. Hence it is considered that a B categorisation is actually appropriate.								
Policy CS10: Transport and Movement	Encouragement for travel management policies and development proposals that encourage an improved and integrated transport network and allow for wide choice of transport modes. Lists proposed transport schemes over the plan period.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Transport schemes which would significantly increase traffic on sections of A38 and A371 alongside component site are potentially significant with respect to airborne nitrogen deposition (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	Potentially increased number of visitors.	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. The NSC Green Infrastructure Strategy will identify opportunities for green infrastructure	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
								elsewhere such as public open space provision, which is likely to provide alternative locations for recreation .		
CS10 Publication Transportation and Movement	As above	AS above	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS10 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Includes addition of requirement for transport schemes to contribute towards carbon reduction, and support movement of freight by rail, which should have beneficial environmental effects. List of transport schemes is	C (Likely significant effect alone)	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Regarding potential for increased visitor numbers the mitigation re policy CS9 is appropriate.	As above	As above

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	the same except for addition of Airfield Bridge Link (ABL) between Weston Airfield and Winterstoke Rd, and Weston Southern Rail Chord (WSRC). ABL is a more direct road link so should help reduce distance travelled and hence emissions. WSRC should help promote train rather than car transport which should have environmental benefits.									
Policy CS10 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	As above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which concerns transport and transport schemes.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Transport schemes which would significantly increase traffic on sections of A38 and A371 alongside component site are potentially significant with respect to airborne nitrogen	N/A	Promotion of an improved and integrated transport network , along with housing increase, could theoretically mean increased number of visitors to the component sites, but location of component sites could mean this would be	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site			
			deposition (see HRA air quality appendix). The housing increase could lead to increased traffic.		limited.				

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
								established public footpaths		
Policy CS11: Parking	Provision of adequate car parking to meet the needs of anticipated users.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Any parking measures which could increase traffic on section of A38 and A371 alongside component site are potentially significant with regard to airborne nitrogen deposition (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.
CS11 Publication	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A.	N/A	AS above	As above	As above
Policy CS11 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Only difference is that policy refers to Sites and Policies DPD rather than Development	As above	As above	N/A	Potentially increased number of visitors.	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Regarding potential for increased visitor numbers the mitigation re	As above	As above

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	Management DPD.							policy CS9 is appropriate.		
Policy CS11 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Provision of adequate car parking to meet the needs of anticipated users.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Any parking measures which could increase traffic on section of A38 and A371 alongside component site are potentially significant with regard to airborne nitrogen deposition (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	Potentially increased number of visitors, particularly with the assumed housing increase. However the policy is not location specific, and does not specifically allocate parking near the SAC component sites.	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Regarding potential for increased visitor numbers the mitigation re policy CS10 is appropriate.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.
Delivering Strong and Inclusive Communities										
Policy CS12: Achieving High Quality Design and Place Making	High quality architecture and urban design will be expected from all developments.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS12 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS12 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propo sal	Description	Assesse ment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assesse ment Category post mitigation	HRA re quired ?
			Decrease d Air Quality	Decrease d Water Quality	Recreation al Disturbanc e	Land take from Europea n Site	Other			
	is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. While some paragraphs differ the thrust of the policy is on promoting well designed building and places, and there is still reference to environmental sustainability. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS12 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Promotion of well designed building and places. Includes reference to environmental sustainability. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS13: Scale of New Housing.	Provision of 17,750 dwellings across the district over the plan period. 3000	C (Likely significant effect)	Weston urban extension located generally over	Water abstraction has been assessed as part of the	Increased population could lead to extra pressure from	N/A	N/A	The NSC Green Infrastructure Strategy is likely to identify	B (No significant effect)	Potential y on individual planning

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	<p>dwelling in Weston-super-Mare urban area and 9,000 dwellings as an urban extension to Weston-super-Mare. The remainder of 5,750 dwellings will be met by land from existing identified sources and no additional allocation will be required in the plan period.</p>	alone)	<p>2km from nearest component site (Uphill Cliff). Traffic emissions unlikely to be significant (see HRA air quality appendix)</p>	<p>Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of development proposed in North Somerset it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.</p>	<p>increased visitor numbers; eg. recreational impacts including trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter on Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC.</p>			<p>opportunities for green infrastructure elsewhere such as public open space provision, which is likely to provide alternative locations for recreation.</p> <p>Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling.</p>		applications.
CS13 Publication	<p>Weston will be focus of new housing development . Outside Weston most additional development to occur at Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea, on existing</p>	As above	<p>As above, but urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages</p>	As above	As above	As above	N/A	As above	As above	As above

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	allocations, within their existing settlement boundaries, or in Nailsea at allocations outside Green Belt. Priority to previously developed land. Within the Service villages small scale infill development or site allocations can occur. All new housing to not conflict with nature conservation policies									
Policy CS13 as at November 2013.	Proposed change in housing number from the minimum of 14,000 in adopted plan to minimum of 17,130 dwellings within North Somerset 2006 - 2026 . (Note: while this is an increase, the 17,130 is less than the 17,750 dwellings at the Consultation Draft stage, referred to in black above. The main issue regarding	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	As above	As above	As above	It is considered that the following is more appropriate: Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDS, and	As above	As above

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	the Mendip Limestone Grasslands site is the same (possible recreational impact on habitats) .									
Policy CS13 as at September 2014, (including reference to	This policy, on the housing number, was remitted for re-examination. The Inspector supported an increase in the	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Weston urban extension located generally over 2km from nearest	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	Increased housing could lead to extra pressure from increased visitor numbers; eg. recreational	N/A	N/A	Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	housing requirement from 17,130 to 20,985 for 2006-2026.		component site (Uphill Cliff). Traffic emissions unlikely to be significant (see HRA air quality appendix)		impacts including trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter on Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC.			through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision. eg. In DPDS, and SPDs.(For example, the Weston Villages SPD proposes provision of significant green infrastructure at Weston Villages, including a network of green corridors with multifunctional Encourage provision of interpretation boards encouraging restriction of walking to established public footpaths..		
Policy CS14: Distribution of	New housing development will be concentrated in	C (Likely)	Weston urban extension located	Water abstraction has been assessed	Increased population could lead to increased	N/A	N/A	The NSC Green Infrastructure Strategy is likely	B (No significant)	Potentially on individual

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
New Housing	Weston-super-Mare. At Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea residential development will be acceptable within their existing settlement boundaries on brownfield land. Within the Service Villages small scale infill development may be appropriate where it will support the retention of existing services. Elsewhere housing development will not be permitted unless it is for essential workers in rural enterprises, replacement dwellings or affordable housing need.	significant effect alone)	generally over 2km from nearest component site (Uphill Cliff). Traffic emissions unlikely to be significant (see HRA air quality appendix)	as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of development proposed in North Somerset it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.	visitor numbers resulting in recreational impacts.			to identify opportunities for green infrastructure elsewhere such as public open space provision, which is likely to provide alternative locations for recreation. Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling.	effect)	planning applications.
CS14 Publication	Weston will be focus of new housing development . Outside Weston most additional development to occur at Clevedon,	As above	As above but urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propo sal	Description	Assessme nt Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessme nt Category post mitigation	HRA re quired ?
			Decrease d Air Quality	Decrease d Water Quality	Recreation al Disturbanc e	Land take from Europea n Site	Other			
	Portishead and Nailsea, on existing allocations, within their existing settlement boundaries, or in Nailsea at allocations outside Green Belt. Priority to previously developed land. Within the Service Villages small scale infill development or site allocations can occur. All new housing to not conflict with nature conservation policies									
Policy CS14 as at November 2013.	Proposed policy wording is unchanged from the adopted plan except for the housing figures in the table. Weston will be focus of new housing development. Outside Weston most additional development to occur at Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea, on existing	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	As above	N/A	N/A	As in blue text for policy CS13 .	As above	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	<p>allocations, within their existing settlement boundaries, or in Nailsea at allocations outside Green Belt. Priority to previously developed land. At Service Villages small scale infill development or site allocations can occur. All new housing to not conflict with nature conservation policies.</p> <p>While the proposed distribution of the housing has changed slightly from the Consultation Draft stage, mainly due to a reduction in the amount of housing proposed at Weston Villages, the main issue regarding the Mendip Limestone Grasslands site is the same (possible recreational impact</p>									

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
Policy CS14 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	<p>on habitats) .</p> <p>As above. In the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies which were subject to public consultation in autumn 2015 the principles in policy CS14 remained unchanged, only the housing figures changed, and the broad distribution was similar to that in the CS14 of the Core Strategy adopted in 2012. A significant proportion of the new housing is likely to be on brownfield land within towns.</p> <p>As before, the main issue is the possible recreational impact on habitats, and the mitigation in column 9 is still relevant.</p>	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Weston Villages located generally over 2km from nearest component site (Uphill Cliff). Traffic emissions unlikely to be significant (see HRA air quality appendix)	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	Increased population could lead to increased visitor numbers and potential for recreational impacts including trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter.	N/A	N/A	Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDS, and SPDs.(For example, the Weston Villages SPD proposes provision of significant green infrastructure at Weston Villages, including a network of green corridors with multifunctional recreational benefits including a strategic cycleway/footpath network, and community parks.) Encourage	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propoal	Description	Assessme nt Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessme nt Category post mitigation	HRA re quired ?
			Decrease d Air Quality	Decrease d Water Quality	Recreation al Disturbanc e	Land take from Europea n Site	Other			
								provision of interpretation boards encouraging restriction of walking to established public footpaths.		
Policy CS15: Mixed and Balanced Communities	The Council will seek to ensure a genuine mix of housing types within existing and future communities.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS15 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS15 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS15 as at September 2014, (including reference to	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes a genuine mix of housing types	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	within existing and future communities. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS16: Affordable Housing	On-site affordable housing will be sought to meet local needs on all residential developments of 15 dwellings or more (or site of 0.5ha or above). On other sites the Council will seek to negotiate a financial contribution towards the provision of affordable housing.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS16 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS16 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The addition made at modifications stage	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	to widen the definition of affordable housing to include affordable rented did not have significant implications for HRA. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS16 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes provision of on-site affordable housing on all residential developments of 10 dwellings or more (or sites of 0.3ha or above). On sites of 5-9 dwellings the Council will seek to negotiate a financial contribution towards the provision of affordable housing. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
Policy CS17: Residential Sites Providing Affordable Housing Only	Housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local need within small rural communities will be supported provided it meets certain criteria. Specific sites may also be allocated in W-s-M, Portishead, Nailsea and Clevedon and the service villages for 100% affordable housing to meet an identified local need.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS17 Publications	Housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local need within small rural communities will be supported provided it meets certain criteria.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS17 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS17 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. It promotes provision of housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local needs within small rural communities subject to criteria, including one giving priority to sites within settlement boundary, and one on scale being appropriate for location. Also states that rural exceptions schemes will be acceptable adjacent to the settlement boundaries of Service Villages and Infill Villages, and elsewhere adjacent to main body of settlement, but not in	B (No significant effect) It is unlikely that housing schemes of a scale appropriate for a rural location would have significant effects on European Sites, unless they were actually sited on them which is most unlikely to be permitted. Note that planning applications would be likely to be subject to policies on biodiversity	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	the Green Belt, unless justified by very special circumstances.									
Policy CS18: Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show People	Provision will be made for an additional 36 residential and 10 transit pitches for Gypsies and travellers for the period 2006 – 2011.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS18 Publication	Sets out considerations for determination of locations for sites for Gypsies, travellers and travelling show people	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS18 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS18 as at September	No changes are proposed to adopted	B	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	policy, which sets out considerations for determination of locations for sites for Gypsies, travellers and travelling show people. This includes preference for brownfield sites. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	(No significant effect)								
Policy CS19: Green Wedges/Strategic Gaps.	The Council will seek to protect green wedges/strategic gaps to help retain the separate identity, character or landscape setting of settlements.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS19 Publication Strategic gaps	As above, but reference to strategic gaps, not green wedges	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS19 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS19 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes protection of strategic gaps to help retain the separate identity, character or landscape setting of settlements.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Delivering a Prosperous Economy										
Policy CS20: Supporting a Successful Economy	Employment-led strategy to both deliver significant employment development and to ensure that new residential development is provided in association with employment opportunities. The	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Weston urban extension located generally over 2km from nearest component site (Uphill Cliff). Traffic emissions unlikely to be significant (see	N/A	Increased population could lead to increased visitor numbers potentially having recreational impacts.	N/A	N/A	The NSC Green Infrastructure Strategy is likely to identify opportunities for green infrastructure elsewhere such as public open space provision, which is likely to provide	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	Core Strategy provides for around 29,500 jobs Supporting text suggests indicative employment requirement for B1-B8 uses would include 61 ha at Weston Urban Extension.		HRA air quality appendix)					alternative locations for recreation .		
CS20 Publication	The Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs. Supporting text suggests indicative employment land allocations (B1-B8 uses) to be as in adopted Replacement Local Plan, plus about 38ha at Weston Villages.	As above	As above but urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A
Policy CS20 as at November 2013.	The policy is not proposed to change from the adopted plan version. It states that the Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional	As above	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As in blue text for policy CS13	As above	As above

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	jobs, which is less than at Consultation Draft stage, with consequentially lower employment land implications. As with the Consultation Draft stage, a consequence of employment development could be to attract more people into the district, and the main issue regarding the Mendip Limestone Grasslands site is the same ; (possible recreational impact on habitats) .									
Policy CS20 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which states that the Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs, which is less than at Consultation Draft stage, with consequentially lower employment land implications.	C (Likely significant effect alone) This concerns potential for disturbance, but, this is mitigatable; see columns 6 and 9).	Weston urban extension located generally over 2km from nearest component site (Uphill Cliff). Traffic emissions unlikely to be significant (see HRA air quality appendix)	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	Employment development could attract people to live in the district and potentially lead to increased visitor numbers and recreational impacts, such as trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging,	N/A	N/A	Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDS, and SPDs.(For	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	<p>As indicated above, a consequence of employment development could be to attract more people into the district, and the main issue regarding the Mendip Limestone Grasslands site is the same; (possible recreational impact on habitats) .</p> <p>There could be an in combination effect with the housing increase, regarding this. However impacts should be mitigatable; (see column 9).</p>				fires and litter.			<p>example, the Weston Villages SPD proposes provision of extensive green infrastructure at Weston Villages, including a network of green corridors with multifunctional recreational benefits including a strategic cycleway/footpath network, and community parks.) Encourage provision of interpretation boards encouraging restriction of walking to established public footpaths.</p>		
Policy CS21: Retail Hierarchy and Provision.	Identifies retail hierarchy across the district.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS21 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
Policy CS21 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS21 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which identifies retail hierarchy across the district.	B (No significant effect) Retail centres are unlikely to be located in locations affecting the SAC sites.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS22: Tourism Strategy	Supports visitor facilities and accommodation across the district provided they meet certain criteria.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	N/A	N/A	Increased population could lead to increased visitor numbers resulting in recreational impacts.	N/A	N/A	The NSC Green Infrastructure Strategy is likely to identify opportunities for green infrastructure	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
								elsewhere such as public open space provision, which is likely to provide alternative locations for recreation .		
CS22 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS22 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version The main issue regarding the Mendip Limestone Grasslands site is the same ; (possible recreational impact on habitats) .	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	It is considered that the following is more appropriate: Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDS, and SPDs. Encourage provision of interpretation boards encouraging	As above	As above

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
								restriction of walking to established public footpaths		
Policy CS22 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which supports new, improved and replacement visitor and tourist facilities and accommodation across the district provided they meet certain criteria. Criteria include appropriate scale and no adverse implications for environment, and (for Weston) need to comply with sequential approach giving priority to town centre or seafront sites.	C (Likely significant effect alone) Mainly concerns scope for increased visitor pressure, but this is mitigatable.	N/A	N/A	Increased population could lead to increased visitor numbers resulting in potentially greater likelihood of recreational impacts.	N/A	N/A	As above. This mitigation is still relevant.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.
Policy CS23: Bristol International Airport	Proposals will be required to demonstrate the satisfactory resolution of environmental	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	issues, including the impact of growth on surrounding communities and surface access infrastructure.									
CS23 Publication Bristol Airport	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS23 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above
Policy CS23 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which requires proposals for development at the airport to demonstrate the satisfactory resolution of environmental issues, including the impact of growth on surrounding communities and	B (No significant effect)	Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propoal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	surface access infrastructure.									
Policy CS24: Royal Portbury Dock	Identified land will continue to be safeguarded for port uses, subject to demonstrable need for those uses that cannot be accommodated elsewhere within the existing port estate. Further expansion of the port within North Somerset is not supported.	B (No significant effect)	Royal Portbury Dock located > 10 km from site, unlikely to have significant effect	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS24 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS24 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version; (only a difference in the name of the site allocations document referred to.) No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above
Policy CS24	No changes are		Royal Portbury	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propoal	Description	Assessme nt Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessme nt Category post mitigation	HRA re quired ?
			Decrease d Air Quality	Decrease d Water Quality	Recreation al Disturbanc e	Land take from Europea n Site	Other			
as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	proposed to adopted policy, which continues to safeguard identified land at Court House Farm near Royal Portbury Dock for port uses, subject to demonstrable need for those uses that cannot be accommodated elsewhere within the existing port estate. Further expansion of the port within North Somerset is not supported.	B (No significant effect)	Dock located > 10 km from site, unlikely to have significant effect . (See Air Quality Appendix)							
Ensuring Safe and Healthy Communities										
Policy CS25: Children, Young People and Higher Education	Provision of educational facilities.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS25 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS25 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propoal	Description	Assessme nt Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessme nt Category post mitigation	HRA re quired ?
			Decrease d Air Quality	Decrease d Water Quality	Recreation al Disturbanc e	Land take from Europea n Site	Other			
	fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS25 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which seeks educational provision where local provision will be inadequate to meet the needs of new residential developments. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS26: Supporting Healthy Living and the Provision of Health Care Facilities.	Requires Health Impact Assessment (HIA) on all large scale developments, Joint working with health providers to deliver a district wide network of health facilities, reduce health inequalities in the district, encourage	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	development that promotes active lifestyles.									
CS26 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS26 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS26 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which supports strategies which increase and improve health services, promote healthier lifestyles and aim to reduce health inequalities. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS27: Sport, Recreation and Community Facilities.	Provision of sport, recreation and community facilities	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
CS27 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS27 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS27 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes additional provision of sport, recreation and community facilities where local provision is inadequate to meet projected needs and standards. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Area Policies										
Policy CS28: Weston-super-Mare	W-s-M will be the primary focus for development within North Somerset. The town will accommodate 12,000 new	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impact from traffic unlikely to be significant. (see HRA air quality Appendix D)	N/A	Potential extra pressure from increased visitor numbers; eg. recreational impacts including trampling	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	<p>dwelling and 10,000 new jobs between 2006-2026 as part of an employment-led strategy to deliver improved self-containment and reduced out-commuting over the plan period.</p>				(physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter			<p>cycling.</p> <p>The NSC Green Infrastructure Strategy is likely to identify opportunities for green infrastructure elsewhere such as public open space provision, which is likely to provide alternative locations for recreation .</p>		
CS28 Publication	<p>W-s-M will be the primary focus for development within North Somerset. The town will accommodate around 5,850 additional new dwellings with approx 10,500 employment opportunities between 2010-2026 as part of an</p>	As above	<p>As above. Note: Weston urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages</p>	N/A	As above	As above	N/A	As above	As above	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	employment-led strategy to deliver improved self-containment and reduced out-commuting over the plan period.									
Policy CS28 as at November 2013.	The only change being proposed to the adopted plan policy is a change in the number of dwellings to be built in Weston from around 6,913 to 5,136, and a change in the period for that to occur from 2011-2026 to 2013-2026. The Consultation Draft plan had referred to a figure of 12,000 dwellings for 2006-2026, but this was reduced in the Publication version due to determination of a locally derived housing requirement. The main issue regarding the Mendip Limestone	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impact from traffic unlikely to be significant. (see HRA air quality Appendix D)	N/A	Potential extra pressure from increased visitor numbers; eg. recreational impacts including trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter.	N/A	N/A	It is considered that the following is more appropriate: Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDS, and SPDs. Encourage provision of interpretation boards encouraging restriction of walking to established public footpaths	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	Grasslands site is the same ; (possible recreational impact on habitats) .									
Policy CS28 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	While the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies raise the housing figure for Weston super Mare including Weston Villages for 2011-2026 in policy CS28 from 6,913 (adopted plan) to 10,914 the policy retains relevant text which would be likely to reduce any impact on European sites, such as priority to development of previously developed land, and enhancement of green infrastructure and biodiversity. The policy continues to focus development in the town at the town centre and gateway, where the emphasis is on the regeneration of a	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impact from traffic unlikely to be significant. (see HRA air quality Appendix D)	N/A	Potential extra pressure from increased visitor numbers; eg. recreational impacts including trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter on Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC.	N/A	N/A	Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDs, and SPDs. Encourage provision of interpretation boards promoting restriction of walking to established public footpaths.	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	range of key sites to stimulate investment, and at Weston Villages, which has been subject to preparation of a detailed Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) that has been subject to thorough HRA in consultation with Natural England. The main issue regarding the Mendip Limestone Grasslands site is the same; (possible recreational impact on habitats) .									
Policy CS29: Weston-super-Mare Town Centre	Town centre regeneration: major retail-led development in retail core; entertainment and leisure uses, tourist facilities and accommodation at seafront; creation of an office quarter within the gateway area	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impact from traffic unlikely to be significant. (see HRA air quality Appendix D)	N/A	Potential extra pressure from increased visitor numbers; eg.recreational impacts including trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter.	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. The NSC Green Infrastructure Strategy is likely to identify	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
								opportunities for green infrastructure elsewhere which are likely to provide alternative locations for recreation.		
CS29 Publication	As above	AS above	AS above	AS above	AS above	AS above	N/A	AS above	AS above	N/A
Policy CS29 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The main issue regarding the Mendip Limestone Grasslands site is the same ; (possible recreational impact on habitats) .	As above	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As in blue text for policy CS13 .	As above	As above
Policy CS29 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed	No change is proposed to adopted policy. Town centre regeneration: major retail-led development in retail core; entertainment	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impact from traffic unlikely to be significant. (see HRA air quality Appendix D)	N/A	Reference to housing development, tourist accommodation and facilities, particularly with	No – although potential disturbance to natural habitats due to increased recreation	N/A	Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site			
consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	and leisure uses, tourist facilities and accommodation at seafront; creation of an office quarter within the gateway area				assumed housing increase, could theoretically mean more residents and visitors to area and possibly increased pressure on the SAC sites: eg. recreational impacts including trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter.	related activities.			
							and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDs, and SPDs. (For example, the Weston Villages SPD proposes provision of extensive green infrastructure at Weston Villages, including a network of green corridors with multifunctional recreational benefits including a strategic cycleway/footpath network, and community parks.) Encourage provision of interpretation boards encouraging restriction of walking to established public footpaths.		

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propo sal	Description	Assesse ment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assesse ment Category post mitigation	HRA re quired ?
			Decrease d Air Quality	Decrease d Water Quality	Recreation al Disturbanc e	Land take from Europea n Site	Other			
Policy CS30: Weston Urban Extension	A major mixed use, employment-led urban extension will be developed south-east of Weston-super-Mare. This will include 9,000 homes, 42ha of employment land along with other necessary community, social and transport infrastructure to support the development.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impact from traffic unlikely to be significant. (see HRA air quality Appendix D) Point source air pollution impacts could be significant from on site energy generation (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	Potential for recreational impacts including trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter on Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. The NSC Green Infrastructure Strategy is likely to identify opportunities for green infrastructure elsewhere which are likely to provide alternative locations for recreation. HRA/EIA may be needed for any renewable energy projects associated with urban extension Ensure renewable energy plants are designed to	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
								minimise emissions.		
CS30 Publication Weston Villages	Employment-led development in two villages on mainly previously developed land at Weston airfield and Locking Parklands (the "Weston Villages"). To include total of 5,500 new homes and at least 37.7ha of B use employment land.	As above	As above but urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages	As above	As above	As above	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS30 as at November 2013.	The only change being proposed to the adopted plan policy is a slight change in the number of dwellings to be built at Weston Villages from about 5,500 to about 5,800. The Consultation Draft plan had referred to a figure of 9,000 dwellings for that area , but this was	As above	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant, but it is considered that revised wording regarding mitigating recreational pressures is appropriate. Hence: Encourage and facilitate sustainable	As above	As above

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	reduced in the Publication version . The policy still refers to possible provision of a waste to energy plant.							<p>modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDs, and SPDs.(For example, the Weston Villages SPD proposes provision of extensive green infrastructure at Weston Villages, including a network of green corridors with multifunctional recreational benefits including</p>		

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
								<p>a strategic cycleway/footpath network, and community parks.)</p> <p>Encourage provision of interpretation boards encouraging restriction of walking to established public footpaths..</p> <p>HRA/EIA may be needed for any renewable energy projects associated with urban extension</p> <p>Ensure renewable energy plants are designed to minimise emissions.</p>		
Policy CS30	This is a remitted policy, for which the	C	Impact from traffic unlikely	N/A	Potential for recreational	N/A	N/A	Promotion of opportunities for	B	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site				Other
as at September 2014.	only change in the proposed consequential changes is an increase in the housing figure for Weston Villages from about 5,500 in the adopted plan to about 6,500 dwellings, and many have been built, are being built, or have planning permission The increased figure is still lower than the figure of 9,000 dwellings that was in the Consultation Draft Core Strategy. The policy still refers to possible provision of a waste to energy plant. The issues are likely to be the same: recreational pressure from residents, and possible air quality impacts from a possible waste to energy plant.	(Likely significant effect alone)	to be significant. (see HRA air quality Appendix D) Point source air pollution impacts could be significant from on site energy generation (see HRA air quality appendix)		impacts including trampling (physical damage), erosion, collection/digging, fires and litter on Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC.			informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDs, and SPDs.(For example, the Weston Villages SPD proposes provision of extensive green infrastructure at Weston Villages, including a network of green corridors with multifunctional recreational benefits including a strategic cycleway/footpath network, and community parks.) Encourage provision of interpretation	(No significant effect)	

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
								boards encouraging restriction of walking to established public footpaths.. HRA/EIA may be needed for any renewable energy projects associated with urban extension Ensure renewable energy plants are designed to minimise emissions.		
Policy CS31: Market and Coastal Towns	Proposals for development at Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead will be supported if they increase self-containment, ensure the availability of jobs and services for the town and surrounding	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	catchments, and improve the town's role as a service centre.									
CS31 Publication Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS31 as at November 2013.	The only changes being proposed to the adopted plan policy are the following changes in the number of dwellings to be built from 2006-2026 as follows: Clevedon: change from 454 to 493; Nailsea: change from 210 to 647; Portishead: change from 3,051 to 3,040. The policy at Consultation Draft stage did not specify housing numbers, although they were given in the supporting text. The adopted policy permits development	C (Likely significant effect alone)	N/A	N/A	Theoretically, there could be some increased recreation pressure, from development at all three towns. However much of the development proposed in these towns has already been built or has consent, particularly at Portishead on key sites like the harbourside. Also the towns are relatively distant from the component sites for this SAC, which are in the south of the	N/A	N/A	Promotion of opportunities for informal recreation elsewhere on less sensitive sites through policies and proposals for provision of green infrastructure and public open space provision; eg. In DPDs, and SPDs. Encourage provision of interpretation boards encouraging restriction of walking to established public footpaths	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	within settlement limits at all three towns, and mixed use schemes adjacent to the settlement boundary at Nailsea outside the Green Belt, subject to criteria. It is considered that, without mitigation there may be potential for impacts which were not identified in the earlier HRA work, but which can be mitigated. (See columns 6 and 9.)				district.					
Policy CS31 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	This is a remitted policy for which the only changes are increases in the numbers of dwellings for 2006-26, which for Clevedon is a rise from 454 (adopted plan) to 812, for Nailsea a rise from 210 to 917, and for Portishead a rise from 3,051 to 3,247. Many of the	C (Likely significant effect alone)	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	<p>dwellingings have been built, are being built or have planning consent, and the policy retains text which should help to reduce any potential impacts on European sites, for example: "residential development within the settlement boundaries of the three towns will be acceptable in principle provided it reflects the character of the local environment and doesn't cause any adverse impacts". dwellingings target. The issue is still likely to be one of possible recreation pressure, but may not be significant given the distance of these towns from the SAC sites.</p>									
Policy CS32: Service Villages	Proposals for development which support or enhance their roles as local	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	hubs for community facilities and services, employment and affordable housing, including public transport will be supported.									
CS32 Publication	Support for small scale development within settlement boundaries which supports and enhances village's role as local hub.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS32 as at November 2013.	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Latter differs from Consultation Draft version in allowing small scale residential or mixed use developments outside settlement boundaries subject to criteria. However reference to small scale and fact that none of the proposed Service Villages are adjacent to a component site for this SAC	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	suggests that LSEs are unlikely.									
Policy CS32 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. The fact that none of the proposed Service Villages are adjacent to a component site for this SAC reduces the likelihood of LSEs. The Site Allocations Plan which would make any allocations in Service Villages is likely to be subject to its own HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS33: Smaller Settlements and Countryside.	Strict control of development in rural areas. New housing restricted to affordable housing where a local need which cannot be met in an adjacent town or Service Village, replacement dwellings, or dwellings for workers in essential rural enterprises.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
CS33 Publication Infill Villages, smaller settlements and countryside	Policy differs from Consultation Draft version in allowing infill development (one or two dwellings) or small scale residential development within infill villages, where the proposal is community led, with clear community and environmental benefits. However reference to small scale and fact that only one of the SAC component sites is near an infill village (Uphill) suggests that LSEs are unlikely.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS33 as at November 2013.	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Latter differs from Consultation Draft version in allowing some market housing within infill villages but restricted to one or two infill dwellings or small scale residential	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
	development within the settlement limits, subject to criteria. Reference to small scale and fact that only one of the proposed infill villages (Uphill) is adjacent to a component site for the SAC suggests that LSEs are unlikely.									
Policy CS33 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. The fact that only one of the proposed infill villages (Uphill) is adjacent to a component site for the SAC reduces the likelihood of significant effects. The Site Allocations Plan which would make any allocations in Service Villages is likely to be subject to its own HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Delivery Policies										

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
Policy CS34: Developer Contributions to Infrastructure.	Financial contributions will be sought in the form of a standardised tariff scheme applied across the district to ensure the effective and timely delivery of the key infrastructure requirements to support new development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS34 Publication Infrastructure delivery and development contributions	Concerns mechanisms for funding and delivery of infrastructural elements, with regard to the Weston villages, Weston urban area and rest of district	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS34 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS34 as at September 2014, (including	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Propoal	Description	Assessme nt Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessme nt Category post mitigation	HRA re quired ?
			Decrease d Air Quality	Decrease d Water Quality	Recreation al Disturbanc e	Land take from Europea n Site	Other			
reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	concerns the collection of development contributions towards infrastructure, rather than proposing development. No LSEs are predicted.									
Policy CS35: Implementation	Implementation will take place as part of a co-ordinated strategy, provided in step with the necessary infrastructure, utilities and service provision needed to support and enable the development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS35 is deleted in the Publication version	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS35 is deleted in the adopted plan, and no change is being proposed to that situation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS35 is deleted in the adopted	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Mendip Limestone Grasslands Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ²	Impacts					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Recreational Disturbance	Land take from European Site	Other			
plan, and no change is being proposed to that situation										

Screening Assessment Matrix for North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Living within Environmental Limits										

³ Based on the Natural England Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents by David Tyldesley, Jan 2009

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Policy CS1: Addressing Climate Change and Carbon Reduction	Renewable energy in development; e.g. Energy from Waste Plant at Weston urban extension, green infrastructure networks, sustainable transport, enhancing/protecting biodiversity, re-use of previously developed land etc..	C (Likely significant effects alone)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located <10km from site	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency)	B (No significant effect)	.N/A
Policy CS1 of Publication version of Core Strategy	As above but urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS1 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Has addition of need for development to demonstrate water efficiency measures. Policy refers to creation of waste to energy facilities at Weston Villages.	As above	As above. Note: Weston Villages now replace Weston Urban Extension . The NE part of the Weston Villages site is just within 10km of the Kings Wood and Urchin Wood component sites for the	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant,	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
			SAC.							
Policy CS1 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes reducing carbon emissions and tackling climate change. There is reference to reduction/recycling of waste, and creation of waste to energy facilities in Weston villages	C (Likely significant effects alone). The housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy.	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located <10km from site. The NE part of the Weston Villages site is just within 10km of the Kings Wood and Urchin Wood component sites for the SAC..	N/A	N/A	N/A	Greater horseshoe bats are a qualifying species. Potential for renewable energy to include wind turbines; bats could be at risk from these, although horseshoe bats may be at lower risk . Natural England has produced interim guidance, latest TIN051 2014	Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) . This mitigation, as at Consultation Draft stage , is still relevant. Locational control.	B (No significant effect)	.N/A
Policy CS2: Delivering	Sustainable design and construction. Policy sets targets	C (Likely	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Potential damage to bat and	Location of wind turbines following best practice	B (No significant	Potentially on individual

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Sustainable Design and Construction.	e.g. for on site renewable energy, Code for Sustainable homes, BREEAM ratings etc	significant effect alone) On site renewable energy could include wind turbines					bird species through killing or injuring by wind turbines.	guidance monitoring of impacts.	effect)	planning applications for wind turbines.
CS2 Publication	AS above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS2 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Addition of requirement to apply best practice in sustainable urban drainage systems.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS2 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes sustainable design and construction, including use of on-site renewable energy. Potential for latter to include wind turbines is potentially an issue, without mitigation.	C (Likely significant effect alone) The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy..	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Potential damage to bat and bird species through killing or injuring by wind turbines.	Location of wind turbines following best practice guidance; monitoring of impacts.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications for wind turbines.

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Policy CS3: Environmental Risk Management.	Sets out the Sequential Test for development with regard to flood zones.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS3 Publication Environmental Impacts and Flood Risk Assessment	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS3 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Reference to NPPF rather than PPS25. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS3 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which requires acceptable mitigation for environmental impacts of development, and for proposals to follow the sequential test regarding	B (No significant effect). The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy..	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
remitted policies where relevant)	flooding. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA..									
Policy CS4: Nature Conservation.	Maintain and enhance biodiversity within the district.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
CS4 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS4 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Documents such as Green Infrastructure Strategy and Biodiversity and Trees SPD are referred to in supporting text. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS4 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity. No LSEs were predicted	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS5: Landscape and the Historic Environment.	Protect and enhance the character, distinctiveness, diversity and quality of North Somerset's landscape and townscape.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
CS5 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS5 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Reference to heritage assets rather than just assets. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS5 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes protection and enhancement of the landscape. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .										
Policy CS6: North Somerset's Green Belt	Protect the existing Green Belt.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS6 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS6 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. A difference is that it no longer refers to possibility of taking land out of the Green Belt in exceptional circumstances, by	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	local review. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS6 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which states that the Green Belt will remain unchanged. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect). While this is a remitted policy, it is envisaged that the housing increase can be met within the existing spatial strategy which does not include change to the Green Belt.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	
Policy CS7: Planning for Waste in North Somerset	Support for sustainable management of waste, recovery of energy from waste in line with Joint Waste Core Strategy policies	C (Likely significant effects alone)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located <10km from site	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .	B (No significant effect)	.N/A
CS7 Publication Planning for Waste	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS7 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above No changes are	As above.	As above. Supporting	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above. The mitigation as at	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Refers to proposals for location of waste management facilities being subject to policies in Joint Waste Core Strategy (JWCS). Refers to Sites and Policies DPD rather than "a Development Management DPD".		text refers to JWCS and the fact it identifies land on SE side of Weston as a broad strategic area within which proposals for residual waste treatment facilities may come forward. The NE part of that area is just within 10km of the Kings Wood and Urchin Wood component sites for the SAC.					Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.		
Policy CS7 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes prevention/minimisation of waste, design for ease of waste collection, and use of Joint Waste Core Strategy policies and	C (Likely significant effect alone). However the housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) This mitigation is	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications. Energy from Waste Plants may require an

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
remitted policies where relevant)	development management policies on waste. Promotes recovery of energy from waste in line with Joint Waste Core Strategy policies	this policy.						still relevant.		HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.
Policy CS8: Minerals Planning in North Somerset	Provision will be made for North Somerset to contribute towards approximately 40% of the West of England's aggregates requirement. The council will seek to maintain a land bank for crushed rock of at least 10 years.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Unlikely to be significant air pollution impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	N/A	Potential impact of quarrying on horseshoe bat foraging area	Effects from quarrying	Locational control of quarrying, leaving adequate distance between quarry and European site	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.
CS8 Publication Minerals Planning	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS8 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	Potential for quarrying to impact on bats' foraging area.	N/A	The mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant. Note that	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The addition that was made at Modifications stage to quantify the crushed rock apportionment for North Somerset in tonnes, did not alter the earlier HRA conclusions.							it will be the distance between the quarry and the component sites of the SAC which will be for consideration.		
Policy CS8 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which sets out the requirement for crushed rock provision, and maintenance of a landbank, and promotes protection of mineral resources through mineral safeguarding areas.	C (likely significant effect alone). The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy..	Unlikely to be significant air pollution impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	N/A	Potential for quarrying to impact on bats' foraging area.	N/A	Locational control of quarrying, leaving adequate distance between quarry and SAC component sites . This mitigation is still relevant.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning application.
Policy CS9: Green Infrastructure	Safeguard, improve and enhance the existing network of green infrastructure.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	N/A	N/A	Potential for possible impact of artificial lighting of footpaths/cycle ways on bats if inappropriately	Potential for possible impact of artificial lighting of footpaths/cycle ways on bats if inappropriately	N/A	Best practice design of facilities to include minimising light pollution.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
					designed	designed				
CS9 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above		As above	As above	As above
Policy CS9 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Includes reference to tree planting. Includes reference to network of green spaces, paths, cycleways and bridleways. Reference to Green Infrastructure SPD in supporting text.	As above	As above	N/A	Potential for possible impact of artificial lighting of footpaths/cycle ways on bats if inappropriately designed.	Potential for possible impact of artificial lighting of footpaths/cycle ways on bats if inappropriately designed.	N/A	The above mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant,	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Policy CS9 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Concerns green infrastructure. Includes reference to development of network of paths. Possible impact of lighting on paths is a potential issue.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	N/A	N/A	Potential for possible impact of artificial lighting of footpaths/cycle ways on bats if inappropriately designed.	Possible impact of artificial lighting of footpaths/cycle ways on bats if inappropriately designed.	N/A	Best practice design of facilities to include minimising light pollution.	B (No significant effect)	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Policy CS10: Transport and Movement	Encouragement for travel management policies and development proposals that encourage an improved and integrated transport network and allow for wide choice of transport modes. Lists proposed transport schemes over the plan period.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Transport schemes which could affect traffic on section of A370 and A368 alongside component sites are potentially significant	N/A	Some potential for noise and light disturbance to bats from vehicles.		Some potential for bat collision risk with vehicles	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications.
CS10 Publication Transportation and Movement	As above	As above	As above	N/A	As above		As above	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS10 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Includes addition of requirement for	As above	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	The above mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant,	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	transport schemes to contribute towards carbon reduction, and support movement of freight by rail, which should have beneficial environmental effects. List of transport schemes is the same except for addition of Airfield Bridge Link (ABL) between Weston Airfield and Winterstoke Rd, and Weston Southern Rail Chord (WSRC). ABL is a more direct road link so should help reduce distance travelled and hence emissions. WSRC should help promote train rather than car transport which should have environmental benefits.									
Policy CS10 as at September 2014, (including	As above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which	C (Likely significant)	Transport schemes which could affect traffic on	N/A	Some potential for noise and light disturbance to bats from		Some potential for bat collision	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	supports travel management policies and development proposals that encourage an integrated transport network and allow for a wide choice of modes of transport. Lists major transport schemes as described above.	effect alone)	section of A370 and A368 alongside component sites are potentially significant		vehicles.		risk with vehicles	transport such as public transport, walking and cycling.		application s.
Policy CS11: Parking	Provision of adequate car parking to meet the needs of anticipated users.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on section of A370 and A368 alongside component sites is potentially significant	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling.	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS11 Publication	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above
Policy CS11 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft	As above	As above	N/A		N/A	N/A	The above mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant,	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	version. Only difference is that Policy refers to Sites and Policies DPD rather than Development Management DPD.									
Policy CS11 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Provision of adequate car parking to meet the needs of anticipated users.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on section of A370 and A368 alongside component sites is potentially significant	N/A	N/A	N/A	Potential for possible impact of lighting from car parks on bats.	Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Control of level and orientation of lighting in car parks.	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Delivering Strong and Inclusive Communities										
Policy CS12: Achieving High Quality Design and Place Making	High quality architecture and urban design will be expected from all developments.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS12 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS12 as at	Effectively as above. No changes	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
November 2013.	are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. While some paragraphs differ the thrust of the policy is on promoting well designed building and places, and there is still reference to environmental sustainability. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS12 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Promotion of well designed building and places. Includes reference to environmental sustainability. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS13: Scale of New	Provision of 17,750 dwellings across the	C	Impacts from air pollution	Water abstraction	Potential disturbance	Potential loss of foraging area		Retention of dark vegetated	B	

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area			
Housing.	district over the plan period. 3000 dwellings in Weston-super-Mare urban area and 9,000 dwellings as an urban extension to Weston-super-Mare. The remainder of 5,750 dwellings will be met by land from existing identified sources and no additional allocation will be required in the plan period.	(Likely significant effect alone)	not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix).	has been assessed as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of development proposed in North Somerset it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.	from increased noise/light. Potential recreational impacts on the qualifying features have been considered. These include erosion and the impacts of dogs. Natural England advise that they consider that these impacts are De minimis.	particularly hedgerows and pasture.	corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development. A site-wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments. Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats.	(No significant effect)	

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
CS13 Publication	Provision of minimum of 13,400 dwellings across the district over the plan period. 3,300 net additional dwellings in Weston-super-Mare urban area and 5,500 dwellings at Weston villages. Outside Weston most additional development to occur in towns on existing site allocations, or new development within their settlement boundaries, or at Nailsea through site allocations outside Green Belt	As above	As above. Note Weston urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS13 as at November 2013.	Proposed change in housing number from the minimum of 14,000 in adopted plan to minimum of 17,130 dwellings within North Somerset 2006 -	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	It is considered that the main potential for adverse impact relates to artificial lighting associated with new	As above	As above	The above mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant. Some such mitigation (such as proposed dark corridors) is	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area			
	2026 . (Note: while this is an increase, the 17,130 is less than the 17,750 dwellings at the Consultation Draft stage, referred to in black above. The main issue regarding the SAC is the same (possible impact of lighting from development on bats) .				development if inappropriately designed.			included in the Weston Villages SPD, which was produced in consultation with Natural England. This provides a useful model for what can be achieved for a very large urban extension, but does not have the same habitat value for horseshoe bats as some other parts of the district.	
Policy CS13 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	<p>This policy, on the housing number, was remitted for re-examination. The Inspector supported an increase in the housing requirement from 17,130 to 20,985 for 2006-2026.</p> <p>While the housing number has increased, the main issue regarding the SAC is the same as</p>	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impacts from air pollution not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix).	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	<p>Potential disturbance from increased noise/light from development.</p> <p>Recreational impacts on the qualifying features which may result have been considered. These include erosion and the impacts of dogs.</p>	Potential for impact on qualifying species greater horseshoe bat, from potential loss of foraging area or disruption to commuting route particularly hedgerows and pasture.	<p>Include references in nature conservation policy of Site Allocations Plan to need for any lighting scheme to avoid adverse impacts on light averse wildlife, and where necessary effective design to avoid artificial light spill to wildlife</p>	B (No significant effect)	

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area			
	before; (possible impact of lighting from development on bats).				Natural England advise that they consider that these impacts are De minimis.			habitats/corridors. . Promote (in applying this policy) retention of dark vegetated corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development. A site-wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments. Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than	

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
								<p><i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats.</p> <p>Buffer zones with suitable habitat may be appropriate.</p> <p><i>Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared.</i></p> <p><i>More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, likely to cover specific site allocations</i></p>		
Policy CS14: Distribution of New Housing	New housing development will be concentrated in Weston-super-Mare. At Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea residential development will be acceptable within	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impacts from air pollution not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)	Water abstraction has been assessed as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy Habitats	Potential disturbance from increased noise/light. Potential recreational impacts on the qualifying	Potential loss of foraging area particularly hedgerows.		Retention of dark vegetated corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	<p>their existing settlement boundaries on brownfield land. Within the Service Villages small scale infill development may be appropriate where it will support the retention of existing services. Elsewhere housing development will not be permitted unless it is for essential workers in rural enterprises, replacement dwellings or affordable housing need.</p>			<p>Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of development proposed in North Somerset it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.</p>	<p>features have been considered. These include erosion and the impacts of dogs. Natural England advise that they consider that these impacts are De minimis.</p>			<p>A site wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats.</p> <p>Buffer zones with suitable habitat may be appropriate.</p>		

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
CS14 Publication	Weston will be the focus of new housing development . Outside Weston most additional development to occur at Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea, on existing allocations, within their existing settlement boundaries, or in Nailsea at allocations outside Green Belt. Priority to previously developed land. Within the Service villages small scale infill development or site allocations can occur. All new housing to not conflict with nature conservation policies	As above	As above Note Weston urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS14 as at November 2013.	Proposed policy wording is unchanged from the adopted plan except for the housing figures in the table. Weston will be focus	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	Potential for impact of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately	N/A	N/A	Same comments for mitigation as for policy CS13 above.	As above	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	<p>of new housing development. Outside Weston most additional development to occur at Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea, on existing allocations, within their existing settlement boundaries, or in Nailsea at allocations outside Green Belt. Priority to previously developed land. At Service Villages small scale infill development or site allocations can occur. All new housing to not conflict with nature conservation policies. While the proposed distribution of the housing has changed slightly from the Consultation Draft stage, mainly due to a reduction in the</p>				designed.					

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	amount of housing proposed at Weston Villages, The main issue regarding the SAC is the same (possible impact of lighting from development on bats) ..									
Policy CS14 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	As above. In the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies which were subject to public consultation in autumn 2015 the principles in policy CS14 remained unchanged, only the housing figures changed, and the broad distribution was similar to that in the CS14 of the Core Strategy adopted in 2012. A significant proportion of the new housing is likely to be on brownfield land within towns. As before, the issues regarding the	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impacts from air pollution not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	Potential for impact of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed.	Potential for loss of pasture, a foraging habitat for greater horseshoe bats, a qualifying species for the SAC.	N/A	Include references in nature conservation policy of Sites and Locations and Policies Plan to need for any lighting scheme to avoid adverse impacts on light averse wildlife, and where necessary effective design to avoid artificial light spill to wildlife habitats/corridors. . Promote (in applying this policy) retention of dark vegetated corridors within green infrastructure to	B (No significant effect)	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area				Other
	SAC are the same, notably possible impact of lighting from development on bats, and the mitigation in column 9 is still relevant.							<p>form part of any large-scale development.</p> <p>A site-wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats.</p> <p>Buffer zones with suitable habitat</p>		

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
								may be appropriate. <i><u>Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared. More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, likely to cover specific site allocations</u></i>		
Policy CS15: Mixed and Balanced Communities	The Council will seek to ensure a genuine mix of housing types within existing and future communities.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS15 Publication	<i>As above</i>	<i>As above</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>
Policy CS15 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any	<i>As above</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>	<i>N/A</i>

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	stage of HRA.									
Policy CS15 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes a genuine mix of housing types within existing and future communities. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS16: Affordable Housing	On-site affordable housing will be sought to meet local needs on all residential developments of 15 dwellings or more (or site of 0.5ha or above). On other sites the Council will seek to negotiate a financial contribution towards the provision of affordable housing.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS16 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS16 as at November	Effectively as above. No changes are	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
2013.	proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The addition made at modifications stage to widen the definition of affordable housing to include affordable rented did not have significant implications for HRA. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS16 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes provision of on-site affordable housing on all residential developments of 10 dwellings or more (or sites of 0.3ha or above). On sites of 5-9 dwellings the Council will seek to	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	negotiate a financial contribution towards the provision of affordable housing. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS17: Residential Sites Providing Affordable Housing Only	Housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local need within small rural communities will be supported provided it meets certain criteria. Specific sites may also be allocated in W-s-M, Portishead, Nailsea and Clevedon and the service villages for 100% affordable housing to meet an identified local need.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS17 Publication Rural Exceptions Schemes	Housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local need within small rural communities will be supported provided it meets certain criteria.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Policy CS17 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS17 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, It promotes provision of housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local needs within small rural communities subject to criteria, including one giving priority to sites within settlement boundary, and one on scale being appropriate for location. Also states that rural exceptions schemes will be acceptable adjacent	B (No significant effect) It is unlikely that housing schemes of a scale appropriate for a rural location would have significant effects on European Sites, unless they were actually sited on them which is most unlikely to be permitted. Note that	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	to the settlement boundaries of Service Villages and Infill Villages, and elsewhere adjacent to main body of settlement, but not in the Green Belt, unless justified by very special circumstances.	planning applications would be likely to be subject to policies on biodiversity								
Policy CS18: Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show People	Provision will be made for an additional 36 residential and 10 transit pitches for Gypsies and travellers for the period 2006 – 2011.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS18 Publication	Sets out considerations for determination of locations for sites for Gypsies, travellers and travelling show people	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS18 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS18 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which sets out considerations for determination of locations for sites for Gypsies, travellers and travelling show people. This includes preference for brownfield sites. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS19: Green Wedges/Strategic Gaps.	The Council will seek to protect green wedges/strategic gaps to help retain the separate identity, character or landscape setting of settlements.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS19 Publication Strategic gaps	As above, but reference to strategic gaps, not green wedges	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS19	Effectively as above. No changes	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
as at November 2013.	are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.									
Policy CS19 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes protection of strategic gaps to help retain the separate identity, character or landscape setting of settlements.	B (No significant effect) The housing increase is not likely to significantly affect the impact of the policy.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Delivering a Prosperous Economy										
Policy CS20: Supporting a Successful Economy	Employment-led strategy to both deliver significant employment development and to ensure that new residential development is	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impacts from air pollution not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	Some potential for impact from increased noise/light. Potential recreational impacts.	N/A	N/A	Retention of dark vegetated corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	provided in association with employment opportunities. The Core Strategy provides for around 29,500 jobs. Supporting text suggests indicative employment requirement for B1-B8 uses would include 61 ha at Weston Urban Extension.				Recreational impacts on the qualifying features which may result have been considered. These include erosion and the impacts of dogs. Natural England advise that they consider that these impacts are De minimis.			A site wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments. Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats.		
CS20 Publication	The Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs.	As above	As above. Note Weston urban extension now	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	Supporting text suggests indicative employment land allocations (B1-B8 uses) to be as in adopted Replacement Local Plan, plus about 38ha at Weston Villages...		replaced by Weston Villages							
Policy CS20 as at November 2013.	The policy is not proposed to change from the adopted plan version. It states that the Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs, which is less than at Consultation Draft stage, with consequentially lower employment land implications. However, as with the Consultation Draft stage, the main issue regarding the SAC is the possible impact of lighting from development on bats.	As above	As above	As above	Some potential for impact from artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed.	N/A	N/A	The same mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage (above) is still relevant. Some such mitigation (such as proposed dark corridors) is included in the Weston Villages SPD, which was produced in consultation with Natural England	As above	As above
Policy CS20	No changes are proposed to adopted	C	Impacts from air pollution	N/A	Potential for impact from	N/A	N/A	Explore the potential for	B (No significant	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area			
as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	<p>policy, which states that the Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs, which is less than at Consultation Draft stage, with consequentially lower employment land implications.</p> <p>However, as before, the main issue regarding the SAC is the possible impact of lighting from development on bats. However this should be mitigatable; (see column 9).</p>	(Likely significant effect alone)	not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)		artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed.		<p>retention of dark vegetated corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development.</p> <p>Note: proposed dark corridors) is included in the Weston Villages SPD, which was produced in consultation with Natural England</p> <p>A site wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on</p>	effect)	

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
								<p>suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats.</p> <p><u>Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared. More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, likely to cover specific site allocations</u></p>		
Policy CS21: Retail Hierarchy and Provision.	Identifies retail hierarchy across the district.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	Some potential for light pollution, but LSEs not predicted	N/A	N/A	Sensitive lighting in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution.	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS21 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A
Policy CS21 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which	As above. In theory lighting from town centre uses night	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The policy seeks to maintain the vitality and viability of the existing and proposed centres, and supports town centre uses within them of an appropriate scale. Town centre uses outside the centres will be controlled by the sequential approach.	possibly affect bats. However the policy, in seeking to confine such uses to town centres, would arguably help to lessen the potential for impact. Also only a few of the many existing and proposed centres are within the 5km consultation zone for bats (Nailsea, Queensway, Worle, and a small part of the Marchfields Way centre), and they are in built up areas. This accounts for the B classification, without mitigation. However it would still be beneficial for sensitive lighting								

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
		to be used (column 9) as a positive measure.								
Policy CS21 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which identifies retail hierarchy across the district.	B (No significant effect) See above. It is not considered that the housing increase would significantly affect the impact of this policy.	N/A	N/A	Some potential for artificial lighting, but LSEs not predicted	N/A	N/A	While no LSEs are predicted, sensitive lighting in new developments would be beneficial to minimise effect of light pollution.	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS22: Tourism Strategy	Supports visitor facilities and accommodation across the district provided they meet certain criteria.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	Potential disturbance from increased noise/light. Potential recreational impacts on the qualifying features have been considered. These include erosion and the impacts of dogs. Natural England advise that they	N/A	N/A	Generally small scale development likely in rural area near to SAC component habitats. Sensitive lighting in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution.	As above	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
					consider that these impacts are de minimis.					
CS22 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS22 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The policy supports new and replacement visitor and tourist facilities across the district subject to criteria, including supporting conservation and economic development objectives.	As above. While lighting from tourism development could have an impact on bats, the policy makes reference to appropriate scale and also states that conservation objectives should be supported. Nevertheless it would be beneficial for development to have sensitive lighting, as indicated in column 9.	N/A	N/A	Possible impact of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed.	N/A	N/A	The same mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage (above) is still relevant.	As above	N/A
Policy CS22 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which supports new, improved and replacement visitor and tourist facilities	B (No significant effect) See above. The housing increase is not	NA	NA	Possible impact of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately	N/A	N/A	While LSEs are not predicted, (particularly as the scale criterion would mean that generally small scale	B (No significant effect)	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	and accommodation across the district provided they meet certain criteria. Criteria include appropriate scale and no adverse implications for environment, and (for Weston) comply with sequential approach giving priority to town centre or seafront sites. It is considered that these criteria help to ensure no LSE for this SAC.	likely to significantly affect the impact of the policy regarding the SAC.			designed, but not considered to be LSE.			development is likely in rural area near to SAC component habitats), it is appropriate that sensitive lighting is used in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution. This same mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.		
Policy CS23: Bristol International Airport	Proposals for the development of Bristol Airport will be required to demonstrate the satisfactory resolution of environmental issues, including the impact of growth on surrounding communities and surface access infrastructure.	B (No significant effect) (Policy requires satisfactory resolution of environmental issues, suggesting that potential issues (see columns to right) would be mitigated.)	Impacts from air pollution not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	Potential impact of artificial lighting	Potential loss of foraging area.	N/A	Dedicated land managed for nature conservation may be appropriate. Retain a dark buffer for commuting and foraging horseshoe bats.	B (No significant effect)	May be required on an individual application basis.
CS23 Publication	As above	As above	As above	N/A	As above	As above	N/A	As above	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Bristol Airport										
Policy CS23 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above. Policy requires resolution of environmental issues. However it would still be beneficial for development to include appropriate mitigation as in column 9.	As above	N/A	As above	As above. Airport is within the 5km consultation zone for the SAC.	N/A	The same mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage (above) is still relevant.	As above	As above
Policy CS23 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy for Bristol airport, which requires proposals to demonstrate the satisfactory resolution of environmental issues, including the impact of growth on surrounding communities and surface access infrastructure.	B (No significant effect) Policy requires resolution of environmental issues. Also outline planning consent was granted for major development increasing passenger flight numbers at the airport in 2009, anyway, and the conditions imposed included	Air pollution impacts unlikely to be significant (see HRA Air Quality Appendix)	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	While potential light pollution is referred to above (airport is within 5km consultation zone for SAC), no LSE predicted, and major development already permitted.	While potential loss of foraging area is referred to above (airport is within 5km consultation zone), no LSE predicted, and major development already permitted.	N/A	While possible mitigation measures are referred to above, LSEs are not predicted, and major development already permitted (application 09/P/1020/OT2), approved in 2009. The conditions on the permission required submission and approval of a biodiversity action plan for the airport site, and a site-wide lighting	B (No significant effect)	May be required on an individual application basis.

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
		mitigation measures for biodiversity. The assumed housing increase is not likely to significantly affect the impact of the policy on the SAC						strategy identifying measures to control light pollution ,		
Policy CS24: Royal Portbury Dock	Identified land at Court House Farm will continue to be safeguarded for port uses, subject to demonstrable need for those uses that cannot be accommodated elsewhere within the existing port estate. Further expansion of the port within North Somerset is not supported.	B (No significant effect)	Dock located approximately 9 km from site. Furthermore dock uses unlikely to be significant sources of point source air emissions. Significant effects from air pollution unlikely	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS24 Publication	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A
Policy CS24 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft	As above. The dock and Court House Farm are well beyond (over 5km from the boundary of) the 5km	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	version; (only a difference in the name of the site allocations document referred to.) No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	consultation zone for the SAC.								
Policy CS24 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which continues to be to safeguard identified land for port uses, subject to demonstrable need, for those uses that cannot be accommodated elsewhere within the existing port estate. Further expansion of the port within North Somerset is not supported.	B (No significant effect) The dock and Court House Farm are well beyond (over 5km) from the boundary of) the 5km consultation zone for the SAC. The assumed housing increase is not likely to significantly affect the impact of the policy on the SAC.	Dock located approximately 9 km from nearest component site. Furthermore dock uses unlikely to be significant sources of point source air emissions. Significant effects from air pollution unlikely	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Ensuring Safe and Healthy Communities										

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Policy CS25: Children, Young People and Higher Education	Provision of educational facilities to be sought where local provision will be inadequate to meet the needs of new residential developments. .	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	Potential light pollution	Potential loss of foraging areas.	N/A	Sensitive lighting in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution. Green/living roofs on school and larger buildings to provide potential foraging habitats	B (No significant effect)	Impact will be assessed on each individual planning application.
CS25 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS25 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	C (Likely significant effect alone) It is now considered that a "C" classification, without mitigation, is appropriate, as lighting of school buildings, if poorly designed, could affect bats, and the policy does not confine them to particular areas.	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A	The same mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage (above) is still relevant.	As above	As above
Policy CS25 as at September	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which seeks	C (Likely significant)	N/A	N/A	Potential for some light pollution	Potential for some loss of foraging areas.	N/A	Sensitive lighting in new developments to	B (No significant effect)	Impact will be assessed

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	educational provision where local provision will be inadequate to meet the needs of new residential developments.	effect alone See above While the assumed housing increase would potentially raise the need for education buildings, impacts would still be mitigatable. (see column 9).						minimise effect of light pollution. Green/living roofs on school and larger buildings to provide potential foraging habitats <u>Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared.</u>		on each individual planning application.
Policy CS26: Supporting Healthy Living and the Provision of Health Care Facilities.	Requires Health Impact Assessment on all large scale developments. Joint working with health providers to deliver a district wide network of health facilities, reduce health inequalities in the district, encourage development that promotes active lifestyles.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	Potential for some light pollution, but not LSEs.	Potential for some loss of foraging areas, but not LSEs.	N/A	Sensitive lighting in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution. Green/living roofs on larger buildings to provide potential foraging habitats	N/A	N/A
CS26 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A
Policy CS26 as at November	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to	As above. While poorly designed	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A	The same mitigation as at Consultation Draft	As above	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
2013.	adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	lighting of health facilities could have an impact on bats, the number of facilities is likely to be limited. Also much of the policy is about promoting provision of open space which could benefit bats. Development is encouraged to incorporate usable green space and contribute to enhancing the green infrastructure network. This accounts for the B classification, but it would still be beneficial to have sensitive lighting, so this is still referred to in column 9 .						stage (above) is still relevant.		
Policy CS26 as at September	No changes are proposed to adopted	B (No significant)	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	N/A	The same mitigation as	B (No significant)	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	policy, which promotes strategies which increase and improve health facilities and promote healthier lifestyles .	effect) See above. While the assumed housing increase would potentially raise the need for health facilities, the above comments apply. However it would still be beneficial to have sensitive lighting, so this is still referred to in column 9 .						before is still relevant: sensitive lighting to minimise effect of light pollution. Green/living roofs on larger buildings.	effect)	
Policy CS27: Sport, Recreation and Community Facilities.	Provision of sport, recreation and community facilities	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	Potential light pollution	N/A	N/A	Sensitive lighting in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution.	N/A	Impact will be assessed on each individual planning application.
CS27 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	As above
Policy CS27 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft	C (Likely significant effect alone) It is now considered that a "C"	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	The same mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage (above) is still relevant.	As above	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	version.	classification, without mitigation, is appropriate, as lighting of sports buildings and facilities could affect bats, and the policy does not confine them to particular areas.								
Policy CS27 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes provision of sport, recreation and community facilities to meet unmet needs arising from residential development.	C (Likely significant effect alone) See above. While the assumed housing increase would potentially raise the need for sport/recreation buildings, impacts would still be mitigatable. (see column 9).	N/A	N/A	Potential light pollution	N/A	N/A	Sensitive lighting in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution. Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared.	B (No significant effect)	Impact will be assessed on individual planning application.
Area Policies										
Policy CS28: Weston-super-	W-s-M will be the primary focus for	B	Impacts from air pollution	N/A	N/A	Impacts of development.	N/A	Retention of dark vegetated	B	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area				Other
Mare	development within North Somerset. The town will accommodate 12,000 new dwellings and 10,000 new jobs between 2006-2026 as part of an employment-led strategy to deliver improved self-containment and reduced out-commuting over the plan period.	(No significant effect)	not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)					<p>corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development.</p> <p>A site wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and</p>	(No significant effect)	

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
								foraging bats.		
CS28 Publication	W-s-M will be the primary focus for development within North Somerset. The town will accommodate around 5,850 additional new dwellings with approx 10,500 employment opportunities between 2010-2026 as part of an employment-led strategy to deliver improved self-containment and reduced out-commuting over the plan period.	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	As above	As above	N/A
Policy CS28 as at November 2013.	The only change being proposed to the adopted plan policy is a change in the number of additional dwellings to be built in Weston from around 6,913 to 5,136, and a change in the period for that to occur from 2011-	C (Likely significant effect alone) It is now considered that a "C" classification, without mitigation, is appropriate, as	As above	As above	Possible impact of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed.	N/A	N/A	The above mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant. Some such mitigation (such as proposed dark corridors) is included in the Weston Villages SPD, which was	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	2026 to 2013-2026. The Consultation Draft plan had referred to a figure of 12,000 dwellings for 2006-2026, but this was reduced in the Publication version due to determination of a locally derived housing requirement. The policy still focuses new development on two key locations in Weston: Weston Villages and the town centre and gateway.	lighting of development could affect bats, and the Weston Villages area, and the southern part of the east area of Weston are within the 5km consultation zone for the SAC.						produced in consultation with Natural England.		
Policy CS28 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	While the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies raise the housing figure for Weston super Mare including Weston Villages for 2011-2026 in policy CS28 from 6,913 (adopted plan) to 10,914 the policy retains relevant text which again would be likely	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impacts from air pollution not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	Possible impact of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed.	Potential impacts of development regarding potential loss of foraging area, are now considered to be limited, since most of town centre and gateway area are outside the	N/A	Explore the potential for retention of dark vegetated corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development. Such mitigation is included in the Weston Villages SPD, which was	B (No significant effect)	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area			
	to reduce any impact on European sites, such as priority to development of previously developed land, and enhancement of green infrastructure and biodiversity. The policy continues to focus development in the town at the town centre and gateway, where the emphasis is on the regeneration of a range of key sites to stimulate investment, and at Weston Villages, which has been subject to preparation of a detailed Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) that has been subject to thorough HRA in consultation with Natural England, and considers potential impact on wildlife including bats.					5km consultation zone for the SAC, and largely developed.	<p>produced in consultation with Natural England.</p> <p>A site wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats.</p> <p><u>Guidance on development</u></p>		

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	Most of the town centre and gateway areas are outside of the 5km consultation zone for the bats SAC. The main issue regarding the SAC is the same: possible impact of artificial lighting on bats. However this is mitigatable: see column 9.							<i>relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared. More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, likely to cover specific site allocations</i>		
Policy CS29: Weston-super-Mare Town Centre	Town centre regeneration: major retail-led development in retail core; entertainment and leisure uses, tourist facilities and accommodation at seafront; creation of an office quarter within the gateway area	B (No significant effect)	Impacts from air pollution not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	N/A	Negligible impact (de minimis) – Already urbanised and lacking connectivity to surrounding habitats.	N/A	N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS29 Publication	As above	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS29 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Policy CS29 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No change is proposed to adopted policy. Town centre regeneration: major retail-led development in retail core; entertainment and leisure uses, tourist facilities and accommodation at seafront; development within the gateway area to include an office quarter nearest the town centre and mixed use development elsewhere. It is now considered that as the mixed use development could include residential development within the 5km consultation zone for the SAC, particularly in view of the housing increase, albeit in limited areas, there could be possible issues from lighting (hence the change	C (Likely significant effect alone) (see left hand column for reason)	Impacts from air pollution not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A	Possible impact of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed.	As above	N/A	Explore the potential for retention of dark vegetated corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development. Such mitigation is included in the Weston Villages SPD, which was produced in consultation with Natural England. A site wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments. Consideration should be given to providing green	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	to category C). However this is mitigatable.							(living) roofs on suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats. <u>Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared. More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, likely to cover specific site allocations</u>		
Policy CS30: Weston Urban Extension	A major mixed use, employment-led urban extension will be developed south-east of Weston-super-Mare. This will include 9,000 homes, 42ha of	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impacts from air pollution not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)	Water abstraction has been assessed as part of the Regional Spatial Strategy	Potential loss of or disturbance to foraging area particularly hedgerows. Potential recreational	Weston urban extension is within the 5km North Somerset and Mendip Bat Consultation Zone.	Potential impact of lighting on foraging area	Retention of dark vegetated corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development.	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications within the Urban Extension.

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area			
	employment land along with other necessary community, social and transport infrastructure to support the development.			Habitats Regulations Assessment which concluded that despite the amount of development proposed in Weston-super-Mare it won't result in a likely significant effect on water abstraction. Further specialist advice was provided by the Environment Agency which confirmed this.	impacts.	Comprehensive Supplementary Planning Document is to be produced for the whole site which will include mitigation measures.		A site wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments. Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling. Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to	There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
								maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats.		
CS30 Publication Weston Villages	Employment-led development in two villages on mainly previously developed land at Weston airfield and Locking Parklands (the "Weston Villages"). To include total of 5,500 new homes and at least 37.7ha of B use employment land.	As above	As above Note Weston urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages	As above	As above	As above	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS30 as at November 2013.	The only change being proposed to the adopted plan policy is a slight change in the number of dwellings to be built at Weston Villages from about 5,500 to about 5,800. The Consultation Draft plan had referred to a figure of 9,000 dwellings for that	As above	As above	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	As above	As above	N/A	The above mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant. Some such mitigation (such as proposed dark corridors) is included in the Weston Villages SPD, which was produced in consultation with Natural England.	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	area , but this was reduced in the Publication version . The main issue regarding the SAC is still the same: possible impact of lighting from development on bats.									
Policy CS30 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant).	This is a remitted policy, for which the only change in the proposed consequential changes is an increase in the housing figure for Weston Villages from about 5,500 in the adopted plan to about 6,500 dwellings, and many have been built, are being built, or have planning permission The increased figure is still lower than the figure of 9,000 dwellings that was in the Consultation Draft Core Strategy. The policy still refers	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Impacts from air pollution not likely to be significant; (see HRA air quality appendix)	LSEs unlikely (see note on water issues after this table.)	Potential loss of or disturbance to foraging area particularly hedgerows.	Weston Villages (formerly called Weston urban extension) are within the 5km North Somerset and Mendip Bat Consultation Zone.		Explore the potential for retention of dark vegetated corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development. Such mitigation (dark corridors) is included in the Weston Villages SPD, which was produced in consultation with Natural England. A site wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications within the Weston Villages. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area			
	<p>to possible provision of a waste to energy plant, but this is not likely to significantly impact on the SAC ; (see 4th column)..</p> <p>The main issue regarding the SAC is still the same: possible impact of lighting from development on bats. However this is mitigatable (see column 9), particularly as mitigation measures are in the Weston Villages SPD.</p>						<p>light intensity and hours of lighting operation, may be required on large-scale developments.</p> <p>Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on suitable large buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats.</p> <p>Possible provision</p>		

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
								of buffers with suitable habitat. <i><u>Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared. More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, likely to cover specific site allocations</u></i>		
Policy CS31: Market and Coastal Towns	Proposals for development at Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead will be supported if they increase self-containment, ensure the availability of jobs and services for the town and surrounding catchments, and improve the towns role as a service centre.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS31 Publication Clevedon, Nailsea and	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Portishead										
Policy CS31 as at November 2013.	The only changes being proposed to the adopted plan policy are the following changes in the number of dwellings to be built from 2006-2026 as follows: Clevedon: change from 454 to 493; Nailsea: change from 210 to 647; Portishead: change from 3,051 to 3,040. The policy at Consultation Draft stage did not specify housing numbers, although they were given in the supporting text . The adopted policy permits development within settlement limits at all three towns, and mixed use schemes adjacent to the settlement boundary at Nailsea outside the Green Belt, subject to criteria.	C (Likely significant effect alone) It is now considered that this classification is appropriate regarding possible disturbance to habitat; (see column 6).	N/A	N/A	Potential for possible impact regarding potential for significant greenfield development on the edge of Nailsea, notably with regard to possible impact of lighting on bats, if inappropriately designed/located. (Nailsea falls within the 5km consultation zone for the SAC, whereas Clevedon and Portishead do not.) Also much of the potential development at Clevedon and Portishead has already been built or has consent, particularly at Portishead on	N/A	N/A	Retention of dark vegetated corridors within green infrastructure to form part of any large-scale development. However where possible ensure that where any planting is to occur to reinforce /create dark corridors, it does not cause overshadowing of important rhynes to avoid depriving light to water insects. A site wide lighting strategy, incorporating a lighting contour plan with details of light intensity and hours of lighting operation, will be required on large-scale developments.	B (No significant effect)	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area			
	It is considered that, without mitigation there may be potential for impacts which were not identified in the earlier HRA work, but which can be mitigated. (See columns 6 and 9.)				sites like the harbourside.		<p>Promote sensitive orientation of buildings to avoid light spill, particularly on the periphery of significant sites</p> <p>Within green infrastructure, where possible retain tall hedgerows and tree lines which bats tend to follow, and wetlands .</p> <p>Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling.</p> <p>Consideration should be given to providing green (living) roofs on suitable large</p>		

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
								buildings. This should be covered with local substrates or grass rather than <i>sedum</i> species to maximise its value for wildlife conservation and foraging bats.		
Policy CS31 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	This is a remitted policy for which the only changes are increases in the numbers of dwellings for 2006-26, which for Clevedon is a rise from 454 (adopted plan) to 812, for Nailsea a rise from 210 to 917, and for Portishead a rise from 3,051 to 3,247. Many of the dwellings have been built, are being built or have planning consent, and the policy retains text which should help to reduce any potential	C (Likely significant effect alone)	N/A	N/A	Potential for possible impact regarding potential for significant greenfield development on the edge of Nailsea, notably with regard to possible impact of lighting on bats, if inappropriately designed/located. (Nailsea falls within the 5km consultation zone for the SAC, whereas Clevedon and Portishead do	Potential for loss of pasture, a foraging habitat for greater horseshoe bats, a qualifying species for the SAC. This could occur at Nailsea for example, where there is much pasture adjoining the settlement.	N/A	The above mitigation is still relevant, plus possible provision of buffers with suitable habitat. <u>Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared. More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, likely to cover specific site allocations</u>	B (No significant effect)	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	impacts on European sites, for example: "residential development within the settlement boundaries of the three towns will be acceptable in principle provided it reflects the character of the local environment and doesn't cause any adverse impacts". Regarding the SAC, it is considered that, there may be potential for impacts concerning the potential for development at Nailsea, but this should be mitigatable ; (See columns 6 and 9).				not.) Also much of the potential development at Clevedon and Portishead has already been built or has consent, particularly at Portishead on sites like the harbour side.					
Policy CS32: Service Villages	Proposals for development which support or enhance their roles as local hubs for community facilities and services, employment and	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	Potential light pollution, but not LSEs, as policy confines housing development to within settlement	N/A	N/A	Generally small scale development. Sensitive lighting in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution.	B (No significant effect)	Impact will be assessed on each individual planning application.

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	affordable housing, including public transport will be supported.				boundaries.					
CS32 Publication	Support for small scale development within settlement boundaries which supports and enhances village's role as local hub.	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	As above	As above
Policy CS32 as at November 2013.	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Latter differs from Consultation Draft version in allowing small scale residential or mixed use developments outside settlement boundaries subject to criteria	As above. The reference to small scale and fact that none of the proposed Service Villages actually adjoins a component site for this SAC suggests that LSEs are unlikely. The NE limits of Congresbury are close to the component site at Urchins Wood, but the intervening land, and the wood, are in the Green Belt, where significant	N/A	N/A	Possible impact of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed.	N/A	N/A	The above mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	As above	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
		development is unlikely. The limits of Banwell are fairly close to the Banwell Caves sites, but the distances are greater than at Congresbury. Nevertheless sensitive lighting would be beneficial. (See column 9).								
Policy CS32 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which supports small scale development appropriate to the size and character of the village and which supports or enhances its role as a local hub for community facilities and services, employment and affordable housing, including public transport.	B (No significant effect) Notwithstanding the housing increase, the fact that none of the proposed Service Villages actually adjoins a component site for this SAC suggests that LSEs are unlikely. The NE limits of Congresbury are close to the component site at Urchins	N/A	N/A	Possible impact of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed.	N/A	N/A	Sensitive lighting in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution. Include references in nature conservation policy of Sites and Policies Plan to need for any lighting scheme to avoid adverse impacts on light averse wildlife, and where necessary effective design to avoid artificial light	B (No significant effect)	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
		Wood, but the intervening land, and the wood, are in the Green Belt, where significant development is unlikely. The limits of Banwell are fairly close to the Banwell Caves sites, but the distances are greater than at Congresbury. Nevertheless sensitive lighting would be beneficial. (See column 9).						spill to wildlife habitats/corridors. <u>Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared.</u> <u>More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, likely to cover specific site allocations</u>		
Policy CS33: Smaller Settlements and Countryside.	Proposals for development within the rural areas outside of Service Villages will be strictly controlled in order to protect their character and prevent unsustainable development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	Potential light pollution, but not LSEs, as new housing very limited (affordable housing, replacement dwellings, or dwellings for workers in essential rural enterprises).	N/A	N/A	Generally small scale development. Sensitive lighting in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution.	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS33 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	N/A	As above	N/A	As above

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Infill Villages, smaller settlements and countryside										
Policy CS33 as at November 2013.	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Latter differs from Consultation Draft version in allowing some market housing within infill villages but restricted to one or two infill dwellings or small scale residential development within the settlement limits, subject to criteria.	As above Reference to small scale and fact that none of the proposed Infill Villages actually adjoins a component site for this SAC suggests that LSEs are unlikely. Cleeve is close to the Kings Wood but the village, wood and the intervening land are in the Green Belt, where significant development is unlikely. Nevertheless sensitive lighting would be prudent. (See column 9).	N/A	N/A	Possible impact of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed, but not LSEs; (housing development restricted to small scale within settlement limits, and points in 3 rd column apply.).	N/A	N/A	The above mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	N/A	A above
Policy CS33	No changes are	B	N/A	N/A	Possible impact	N/A	N/A	Sensitive lighting	(No significant	N/A.

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area				Other
as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	proposed to adopted policy. Proposals for development within the rural areas outside of Service Villages will be strictly controlled in order to protect their character and prevent unsustainable development. Within infill villages , one or two infill dwellings or small scale residential redevelopment only to be permitted.	(No significant effect) Notwithstanding the housing increase, the fact that none of the proposed Infill Villages actually adjoins a component site for this SAC suggests that LSEs are unlikely . Cleeve is close to the Kings Wood but the village , wood and the intervening land are in the Green Belt, where significant development is unlikely. Nevertheless sensitive lighting would be prudent. (See column 9).			of artificial lighting associated with new development if inappropriately designed, but not LSES.			in new developments to minimise effect of light pollution. Include references in nature conservation policy of Sites and Policies Plan to need for any lighting scheme to avoid adverse impacts on light averse wildlife, and where necessary effective design to avoid artificial light spill to wildlife habitats/corridors. <u>Guidance on development relating to the Bats SAC is to be prepared. More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, likely to cover specific site allocations</u>	effect)	

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
Delivery Policies										
Policy CS34: Developer Contributions to Infrastructure.	Financial contributions will be sought in the form of a standardised tariff scheme applied across the district to ensure the effective and timely delivery of the key infrastructure requirements to support new development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS34 Publication Infrastructure delivery and development contributions	Concerns mechanisms for funding and delivery of infrastructural elements, with regard to the Weston Villages, Weston urban area and rest of district	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS34 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not	As above	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
	fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.									
Policy CS34 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which concerns the collection of development contributions towards infrastructure, rather than the proposal of development. No LSEs were identified at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS35: Implementation	Implementation will take place as part of a co-ordinated strategy, provided in step with the necessary infrastructure, utilities and service provision needed to support and enable the development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS35 is deleted in the Publication version	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CS35 is deleted	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC Assessment Matrix										
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ³	Potential Impacts on SAC					Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required?
			Decreased Air Quality	Decreased Water Quality	Disturbance to habitat	Land-take from horseshoe bat foraging area	Other			
in the adopted plan, and no change is being proposed to that situation										
CS35 is deleted in the adopted plan, and no change is being proposed to that situation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Screening Assessment Matrix for Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
Living within Environmental Limits								
Policy CS1: Addressing Climate Change and Carbon Reduction	Renewable energy in development; e.g. energy from waste plant at Weston urban extension, green infrastructure networks, sustainable transport, enhancing/protecting biodiversity, re-use of previously developed land etc.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site (see HRA	N/A		Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications. Energy from waste plants may require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed

⁴ Based on the Natural England Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents by David Tyldesley, Jan 2009

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
			air quality appendix).					mitigation measures, as necessary	
Policy CS1 of Publication version of Core Strategy	As above	As above	As above	N/A			As above	As above	
Policy CS1 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Has addition of need for development to demonstrate water efficiency measures. Policy refers to creation of waste to energy facilities at Weston Villages.	The C classification is arguably pessimistic, given that the only reference to a particular type of renewable energy is waste to energy facilities at Weston Villages. They would be unlikely to impact on the SAC since the Air Quality Assessment suggests that air pollution impacts are unlikely unless such facilities are under 10km away. The Weston Villages area is over 20km from the	As above. Note: Weston Villages now replace Weston Urban Extension.	N/A			The above measures would be beneficial.	As above	

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Policy CS1 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes reducing carbon emissions and tackling climate change. There is reference to reduction/recycling of waste, and creation of waste to energy facilities in Weston villages	SAC. The category C (Likely significant effect alone) has been cited in earlier stages, but as indicated above this is pessimistic as the site referred to for waste to energy facilities (Weston Villages) is over 20km from the SAC. The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy.	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site (see HRA air quality appendix).	N/A			Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications. Energy from waste plants may require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary
Policy CS2: Delivering Sustainable Design and Construction.	Sustainable design and construction. Policy sets targets eg. for on- site renewable energy, Code for Sustainable Homes BREEAM ratings, etc	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS2 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS2 as at	Effectively as above.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
November 2013.	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Addition of requirement to apply best practice in sustainable urban drainage systems. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.								
Policy CS2 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes sustainable design and construction. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect) The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly affect the impacts of this policy..	N/A	N/A			N/A	B (No significant effect) N/A	
Policy CS3: Environmental Risk Management.	Sets out the Sequential Test for development with regard to flood zones.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	
CS3 Publication Environmental Impacts and Flood Risk Assessment	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
Policy CS3 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Reference to NPPF rather than PPS25. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A
Policy CS3 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which requires acceptable mitigation for environmental impacts of development, and for proposals to follow the sequential test regarding flooding. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA .	B (No significant effect) The assumed housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter the impacts of this policy.	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A
Policy CS4: Nature Conservation.	Maintain and enhance biodiversity within the district.	B (No significant effect) , although some mitigation regarding tree planting would be prudent; (see columns to right)	N/A	Part 5 of policy refers to tree planting. Inappropriate planting could lead to loss of grasslands.			Planting needs to take into account the potential loss of interest features of European Sites.	N/A
CS4 Publication	As above	B	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
		(No significant effect) (Policy now refers to native tree planting and well targeted woodland creation)							
Policy CS4 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version, although it specifies "native" tree planting, which was introduced at Publication stage. Documents such as Green Infrastructure Strategy and Biodiversity and Trees SPD are referred to in supporting text . Policy is very positive for biodiversity.	As above	N/A	N/A. A difference between the Consultation Draft and later versions of the policy is the reference in the latter to "well targeted woodland creation" which should help ensure that inappropriate loss of grasslands to woodland planting is avoided.			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS4 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes maintenance and enhancement of biodiversity. No	B (No significant effect)	N/A	See above			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.								
Policy CS5: Landscape and the Historic Environment.	Protect and enhance the character, distinctiveness, diversity and quality of North Somerset's landscape and townscape.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS5 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS5 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Reference to heritage assets rather than just assets. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS5 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes protection and enhancement of the landscape. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
remitted policies where relevant) .									
Policy CS6: North Somerset's Green Belt	Protect the existing Green Belt.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	
CS6 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	
Policy CS6 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. A difference is that it no longer refers to possibility of taking land out of the Green Belt in exceptional circumstances, by local review. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	
Policy CS6 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which states that the Green Belt boundaries will remain unchanged through the plan period. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect). It is envisaged that the housing increase can be met within the existing spatial strategy which does not include change to the	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
where relevant) .		Green Belt.							
Policy CS7: Planning for Waste in North Somerset	Support for sustainable management of waste, recovery of energy from waste in line with Joint Waste Core Strategy policies	B (No significant effect)	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site (see HRA air quality appendix D). Supporting text refers to Joint Waste Core Strategy's identified potential sites for residual waste treatment facilities at Weston, but these are well over 10km from the SAC. However, good design of facilities is	N/A			Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications. Energy from waste plants may require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
			still advocated.						
CS7 Publication Planning for Waste	As above	As above	As above	N/A			As above	As above	
Policy CS7 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Refers to Sites and Policies DPD rather than "a Development Management DPD". Refers to proposals for location of waste management facilities being subject to policies in Joint Waste Core Strategy (JWCS).	As above.	As above. Supporting text refers to JWCS and the fact it identifies land at Warne Road, Weston for location of residual waste treatment facilities, and land on the SE side of Weston as a broad strategic area within which proposals for residual waste treatment facilities may come forward. However both these areas are well over 10km from the SAC. It would however be	N/A			As above.	As above.	

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
			beneficial to design facilities to a high standard (see column 9).						
Policy CS7 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes prevention/minimisation of waste, design for ease of waste collection, and use of Joint Waste Core Strategy policies and development management policies on waste. Promotes recovery of energy from waste in line with Joint Waste Core Strategy policies	B (No significant effect) It would however be beneficial to design facilities to a high standard (see column 9)	As above	N/A			Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency)	B (No significant effect)	Potentially on individual planning applications. Energy from Waste Plants may require an HRA. There is likely to be scope and flexibility for proposals to include detailed mitigation measures, as necessary.
Policy CS8: Minerals Planning in North Somerset	Provision will be made for North Somerset to contribute towards approximately 40% of the West of England's aggregates requirement. The	B (No significant effect)	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process.	N/A			Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents).	B (No significant effect)	Potentially required on individual planning applications.

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
	council will seek to maintain a land bank for crushed rock of at least 10 years.		Unlikely to be significant effects on SAC (see HRA air quality appendix)					
CS8 Publication Minerals Planning	As above	As above	As above	N/A		As above	As above	As above
Policy CS8 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The addition that was made at Modifications stage to quantify the crushed rock apportionment for North Somerset in tonnes, did not alter the earlier HRA conclusions.	As above	As above	N/A. While the BGS Mineral Resources Map suggests that high quality limestone exists near and within part of the SAC it is most unlikely that land take from the SAC to quarrying would be permitted, it being a European site. It would however s still be beneficial for the proximity of the site to be taken into		The measures below are considered more appropriate: Use of appropriate technology. Locational control of quarrying, leaving adequate distance between quarry and European site	As above.	As above

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
				account in assessing any proposals for quarrying in the vicinity. Hence the measures in column 9 are appropriate.					
Policy CS8 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which sets out the requirement for crushed rock provision, and maintenance of a landbank, and promotes protection of mineral resources through mineral safeguarding areas..	B (No significant effect) It would however still be beneficial for the proximity of the site to be taken into account in assessing any proposals for quarrying in the vicinity. Hence the measures in column 9 are appropriate.	Mostly neutral. Some projects will need to be individually assessed as part of the planning process. Unlikely to be significant effects on SAC (see HRA air quality appendix)	As above			Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents). Locational control of quarrying, leaving adequate distance between quarry and European site	B (No significant effect)	Potentially required on individual planning applications.
Policy CS9: Green Infrastructure	Safeguard, improve and enhance the existing network of green infrastructure.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	Recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
				trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness.				
CS9 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	As above		N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS9 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Includes reference to tree planting. Reference to Green Infrastructure SPD in supporting text.	As above	As above	As above. The Bristol Core Strategy HRA found that recreational pressure was not considered a significant or unmanageable risk to the SAC.		N/A	N/A	As above
Policy CS9 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy , which promotes safeguarding , improvement and enhancement of the existing network of green infrastructure. ..	B (No significant effect)	N/A	Recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness.		N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS10:	Encouragement for		Transport	May be		Encourage and facilitate		May be

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
Transport and Movement	travel management policies and development proposals that encourage an improved and integrated transport network and allow for wide choice of transport modes. Lists proposed transport schemes over the plan period.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Schemes which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site are potentially significant	potential to increase recreational use of the site, from improved transport .		<p>sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling, (eg. through CS10 and LTP3)</p> <p>Transport Schemes which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site have been considered in terms of in combination effects and are unlikely to have a Likely Significant Effect, assuming avoidance/mitigation; (see Table 15 of Appendix D) (See also HRA of Bristol Core Strategy, 2010 , which suggests that even at worst case scenario, significant traffic growth would result in only marginal, non significant increases in critical pollutants regarding this SAC)</p> <p>Recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly to</p>	B (No significant effect)	needed on individual planning applications.

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
							trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness.		
CS10 Publication Transportation and Movement	As above	As above	As above	As above			As above	As above	As above
Policy CS10 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Includes addition of requirement for transport schemes to contribute towards carbon reduction, and support movement of freight by rail, which should have beneficial environmental effects. List of transport schemes is the same except for addition of Airfield Bridge Link (ABL) between Weston Airfield and Winterstoke Rd, and Weston Southern	As above	As above	As above, but note that recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness.			The above mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant.	As above	As above

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
	Rail Chord (WSRC). ABL is a more direct road link so should help reduce distance travelled and hence emissions. WSRC should help promote train rather than car transport which should have environmental benefits.							
Policy CS10 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	As above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which encourages policies and proposals that encourage an improved and integrated transport network. Lists major transport schemes in Joint Local Transport Plan of March 2011.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Transport Schemes which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site are potentially significant	The possibility that improved transport could increase recreational pressure on the site is only slight; none of the transport schemes refer to the A369, the main road nearest the site in North Somerset. Also, recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not		Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling, (eg. through CS10 and LTP3) Transport Schemes which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site have been considered in terms of in combination effects and are unlikely to have a Likely Significant Effect, assuming avoidance/mitigation; (see Table 15 of Appendix D) (See also HRA of Bristol Core Strategy, 2010 , which suggests that even at worst case	B (No significant effect)	May be needed on individual planning applications.

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
				particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness. While part of the site is more accessible (Leigh Woods National Nature Reserve) there are lots of footpaths, offering the opportunity for walking without harming habitats.			scenario, significant traffic growth would result in only marginal, non significant increases in critical pollutants regarding this SAC)		

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Policy CS11: Parking	Provision of adequate car parking to meet the needs of anticipated users.	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site is potentially significant	N/A			As for CS10 above	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS11 Publication	As above	As above	As above	N/A			As above	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Policy CS11 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. Only difference is that the policy refers to Sites and Policies DPD rather than Development Management DPD.	As above	As above	N/A			The above mitigation as at Consultation Draft stage is still relevant,	As above	As above
Policy CS11 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Provision of adequate car parking to meet the needs of anticipated users. The housing increase could increase the demand for car parking. However impacts are mitigatable; (see column 9).	C (Likely significant effect alone)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site is potentially significant	N/A			Encourage and facilitate sustainable modes of transport such as public transport, walking and cycling, (eg. through CS10 and LTP3)	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Delivering Strong and Inclusive									

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Communities									
Policy CS12: Achieving High Quality Design and Place Making	High quality architecture and urban design will be expected from all developments.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS12 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS12 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. While some paragraphs differ the thrust of the policy is on promoting well designed building and places, and there is still reference to environmental sustainability. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS12 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Promotion of well designed building and places. Includes reference to	B (No significant effect) Also the housing increase is unlikely to significantly alter	N/A	N/A			N/A	B (No significant effect)	NA

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	environmental sustainability. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	the impacts of this policy.							
Policy CS13: Scale of New Housing.	Provision of 17,750 dwellings across the district over the plan period. 3000 dwellings in Weston-super-Mare urban area and 9,000 dwellings as an urban extension to Weston-super-Mare. The remainder of 5,750 dwellings will be met by land from existing identified sources and no additional allocation will be required in the plan period.	B (No significant effect)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	Potential to increase recreational use.			Recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness.	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS13 Publication	Provision of minimum of 13,400 dwellings across the district over the plan period. 3, 300 net additional dwellings in Weston-super-Mare urban area and 5,500 dwellings at Weston villages. Outside Weston most additional development to occur in towns on	As above	As above Note: Weston urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages	As above			As above	As above	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	existing site allocations, or new development in their settlement boundaries, or Nailsea through site allocations outside Green Belt								
Policy CS13 as at November 2013.	Proposed change in housing number from the minimum of 14,000 in adopted plan to minimum of 17,130 dwellings within North Somerset 2006 - 2026 . (Note: while this is an increase, the 17,130 is less than the 17,750 dwellings at the Consultation Draft stage, referred to in black above.	As above	As above	As above			The above points as at Consultation Draft stage are still relevant.	As above	N/A
Policy CS13 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	This policy, on the housing number, was remitted for re-examination. The Inspector supported an increase in the housing requirement from 17,130 to 20,985 for 2006-2026. While the housing number has increased, it is not	B (No significant effect)	Weston super Mare, Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea and, Portishead are all located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts (see HRA air	Potential to increase recreational use. However, recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not			N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
	considered that there is likely to be a significant effect on the impact of the policy, having regard to the location of the SAC and the points in column 9.		quality appendix)	particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness. While part of the site is more accessible (Leigh Woods National Nature Reserve) there are lots of footpaths, offering the opportunity for walking without harming habitats.				
Policy CS14: Distribution of New Housing	New housing development will be concentrated in Weston-super-Mare. At Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea residential development will be acceptable within their existing settlement boundaries on brownfield land. Within the Service Villages small scale	B (No significant effect)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	Recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to		N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	infill development may be appropriate where it will support the retention of existing services. Elsewhere housing development will not be permitted unless it is for essential workers in rural enterprises, replacement dwellings or affordable housing need.			steepness.					
CS14 Publication	Weston will be focus of new housing development. Outside Weston most additional development to occur at Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea, on existing allocations, within their existing settlement boundaries, or in Nailsea at allocations outside Green Belt. Priority to previously developed land. Within the Service Villages small scale infill development or site allocations can occur. All new	As above	As above	As above			As above	As above	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	housing to not conflict with nature conservation policies								
Policy CS14 as at November 2013.	Proposed policy wording is unchanged from the adopted plan except for the housing figures in the table. Weston will be focus of new housing development. Outside Weston most additional development to occur at Clevedon, Portishead and Nailsea, on existing allocations, within their existing settlement boundaries, or in Nailsea at allocations outside Green Belt. Priority to previously developed land. At Service Villages small scale infill development or site allocations can occur. All new housing to not conflict with nature conservation policies. While the proposed	As above	As above	As above			N/A	As above	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	distribution of the housing has changed slightly from the Consultation Draft stage, mainly due to a reduction in the amount of housing proposed at Weston Villages, it is not considered that significant effects are likely.								
Policy CS14 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	As above. In the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies which were subject to public consultation in autumn 2015 the principles in policy CS14 remained unchanged, only the housing figures changed, and the broad distribution was similar to that in the CS14 of the Core Strategy adopted in 2012. It is not envisaged that the spatial strategy would need to change, and it is not considered that there is likely to be a significant effect on	B (No significant effect)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	Recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness. While part of the site is more accessible (Leigh Woods National Nature Reserve) there are lots of			N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	the impact of the policy, having regard to the location of the SAC and the points in column 9.			footpaths, offering the opportunity for walking without harming habitats.					
Policy CS15: Mixed and Balanced Communities	The Council will seek to ensure a genuine mix of housing types within existing and future communities.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS15 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS15 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS15 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes a genuine mix of housing types within existing and future communities. No LSEs were	B (No significant effect) The housing increase is not likely to	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	predicted at any stage of HRA.	significantly affect the impact of the policy.							
Policy CS16: Affordable Housing	On-site affordable housing will be sought to meet local needs on all residential developments of 15 dwellings or more (or site of 0.5ha or above). On other sites the Council will seek to negotiate a financial contribution towards the provision of affordable housing.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	
CS16 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	
Policy CS16 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The addition made at modifications stage to widen the definition of affordable housing to include affordable rented did not have significant implications for	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	HRA. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.								
Policy CS16 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	No changes are proposed to adopted policy which promotes provision of on-site affordable housing on all residential developments of 10 dwellings or more (or sites of 0.3ha or above). On sites of 5-9 dwellings the Council will seek to negotiate a financial contribution towards the provision of affordable housing. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS17: Residential Sites Providing Affordable Housing Only	Housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local need within small rural communities will be supported provided it meets certain criteria. Specific sites may also be	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
	allocated in W-s-M, Portishead, Nailsea and Clevedon and the service villages for 100% affordable housing to meet an identified local need.							
CS17 Publication Rural Exceptions Schemes	Housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local need within small rural communities will be supported provided it meets certain criteria.	As above	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS17 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS17 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. It promotes provision of housing schemes for 100% affordable housing to meet local needs within small rural communities subject	B (No significant effect) It is unlikely that housing schemes of a scale appropriate	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
changes to remitted policies where relevant) , Rural Exceptions Schemes .	to criteria, including one giving priority to sites within settlement boundary, and one on scale being appropriate for location. Also states that rural exceptions schemes will be acceptable adjacent to the settlement boundaries of Service Villages and Infill Villages, and elsewhere adjacent to main body of settlement, but not in the Green Belt, unless justified by very special circumstances.	for a rural location would have significant effects on the European Site, unless they were actually sited on it which is most unlikely to be permitted, notwithstanding the housing increase. Also the SAC is in the Green Belt. Note that planning applications would be likely to be subject to policies on biodiversity							
Policy CS18: Gypsies and Travellers and Travelling Show People	Provision will be made for an additional 36 residential and 10 transit pitches for Gypsies and travellers for the period 2006 – 2011.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS18 Publication	Sets out considerations for determination of locations for sites for Gypsies, travellers and travelling show people	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
Policy CS18 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A
Policy CS18 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which sets out considerations for determination of locations for sites for Gypsies, travellers and travelling show people. This includes preference for brownfield sites. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A
Policy CS19: Green Wedges/Strategic Gaps.	The Council will seek to protect green wedges/strategic gaps to help retain the separate identity, character or landscape setting of settlements.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A
CS19 Publication	As above, but	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Strategic gaps	reference to strategic gaps, not green wedges								
Policy CS19 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	
Policy CS19 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which promotes protection of strategic gaps to help retain the separate identity, character or landscape setting of settlements. No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	
Delivering a Prosperous Economy									
Policy CS20: Supporting a Successful Economy	Employment-led strategy to both deliver significant employment development and to	B (No significant effect)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead	Potential for increased recreational use.			Recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
	ensure that new residential development is provided in association with employment opportunities. The Core Strategy provides for around 29,500 jobs. Supporting text suggests indicative employment requirement for B1-B8 uses would include 61 ha at Weston Urban Extension		located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)				site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness.	
CS20 Publication	The Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs. Supporting text suggests indicative employment land allocations (B1-B8 uses) to be as in adopted Replacement Local Plan, plus about 38ha at Weston Villages.	As above	As above Note: Weston urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages	N/A			N/A	N/A
Policy CS20 as at November 2013.	The policy is not proposed to change from the adopted plan version. It states that the Core Strategy seeks to	As above	As above	N/A			The above points as at Consultation Draft stage are still relevant.	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs, which is less than at Consultation Draft stage, with consequentially lower employment land implications.								
Policy CS20 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which states that the Core Strategy seeks to provide for at least 10,100 additional jobs, which is less than at Consultation Draft stage, with consequentially lower employment land implications.	B (No significant effect) While a consequence of employment development, could be to attract more people into the district, potentially increasing recreational pressure, the potential for much of this development to be located near the Avon Gorge site, in the Green Belt is limited. The policy states that the focus of employment development will be at Weston, over 20km from	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	Slight potential for increased recreational use. However, recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness. While part of the site is more accessible (Leigh Woods National Nature Reserve) there are lots of footpaths,			NA	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
		the SAC. Also see column 9.		offering the opportunity for walking without harming habitats					
Policy CS21: Retail Hierarchy and Provision.	Identifies retail hierarchy across the district.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS21 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS21 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The policy seek to maintain the vitality and viability of the existing and proposed centres, and supports town centre uses within them of an appropriate scale. Town centre uses outside the centres will be controlled by the sequential approach.	As above. There are no existing or proposed centres adjacent to the SAC. The nearest is at Easton in Gordano/Pill, over 2km away.	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS21	No changes are		N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	proposed to adopted policy, which identifies retail hierarchy across the district.	B (No significant effect) See above. It is not considered that the housing increase would significantly affect the impact of this policy.						
Policy CS22: Tourism Strategy	Supports visitor facilities and accommodation across the district provided they meet certain criteria, including appropriate scale, support for conservation objectives, and no adverse implications for environment.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	Slight potential for increased recreational use. However, recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness		N/A	N/A	N/A
CS22 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	As above		N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS22 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not	As above. This classification, without mitigation, is considered	N/A	As above		N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version. The policy supports new and replacement visitor and tourist facilities across the district subject to criteria, including supporting conservation and economic development objectives.	appropriate since, while the policy could promote recreational activity, it makes reference to appropriate scale and also states that conservation objectives should be supported. Also note the comments about recreation in the "other" column.							
Policy CS22 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which supports new, improved and replacement visitor and tourist facilities and accommodation across the district provided they meet certain criteria. Criteria include appropriate scale and no adverse implications for environment, and (for Weston) comply with sequential approach giving priority to town centre or seafront sites.	B (No significant effect) See above..	N/A	Potential for increased recreational use. However recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness. While part of the site is			N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
				more accessible (Leigh Woods National Nature Reserve) there are lots of footpaths, offering the opportunity for walking without harming habitats					
Policy CS23: Bristol International Airport	Proposals will be required to demonstrate the satisfactory resolution of environmental issues, including the impact of growth on surrounding communities and surface access infrastructure.	B (No significant effect)	Unlikely to be significant air quality impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A			N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS23 Publication Bristol Airport	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS23 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	As above.	N/A.			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Policy CS23: Bristol International Airport as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Proposals for the development of Bristol Airport will be required to demonstrate the satisfactory resolution of environmental issues, including the impact of growth on surrounding communities and surface access infrastructure.	B (No significant effect) . SAC is over 8km from the airport. Also planning permission for major development at the airport has already been granted, (in 2009).	Unlikely to be significant air quality impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	N/A			N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Policy CS24: Royal Portbury Dock	Identified land will continue to be safeguarded for port uses, subject to demonstrable need for those uses that cannot be accommodated elsewhere within the existing port estate. Further expansion of the port within North Somerset is not supported.	B (No significant effect)	HRA Air Quality Appendix D states dock located approx. 3km from SAC; dock uses not likely to be significant source of point source air emissions. However use of appropriate technology/design would be prudent good practice	N/A			Use of appropriate technology/design (through conditions on planning consents or Environmental Permits from Environment Agency) .	B (No significant effect)	N/A.
CS24 Publication	As above	As above	As above				N/A	As above	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Policy CS24 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version; (only a difference in the name of the site allocations document referred to.) No LSEs were predicted at any stage of HRA.	As above.	As above	N/A			Significant effects are not likely, but use of appropriate technology/design would be prudent good practice	As above	N/A.
Policy CS24: Royal Portbury Dock as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Identified land will continue to be safeguarded for port uses, subject to demonstrable need for those uses that cannot be accommodated elsewhere within the existing port estate. Further expansion of the port within North Somerset is not supported.	B (No significant effect) . Dock is over 4km from the SAC. The housing increase is not likely to significantly affect the impact of the policy regarding the SAC.	HRA Air Quality Appendix D states dock located approx. 3km from SAC; dock uses not likely to be significant source of point source air emissions.	N/A			Significant effects are not likely, but use of appropriate technology/design would be prudent good practice.	B (No significant effect)	N/A
Ensuring Safe and Healthy Communities									
Policy CS25: Children, Young	Provision of educational facilities.	B (No significant	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
People and Higher Education		effect)						
CS25 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS25 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS25 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which seeks educational provision where local provision will be inadequate to meet the needs of new residential developments. This is not likely to significantly impact on the SAC, given its location and qualifying interests, even with the housing increase.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS26: Supporting Healthy Living and the Provision of Health Care	Requires HIA on all large scale developments, Joint working with health providers to deliver a district wide network of health	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Facilities.	facilities, reduce health inequalities in the district, encourage development that promotes active lifestyles.								
CS26 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS26 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS26: Supporting Healthy Living and the Provision of Health Care Facilities.	No changes are required to adopted policy. Requires HIA on all large scale developments, and promotes joint working with health providers to deliver a district wide network of health facilities, work to reduce health inequalities in the district, and development that promotes active lifestyles.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS27:	Provision of sport,		N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
Sport, Recreation and Community Facilities.	recreation and community facilities	B (No significant effect)						
CS27 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS27 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS27: Sport, Recreation and Community Facilities.	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, on provision of sport, recreation and community facilities. This is not likely to significantly impact on the SAC, given its location and qualifying interests, notwithstanding the housing increase.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A		N/A	N/A	N/A
Area Policies								
Policy CS28: Weston-super-Mare	W-s-M will be the primary focus for development within North Somerset. The town will accommodate	B (No significant effect)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre	Some possible potential for increased recreational use. However , recreational		N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
	12,000 new dwellings and 10,000 new jobs between 2006-2026 as part of an employment-led strategy to deliver improved self-containment and reduced out-commuting over the plan period.		impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness				
CS28 Publication	W-s-M will be the primary focus for development within North Somerset. The town will accommodate around 5,850 additional new dwellings with approx 10,500 employment opportunities between 2010-2026 as part of an employment-led strategy to deliver improved self-containment and reduced out-commuting over the plan period.	As above	As above	As above		As above	As above	N/A
Policy CS28	The only change being proposed to	As above	As above	As above. While there is		As above .	As above	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
as at November 2013.	the adopted plan policy is a change in the number of dwellings to be built in Weston from around 6,913 to 5,136, and a change in the period for that to occur from 2011-2026 to 2013-2026. The Consultation Draft plan had referred to a figure of 12,000 dwellings for 2006-2026, but this was reduced in the Publication version due to determination of a locally derived housing requirement. The policy still focuses new development on two key locations in Weston: Weston Villages and the town centre and gateway.			potential for increased recreational use, the significant distance of Weston from the SAC, (over 20km crow fly) also suggests no LSEs.					
Policy CS28 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential	While the proposed consequential changes to remitted policies raise the housing figure for Weston super Mare including Weston Villages for 2011-2026 in policy CS28	B (No significant effect)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts (see HRA air quality	Some possible potential for increased recreational use. However , recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in			N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
changes to remitted policies where relevant)	from 6,913 (adopted plan) to 10,914 the policy retains relevant text which again would be likely to reduce any impact on European sites, such as priority to development of previously developed land, and enhancement of green infrastructure and biodiversity. The policy continues to focus development in the town at the town centre and gateway, where the emphasis is on the regeneration of a range of key sites to stimulate investment, and at Weston Villages, which has been subject to preparation of a detailed Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) that has been subject to thorough HRA in consultation with Natural England. -		appendix)	HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness. While part of the site is more accessible (Leigh Woods National Nature Reserve) there are lots of footpaths, offering the opportunity for walking without harming habitats. The significant distance of Weston from the SAC, (over 20km crow fly) also suggests little likelihood of significant effects..				
Policy CS29:	Town centre		Located > 20	Some possible		N/A	B	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
Weston-super-Mare Town Centre	regeneration: major retail-led development in retail core; entertainment and leisure uses, tourist facilities and accommodation at seafront; creation of an office quarter within the gateway area	B (No significant effect)	km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	potential for increased recreational use. However recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness.			(No significant effect)	
CS29 Publication	As above	As above	As above	As above		N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS29 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above. No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	As above	As above		N/A	As above	N/A
Policy CS29: Weston-super-Mare Town Centre	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Town centre regeneration: major retail-led development in retail core; entertainment	B (No significant effect)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts (see	Potential increased recreational use. However, recreational impacts on the SAC were		NA	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	and leisure uses, tourist facilities and accommodation at seafront; creation of an office quarter within the gateway area. This is not likely to significantly impact on the SAC, given its location and qualifying interests, even with the housing increase.		HRA air quality appendix)	considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness. While part of the site is more accessible (Leigh Woods National Nature Reserve) there are lots of footpaths, offering the opportunity for walking without harming habitats. The significant distance of Weston from the SAC, (over 20km crow fly), also suggests little likelihood of significant					

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?	
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Policy CS30: Weston Urban Extension	A major mixed use, employment-led urban extension will be developed south-east of Weston-super-Mare. This will include 9,000 homes, 42ha of employment land along with other necessary community, social and transport infrastructure to support the development.	B (No significant effect)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	effects. Some possible potential for increased recreational use. However recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness.			N/A	B (No significant effect)	N/A
CS30 Publication Weston Villages	Employment-led development in two villages on mainly previously developed land at Weston airfield and Locking Parklands (the "Weston Villages". To include total of 5,500 new homes and at least 37.7ha of B use employment land.	As above	As above. Note: Weston urban extension now replaced by Weston Villages	As above			As above	As above	N/A
Policy CS30 as at November	The only change being proposed to the adopted plan	As above	As above	As above. Also potential for increased			As above.	As above	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
2013.	policy is a slight change in the number of dwellings to be built at Weston Villages from about 5,500 to about 5,800. The Consultation Draft plan had referred to a figure of 9,000 dwellings for that area , but this was reduced in the Publication version .			recreational use is limited since the policy is for employment development, and Weston villages are over 20km (crow fly) from the SAC..					
Policy CS30 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	This is a remitted policy, for which the only change in the proposed consequential changes is an increase in the housing figure for Weston Villages from about 5,500 in the adopted plan to about 6,500 dwellings, and many have been built, are being built, or have planning permission The increased figure is still lower than the figure of 9,000 dwellings that was in the Consultation Draft Core Strategy. The policy still refers	B (No significant effect)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts (see HRA air quality appendix)	Potential for increased recreational use is limited since the policy is for employment development, and Weston villages are over 20km (crow fly) from the SAC. Also, recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly			NA	B (No significant effect)	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	to possible provision of a waste to energy plant, but this is not likely to significantly impact on the SAC ; (see 4 th column).			vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness While part of the site is more accessible (Leigh Woods National Nature Reserve) there are lots of footpaths, offering the opportunity for walking without harming habitats					
Policy CS31: Market and Coastal Towns	Proposals for development at Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead will be supported if they increase self-containment, ensure the availability of jobs and services for the town and surrounding catchments, and improve the towns role as a service centre.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS31 Publication	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Clevedon, Nailsea and Portishead									
Policy CS31 as at November 2013.	The only changes being proposed to the adopted plan policy are the following changes in the number of dwellings to be built from 2006-2026: Clevedon: change from 454 to 493; Nailsea: change from 210 to 647; Portishead: change from 3,051 to 3,040. The policy at Consultation Draft stage did not specify housing numbers, although they were given in the supporting text . The adopted policy permits development within settlement limits at all three towns, and mixed use schemes adjacent to the settlement boundary at Nailsea outside the Green Belt, subject to criteria.	As above	N/A	As above. While there is potential for increased recreational use, none of these towns is particularly close to the SAC, the nearest being Portishead at over 6km. Also recreational impacts on the SAC were considered in the HRA of Bristol Core Strategy. This concluded that the site is not particularly vulnerable to trampling, and largely inaccessible due to steepness. This points to the "B" classification.			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS31		B	N/A	As above.			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix								
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge			Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other				
as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant) .	This is a remitted policy for which the only changes are increases in the numbers of dwellings for 2006-26, which for Clevedon is a rise from 454 (adopted plan) to 812, for Nailsea a rise from 210 to 917, and for Portishead a rise from 3,051 to 3,247. Many of the dwellings have been built, are being built or have planning consent, and the policy retains text which should help to reduce any potential impacts on European sites, for example: "residential development within the settlement boundaries of the three towns will be acceptable in principle provided it reflects the character of the local environment and doesn't cause any adverse impacts".	(No significant effect)		While part of the site is more accessible (Leigh Woods National Nature Reserve) there are lots of footpaths, offering the opportunity for walking without harming habitats				

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Policy CS32: Service Villages	Proposals for development which support or enhance their roles as local hubs for community facilities and services, employment and affordable housing, including public transport will be supported.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS32 Publication	Support for small scale development within settlement boundaries which supports and enhances village's role as local hub.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS32 as at November 2013.	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Latter differs from Consultation Draft version in allowing small scale residential or mixed use developments outside settlement boundaries subject to criteria	B (No significant effect) The reference to small scale and fact that none of the proposed Service Villages are adjacent to this SAC, which is in the Green Belt, suggests that LSEs are unlikely.	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS32 as at September 2014, (including reference to	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which supports small scale development	B (No significant effect) The fact that none of the	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/ Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	appropriate to the size and character of the village and which supports or enhances its role as a local hub for community facilities and services, employment and affordable housing, including public transport.	proposed Service Villages are adjacent to this SAC, which is in the Green Belt, reduces the likelihood of significant effects.							
Policy CS33: Smaller Settlements and Countryside.	Proposals for development within the rural areas outside of Service Villages will be strictly controlled in order to protect their character and prevent unsustainable development.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS33 Publication Infill Villages, smaller settlements and countryside	As above	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS33 as at November 2013.	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Latter differs from Consultation Draft version in allowing some market housing within infill villages	As above Reference to small scale and fact that none of the proposed Infill Villages are adjacent to this	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	but restricted to one or two infill dwellings or small scale residential development within the settlement limits, subject to criteria.	SAC, which is within the Green Belt, suggests that LSEs are unlikely.							
Policy CS33 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy. Proposals for development within the rural areas outside of Service Villages will be strictly controlled in order to protect their character and prevent unsustainable development. Within infill villages, one or two infill dwellings or small scale residential redevelopment only to be permitted.	B (No significant effect) Notwithstanding the housing increase, the fact that none of the proposed Infill Villages are adjacent to this SAC, which is within the Green Belt, suggests that LSEs are unlikely.	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Delivery Policies									
Policy CS34: Developer Contributions to Infrastructure.	Financial contributions will be sought in the form of a standardised tariff scheme applied across the district to ensure the effective and timely delivery	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
	of the key infrastructure requirements to support new development.								
CS34 Publication Infrastructure delivery and development contributions	Concerns mechanisms for funding and delivery of infrastructural elements, with regard to the Weston villages, Weston urban area and rest of district	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS34 as at November 2013.	Effectively as above No changes are proposed to adopted policy which is not fundamentally different to Consultation Draft version.	As above	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS34 as at September 2014, (including reference to autumn 2015 proposed consequential changes to remitted policies where relevant)	No changes are proposed to adopted policy, which concerns the collection of development contributions towards infrastructure, rather than the proposal of development. No LSEs were identified at any stage of HRA.	B (No significant effect)	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
Policy CS35:	Implementation will take place as part of	B	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Assessment Matrix									
Policy/Proposal	Description	Assessment Category ⁴	Potential Impacts on Avon Gorge				Avoidance/Mitigation Measures	Assessment Category post mitigation	HRA required ?
			Decreased Air Quality	Other					
Implementation	a co-ordinated strategy, provided in step with the necessary infrastructure, utilities and service provision needed to support and enable the development.	(No significant effect)							
CS35 is deleted in the Publication version	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS35 is deleted in the adopted plan, and no change is being proposed to that situation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A
CS35 is deleted in the adopted plan, and no change is being proposed to that situation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			N/A	N/A	N/A

Appendix C(b)

Note regarding water issues

The Draft South West Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) proposed significantly higher levels of development than the possible increased housing requirement for the Core Strategy;(about 26,000 dwellings for North Somerset as opposed to 20,985), in addition to development in housing other districts. The HRA of the draft RSS considered the issues of water abstraction and water quality. For water abstraction the HRA categorised the Severn Estuary site as one where it was not possible to conclude that no adverse effects on integrity will occur on the basis of the draft RSS but where it is considered that sufficient safeguards are available at lower levels of plan making and through other regulator mechanisms to ensure that no adverse effects will occur. The HRA referred to water companies' Water Resource Plans, the Environment Agency's Review of Consents procedures and Environment Agency (EA) catchment abstraction management strategies (CAMS) as examples of such regulatory mechanisms. The Review of Consents Procedure requires the EA to review their existing consents for water resources (abstraction) water quality (discharges), and groundwater authorisations that may affect SAC or SPA sites, and where a site might be significantly affected (alone or in combination with nearby permissions) an appropriate assessment is undertaken. Also the EA is required to do an appropriate assessment of the implications for NK2 sites when granting new consents for water abstraction.

The HRA of the Draft RSS concluded that the EA's CAMs, their consenting scheme for new water abstraction and associated HRA should avoid any adverse effects on a number of European sites including the Severn Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar.

It is considered that in view of this, and the strong safeguards provided by the regulatory mechanisms, the Core Strategy is unlikely to have significant effects on European sites regarding water abstraction.

Regarding water quality the HRA of the RSS found that there was a greater likelihood of adverse effects on the Severn Estuary site on the basis of the Draft RSS, because the EA Review of Consents process was not complete. However, regarding avoidance and mitigation it noted that there are strong regulatory controls over discharge licences, and Water Resource Plans, which also need to be subject to HRA. It stated that the consent regime operated by the EA, which will be further strengthened by the requirements of the Water Framework Directive, should ensure that water quality is maintained. In view of this, the significantly lower quantity of development suggested by the possible increase in housing requirement in the Core Strategy than was in the Draft RSS, and the fact that Core Strategy policy CS3 strongly opposes development that on its own or cumulatively would result in water pollution, it is considered unlikely that the Core Strategy would have significant effects on European sites regarding water quality.

APPENDIX D Air Quality matrices

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ⁵	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on	15	16.1 (107%)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

	calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) Estuaries			from site							
Severn Estuary SAC		30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Ramsar				well below CL)			well below CL)		well below objective)		well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Only of possible significance if energy facilities were to be located < 10km from site	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance for point source emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worstcase in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. Impacts of a point or area source may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the objective or critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold).

³ Impacts are likely to be significant if the source contribution is greater than 1% of the relevant objective or critical load and where the total (background + source) deposition or concentration is greater than 70% of the relevant objective or critical load. Where no information exists to calculate the impact, impacts of a point source could potentially be significant when located within 10 km of international designated sites (or 15 km for coal or oil fired power stations). Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

CS7 – Planning for Waste

Table 2: Impact of CS7 (Planning for Waste) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Unlikely to be significant. Sites identified in North Somerset in the Joint Waste Core Strategy are >10km from SAC.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Unlikely to be significant. Sites identified in North Somerset in the Joint Waste Core Strategy are >10km from SAC.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Unlikely to be significant. Sites identified in North Somerset in the Joint Waste Core Strategy are >10km from SAC.	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Unlikely to be significant. Sites identified in North Somerset in the Joint Waste Core Strategy are >10km from SAC.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Potentially significant where energy from waste facilities < 10km from site	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats	Semi-natural dry grasslands	15	16.1 (107%)	Potentially significant where energy	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below

SAC	and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)			from waste facilities < 10km from site					objective)	objective)	
Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Severn Estuary Ramsar	low tide Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Potentially significant where energy from waste facilities < 10km from site	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	Potentially significant where energy from waste facilities < 10km from site	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Potentially significant where energy from waste facilities < 10km from site	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance for point source emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. Impacts of a point or area source may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the objective or critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold).

³ Impacts are likely to be significant if the source contribution is greater than 1% of the relevant objective or critical load and where the total (background + source) deposition or concentration is greater than 70% of the relevant objective or critical load. Where no information exists to calculate the impact, impacts of a point source could potentially be significant when located within 10 km of international designated sites (or 15 km for coal or oil fired power stations). Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

CS8 – Minerals Planning in North Somerset

Table 3: Impact of CS8 (Minerals Planning in North Somerset) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Unlikely to be significant source of NO _x	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Unlikely to be significant source of NO _x	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Unlikely to be significant source of NO _x	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Unlikely to be significant source of NO _x	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Unlikely to be significant source of NO _x	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	16.1 (107%)	Unlikely to be significant source of NO _x	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary	Sandbanks which are	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Ramsar	slightly covered by seawater all the time			well below CL)			well below CL)		well below objective)		well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Unlikely to be significant source of NO _x	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	Unlikely to be significant source of NO _x	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Unlikely to be significant source of NO _x	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance for point source emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. Impacts of a point or area source may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the objective or critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold).

³ Impacts are likely to be significant if the source contribution is greater than 1% of the relevant objective or critical load and where the total (background + source) deposition or concentration is greater than 70% of the relevant objective or critical load. Where no information exists to calculate the impact, impacts of a point source could potentially be significant when located within 10 km of international designated sites (or 15 km for coal or oil fired power stations). Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

CS10 – Transportation and Movement

Table 4: Impact of CS10 (Transportation and Movement) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234 %)	Transport schemes which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site are potentially significant	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130 %)	Transport schemes which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site are potentially significant	7.1 (36%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂ .
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103 %)	Transport schemes which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site are potentially significant	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130 %)	Transport schemes which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site are potentially significant	7.1 (36%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276 %)	Transport schemes which could affect traffic on section of A370 and A368 alongside component	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	16.1 (107%)	sites are potentially significant Transport schemes which could affect traffic on section of A370 and A368 alongside component sites are potentially significant	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂

Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	objective) Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Transport schemes which could affect traffic on section of A38 and A371 alongside component sites are potentially significant	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	Transport schemes which could affect traffic on section of A38 and A371 alongside component sites are potentially significant	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂

Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132 %)	Transport schemes which could affect traffic on section of A38 and A371 alongside component sites are potentially significant	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
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Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance and Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality guidance for road traffic emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. Deposition impacts may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold). Following Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, impacts on NO_x may be significant if the NO_x concentration is close to or in excess of the air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³).

³ Road traffic impacts on deposition are likely to be significant if the increase is greater than 1% of the critical load, and where the total (background + source) deposition is greater than 70% of the critical load. Road traffic impacts on NO_x are likely to be significant where the increase is greater than 2 µg m⁻³, and where total concentrations are close to or in excess of the annual mean air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³). Where no information exists to calculate road-traffic pollutants, impacts could potentially be significant within 200 m of affected roads. Affected roads are defined according to Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, as roads with a change in Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 1000 or more, or a change in HGV (AADT) flow of 200 or more or a change in annual average speed of 10 km/hr or more as a result of a proposal. Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

CS11 – Parking

Table 5: Impact of CS11 (Parking) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site is potentially significant	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site is potentially significant	7.1 (36%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂ .
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco- Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site is potentially significant	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on section of A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 alongside site is potentially significant	7.1 (36%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on section of A370 and A368 alongside component	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	16.1 (107%)	sites is potentially significant Parking provision which could affect traffic on section of A370 and A368 alongside component sites is potentially significant	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂

Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on section of A38 and A371 alongside component sites is potentially significant	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	Parking provision which could affect traffic on section of A38 and A371 alongside component sites is potentially significant	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Parking provision which could	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂

**affect traffic
on section of
A38 and A371
alongside
component
sites is
potentially
significant**

objective)

Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: $\text{NO}_x = 30 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; $\text{SO}_2 = 20 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance and Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality guidance for road traffic emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. Deposition impacts may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold). Following Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, impacts on NO_x may be significant if the NO_x concentration is close to or in excess of the air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems ($30 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).

³ Road traffic impacts on deposition are likely to be significant if the increase is greater than 1% of the critical load, and where the total (background + source) deposition is greater than 70% of the critical load. Road traffic impacts on NO_x are likely to be significant where the increase is greater than $2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, and where total concentrations are close to or in excess of the annual mean air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems ($30 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). Where no information exists to calculate road-traffic pollutants, impacts could potentially be significant within 200 m of affected roads. Affected roads are defined according to Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, as roads with a change in Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 1000 or more, or a change in HGV (AADT) flow of 200 or more or a change in annual average speed of 10 km/hr or more as a result of a proposal. Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

CS13 – Scale of New Housing

Table 6: Impact of CS13 (Scale of New Housing) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco- Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Weston urban extension located within 2 km of the nearest of the component sites (Banwell Caves).	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	16.1 (107%)	However they are not known to contain these features, so impacts unlikely to be significant. Weston urban extension located within 2 km of the nearest of the component sites (Banwell Caves). However they are not known to contain these features, so impacts unlikely to be significant.	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic.	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	Therefore impact unlikely to be significant. Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Therefore impact unlikely to be significant Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

suggests a
2km zone for
NO_x impacts
from traffic.
Therefore
impact unlikely
to be
significant

Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance for point source emissions and Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality guidance for road traffic emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. For point source emissions, impacts may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the objective or critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold). Following Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, road traffic impacts on NO_x may be significant if the NO_x concentration is close to or in excess of the air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³).

³ Impacts on deposition and SO₂ and NO_x for point sources are likely to be significant if the increase is greater than 1% of the critical load or objective, and where the total (background + source) deposition is greater than 70% of the critical load or objective. Road traffic impacts on NO_x are likely to be significant where the increase is greater than 2 µg m⁻³, and where total concentrations are close to or in excess of the annual mean air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³). Where no information exists to calculate point source emissions, impacts of a point source could potentially be significant within 10 km of international designated sites (or 15 km for coal or oil fired power stations). Where no information exists to calculate road-traffic pollutants, impacts could potentially be significant within 200 m of affected roads. Affected roads are defined according to Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, as roads with a change in Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 1000 or more, or a change in HGV (AADT) flow of 200 or more or a change in annual average speed of 10 km/hr or more as a result of a proposal. Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

CS14 – Distribution of New Housing

Table 7: Impact of CS14 (Distribution of New Housing) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³	Lower	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco- Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts..	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Weston urban extension, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Weston urban extension located within 2 km of the nearest of the component sites (Banwell Caves).	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	16.1 (107%)	However they are not known to contain these features, so impacts unlikely to be significant. Weston urban extension located within 2 km of the nearest of the component sites (Banwell Caves). However they are not known to contain these features, so impacts unlikely to be significant.	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic.	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	Therefore impact unlikely to be significant Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Therefore impact unlikely to be significant Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

suggests a
2km zone for
NOx impacts
from traffic.
Therefore
impact unlikely
to be
significant

Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: $\text{NO}_x = 30 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$; $\text{SO}_2 = 20 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance for point source emissions and Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality guidance for road traffic emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. For point source emissions, impacts may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the objective or critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold). Following Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, road traffic impacts on NO_x may be significant if the NO_x concentration is close to or in excess of the air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems ($30 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).

³ Impacts on deposition and SO_2 and NO_x for point sources are likely to be significant if the increase is greater than 1% of the critical load or objective, and where the total (background + source) deposition is greater than 70% of the critical load or objective. Road traffic impacts on NO_x are likely to be significant where the increase is greater than $2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$, and where total concentrations are close to or in excess of the annual mean air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems ($30 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). Where no information exists to calculate point source emissions, impacts of a point source could potentially be significant within 10 km of international designated sites (or 15 km for coal or oil fired power stations). Where no information exists to calculate road-traffic pollutants, impacts could potentially be significant within 200 m of affected roads. Affected roads are defined according to Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, as roads with a change in Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 1000 or more, or a change in HGV (AADT) flow of 200 or more or a change in annual average speed of 10 km/hr or more as a result of a proposal. Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

CS20 – Supporting a Successful Economy

Table 8: Impact of CS20 (Supporting a Successful Economy) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr)	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Weston urban extension/town centre, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Weston urban extension/town centre, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂ .
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco- Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Weston urban extension/town centre, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Weston urban extension/town centre, Clevedon, Nailsea, Portishead located > 6 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Weston urban extension located within 2 km of the nearest of the component sites (Banwell Caves).	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	16.1 (107%)	However they are not known to contain these features, so impacts unlikely to be significant. Weston urban extension located within 2 km from the nearest of the component sites (Banwell Caves). However they are not known to contain these features, so impacts unlikely to be significant.	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂

Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic.	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂

Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	Therefore impact unlikely to be significant Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Therefore impact unlikely to be significant Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Road traffic not a significant source of SO ₂

suggests a
2km zone for
NO_x impacts
from traffic.
Therefore
impact unlikely
to be
significant

Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance and Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality guidance for road traffic emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. Deposition impacts may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold). Following Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, impacts on NO_x may be significant if the NO_x concentration is close to or in excess of the air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³).

³ Road traffic impacts on deposition are likely to be significant if the increase is greater than 1% of the critical load, and where the total (background + source) deposition is greater than 70% of the critical load. Road traffic impacts on NO_x are likely to be significant where the increase is greater than 2 µg m⁻³, and where total concentrations are close to or in excess of the annual mean air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³). Where no information exists to calculate road-traffic pollutants, impacts could potentially be significant within 200 m of affected roads. Affected roads are defined according to Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, as roads with a change in Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 1000 or more, or a change in HGV (AADT) flow of 200 or more or a change in annual average speed of 10 km/hr or more as a result of a proposal. Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

CS23 – Bristol International Airport

Table 9: Impact of CS23 (Bristol International Airport) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)		Likely significant effect from air pollution?
			Bd ²	Wd ³		Bd ²	Wd ³	Bd ²	Wd ³	Bd ²	Wd ³	
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	PC < 1% Benchmark		5.8	PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		No
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	PC < 1% Benchmark		4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		No
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	36.5 (365%)	36.6 (1%)	5.8	PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		No		No
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	PC < 1% Benchmark		4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		No
Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	PC < 1% Benchmark		4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		No
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at	30	PC < 1% Benchmark		4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		PC < 1% Benchmark		No

Severn Estuary SAC	low tide Atlantic salt meadows	30	PC < 1% Benchmark	4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	No
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	PC < 1% Benchmark	4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	No
Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	PC < 1% Benchmark	4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	No
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	PC < 1% Benchmark	4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	No
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	PC < 1% Benchmark	4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	No
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	PC < 1% Benchmark	4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	No
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	PC < 1% Benchmark	4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	No
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	PC < 1% Benchmark	5.7	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	No
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	PC < 1% Benchmark	4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	No

Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	PC < 1% Benchmark	4.0	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	PC < 1% Benchmark	No
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Bd = Background, Wd = With Development, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance reported in the table is based on the air quality assessment submitted with an Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed expansion of Bristol airport from 7.3 million passengers per annum (mppa) to 10 mppa (Entec UK Ltd (2009) Development and Enhancement of Bristol International Airport, Environmental Statement, Air Quality).

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. Following Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions, impacts of a point or area source may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the objective or critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold).

³ Process contribution (PC, contribution from source) expressed as percentage of relevant objective or critical load in parenthesis. Impacts are likely to be significant if this value is greater than 1%, and where the total (background + source) deposition or concentration is greater than 70% of the relevant objective or critical load. Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

CS24 – Royal Portbury Dock

Table 10: Impact of CS24 (Royal Portbury Dock) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Dock located approximately 3 km from site. Dock uses unlikely to be significant sources of point source air emissions. Significant effects unlikely.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Dock located approximately 3 km from site. Dock uses unlikely to be significant sources of point source air emissions. Significant effects unlikely.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Dock located approximately 3 km from site. Dock uses unlikely to be significant sources of point source air emissions. Significant effects unlikely.	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Dock located approximately 3 km from site. Dock uses unlikely to be significant sources of point source air emissions. Significant effects unlikely.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Dock located approximately 9 km from site. Furthermore dock uses unlikely to be significant sources of point	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	16.1 (107%)	source air emissions. Significant effects unlikely Dock located approximately 9 km from site. Furthermore dock uses unlikely to be significant sources of point source air emissions. Significant effects unlikely	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Located nearby to SAC but policy not likely to be enough of a source of NOx to have a significant effect.	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Located nearby to SAC but policy not likely to be enough of a source of NOx to have a significant effect.	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Located nearby to SAC but policy not likely to be enough of a source of NOx to have a significant effect.	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Located nearby to SAC but policy not likely	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below

Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Royal Portbury Dock located > 10 km from site, unlikely to have significant effect.	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	Royal Portbury Dock located > 10 km from site, unlikely to have significant effect.	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Royal Portbury Dock located > 10 km from site, unlikely to have significant effect.	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance for point/area source emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. Impacts of a point or area source may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the objective or critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold).

³ Impacts are likely to be significant if the source contribution is greater than 1% of the relevant objective or critical load and where the total (background + source) deposition or concentration is greater than 70% of the relevant objective or critical load. Where no information exists to calculate the impact, impacts of a point/area source could potentially be significant when located within 10 km of international designated sites (or 15 km for coal or oil fired power stations). Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

CS28 – Weston-super-Mare

Table 11: Impact of CS28 (Weston-super-Mare) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr)	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Lower	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco- Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts.	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Habitat not thought to be present on nearest SAC component site to the Weston Urban Extension (Banwell caves). Therefore impact unlikely to be significant.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	16.1 (107%)	Other component sites are further than 2km from Weston Urban extension (Design Manual for Roads (DMRB) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic.) As above	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	The closest part of the SAC, SSSI units 4 and 5, are designated for littoral sediment in favourable condition. Effects on this feature are unlikely to be significant.	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below

	seawater at low tide										objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	The closest part of the SAC, SSSI units 4 and 5, are designated for littoral sediment in favourable condition. There are no salt meadow features located near to Weston town centre ⁵ . Effects on this feature are unlikely to be significant.	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Sandbanks do not occur within close proximity of the coast at Weston ⁶	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Reefs do not occur within close proximity of the coast at Weston ⁶	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	The closest part of the SAC, SSSI units 4 and 5, are designated for littoral sediment in	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	favourable condition. Effects on this feature are unlikely to be significant. Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	The closest part of the SAC, SSSI units 4 and 5, are designated for littoral sediment in favourable condition. There are no salt meadow features located near to Weston town centre. ⁵ Effects on this feature are unlikely to be significant. Sandbanks do not occur within close proximity of the coast at Weston	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	<p>nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant</p> <p>Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant</p>	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
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Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NO _x impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
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Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance for point source emissions and Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality guidance for road traffic emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. For point source emissions, impacts may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the objective or critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold). Following Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, road traffic impacts on NO_x may be significant if the NO_x concentration is close to or in excess of the air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³).

³ Impacts on deposition and SO₂ and NO_x for point sources are likely to be significant if the increase is greater than 1% of the critical load or objective, and where the total (background + source) deposition is greater than 70% of the critical load or objective. Road traffic impacts on NO_x are likely to be significant where the increase is greater than 2 µg m⁻³, and where total concentrations are close to or in excess of the annual mean air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³). Where no information exists to calculate point source emissions, impacts of a point source could potentially be significant within 10 km of international designated sites (or 15 km for coal or oil fired power stations). Where no information exists to calculate road-traffic pollutants, impacts could potentially be significant within 200 m of affected roads. Affected roads are defined according to Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, as roads with a change in Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 1000 or more, or a change in HGV (AADT) flow of 200 or more or a change in annual average speed of 10 km/hr or more as a result of a proposal. Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

⁵ Source of mapping: http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/App5and5a-salt_meadows_tcm6-11836.pdf

⁶ Source: JNCC: <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/ProtectedSites>

CS29 – Weston-super-Mare Town Centre

Table 12: Impact of CS29 (Weston-super-Mare Town Centre) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Town centre located > 20 km from nearest component site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco- Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Located > 20 km from nearest component site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Located >4km from nearest component site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates	15	16.1 (107%)	Located >4km from nearest component site. Unlikely to be significant traffic impacts.	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Severn Estuary SAC	(<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>) Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	The closest part of the SAC, SSSI units 4 and 5, are designated for littoral sediment in favourable condition. Effects on this feature are unlikely to be significant.	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	The closest part of the SAC, SSSI units 4 and 5, are designated for littoral sediment in favourable condition. There are no salt meadow features located near to Weston town centre. ⁵ Effects on this feature are unlikely to be significant.	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Sandbanks do not occur	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

	slightly covered by seawater all the time			well below CL)			well below CL)		within close proximity of the coast at Weston ⁶		well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Reefs do not occur within close proximity of the coast at Weston ⁶	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	The closest part of the SAC, SSSI units 4 and 5, are designated for littoral sediment in favourable condition. Effects on this feature are unlikely to be significant. Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	The closest part of the SAC, SSSI units 4 and 5, are designated for littoral sediment in favourable condition. There are no salt meadow	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	features located near to Weston town centre. ⁵ Effects on this feature are unlikely to be significant. Sandbanks do not occur within close proximity of the coast at Weston ⁶	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Weston town centre located about 3km from the nearest component site. However, Design Manual for Roads (DMRB) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant.	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates	15	13.2 (88%)	Weston town centre located about 3km from the nearest component	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	(<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)			site. However, Design Manual for Roads (DMRB) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant.								
	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Weston town centre located about 3km from the nearest component site. However, Design Manual for Roads (DMRB) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant.	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	

Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance and Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality guidance for road traffic emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. Deposition impacts may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold). Following Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 207/07), Air Quality, impacts on NO_x may be significant if the NO_x concentration is close to or in excess of the air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³).

³ Road traffic impacts on deposition are likely to be significant if the increase is greater than 1% of the critical load, and where the total (background + source) deposition is greater than 70% of the critical load. Road traffic impacts on NO_x are likely to be significant where the increase is greater than 2 µg m⁻³, and where total concentrations are close to or in excess of the annual mean air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³). Where no information exists to calculate road-traffic pollutants, impacts could potentially be significant within 200 m of affected roads. Affected roads are defined according to Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, as roads with a change in Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 1000 or more, or a change in HGV (AADT) flow of 200 or more or a change in annual average speed of 10 km/hr or more as a result of a proposal. Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

⁵ Source of mapping: http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/App5and5a-salt_meadows_tcm6-11836.pdf

⁶ Source: JNCC: <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/ProtectedSites>

CS30 – Weston Urban Extension

Table 13: Impact of CS30 (Weston Urban Extension) on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco- Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts.	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Located > 20 km from site. Unlikely to be significant traffic/energy centre impacts.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	Habitat not thought to be present on nearest SAC component site to the Weston Urban Extension (Banwell caves). Therefore impact unlikely to be significant.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

				Other component sites are further than 2km from Weston Urban extension (Design Manual for Roads (DMRB) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic.)								
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	16.1 (107%)	As above	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	
Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	

Severn Estuary SAC	by seawater all the time Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant. On site energy generation may require project level HRA. Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant. On site energy generation may require project level HRA.	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
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Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Weston urban extension generally located over 2km from nearest component site at Uphill Cliff. DMRB (Design Manual for Roads and Bridges) (2009) guidance suggests a 2km zone for NOx impacts from traffic. Therefore impact unlikely to be significant. On site energy generation may require project level HRA.	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
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Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance for point source emissions and Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality guidance for road traffic emissions. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. For point source emissions, impacts may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the objective or critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold). Following Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, road traffic impacts on NO_x may be significant if the NO_x concentration is close to or in excess of the air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³).

³ Impacts on deposition and SO₂ and NO_x for point sources are likely to be significant if the increase is greater than 1% of the critical load or objective, and where the total (background + source) deposition is greater than 70% of the critical load or objective. Road traffic impacts on NO_x are likely to be significant where the increase is greater than 2 µg m⁻³, and where total concentrations are close to or in excess of the annual mean air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³). Where no information exists to calculate point source emissions, impacts of a point source could potentially be significant within 10 km of international designated sites (or 15 km for coal or oil fired power stations). Where no information exists to calculate road-traffic pollutants, impacts could potentially be significant within 200 m of affected roads. Affected roads are defined according to Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, as roads with a change in Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 1000 or more, or a change in HGV (AADT) flow of 200 or more or a change in annual average speed of 10 km/hr or more as a result of a proposal. Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

SW Bristol Urban Extension (Note: This is not supported by or proposed in the Core Strategy. Halcrow were asked to consider it since the Consultation Draft Core Strategy November 2009 invited comment on options for locating development there, in view of the proposal in the Draft Regional Spatial Strategy at that time).

Table 14: Impact of SW Bristol Urban Extension on nitrogen deposition, acid deposition, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and sulphur dioxide (SO₂) in international designated sites.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Qualifying Interest Features	Nitrogen CL (kg N/ha/yr) ¹	Nitrogen deposition (kg N/ha/yr)		Acidification CL (keg/ ha/yr)	Acid deposition (keg/ ha/yr)		NO _x (µg/m ³)		SO ₂ (µg/m ³)	
			Bd ²	Significance ³		Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³	Bd ²	Significance ³
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	23.4 (234%)	Bristol City Council Core Strategy HRA (2010) showed that traffic impacts associated with SW Bristol urban extension (Core Strategy policy BCS4) are likely to be non-significant. Project Level HRA may be required.	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Bristol City Council Core Strategy HRA (2010) showed that traffic impacts associated with SW Bristol urban extension (Core Strategy policy BSC4) are likely to be non-significant. Project Level HRA may be required.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	15.4 (103%)	Bristol City Council Core Strategy HRA (2010) showed that traffic impacts associated with SW Bristol urban extension (Core Strategy policy BCS4) are likely to be non-significant. Project Level HRA may be required.	4.0	2.1 (53%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	39 (130%)	Bristol City Council Core Strategy HRA (2010) showed that traffic impacts associated with SW Bristol urban extension (Core Strategy policy BCS4) are likely to be non-significant. Project Level HRA may be required.	7.1 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	27.6 (276%)	SSSIs of this SAC in North Somerset's administrative region not known to contain these qualifying features. Therefore no likely significant effect	5.8	3.3 (57%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	16.1 (107%)	SSSIs of this SAC in North Somerset's administrative region not known to contain these qualifying features.	4.0	1.8 (45%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Severn Estuary SAC	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Therefore no likely significant effect Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary SAC	Reefs	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Estuaries	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Mudflats and sandflats not covered seawater at low tide	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary Ramsar	Atlantic salt meadows	30	11.1 (37%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	4.0	1.4 (35%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	10.7 (36%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	2.4 (12%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Severn Estuary	Sandbanks	30	11.1	Unlikely to be	4.0	1.4	Unlikely to be	10.7	Unlikely to be	2.4	Unlikely to be

Ramsar	which are slightly covered by seawater all the time		(37%)	significant (Bd well below CL)		(35%)	significant (Bd well below CL)	(36%)	significant (Bd well below objective)	(12%)	significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines ⁴	10	22.5 (225%)	Located > 15 km from the site. Traffic and energy centre impacts likely to be non significant.	5.7	2.9 (51%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (<i>Festuco-Brometalia</i>)	15	13.2 (88%)	Located > 15 km from the site. Traffic and energy centre impacts likely to be non significant.	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	European Dry Heaths	10	13.2 (132%)	Located > 15 km from the site. Traffic and energy centre impacts likely to be non significant.	4.0	1.6 (40%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below CL)	9.9 (33%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)	1.7 (9%)	Unlikely to be significant (Bd well below objective)

Bd = Background, CL = Critical Load. UK air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems: NO_x = 30 µg/m³; SO₂ = 20 µg/m³ (both as annual mean). The impact significance presented in the table is based on Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance for point source emissions and Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality guidance for road traffic emissions. Impact significance of road traffic on air quality in Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC based on Bristol City Council, Habitats Regulation Assessment (2010) which considered growth in traffic between 2010 and 2020 on major roads within 200 m of the site, taking into account SW Bristol Urban Extension (assuming an additional 500 houses) and the expansion of Bristol city centre. The DMRB Screening Tool was used to predict NO_x and nitrogen deposition in the site. It should be noted that the study did not account for the additional houses in N. Somerset (potentially 9000) under the policy. All data derived from UK Air Pollution Information System – www.apis.ac.uk

¹ Critical loads for nitrogen deposition are expressed across a range (lower and upper value is given by APIS). The lower value represents the lowest critical load, and is therefore worst-case in terms of significance when nitrogen deposition is expressed as a percentage of the critical load value. Critical load for nitrogen deposition in this matrix is based on the lowest estimate.

² Background deposition or concentration expressed as percentage of critical load or objective in parenthesis. For point source emissions, impacts may be significant if the background + source contribution is greater than 70% of the objective or critical load (cases where this applies are highlighted in bold). Following Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 207/07), Air Quality, road traffic impacts on NO_x may be significant if the NO_x concentration is close to or in excess of the air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³).

³ Impacts on deposition and SO₂ and NO_x for point sources are likely to be significant if the increase is greater than 1% of the critical load or objective, and where the total (background + source) deposition is greater than 70% of the critical load or objective. Road traffic impacts on NO_x are likely to be significant where the increase is greater than 2 µg m⁻³, and where total concentrations are close to or in excess of the annual mean air quality objective for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems (30 µg/m³). Where no information exists to calculate point source emissions, impacts of a point source could potentially be significant within 10 km of international designated sites (or 15 km for coal or oil fired power stations). Where no information exists to calculate road-traffic pollutants, impacts could potentially be significant within 200 m of affected roads. Affected roads are defined according to Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality, as roads with a change in Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 1000 or more, or a change in HGV (AADT) flow of 200 or more or a change in annual average speed of 10 km/hr or more as a result of a proposal. Potentially significant impacts are highlighted in bold.

⁴ Habitat feature is listed as sensitive to acidity but it tends to occur on limestone soils where it is not sensitive. Source: www.apis.ac.uk

In-combination impacts

The following matrix shows other plans and projects that could potentially cause 'in-combination' impacts on the international sites within and around North Somerset and some possible avoidance and mitigation measures. The table includes projects that fall within the North Somerset administrative area but were not specifically included in the 2009 Core Strategy document.

Table 15: In-combination impacts

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Likely significant effect from Core Strategy alone?	In-combination plans or projects	Potential impacts and receptors	Avoidance/mitigation measures	Residual 'likely significant effect'?'¹
Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC	Uncertainty of significant effects from CS1, CS10, CS11, CS24	Bristol Core Strategy West of England Joint Local Transport Plan	Increased air pollution if traffic growth on roads near SAC (A4, A369, A4176, B3129): nitrogen deposition on qualifying habitats However Bristol City Council, Habitats Regulation Assessment (2010) showed that traffic impacts are likely to be non- significant.	Sustainable transport policies in Bristol Core Strategy ⁶ (Policy BCS10) and West of England Joint Local Transport Plan Implementation of measures to promote non-car travel modes as promoted in Core Strategy policies such as CS10.	No

⁶ The Bristol Core Strategy HRA concluded no LSE on Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC, providing monitoring of pollution levels and measures to reduce current pollution levels are undertaken.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Likely significant effect from Core Strategy alone?	In-combination plans or projects	Potential impacts and receptors	Avoidance/mitigation measures	Residual 'likely significant effect'? ¹
		West of England Joint Waste Core Strategy - Energy from Waste (EfW) Sites	Increased point source air pollution from EfW Sites: nitrogen deposition on qualifying habitats	Mitigation through design of EfW/ regulation by Environment Agency	No
		Seabank Power Station, Hallen, Bristol (<10km distant)	Increased point source air pollution of NOy ⁷ : nitrogen deposition on qualifying habitats	Mitigation through design of EfW/ regulation by Environment Agency	No
North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC	No	None thought to be significant	N/A	N/A	No
Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Uncertainty of significant effects from CS1, CS7, CS10, CS11, CS13, CS14, CS20, CS30	West of England Joint Local Transport Plan Somerset Local Transport Plan Sedgemoor District Council Core Strategy Mendip District Council Core Strategy	Increased air pollution if traffic growth on roads near SAC (A38, A371): nitrogen deposition on qualifying habitats	Sustainable transport policies within JLTP	No

⁷ NOy = the sum of NOx plus the compounds produced from the oxidation of NOx, which include nitric acid.

International Site (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)	Likely significant effect from Core Strategy alone?	In-combination plans or projects	Potential impacts and receptors	Avoidance/mitigation measures	Residual 'likely significant effect'? ¹
Severn Estuary SAC/ Ramsar	No significant effects from CS28, CS29 Uncertainty of significant effects from CS24	West of England Joint Waste Core Strategy (EfW Sites)	Increased point source air pollution from EfW Sites: nitrogen deposition on qualifying habitats	Mitigation through design of EfW/ regulation by Environment Agency	No
		Bristol Core Strategy	Increased air pollution if traffic growth on roads near SAC: nitrogen deposition on qualifying habitats	Sustainable transport policies in Bristol Core Strategy (Policy BCS10) and West of England Joint Local Transport Plan and Core Strategy	No
		West of England Joint Local Transport Plan			
		West of England Joint Waste Core Strategy - Energy from Waste (EfW) Sites	Increased point source air pollution from EfW Sites: nitrogen deposition on qualifying habitats	Mitigation through design of EfW/ regulation by Environment Agency	No
Proposed Renewable Energy Plant at Royal Portbury Dock	Increased point source air pollution – however the ES for this project concluded no LSE for nearby international sites (Eon, 2009).	Project level HRA	No		

¹ This is dependant upon the avoidance and mitigation measures being implemented

Summary of Core Strategy air quality impacts

The air quality assessment showed that several Core Strategy policies have the potential to cause likely significant effects (LSE) on the qualifying interest features of the international sites through air pollution.

Table 16: Summary of Core Strategy policies and the international sites that could have LSE

Core Strategy Policy	International sites with potential LSE (before mitigation)	Air pollution source	In-combination plans*
CS1 – Addressing climate change and carbon reduction	Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Possible future renewable energy facilities	Bristol Core Strategy Ashton Park
CS7 – Planning for waste	Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Energy from waste facilities	Seabank Power Station
CS10 – Transportation and movement CS11 – Parking	Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC	Road transport on A4, A369, A4176 and B3129 Road transport on A38 and A371	Weston Town Centre Area Action Plan West of England Joint Local Transport Plan West of England Joint Waste Core Strategy - Energy from Waste (EfW) Sites Somerset Local Transport Plan Sedgemoor District Council Core Strategy Mendip District Council Core Strategy

* The Natural England (2009) guidance states that these plans and projects should be identified in a *targeted* way and not list every conceivable plan or project. The list in this table does not mean that every one of these plans or projects will cause LSE on all international sites – the relevant plan or project for each international site is shown in table 15.

The largest potential for air-pollution impacts, principally Nitrogen oxides, on international sites comes from the following potential sources;

- Point source pollution sources, such as energy facilities; and
- Road traffic

Avoidance and mitigation measures are site specific but will, of necessity include sustainable transport policies, including demand management. New energy facilities may also need to be located further than ten kilometres from international sites unless they can demonstrate that pollution emissions will not cause likely significant effects on international sites (and other potential receptors to comply with separate regulations). For all Core Strategy policies the assessment has concluded that avoidance and mitigation measures can prevent likely significant effects on international sites. The Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC may be affected by various potential pollution sources, not necessarily associated with North Somerset's Core Strategy, and hence there are many variables to take into account for assessing impacts on this site. Due to the site being in 'unfavourable condition' and the high background levels of NO_x the site is known to be vulnerable to any increase in air pollution levels. However, monitoring at the site to assess the impacts of air pollution on vegetation, which is now taking place, can assist in developing appropriate mitigation measures. HRA is likely to be needed at project level for individual planning applications, to be agreed with Natural England.

References regarding the Air Quality matrices

- Bristol City Council, 2010. Bristol Core Strategy. Website:
<http://www.bristol.gov.uk/cdm/content/Environment-Planning/Planning/planning-policy-documents/bristol-development-framework/core-strategy.en>
- Bristol City Council, 2010. Core Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment. Received by email 10/5/2010.
- Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB, 2007) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1. Air Quality (HA 207/07).
- Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB, 2009) Volume 11, Section 4, Part 1. Assessment of Implications (of Highways and/or Roads Projects) on European Sites (including Appropriate Assessment) (HD 44/09).
- Entec, 2009. Bristol International Airport: Development and Enhancement of Bristol International Airport Environmental Statement (ES), June 2009.
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- JNCC, 2010. Website: <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/ProtectedSites>
- Landtrust Developments, 2009. Outline Planning Application for Ashton Park: Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report.
- Mendip District Council Core Strategy. Website:
<http://www.mendip.gov.uk/CouncilService.asp?id= SX9452-A7816E06>
- Natural England, 2010. 'Nature on the Map' website:
<http://www.natureonthemap.org.uk/map.aspx>
- Natural England, 2010. The Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents. David Tydlesley and Associates (for Natural England), January 2010.
- North Somerset Council Core Strategy. Consultation Draft, November 2009.
- Sedgemoor District Council Core Strategy. Website:
<http://www.sedgemoor.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=5856>
- Somerset County Council Local Transport Plan. Website:
<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/irj/public/services/directory/service?rid=wpcccontent/Sites/SCC/Web%20Pages/Services/Services/Environment/Local%20Transport%20Plan>
- South West Councils. South West Regional Spatial Strategy. Website:
http://www.swcouncils.gov.uk/nqcontent.cfm?a_id=836
- UK Air Pollution Information System. Website:
http://www.apis.ac.uk/cgi_bin/query_sitebased1.pl?SiteType=SAC
- West of England Partnership, 2010. West of England Joint Waste Core Strategy. Website:
<http://www.westofengland.org/waste/planning/joint-waste-core-strategy>

Planning application references

1. Weston Urban Extension

Planning application no. 09/P/1614/F Locking Parklands
07/P/1950/O Weston Park, Weston Airfield

2. SW Bristol Urban Extension

10/P/0066/OT2 University of Bristol land
09/P/1455/OT2 Ashton Park, including ES and HRA report with underpinning information
09/P/1486/O Land East of Failand

3. Other

09/P/1020/OT2 Bristol International Airport, including ES.
09/P/1479/F2 Land at Royal Portbury Dock, including ES and air pollution modelling

Air Quality in Designated Sites – Assessment Methodology

1. Introduction

Air pollution can cause direct damage to vegetation and can affect plant productivity and health. Furthermore, deposition of pollutants to the ground can indirectly affect vegetation through modifying soil characteristics such as pH and nitrogen availability. For road traffic and combustion sources, the main pollutants of concern with regards to vegetation and ecosystem effects are oxides of nitrogen (NO_x), sulphur dioxide (SO₂), nitrogen deposition, and acidification. Table 17 lists the effects air pollutants can have on vegetation and ecosystems.

Table 17. Air Pollutants and their Effects on Vegetation and Ecosystems

Pollutant	Vegetation/Ecosystem Effects
Nitrogen oxides	Leaf and needle damage. Reduced growth.
Sulphur dioxide	Degradation of chlorophyll. Reduced photosynthesis. Raised respiration rates.
Nitrogen deposition	Eutrophication and acidification leading to loss of biodiversity.
Acidification	Change of soil characteristics leading to loss of biodiversity.

A matrix has been formulated to screen the potential air quality effects of North Somerset Core Strategy on the following international designated sites within the council's district:

- Avon Gorge Woodlands Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC
- North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC
- Severn Estuary SAC and Ramsar site (see section 4 for rationale for not including SPA designation).

The sources of information and assessment methodology used to examine the potential air quality effects associated with each Core Strategy Policy are outlined here.

2. Air Quality Objectives and Critical Loads

Air quality objectives and critical loads have been established in order to reduce the damage to ecosystems associated with air pollution. Table 18 shows the UK air quality objectives and EU limit values introduced for NO_x and SO₂ for the protection of vegetation and ecosystems.

Table 18. UK Air Quality Objectives (AQO) and EU Limit Values for the Protection of Vegetation and Ecosystems

Pollutant	EU Limit Value	UK AQO	Measured as	Date to be Achieved (EU Limit Value)	Date to be Achieved (UK AQO)
Nitrogen oxides	30 µg m ³	30 µg m ³	Annual mean	19/07/2001	31/12/2000
Sulphur dioxide	20 µg m ³	20 µg m ³	Annual mean	19/07/2001	31/12/2000

Critical loads for nitrogen deposition and acidification represent the threshold level below which there should be no significant harmful effects on the sensitive elements of an ecosystem (according to current knowledge). Critical loads differ depending on the sensitivity of the habitat or species, and are shown in Table 19 for the features of the designated sites in North Somerset. The critical loads have been determined using the Air Pollution Information System (APIS), as outlined in Section 3 of this methodology.

Feature	CL N. Deposition (kg N/ha/yr)	CL Acidification (keg/ha/yr)	Designated Site
Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines	10 to 15	5.8	Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC, Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC, North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC

Table 19. Features Critical Loads for Acidification (keg/ ha/yr) and Nitrogen Deposition (kg N/ha/yr) in International Designated Sites in North Somerset	Feature	Acidification (keg/ ha/yr)	Nitrogen Deposition (kg N/ha/yr)	Site
	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates	15 to 25	4.0	Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC, Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC, North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC
	European dry heaths	10 to 20	4.0	Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC
	Salt Meadows	30 to 40	4.0	Severn Estuary SAC/Ramsar

3. Determination of Air Quality and Critical Loads

Air pollutant concentrations, rates of nitrogen deposition, acidification and critical loads have been determined in international designated sites in North Somerset using APIS and the UK Air Quality Archive (UKAQA).

The site specific critical loads function of APIS provides information on nitrogen critical loads and rates of nitrogen deposition for specific features in international designated sites throughout the UK. Rates of nitrogen deposition are available for the years 2003 and 2010. The more recent 2010 rates have been used here.

The site specific critical loads function does not provide information on total acidification, NO_x and SO₂ in each site. Rates of acidification and SO₂ concentrations have been derived using the search by location, habitat and pollutant function of APIS. Table 20 shows the Landranger coordinates used for each designated site, as obtained from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). It should be noted that JNCC coordinates for Severn Estuary are based on the centre point of the estuary, and as such are likely to underestimate pollutant concentrations associated with terrestrial activities. The Ordnance Survey coordinates 331500, 162500 have been used to determine NO_x, SO₂ and acidification in Severn Estuary. The coordinates correspond with the portion of the site alongside Weston-super-Mare, and are likely to be worst case in terms of air quality.

Table 20. Landranger Coordinates for International Designated Sites (JNCC)

International Designated Site	Landranger Coordinates
Avon Gorge Woodlands	ST560741
Mendip Limestone Grasslands	ST401557
North Somerset and Mendip Bats	ST480544
Severn Estuary	ST321748*

* Based on OS coordinates 331500, 162500

APIS only provides rates of acidification as a 3 year average over 2003 to 2005, and only provides SO₂ concentrations for the year 2005. Rates of acidification and SO₂ are likely to be overestimated relative to 2011, as emissions of SO₂ and acidifying gases are declining year on year in response to improving emission technologies and air quality legislation. The rate of acidification and SO₂ concentration presented in the air quality matrices can be considered as worst-case. NO_x concentrations have been determined in designated sites for the year 2011 using the UKAQA (according to the coordinates presented in Table 20).

4. Determination of Impact Significance

The significance criteria for changes in air quality in designated sites differ between point source and road-traffic emissions.

Following Environment Agency, H1 Environmental Risk Assessment, Annex (f) Air Emissions guidance for point source emissions, impacts can be considered to be potentially significant if the long term process (source) contribution is greater than 1% of the long term environmental standard (objective or critical load). Where no information exists to calculate the process contribution, impacts could potentially be significant when the sum of the background concentration and process (source) contribution is greater than 70% of the long term environmental standard, and the source is located within the screening distance of the designated site. For SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites, point sources could potentially be significant when located within a distance of 10 km (or 15 km for coal or oil fired power stations) of the site.

Following Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07), Air Quality guidance for road traffic emissions, impacts are likely to be significant where there is an increase in NO_x of 2 µg m⁻³ and the predicted concentrations (including background) are very close to or exceed the criterion. Changes in nitrogen deposition should be compared against critical loads. Where no information exists to calculate road-traffic pollutants, impacts could potentially be significant within 200 m of affected roads. Affected roads are defined according to DMRB Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (HA 20/07) Air Quality guidance, as roads with a change in Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) flow of 1000 or more, or a change in HGV (AADT) flow of 200 or more or a change in annual average speed of 10 km/hr or more as a result of a proposal.

The Severn Estuary SPA has not been included in the air quality assessment due to the qualifying features of the SPA, various overwintering bird species, not being directly vulnerable to air pollution. However, the habitats that support these populations are included in the matrices in the Severn Estuary SAC and Ramsar assessments.

Appendix E

Note on Site Improvement Plans for European sites

As part of the Improvement programme for England's Natura 2000 sites (IPENS), Natural England is producing Site Improvement Plans (SIPs) for European sites, and particularly encourages the council to take

into account, in preparing the HRA of the Core Strategy, the emerging Site Improvement Plans (SIPs) for the Severn Estuary and North Somerset and Mendip Bat sites, in a letter dated 27 March 2015. The letter was responding to formal consultation on the Sites and Policies Plan Part 1: Development Management Policies Publication version, and stated that the Severn Estuary and North Somerset and Mendip Bat sites appear to be the sites most likely to be affected by that plan.

Draft SIP for the Severn Estuary

The draft SIP for the Severn Estuary refers to the issue of public access/disturbance, and Natural England's letter particularly refers to this, quoting the following: "Public access and recreation (including third party activities) may have an impact on bird species sensitive to disturbance, causing displacement from feeding roosting and moulting areas, and if severe could affect long term survival and population numbers and distributions within the Estuary. There are a wide variety of recreational activities within the site (walking, dog walking, horse riding, biking, beach activities, angling, wildfowling, other shooting (eg. clay pigeon)) that may cause damage to habitats where pressure is high".

The letter states that the draft SIP sets out a number of measures to address this pressure, including actions to: 1A) *Understand how the Estuary is used and accessed for recreational purposes (water and land based), to inform current management and future development;* 1B) *Understand how the site is currently used by bird populations, identifying key locations (roosting, feeding), and particularly sensitive areas;* 1C) *Develop a strategic approach to visitor management, including appropriate zonation to protect undisturbed areas and management plans for major recreational beaches;* 1D) *Undertake a programme of targeted education and awareness raising amongst recreational user groups (angling groups, visitors, local residents, schools etc.)* and 1E) *Install signage to manage user activities.*

The SIP refers to the "Delivery lead body" expected to lead on the actions, and stipulates that this is the Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA) for 1A, Natural England for 1B, and the English and Welsh local authorities for 1C, 1D and 1E.

Of course the Severn Estuary is very extensive, and is bounded by a number of districts in England and Wales. Regarding North Somerset, discussions with the council's Ecologist suggest that an important recreational pressure on the site is walking, particularly with dogs, with potential for disturbance of birds, and this is referred to in the screening matrices, with mitigation measures.

Draft SIP for the North Somerset and Mendip Bat SAC

This SIP identifies the following as prioritised issues:

- undergrazing of species rich grassland, due to a lack of infrastructure like fencing, which impacts on the grassland and on foraging bats that rely on dung fauna as prey, and leads to scrub encroachment which is threatening the loss of species rich limestone grassland communities.
- planning permission: general: potential impact of development of land between the sites that make up the North Somerset and Mendip Bat SAC, through loss of foraging habitat, loss of minor roost sites and disruption of flightpaths, (the latter particularly through light pollution).
- disease; an outbreak of Ash dieback would impact on woodland within the SAC as it includes areas of woodland with a high proportion of ash. Ash trees are also used by commuting bats within linear features and as feeding perches.
- mine instability at the primary entrance, due to rotten shoring;(risk to bats using the mines, etc.)
- forestry and woodland management: excessive sycamore growth threatening the species composition of important ravine woodland
- air pollution: where nitrogen deposition exceeds site-relevant critical loads

The SIP identifies various actions, including for example, for undergrazing: providing information to land managers about appropriate management of calcareous grassland and bat foraging habitats; for development: produce and promote advice and guidance on development control and strategic planning; for disease: monitor ash dieback national guidance and local situation, and react

accordingly; for mine instability: investigate instability for mine and cave systems, and identify and implement options for stabilisation; for excessive sycamore growth: control sycamore; and for air pollution: further investigate potential atmospheric nitrogen impacts on the site.

The SIP refers to Natural England as the delivery lead body for most of these actions, with the exception of the Forestry Commission regarding Ash dieback, and North Somerset Council regarding development. Regarding the action of producing and promoting guidance, the council already has supplementary planning guidance (SPD) which covers bats, in its Biodiversity and Trees Supplementary Planning Guidance. However, in response to consultation with Natural England on the Sites and Policies Plan Part 1 Development Management Policies Publication Version, February 2015, the council's Planning Policy officers will be producing guidance on the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC for future proposed development in the 5km consultation zone for that SAC. More detailed HRA of the Site Allocations Plan will occur, likely to cover specific site allocations.

Commented [GA(1)]: Very welcome, but needs to be reflected elsewhere (eg the appendix)

Appendix F

Updating of consideration of in-combination effects and consideration of further projects and plans

The consideration of in-combination effects carried out by Halcrow mainly considered air quality-related effects. In updating the HRA we have considered wider implications of other plans and projects .

In doing so we have had regard to the January 2015 Guidance for Plan –Making Bodies in Scotland (hereon referred to as the Scottish guidance), initially prepared by David Tyldesley and Associates. It is relatively recent and Natural England have encouraged us to refer to it in updating the HRA of the Core Strategy.

The guidance implies that Core Strategy policies or proposals that make provision for change and would be likely, alone, to have a minor residual effect but not a significant effect, on a European site, should be identified to aid consideration of likely significant effects in combination. This latter process would partly entail (a) assessing whether the combined effects of all those identified policies or proposals would have a significant effect on a European site.

The process would also require (b) consideration of other plans and projects which would have some potential effect on a European site (but alone that effect would not be significant). It would require assessment of whether the effects of those plans together with the effects of the Core Strategy policies or proposals identified in (a) would have a significant effect on a European site.

(a) Identification of policies in the North Somerset Core Strategy having only a minor residual effect, alone
Regarding (a) it is considered that only one of the policies in the North Somerset Core Strategy would (without mitigation) be likely to have a potential minor residual effect on a European site, which is CS11 on car parking, regarding the Severn Estuary; (see table below). That is because, in most cases, as the matrices show, effects predicted from policies (without mitigation) are mostly category C, significant effect alone.

Also for all policies in the plan, (including CS11, as shown below) it is predicted that, with mitigation, they are not likely to have significant effects. Therefore it is not considered that there are likely to be significant in-combination effects from policies in the plan itself.

Policy	Relevant site	Reason for potential minor residual effect without mitigation
CS11 Car parking	Severn Estuary	While the air quality assessment suggests that car emissions are unlikely to be an issue for the Severn Estuary, it is considered that there could be a minor residual effect regarding the policy, relating to disturbance. (While the policy does not influence the location of parking, its promotion of parking provision, particularly with the increased housing requirement, could mean more car parks, and hence, without mitigation, could raise the probability of parking being located in locations near the Severn Estuary. If so, that could be a contributory factor towards potential disturbance of birds by dog walkers etc.) However it is likely that this minor residual effect could be mitigated, as indicated in the matrices, by such means as provision of interpretation boards in car parks located near the SAC, promoting keeping dogs on leads etc.

Consideration of other plans and projects

As indicated in Appendix D, a number of other projects and plans were considered by Halcrow in assessing the Consultation Draft Core Strategy. This found that, while, without mitigation there would be potential for some in-combination effects on European Sites, concerning air quality, the implementation of appropriate mitigation would mean that there would not be likely in-combination effects.

The council has added to and updated this work by looking at other relevant projects and plans which have been subject to HRA, and considering whether, in the light of that wider information, there would be likely to be significant in – combination effects with the Core Strategy, taking into account the housing increase. We have drawn on HRA work carried out on neighbouring district’s core strategies and also on the Hinkley Point C Connection Project (HPCCP). (The latter potentially affects North Somerset and adjoining districts, being a project for providing additional electricity capacity involving removal of existing overhead power lines and pylons, and building of a new 400,000 volt connection between Bridgwater and Seabank.)

However, as indicated in the table below, we have concluded that, notwithstanding the housing increase, in view of mitigation measures for both the other plans and projects, and the Core Strategy, if those measures are implemented there would not be likely to be significant in-combination effects.

The Hinkley Point C Connection Project (HPCCP)

Implications regarding Severn Estuary site:		
Main conclusions	Mitigation suggested and assumed (NA means not applicable)	Would there be likely significant in-combination effects with North Somerset Core Strategy and other plans and projects, assuming mitigation?
Note: The HPCC proposed development was subject to Appropriate Assessment regarding the Severn Estuary site, from which the main conclusions have been identified.		
Possible impacts (bird disturbance) from construction	Mitigation by timing of construction and the avoidance of habitats which might be used for roosting or feeding	No
Temporary habitat loss during the construction phase would be negligible in respect of their value for birds associated with the SPA and Ramsar sites	NA	No
Habitat displacement from beneath the overhead lines would not be significant since there is little evidence of regular use of these areas by SPA/Ramsar qualifying birds	NA	No
Collision risk from overhead wires: Information from surveys found that the number of collisions would not be so great as to cause a population effect which might be considered to affect the integrity of the SPA/ Ramsar sites;	NA	No
While significant movements of water birds occur between the Severn Estuary and the Somerset Levels and Moors, these are south of North Somerset, and analysis of bird flight line data did not indicate that there would be any particular conservation benefit arising from fitting the diverters in other locations	NA for North Somerset. Between Severn Estuary and Somerset Levels and Moors: fitting of diverters (spirals to the earth wire on either side of specific river crossings)	No
The Appropriate Assessment concluded that the proposed HPCCP development would not result in an adverse effect on the integrity of the Severn Estuary SPA and Ramsar. It was made in combination with a number of other projects which might also increase collision risk to the same populations of birds. It concluded that the	As above	No

mitigation measures for the HPCCP development also satisfactorily address the likely in-combination effects, and that the in-combination mortality levels do not significantly increase impact compared to that which has been assessed for the HPCCP development alone.		
Implications regarding North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC and the Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC.		
(Note: Possible impact on bats was subject to Appropriate Assessment (AA) regarding HPCCP) The AA concluded that the HPCCP development, in combination with other plans and projects would not give rise to an adverse effect on the integrity of the designated bat populations of a number of European sites, including North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC and the Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC.	NA	No
The following possible impacts were identified: Potential loss of foraging value and the potential for fragmentation of commuting and foraging routes used by the bats from the temporary loss of hedgerows and disturbance of grasslands, from excavation and installation of cable trenches during installation of the underground cables and the construction of the Sandford Substation. However AA concluded these would be mitigated; (see column to right).	Management of retained grassland habitats for bats during the construction period. Restriction of cable working swathe to only that which is necessary for excavation and installation Site specific planting schemes. Reinstatement of hedgerows and watercourse crossings post construction. Management of habitats either side of the cable swathe to improve invertebrate prey availability.	No
Potential fragmentation caused by lighting	In most areas there will be no significant continuous lighting and only limited lighting during short winter days when bats are less active. Where lighting is required at the compound sites and the Sandford Substation, directional lighting with shielding and reduced height would be used to minimise the adverse effect of lighting on foraging routes. It was found that the above mitigation would ensure that seasonal bat movements between components of the SAC's would be upheld.	No

Bristol Core Strategy HRA, updated May 2010

Implications regarding Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC.		
Main conclusions	Mitigation suggested and assumed	Would there be

	(NA means Not applicable)	likely significant in-combination effects with North Somerset Core Strategy and other plans and projects, assuming mitigation?
<p>Note: Potential for increased recreational pressure on the woodlands and grasslands habitats which could lead to a risk of adverse impacts from increased human and dog presence, leading to physical disturbance and eutrophication, was considered. However the process revealed that recreational pressure as a risk to this site was not considered a significant or unmanageable risk.</p> <p>Also Appropriate Assessment (AA) work carried out for the South West Regional Spatial Strategy found that woodland units in the SAC are currently largely in favourable condition, and are not particularly vulnerable to trampling from recreation, and much of the site is inaccessible due to its steep nature. As such any adverse impact on the Avon Gorge conservation objectives due to physical loss from disturbance were removed from further investigation.</p>	NA	No
<p>The additional development proposed in the Bristol Core Strategy Preferred Options document was assessed with regard to likely air quality impacts (pollutants) regarding the SAC, notably regarding the A4 Portway from the City Centre to the M5, running through the site.</p> <p>A simple site based assessment tool using a critical loads approach was used. It found that the critical load for Nitrogen (N) Deposition was being exceeded for the woodland habitat of the site, and it was concluded that it was being caused by Oxides of Nitrogen, which can be caused by vehicle emissions. This can contribute to acidification and eutrophication of sensitive habitats leading to loss of biodiversity.</p> <p>However Appropriate Assessment found potential for only marginal, non-significant increases, in critical pollutants, and thus,</p>	<p>The HRA of the Bristol Core Strategy states that findings of the appropriate assessment led to refinements and mitigation measures in the Publication version of the Core Strategy, which provides a policy steer to reduce emissions from increased car trips.</p> <p>Policy BCS23 Pollution, was amended to state that air quality monitoring will be undertaken in the Avon Gorge to assess the potential impact of development and change on the Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC. This information could then be utilised in the application of Policy BSC23 and also to inform individual sustainable transport projects and proposals in Bristol, within the next version of the Joint Local Transport Plan.</p> <p>(Note: These changes were taken through into the adopted plan).</p> <p>It was noted that Policy BCS10 (Transport and Access Improvements) seeks to reduce reliance on the private car for travel, through</p>	No

<p>with extensive programmed mitigation, it was concluded that as a result of Core Strategy policies, the integrity of the Avon Gorge site is unlikely to suffer significant adverse effects. (Source: HRA of Bristol Core Strategy)</p>	<p>support of other transport infrastructure such as the Greater Bristol Bus Network, Bus Rapid Transit Routes, rail improvements, new and expanded park and ride facilities, as well as encouraging location of development where sustainable travel patterns can be achieved. Sustainable transport modes and reduced reliance on private cars is also encouraged by Policy BCS13 (Climate Change).</p> <p>The HRA also stated that the findings and research for this HRA are informing the production of the next version of the Joint Local Transport Plan.</p>	
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Mendip Core Strategy (Preferred Option)

Implications regarding the Mendip Limestone Grasslands SAC		
Main conclusions	Mitigation suggested and assumed (NA means not applicable)	
<p>The HRA (Jan 2011) of the Mendip Core Strategy found that while there is potential for recreational impacts on habitats for this site, this is not likely to be significant as new site allocations in Mendip are located at some distance from the designated site.</p> <p>(The component sites for the SAC are in/adjoining North Somerset, like Uphill Cliff and Crook Peak, so are distant from the principle settlements in Mendip to which the majority of development is directed: Frome, Shepton Mallet, Wells, Glastonbury and Street).</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>No</p>
Implications regarding the North Somerset and Mendip Bats SAC		
<p>The HRA refers to various component sites of the SAC, most of which are distant from North Somerset. However one, Compton Martin Ochre Mine, located at Compton Combe, Compton Martin in Bath and North East Somerset (BANES) district, is fairly close to the Blagdon area, and probably explains why the 5km consultation zone for the SAC in North Somerset extends to the SE boundary of the district.</p> <p>The HRA describes the condition of the ochre mine component site as “unfavourable declining”, but does not state why. The mine is used as a hibernation site for greater horseshoe bats. It is not known whether it is used by recreational cavers, but the HRA</p>	<p>NA. Most of the component sites in Mendip are distant from North Somerset, (but see left column regarding the Compton Martin Ochre Mine, though that is actually in BANES.)</p>	<p>No</p>

states that Natural England is working with cave owners for caves where that does occur, to minimise disturbance. A more likely issue may be management problems regarding grassland/woodland elements of the SAC, such as the need to maintain appropriate grazing levels to avoid scrub invasion. However this is not something the planning system can easily influence.		
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Sedgemoor Core Strategy

Implications regarding the Severn Estuary European Site		
Main conclusions	Mitigation suggested and assumed (NA means Not applicable)	Likely scope for significant in-combination effects with North Somerset Core Strategy and other plans and projects, assuming any mitigation stated?
The HRA (July 2010) of the Sedgemoor Core Strategy states that there is the potential for in-combination impacts from various plans and projects, including the North Somerset Core Strategy. However from the HRA it seems that these mainly relate to likely recreational (disturbance) impacts from increased population associated with development, particularly from walking and dog walking. However, the HRA concludes that stated avoidance and mitigation measures would mean that policies in the Sedgemoor Core Strategy, alone and in combination, would have no adverse effect on site integrity. Some of these measures are listed in the next column.	Suggested mitigation measures for disturbance of overwintering birds vary from more extreme measures, such as closing or re-routing of unofficial paths, to methods such as signage encouraging keeping dogs on leads, planting of bushes alongside pathways as a barrier between the estuary and walkers, site and access management, interpretation/visitor education. Other measures include promotion of provision of green infrastructure encouraging people to use that instead of the estuary.	No
Implications regarding the Mendip Limestone Grasslands site		
The HRA suggests that proposed development in Sedgemoor would increase leisure use, including walking,	The HRA notes that the Mendip Hills AONB management plan has policies to monitor and close off areas where erosion is occurring from	No

<p>dogs, etc. and hence risk of trampling. It suggests that there would be likely in-combination impacts with other Core Strategies that also have to accommodate increased housing numbers. However there is scope for mitigation.</p>	<p>public access.</p> <p>However it advocates that the policy D20 on green infrastructure in the Sedgemoor Core Strategy be amended to state that housing projects of 20 dwellings or more within 5km of a Natura 2000 suit are to comply with Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standard.</p> <p>This suggests that the HRA recognises that provision of green infrastructure near to new homes can help divert recreational pressure away from sensitive sites.</p> <p>The HRA concludes that this amendment (and others which it suggests) would ensure that the Sedgemoor Core Strategy is compliant with the requirements of the habitats Regulations, and that there are no issues arising where Appropriate Assessment is required.</p>	
<p>The HRA refers to a component site (Shute Shelve hill area) being next to the A38. (It is a site which fall just outside but adjoins, North Somerset district).</p> <p>However the HRA indicates that NOx (nitrogen oxide) is well below critical level there, and that NOx emissions from traffic on the A38 generated in Sedgemoor is unlikely to significantly contribute to increased nitrogen deposition . It adds that grassland habitat is more than 200m from the road, and that the lime-maple woodland present does not support any significant lichen communities.</p> <p>The HRA concludes that no significant effect is likely, regarding air pollution, either from the Sedgemoor Core Strategy alone or in combination with other plans and projects.</p>	<p>NA</p>	<p>No</p>

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Help is also available for people who require council information in languages other than English.

Please contact 01934 426 942



For further information please contact
Planning Policy and Research
North Somerset Council, Somerset House, Oxford Street, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1TG

Email: planning.policy@n-somerset.gov.uk

Tel: 01934 426 942

Fax: 01934 426 678