

**Central Lancashire Authorities**

**Central Lancashire Local  
Plan: Habitats  
Regulations Assessment  
Report  
Screening and  
Appropriate Assessment**

**Final report**

Prepared by LUC

January 2025

**Central Lancashire Authorities**

**Central Lancashire Local Plan: Habitats  
Regulations Assessment Report  
Screening and Appropriate Assessment**

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# Chapter 1

## Introduction

**1.1** The three Central Lancashire Authorities (Preston City Council, South Ribble Borough Council and Chorley Council; hereafter referred to as the CLAs) have commissioned LUC carry out a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) in relation to the emerging Central Lancashire Local Plan.

**1.2** The purpose of this HRA Report is to determine whether the new Local Plan will have likely significant effects on any sites designated as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), or Ramsar sites ('Habitats Sites').

### Background to the Local Plan

**1.3** The new Central Lancashire Local Plan is being prepared by the Central Lancashire Authorities: Chorley, Preston City and South Ribble Councils (the CLAs). Once adopted, the new Local Plan will replace the existing Central Lancashire Core Strategy and the Local Plans that have been adopted by each District Council. The CLAs recognise the value of planning strategically within this area, given that it functions as a highly self-contained single housing market area.

**1.4** As well as ensuring that the Local Plan is up to date and in line with national policy, the preparation of the new Local Plan provides an opportunity for the CLAs to respond to key current issues such as the climate emergencies that have been declared by all three authorities.

**1.5** The CLAs began work on their new Local Plan in 2018. Initial work on the new Local Plan has been progressed, including a Call for Sites exercise in 2019, an Issues and Options consultation in late 2019/early 2020, and a Preferred Options (Regulation 18) consultation in late 2022/early 2023. The Reg. 18 Preferred Options Local Plan was accompanied by an Integrated Assessment Report and HRA Scoping Report; both prepared by LUC.

**1.6** The CLAs have now prepared the Pre-Submission (Regulation 19) Local Plan, and this HRA Screening and Appropriate Assessment report sets out an assessment of policies and sites included within the plan. This HRA report will be subject to consultation alongside the Pre-Submission (Regulation 19) Local Plan document.

### The requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment of Development Plans

**1.7** The requirement to undertake HRA of development plans was confirmed by the amendments to the Habitats Regulations published for England and Wales in 2007<sup>1</sup>; the currently applicable version is the Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended)<sup>2</sup>. When preparing the new Local Plan, the CLAs are therefore required by law to carry out an HRA. The CLAs can commission consultants to undertake HRA work on their behalf and this work (documented in this report) is then reported to and considered by the CLAs as the 'competent authority'. The CLAs will consider this work and would usually only submit the Local Plan if they consider that the plan will not adversely affect the integrity<sup>3</sup> of any 'European site', as defined below (the

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<sup>1</sup> The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) (Amendment) Regulations 2007 (2007) SI No. 2007/1843. TSO (The Stationery Office), London.

<sup>2</sup> The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (2017) SI No. 2017/1012, as amended by The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/579).

<sup>3</sup> The integrity of a site is the coherence of its ecological structure and function, across its whole area, that enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of the species for which it was designated. (Source: UK Government Planning Practice Guidance)

exception to this would be where 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest' can be demonstrated; see paragraph 3.5). The requirement for authorities to comply with the Habitats Regulations when preparing a plan is also noted in the Government's online Planning Practice Guidance<sup>4</sup> (PPG).

**1.8** HRA refers to the assessment of the potential effects of a development plan on one or more sites afforded the highest level of protection in the UK: SPAs and SACs. These were classified under European Union (EU) legislation, but since 1 January 2021 are protected in the UK by the Habitats Regulations 2017<sup>2</sup> (as amended). Although the EU Directives from which the UK's Habitats Regulations originally derived are no longer binding, the Regulations still make reference to the lists of habitats and species that the sites were designated for, which are listed in annexes to the EU Directives:

- SACs are designated for particular habitat types (specified in Annex 1 of the EU Habitats Directive<sup>5</sup>) and species (listed in Annex II of the Habitats Directive). The listed habitat types and species (excluding birds) are those considered to be most in need of conservation at a European level. Before EU exit day, designation of SACs also had regard to the coherence of the 'Natura 2000' network of European sites. After EU exit day, regard is had to the importance of such sites for the coherence of the UK's 'national site network'.
- SPAs are classified for rare and vulnerable birds (Annex I of the EU Birds Directive<sup>6</sup>), and for regularly occurring migratory species not listed in Annex I.

**1.9** The terms 'European sites' or 'Natura 2000' sites<sup>7</sup> were previously commonly used in HRA to refer to SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites (internationally designated wetlands under the Ramsar Convention). However, a Government Policy Paper<sup>8</sup> on changes to the Habitats Regulations 2017 post-Brexit stated that:

- Any references to Natura 2000 in the 2017 Regulations and in guidance now refer to the new 'national site network'.
- The National Site Network includes existing SACs and SPAs; and new SACs and SPAs designated under these Regulations.
- Designated Wetlands of International Importance (known as Ramsar sites) do not form part of the national site network. Many Ramsar sites overlap with SACs and SPAs and may be designated for the same or different species and habitats.

**1.10** Although Ramsar sites do not form part of the new national site network, Government guidance<sup>9</sup> states that:

*"Any proposals affecting the following sites would also require an HRA because these are protected by government policy:*

- proposed SACs
- potential SPAs
- Ramsar sites - wetlands of international importance (both listed and proposed)
- areas secured as sites compensating for damage to a European site."

**1.11** Furthermore, the NPPF<sup>10</sup> and practice guidance<sup>11</sup> currently state that competent authorities responsible for carrying out HRA should treat Ramsar sites in the same way as SACs and SPAs. The legislative requirement for HRA does not apply to other nationally designated wildlife sites such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest or National Nature Reserves.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appropriate-assessment>

<sup>5</sup> Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the 'Habitats Directive')

<sup>6</sup> Directive 2009/147/EC of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (the 'Birds Directive')

<sup>7</sup> The network of protected areas identified by the EU: [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/index\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/index_en.htm)

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017/changes-to-the-habitats-regulations-2017>

<sup>9</sup> Defra and Natural England (2021) Guidance - Habitats regulations assessments: protecting a European site,

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/habitats-regulations-assessments-protecting-a-european-site>

<sup>10</sup> NPPF para 187, available from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

<sup>11</sup> The HRA Handbook, Section A3. David Tyldesley & Associates, a subscription based online guidance document: <https://www.dtapublications.co.uk/handbook/European>

**1.12** For simplicity, and in line with common usage, this report uses the term ‘Habitats Site’ to refer to all types of designated site for which Government guidance<sup>12</sup> requires an HRA.

**1.13** The overall purpose of an HRA is to conclude whether or not a proposal or policy, or a whole development plan would adversely affect the integrity of the Habitats Site in question. This is judged in terms of the implications of the plan for a site’s ‘qualifying features’ (i.e. those Annex I habitats, Annex II species, and Annex I bird populations for which it has been designated). Significantly, HRA is based on the precautionary principle. Where uncertainty or doubt remains, an adverse effect should be assumed.

## Structure of this report

**1.14** This chapter (**Chapter 1**) has described the background to the preparation of the Central Lancashire Local Plan and the requirement to undertake HRA. The remainder of the report is structured into the following sections:

- **Chapter 2: Central Lancashire Local Plan** summarises the content of the Pre-Submission (Regulation-19) Local Plan, which is the subject of this report.
- **Chapter 3: Approach to the HRA** sets out the approach used and the specific tasks undertaken during the Screening and Appropriate Assessment stages of the HRA. It also describes relevant case law, summarises the key issues that will need to be considered during the HRA and describes the identification of Habitats Sites in and around Central Lancashire that could be affected by the Local Plan.
- **Chapter 4: HRA screening** describes the findings of the Screening stage of the HRA.
- **Chapter 5: Appropriate Assessment** sets out the findings of the Appropriate Assessment stage of the HRA.
- **Chapter 6: Conclusions** summarises the HRA conclusions and describes the next steps to be undertaken in the process.

**1.15** The information in the main body of the report is supported by the following appendices:

- **Appendix A: Attributes of Habitats Sites screened into the HRA** describes the attributes of the Habitats Sites considered in the HRA.
- **Appendix B: Detailed HRA screening of policies** sets out the detailed screening matrices used to determine which elements of the Regulation 19 Local Plan document will have likely significant effects on Habitats Sites.
- **Appendix C: HRA Screening Assessment – Physical Damage and Loss of functionally linked land – identification of site allocations** summarises which site allocations in the Local Plan are within functionally linked land relevant buffers for each Habitats Site as identified in the Screening Assessment (Chapter 4).
- **Appendix D: HRA Screening Assessment – Noise, vibration and lighting disturbance to functionally linked land – identification of site allocations** summarises which site allocations in the Local Plan are within functionally linked land relevant buffers for each Habitats Site as identified in the Screening Assessment (Chapter 4).
- **Appendix E: HRA Appropriate Assessment – Physical damage and loss of functionally linked land – assessment of suitability of site allocations** sets out the detailed justification for whether relevant site allocations in the Local Plan have the potential to be suitable as functionally linked land for the screened in qualifying bird species for the relevant Habitats Sites.

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<sup>12</sup> Defra and Natural England (2021) Guidance - Habitats regulations assessments: protecting a European site, <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/habitats-regulations-assessments-protecting-a-european-site>

## Chapter 2

# Central Lancashire Local Plan

**2.1** Chorley, Preston City and South Ribble Councils (the CLAs) are currently preparing a new Local Plan – the Central Lancashire Local Plan – to guide future development. Once adopted, the new Local Plan will replace the existing Central Lancashire Core Strategy and the Local Plans that have been adopted by each District Council.

**2.2** Initial work on the new Local Plan included a Call for Sites exercise in 2019 and an Issues and Options consultation between November 2019 and February 2020. This consultation focused on exploring broad issues and options but did not indicate Central Lancashire’s preferred approach in terms of scale of growth to be planned for nor the proposed spatial strategy. Then, between December 2022 and February 2023, the councils consulted upon their ‘Local Plan Part 1 Preferred Options’ document as part of a first round of Regulation 18 consultation<sup>13</sup>. This document provided some direction on emerging policies, development requirements for housing and employment, and potential site allocations for these uses.

**2.3** The councils have since prepared the ‘Proposed Submission Local Plan’, which will cover the period to 2041. The Local Plan’s vision is that:

“Central Lancashire will be a place where people want to live, visit, work and invest. New development will be sustainable, supporting our ambitions of carbon neutrality and addressing climate change.

Growth and regeneration of our city and town centres and delivery of new employment opportunities will continue to strengthen economic prosperity, making Central Lancashire a key economic centre for the North West.

A wide range of high-quality sustainable new housing and supporting infrastructure will meet the needs of our diverse communities, delivering vibrant and distinct places. Community wealth building and inclusivity will be at the heart of Central Lancashire’s growth.

Our heritage assets will be conserved, and our natural environment will be protected and enhanced for its intrinsic value whilst providing opportunities for recreation and leisure. Throughout Central Lancashire people’s health and well-being will be enhanced through the creation of well-designed developments, delivering homes, jobs and prosperity.”

**2.4** This vision sets out what Central Lancashire will be like in 2041 and is supported by 11 strategic objectives, which are structured under the following themes:

- Climate Change
- Sustainable Patterns of Development
- Sustainable Communities
- Economic Prosperity
- Sustainable Transport
- Place Making
- High Quality Development
- Historic Environment

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<sup>13</sup> As outlined in the Central Lancashire Authorities’ [Local Development Scheme \(2024\)](#), the decision was taken to no longer undertake a second round of Regulation 18 consultation.

- Natural Environment
- Education & Skills
- Healthy Lifestyles

**2.5** Further detail is provided by 46 development management policies and six site allocation policies across the following topics:

- Balanced housing market;
- Prosperous economy;
- Healthy and inclusive communities;
- High quality environment;
- Climate change and sustainable energy;
- Sustainable travel; and
- Infrastructure delivery.

**2.6** Chapter 4: Balanced Housing Market of the Local Plan makes provision for the development of a minimum of 23,166 homes (net) over the plan period, with at least 30% to be affordable. Housing development will be distributed between:

- 5,166 homes in the Chorley Borough Council area;
- 9,000 homes in the Preston City Council area;
- 8,100 homes in the South Ribble Borough Council area.

**2.7** Chapter 5: Prosperous Economy sets out the spatial strategies for economic development in different parts of the plan area. Over the plan period, provision will be made for a minimum of 173 hectares of employment land, which will be accommodated by a combination of site allocations. Key areas for office development include Preston City Centre, and Leyland and Chorley Town Centres.

## Potential allocated sites

**2.8** The following potential allocated sites have been assessed in this HRA.

**Table 2.1 Potential allocated sites**

Policy reference	Site name	Type of site (main uses)
Site specific policies		
SS3	Bartle	Residential
SS4	Fulwood Barracks	Residential
SS5	Preston West	Residential
SS6 (A+B)	Pickering's Farm, Penwortham	Residential
Housing Allocations Chorley		
HS2.1	North of Bonds Lane, Adlington	Residential
HS2.2	Land South East Belmont Road/Abbey Grove, Adlington	Residential
HS2.3	Land off Westhoughton Road, Adlington	Residential
HS2.4	Land at Carrington Road, Adlington	Residential
HS2.5	Babylon Lane, Adlington	Residential

Policy reference	Site name	Type of site (main uses)
HS2.6	Land South of South Road, Bretherton	Residential
HS2.7	Land at Drinkwater Farm, Windsor Drive, Brinscall	Residential
HS2.8	Charter Lane, Charnock Richard	Residential
HS2.9	Cabbage Hall Fields, Chorley	Residential
HS2.10	Little Knowley Farm, Chorley	Residential
HS2.11	Great Knowley, Chorley	Residential
HS2.12	Bengal Street Depot, Chorley	Residential
HS2.13	Eaves Green, off Lower Burgh Way, Chorley	Residential
HS2.14	Land 120m South West of 21 Lower Burgh Way, Chorley	Residential
HS2.15	Brookfields, Chancery Road, Chorley	Residential
HS2.16	Land to the East of Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods	Residential
HS2.17	Land adjoining Cuerden Residential Park, Nell Lane, Clayton-le-Woods	Residential
HS2.18	North of Hewlett Avenue, Coppull	Residential
HS2.19	Mountain Road, Coppull	Residential
HS2.20	Land adjacent to Blainscough Hall, Blainscough Lane, Coppull	Residential
HS2.21	Orchard Heys Farm, Coppull	Residential
HS2.22	Land to the rear of 62-66 Moor Road, Croston	Residential
HS2.23	East of Tincklers Lane, Eccleston	Residential
HS2.24	Land at Tincklers Lane, Eccleston	Residential
HS2.25	Pear Tree Lane, Euxton	Residential
HS2.26	Land to the east of New Street, Mawdesley	Residential
HS2.27	Land off Gorsey Lane, Mawdesley	Residential
HS2.28	Crow Nest Cottage, Mawdesley	Residential
HS2.29	East of New Street, Mawdesley	Residential
HS2.30	Rear of New Street, Mawdesley	Residential
HS2.31	Blackburn Road, Wheelton	Residential
HS2.32	Land at Millbrook Close/Victoria Street, Wheelton	Residential
HS2.33	Land off Blackburn Road, Wheelton	Residential
HS2.34	West of M61 - Land North of Hill Top Farm, Whittle-le-Woods	Residential

Policy reference	Site name	Type of site (main uses)
HS2.35	West of M61 - Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods	Residential
HS2.36	West of M61 - Land adjacent to Delph Way, Whittle-le-Woods	Residential
HS2.37	Hill Top Farm, Whittle-le-Woods	Residential
Housing Allocations South Ribble		
HS3.1	Emnie Lane, Leyland	Residential
HS3.2	Apsley House, Farington	Residential
HS3.3	Chapel Lane, Longton	Residential
HS3.4	South of Factory Lane and East of the West Coast Main Line, Lower Penwortham	Residential
HS3.5	Church Lane, Farington	Residential
HS3.6	Liverpool Road, Hutton	Residential
HS3.7	Branch Road, Mellor Brook	Residential
HS3.8	Daub Hall Lane, Coupe Green	Residential
HS3.9	South of Liverpool Old Road, Much Hoole	Residential
HS3.10	Kellet Lane, Bamber Bridge	Residential
HS3.11	South of Factory Lane/ Land off the Cawsey	Residential
HS3.12	Brownedge Rd / Railway Sidings, Bamber Bridge	Residential
HS3.13	South of Bannister Lane, Farington Moss	Residential
HS3.14	Gas Holders Site (aka Land off Wateringpool Lane), Lostock Hall	Residential
HS3.15	Golden Hill School, Leyland Lane, Leyland	Residential
HS3.16	Windmill Hotel site, Preston New Rd, Mellor Brook	Residential
HS3.17	Brambles Rest Home, Park Avenue, New Longton	Residential
HS3.18	Land adjacent to The Fields, Long Moss Lane, New Longton	Residential
HS3.19	Rear of 96-100 Marsh Lane	Residential
Housing Allocations Preston		
HS4.1	Former Whittingham Hospital	Residential
HS4.2	Land off Riversway & West of Dodney Drive Lea	Residential
HS4.3	Land at Eastway	Residential
HS4.4	Cardwell Farm, Garstang Road	Residential

Policy reference	Site name	Type of site (main uses)
HS4.5	Land off Ribbleton Hall Drive	Residential
HS4.6	Former Horrocks Mill, Queen Street	Residential
HS4.7	The Larches, Larches Lane	Residential
HS4.8	115 Church Street	Residential
HS4.9	37 -41 Church Street	Residential
HS4.10	Moor Park Depot, Moor Park Avenue	Residential
HS4.11	Former Tulketh High School, Tag Lane	Residential
HS4.12	Land at Cottam Hall	Residential
HS4.13	Heather Moor, Cumeragh Lane	Residential
HS4.14	Gorlands, Whittingham Road	Residential
HS4.15	Lancashire Fire and Rescue HQ, Garstang Road	Residential
HS4.16	Bretherens Meeting Room	Residential
HS4.17	Land North of Tom Benson Way	Residential
HS4.18	Former St Joseph's Orphanage, Theatre Street	Residential
HS4.19	Avenham Street Car Park	Residential
HS4.20	Grimshaw Street/ Queen Street	Residential
HS4.21	Former Byron Hotel, Grimsahw Street	Residential
HS4.22	Mount Street/ Garden Street	Residential
HS4.23	Former Perrys Car Showroom, 63-83 Blackpool Road	Residential
HS4.24	The Sumners, 195 Watling Street Road	Residential
HS4.25	25&27 Whittingham Lane and land to the rear of 25-31 Whittingham Lane Broughton	Residential
HS4.26	Former Gassworks, Ribbleton Lane	Residential
HS4.27	50 Lancaster Road	Residential
HS4.28	10-12 Lancaster Road	Residential
HS4.29	Corner of Manchester Road & Church Street	Residential
HS4.30	Tulketh Crescent	Residential
Employment Allocations Chorley		
EC2.1	Land East of M61, Chorley	Employment
EC2.2	Former Gas Works, Bengal Street, Chorley	Employment
Employment Allocations Preston		

Policy reference	Site name	Type of site (main uses)
EC3.1	Former Alstom Works and Wider Site, Channel Way, Preston	Employment
EC3.2	Preston East Junction 31A M6	Employment
EC3.3	11 Roman Road Farm	Employment
EC3.4	Riversway Phase B, Maritime Way, Preston	Employment
SS5	Preston West (also assessed under Policy SS5 above)	Employment
Employment Allocations South Ribble		
EC4.1	Land north of Lancashire Business Park	Employment
EC4.2	Land at Leyland Business Park, Farington	Employment
Mixed-use Allocations Chorley		
EC5.1	Southern Commercial, Buckshaw Village	Mixed-use
EC5.2	Cowling Farm, Chorley	Mixed-use
EC5.3	Land at Bagganley Lane, Chorley	Mixed-use
EC5.4	Land adjacent to Northgate Drive, Chorley	Mixed-use
EC5.5	Botany Bay/Great Knowley, Blackburn Road, Chorley	Mixed-use
EC5.6	Woodlands, Southport Road, Chorley	Mixed-use
EC5.7	Land south west of The Green and Langton Brow, Eccleston	Mixed-use
Mixed-use Allocations South Ribble		
EC6.1	Cuerden	Mixed-use
Policy HC3 Community, Health and Education Facilities site allocations		
HC3.1	Land to the East of Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods	Education
HC3.2	Cottam Hall (Merry Trees Lane/Tom Benson Way)	Education
HC3.3	Higher Bartle (Maxy Lane/Sandy Lane/Tabley Lane)	Education
HC3.4	Tabley Lane (Northwest Preston Masterplan)	Education
HC3.5	Former Whittingham Hospital	Education
HC3.6	Land to the south of William Young Way	Education
HC3.7	Land at Bartle	Education
HC3.8	Pickerings Farm, Flag Lane	Education
HC3.9	Aston Way, Leyland	Education
Policy HC7 Cemeteries and Crematoria site allocations		

Policy reference	Site name	Type of site (main uses)
HC7.1	Preston Cemetery and Crematorium	Expansion of burial or cremated remains capacity
EN5.1	Adlington Cemetery	Expansion of burial capacity

## Chapter 3

### Approach to the HRA

**3.1** The HRA should be undertaken by the ‘competent authority’, in this case the three Central Lancashire authorities (CLAs). LUC has been commissioned by the CLAs to carry out HRA work on the Councils’ behalf, although this is to be reported to and considered by the CLAs as the competent authorities, before adopting the Local Plan. The HRA also requires close working with Natural England as the statutory nature conservation body to obtain the necessary information, agree the process, outcomes and mitigation proposals. The Environment Agency, while not a statutory consultee for the HRA, is also in a strong position to provide advice and information throughout the process as it is required to undertake HRA for its existing licences and future licensing of activities.

### Stages of HRA

**3.2** The HRA of development plans is undertaken in stages (as described below) and should conclude whether or not a proposal would adversely affect the integrity of the Habitats Site in question.

### Requirements of the Habitats Regulations

**3.3** In assessing the effects of a Plan in accordance with Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended), there are potentially two tests to be applied by the competent authority: a ‘Significance Test’, followed if necessary, by an Appropriate Assessment which would inform the ‘Integrity Test’. The relevant sequence of questions is as follows:

- Step 1: Under Reg. 105(1)(b), consider whether the plan is directly connected with or necessary to the management of the sites. If not, then the considerations proceed to Step 2.
- Step 2: Under Reg. 105(1)(a) consider whether the plan is likely to have a significant effect on a Habitats Site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects (the ‘Significance Test’). If yes, proceed to Step 3.

*[Steps 1 and 2 are undertaken as part of Stage 1: HRA Screening – as shown in Table 3.1]*

- Step 3: Under Reg. 105(1), make an Appropriate Assessment of the implications for the Habitats Site in view of its current conservation objectives (the ‘Integrity Test’). In so doing, it is mandatory under Reg. 105(2) to consult Natural England, and optional under Reg. 105(3) to take the opinion of the general public.

*[This step is undertaken during Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment – as shown in Table 3.1]*

- Step 4: In accordance with Reg. 105(4), but subject to Reg. 107, give effect to the land use plan only after having ascertained that the plan would not adversely affect the integrity of a Habitats Site.
- Step 5: Under Reg. 107, if Step 4 is unable to rule out adverse effects on the integrity of a Habitats Site and no alternative solutions exist then the competent authority may nevertheless agree to the plan or project if it must be carried out for ‘imperative reasons of overriding public interest’ (IROPI).

## Typical stages of HRA

**3.4 Table 3.1** summarises the stages and associated tasks and outcomes typically involved in carrying out a full HRA, based on various guidance documents<sup>14, 15, 16</sup>.

**Table 3.1 Stages of HRA**

Stage	Task	Outcome
<b>Stage 1:</b> HRA Screening	<p>Description of the development plan and confirmation that it is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of Habitats Sites.</p> <p>Identification of potentially affected Habitats Sites and their conservation objectives<sup>17</sup>.</p> <p>Assessment of Likely Significant Effects of the development plan alone or in combination with other plans and projects, prior to consideration of avoidance or reduction ('mitigation') measures<sup>18</sup>.</p>	<p>Where effects are unlikely, prepare a 'finding of no significant effect report'.</p> <p>Where effects judged likely, or lack of information to prove otherwise, proceed to Stage 2.</p>
<b>Stage 2:</b> Appropriate Assessment (where Stage 1 does not rule out likely significant effects)	<p>Information gathering (development plan and Habitats Sites<sup>19</sup>).</p> <p>Impact prediction.</p> <p>Evaluation of development plan impacts in view of conservation objectives of Habitats Sites.</p> <p>Where impacts are considered to directly or indirectly affect qualifying features of Habitats Sites, identify how these effects will be avoided or reduced ('mitigation').</p>	<p>Appropriate Assessment report describing the plan, Habitats Site baseline conditions, the adverse effects of the plan on the Habitats Site, how these effects will be avoided or reduced, including the mechanisms and timescale for these mitigation measures.</p> <p>If effects remain after all alternatives and mitigation measures have been considered proceed to Stage 3.</p>
<b>Stage 3:</b> Assessment where no alternatives exist and adverse impacts remain taking into account mitigation	<p>Identify 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest' (IROPI).</p> <p>Demonstrate no alternatives exist.</p> <p>Identify potential compensatory measures.</p>	<p>This stage should be avoided if at all possible. The test of IROPI and the requirements for compensation are extremely onerous.</p>

**3.5** It is normally anticipated that an emphasis on Stages 1 and 2 of this process will, through a series of iterations, help ensure that potential adverse effects are identified and eliminated through the inclusion of mitigation measures designed to avoid, reduce or abate effects. The need to consider alternatives could imply more onerous changes to a plan document. It is generally understood that so called 'imperative

<sup>14</sup> European Commission (2001) Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting European Sites. Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.

<sup>15</sup> UK Government Planning Practice Guidance, available from <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/appropriate-assessment>

<sup>16</sup> The HRA Handbook. David Tyldesley & Associates, a subscription based online guidance document: <https://www.dtapublications.co.uk/handbook/European>

<sup>17</sup> Conservation objectives are published by Natural England for SACs and SPAs.

<sup>18</sup> In line with the CJEU judgment in Case C-323/17 People Over Wind v Coillte Teoranta, mitigation must only be taken into consideration at this stage and not during Stage 1: HRA Screening.

<sup>19</sup> In addition to Habitats Site citations and conservation objectives, key information sources for understanding factors contributing to the integrity of Habitats Sites include (where available) conservation objectives supplementary advice and Site Improvement Plans prepared by Natural England.

reasons of overriding public interest' (IROPI) are likely to be justified only very occasionally and would involve engagement with the Government.

## Relevant case law

**3.6** This HRA will be prepared in accordance with relevant case law findings, including most notably the 'People over Wind' and 'Holohan' rulings from the Court of Justice for the European Union (CJEU).

**3.7** The *People over Wind, Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta* (April 2018) judgment ruled that Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive should be interpreted as meaning that mitigation measures should be assessed as part of an Appropriate Assessment and should not be taken into account at the screening stage. The precise wording of the ruling is as follows:

"Article 6(3) .....must be interpreted as meaning that, in order to determine whether it is necessary to carry out, subsequently, an appropriate assessment of the implications, for a site concerned, of a plan or project, it is not appropriate, at the screening stage, to take account of measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the plan or project on that site."

**3.8** In light of the above, the HRA Screening stage will not rely upon avoidance or mitigation measures to draw conclusions as to whether the Local Plan could result in 'likely significant effects' on Habitats Sites, with any such measures being considered at the Appropriate Assessment stage as relevant.

**3.9** The HRA will also fully consider the *Holohan v An Bord Pleanala* (November 2018) judgement which stated that:

"Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora must be interpreted as meaning that an 'appropriate assessment' must, on the one hand, catalogue the entirety of habitat types and species for which a site is protected, and, on the other, identify and examine both the implications of the proposed project for the species present on that site, and for which that site has not been listed, and the implications for habitat types and species to be found outside the boundaries of that site, provided that those implications are liable to affect the conservation objectives of the site.

**3.1** In undertaking this HRA, LUC has considered the potential for effects on species and habitats, including those not listed as qualifying features, to result in secondary effects upon the qualifying features of Habitats Sites, including the potential for complex interactions and dependencies. In addition, the potential for offsite impacts, such as through impacts to functionally linked land, and or species and habitats located beyond the boundaries of Habitats Sites, but which may be important in supporting the ecological processes of the qualifying features, has also been considered in this HRA.

**3.2** Similarly, effects on both qualifying and supporting habitats and species on functionally linked land (FLL) or habitat have been considered in the HRA, in line with the High Court judgment in *RSPB and others v Secretary of State and London Ashford Airport Ltd* [2014 EWHC 1523 Admin] (paragraph 27), which stated that:

"There is no authority on the significance of the non-statutory status of the FLL. However, the fact that the FLL was not within a protected site does not mean that the effect which a deterioration in its quality or function could have on a protected site is to be ignored. The indirect effect was still protected. Although the question of its legal status was mooted, I am satisfied .... that while no particular legal status attaches to FLL, the fact that land is functionally linked to protected land means that the indirectly adverse effects on a protected site, produced by effects on FLL, are scrutinised in the same legal framework just as are the direct effects of acts carried out on the protected site itself. That is the only sensible and purposive approach where a species or effect is not confined by a line on a map or boundary fence. This is particularly important where the boundaries of designated sites are drawn tightly as may be the UK practice".

**3.3** In addition to this, the HRA takes into consideration the 'Wealden' judgment from the CJEU.

**3.4** *Wealden District Council v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Lewes District Council and South Downs National Park Authority* (2017) ruled that it was not appropriate to scope out the need for a detailed assessment for an individual plan or project based on the annual average daily traffic (AADT) figures detailed in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges or the critical loads used by Defra or Environmental Agency, without considering the in-combination impacts with other plans and projects.

**3.5** In light of this judgment, the HRA therefore considers traffic growth based on the effects of development from the Local Plan in combination with other drivers of growth such as development proposed in neighbouring districts and demographic change.

**3.6** The HRA also takes into account the *Grace and Sweetman* (July 2018) judgment from the CJEU which stated that:

““there is a distinction to be drawn between protective measures forming part of a project and intended avoid or reduce any direct adverse effects that may be caused by the project in order to ensure that the project does not adversely affect the integrity of the area, which are covered by Article 6(3), and measures which, in accordance with Article 6(4), are aimed at compensating for the negative effects of the project on a protected area and cannot be taken into account in the assessment of the implications of the project”.

"As a general rule, any positive effects of the future creation of a new habitat, which is aimed at compensating for the loss of area and quality of that habitat type in a protected area, are highly difficult to forecast with any degree of certainty or will be visible only in the future"

"A mitigation strategy may only be taken into account at AA (a.6(3)) where the competent authority is "sufficiently certain that a measure will make an effective contribution to avoiding harm, guaranteeing beyond all reasonable doubt that the project will not adversely affect the integrity of the area"

- Otherwise it falls to be considered to be a compensatory measure to be considered under a.6(4) only where there are "imperative reasons of overriding public interest"

**3.7** The Appropriate Assessment of the Local Plan therefore only considers the existence of measures to avoid or reduce its direct adverse effects (mitigation) if the expected benefits of those measures are beyond reasonable doubt at the time of the assessment.

## Screening methodology

**3.8** HRA Screening of the Local Plan will be undertaken in line with current available guidance and seek to meet the requirements of the Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended). The Habitats Regulations require screening to involve the stages outlined in **Table 3.2**.

**Table 3.2 Stages of HRA screening**

Regulation	Stage required by Regulation
Reg. 105(1)	1) Determine whether the plan or project is within the scope of the Habitats Regulations
	2) Determine whether the plan or project is of a type that could possibly have any (positive or negative) effect on a Habitats Site
	3) Determine whether the plan or project is directly connected with or necessary to the management of the Habitats Sites potentially affected
	4) Identify the Habitats Sites potentially adversely affected and their conservation objectives
	5) Determine whether the plan or project is likely to have a significant adverse effect on any Habitats Site alone
	6) Determine whether the plan or project is likely to have a significant adverse effect on any Habitats Site in combination with other plans or projects

Regulation	Stage required by Regulation
Reg. 105(5)	7) Requires the information necessary to decide whether the plan or project would be likely to have a significant adverse effect on a Habitats Site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects
Reg. 108	8) Coordination where more than one competent authority is involved in screening the plans or projects

**3.9** Local Plans fall within the scope of the Habitats Regulations (screening stage 1); they do contain proposals that could have effects on Habitats Sites (screening stage 2); and they are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of Habitats Sites (screening stage 3). The CLAs are the competent authorities with regards to screening the Local Plan and are working together/coordinating as appropriate (screening stage 8). The identification of Habitats Sites which may be affected (screening stage 4) is set out below and in Appendix A. The methodology for screening stages 5 and 6 is set out below, and the information required to determine whether the Local Plan is likely to have a significant effect (screening stage 7) is set out in Chapter 4.

### Identification of Habitats Sites which may be affected by the Local Plan

**3.10** In order to initiate the search of Habitats Sites that could potentially be affected by the Central Lancashire Local Plan, it is established practice in HRAs to consider Habitats Sites within the local planning authority area covered by a Plan, and also within a buffer distance from the boundary of the Plan area.

**3.11** A distance of 15km from the boundary around the three CLAs (the plan area) has been used as a starting point to identify Habitats Sites that could be affected by impacts relating to the Local Plan. In addition to this, consideration has also been given to Habitats Sites potentially connected to the plan area beyond this distance, for example through hydrological pathways or recreational visits by residents of the CLAs.

**3.12** The following Habitats Sites are within 15km of the plan area:

- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site (within the plan area)
- Bowland Fells SPA (c.0.9km north)
- Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site (c.3.9 km west)
- Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar (c.7.5km northeast)
- Liverpool Bay / Bae Lerpwl SPA (c.10.8km west)
- Morecambe Bay SAC (c. 12km north)
- Sefton Coast SAC (c.12.7km west)
- Manchester Mosses SAC (c.14.6km south)
- North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC (c.14.8km northwest)

**3.13** Other Habitats Sites with hydrologically connectivity to the plan area via the Ribble estuary and the sea (e.g. Shell Flat and Lune Deep SAC, Dee Estuary SAC/SPA/Ramsar, and Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA/Ramsar) are scoped out as they are sufficiently far away (all >20km away) that impacts are not considered likely to occur due to the Local Plan. Rochdale Canal SAC (c.22km east) is linked to the plan area via the Liverpool to Leeds Canal, Bridgewater Canal, and the Manchester Ship Canal, but upstream; there is therefore no impact pathway to this site.

**3.14** The locations of these sites are mapped in **Figure 3.1** at the end of this chapter. No other Habitats Sites are considered to have relevant connectivity to the plan area.

**3.15** Detailed information about each Habitats Site is provided in **Appendix A**. In doing so, reference has been made to the standard data forms published on the JNCC website, Natural England's Site Improvement Plans and Conservation Objectives Supplementary Advice. This analysis enables Habitats Site interest features to be identified, along with the features of each site which determine site integrity and the specific

sensitivities of the site. This information will allow an analysis of how the potential impacts of the Local Plan may affect the integrity of each site.

### Functionally linked habitats

**3.16** Consideration of functionally linked habitats has been given to the following Habitats Sites within 15km that are designated for qualifying species that are mobile:

- Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA (birds);
- Ribble and Alt Estuary Ramsar site (birds);
- Sefton Coast SAC (amphibians);
- Bowland Fells SPA (birds);
- Liverpool Bay SPA (birds).
- Martin Mere SPA (birds)
- Martin Mere Ramsar site (birds)
- Morecambe Bay SAC (amphibians);
- Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA (birds); and
- Morecambe Bay Ramsar site (birds).

### Potential impacts of the Local Plan on Habitats Sites

**3.17** In our experience of HRA of Local Plans, and based on previous statutory consultee comments on HRAs undertaken elsewhere, the type of development (and related activities) that are permitted by Local Plans have the potential to result in the following broad types of impacts that could affect Habitats Sites:

- **Physical loss of or damage to habitats** e.g. from development or activities within the Habitats Sites themselves or at functionally-linked sites. This may also include effects relating to fragmentation of severance.
- **Non-physical disturbance e.g. noise, vibration or light** from construction or development in close proximity to sensitive species.
- **Non-toxic contamination e.g. dust** from construction or development in close proximity to sensitive species.
- **Recreation pressure and urban edge effects** e.g. disturbance of species (e.g. birds) associated with visitors, dog walking or cycling; impacts on a site's habitats, e.g. due to trampling, littering, or fire; and impacts due to proximity to new development e.g. predation by pets.
- **Air pollution** from changes in traffic volumes on roads close to sensitive habitats, and impacts due to dust.
- **Changes in water quality or quantity** e.g. changes in flow caused by abstraction/discharge, accidental pollution, or increase nutrient loading from sewage treatment.

**3.18** Further consideration of the types of impact that could be relevant to the Local Plan and possible impact pathways to Habitats Sites is provided in **Chapter 4**.

### Assessment of 'likely significant effect'

**3.19** As required under Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended), an assessment will be undertaken of the 'likely significant effects' of the policy approaches set out within the emerging Local Plan. The assessment will be undertaken to identify which policies would be likely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites in the Central Lancashire Local Plan area (+15km). This assessment will need to be repeated with each HRA iteration of the Local Plan.

**3.20** A risk-based approach involving the application of the precautionary principle will be adopted in the assessment, such that a conclusion of 'no significant effect' will only be reached where it is considered very

unlikely, based on current knowledge and the information available, that a proposal in the Local Plan would have a significant effect on the integrity of a Habitats Site.

### Interpretation of 'likely significant effect'

**3.21** Relevant case law helps to interpret when effects should be considered as a Likely Significant Effect (LSE), when carrying out HRA of a land use plan.

**3.22** In the Waddenzee case<sup>20</sup>, the European Court of Justice ruled on the interpretation of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (translated into Reg. 102 in the Habitats Regulations), including that:

- An effect should be considered 'likely', "if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that it will have a significant effect on the site" (para 44);
- An effect should be considered 'significant', "if it undermines the conservation objectives" (para 48); and
- Where a plan or project has an effect on a site "but is not likely to undermine its conservation objectives, it cannot be considered likely to have a significant effect on the site concerned" (para 47).

**3.23** An opinion delivered to the Court of Justice of the European Union<sup>21</sup> commented that:

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

**3.24** This opinion (the 'Sweetman' case) therefore allows for the authorisation of plans and projects whose possible effects, alone or in combination, can be considered 'trivial' or de minimis; referring to such cases as those "which have no appreciable effect on the site". In practice such effects could be screened out as having no likely significant effect; they would be 'insignificant'.

**3.25** The HRA screening assessment therefore considers whether the Local Plan policies and site allocations could have likely significant effects either alone or in combination.

### In-combination effects

**3.26** Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations 2017 requires an Appropriate Assessment where "a land use plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site". Therefore, the Screening assessment must consider whether any impacts identified from the Local Plan may combine with other plans or projects to give rise to significant effects in-combination.

**3.27** If the HRA Screening determines that the Local Plan will have a particular type of effect (e.g. due to water pollution) on its own but it is not likely to be significant, the in-combination assessment at Screening stage will need to determine whether there may also be the same type of effect from other plans or projects that could combine with the Local Plan to produce a significant effect. If so, this likely significant effect arising from the Local Plan in combination with other plans or projects would then need to be considered through the Appropriate Assessment stage to determine if it would have an adverse effect on integrity of the relevant Habitats Site. However, if the screening assessment concludes that there is no impact pathway by which development proposed in the Local Plan could affect the conditions necessary to maintain qualifying features of a Habitats Site, then there will be no in-combination effects to assess at the Screening or Appropriate Assessment stage. This approach accords with recent guidance on HRA<sup>22</sup>.

**3.28** If impact pathways are found to exist for a particular effect but it is not likely to be significant from the Local Plan alone, the in-combination assessment will identify which other plans and projects could result in

<sup>20</sup> European Court of Justice in Case C-127/02 Landelijke Vereniging tot Behoud van de Waddenzee

<sup>21</sup> Advocate General's Opinion to CJEU in Case C-258/11 Sweetman and others v An Bord Pleanála 22nd Nov 2012.

<sup>22</sup> The HRA Handbook. David Tyldesley & Associates, a subscription based online guidance document [online] Available at: <https://www.dtapublications.co.uk/handbook/European>

the same impact on the same Habitats Site. This will focus on planned growth (including housing, employment, transport, minerals and waste) around the affected site, or along the impact corridor, for example, if impacts could arise as a result of changes to a waterway, then planned growth in local authorities along that waterway will be considered.

**3.29** The potential for in-combination impacts will therefore focus on growth within plans prepared by local authorities that could also impact on Habitats Sites that are within the scope of this HRA. The findings of any associated HRA work for those plans will be reviewed where available. Where relevant, any strategic projects in the area that could have in-combination effects with the Local Plan will also be identified and reviewed.

**3.30** The online HRA Handbook suggests the following status of plans and projects may be relevant to consider as part of the in-combination assessment:

- Applications lodged but not yet determined, including refusals subject to an outstanding appeal or legal challenge;
- Projects subject to periodic review e.g. annual licences, during the time that their renewal is under consideration;
- Projects authorised but not yet started;
- Projects started but not yet completed;
- Known projects that do not require external authorisation;
- Proposals in adopted plans; and
- Proposals in draft plans formally published or submitted for final consultation, examination or adoption.

**3.31** The need for in-combination effects assessment also arises at the Appropriate Assessment stage, as discussed in the Appropriate Assessment section below.

### Screening assessment

**3.32** Each Local Plan policy and site allocation will be considered, alone and in-combination with other policies, site allocations and/or plans from neighbouring authorities.

**3.33** A risk-based approach involving the application of the precautionary principle will be adopted, such that a conclusion of 'no significant effect' will only be reached where it is considered unlikely, based on current knowledge and the information available, that a Local Plan policy would have a significant effect on the integrity of a Habitats Site.

**3.34** For some types of impacts, the potential for likely significant effects can be determined on a proximity basis, using GIS data to determine the proximity of potential development locations to the Habitats Sites that are the subject of the assessment. However, there are many uncertainties associated with using set distances as there are very few standards available as a guide to how far impacts will travel. Therefore, where assumptions will be applied, these are set out in **Chapter 4**.

**3.35** A screening matrix has been prepared to assess which draft policies (including site allocations) are likely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. The screening matrix is presented in **Appendix B** and is summarised in Chapter 4. The structure of the screening matrix is shown in **Table 3.3** below.

**Table 3.3 Structure of the HRA screening matrix**

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy / option / site allocation likely to have a significant effect and therefore requires Appropriate Assessment?

**3.36** A 'traffic light' approach is used in the screening matrix to record the likely impacts of each policy (and option or site allocation) on Habitats Sites and their qualifying habitats and species, using the colour categories shown below.

Amber	There are likely to be significant effects, or this is currently uncertain ( <b>will require</b> Appropriate Assessment).
Green	There are unlikely to be significant effects ( <b>will not require</b> Appropriate Assessment).

**3.37** The Appropriate Assessment then focuses on those policies/site allocations that have been screened in.

### Appropriate Assessment methodology

**3.38** Following the screening stage, if likely significant effects on the Habitats Site are unable to be ruled out, the plan-making authority is required under Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended) to make an 'Appropriate Assessment' of the implications of the plan for the Habitats Site, in view of their conservation objectives. European Commission Guidance states that the Appropriate Assessment should consider the impacts of the plan (either alone or in combination with other projects or plans) on the integrity of the Habitats Site with respect to their conservation objectives and to their structure and function.

### Assessing the effects on site integrity

**3.39** A site's integrity depends on it being able to sustain its 'qualifying features' (i.e. those Annex 1 habitats, Annex II species, and Annex 1 bird populations for which it has been designated) and to ensure their continued viability. The 'Holohan' judgement also clarifies that effects on species and habitats not listed as qualifying features, but which could result in secondary effects upon the qualifying features of Habitats Sites also need to be considered. The Appropriate Assessment, if required, will build upon the information set out in **Appendix A** of this report, to consider the characteristics of supporting habitats and species that could be affected by impacts identified at the screening stage.

**3.40** A high degree of integrity is considered to exist where the potential to meet a site's conservation objectives is realised and where the site is capable of self-repair and renewal with a minimum of external management support.

**3.41** A conclusion needs to be reached as to whether or not the Local Plan would adversely affect the integrity of the Habitats Site. Assessing the effects on the site(s) integrity involves considering whether the predicted impacts of the Local Plan policies (either alone or in combination) have the potential to:

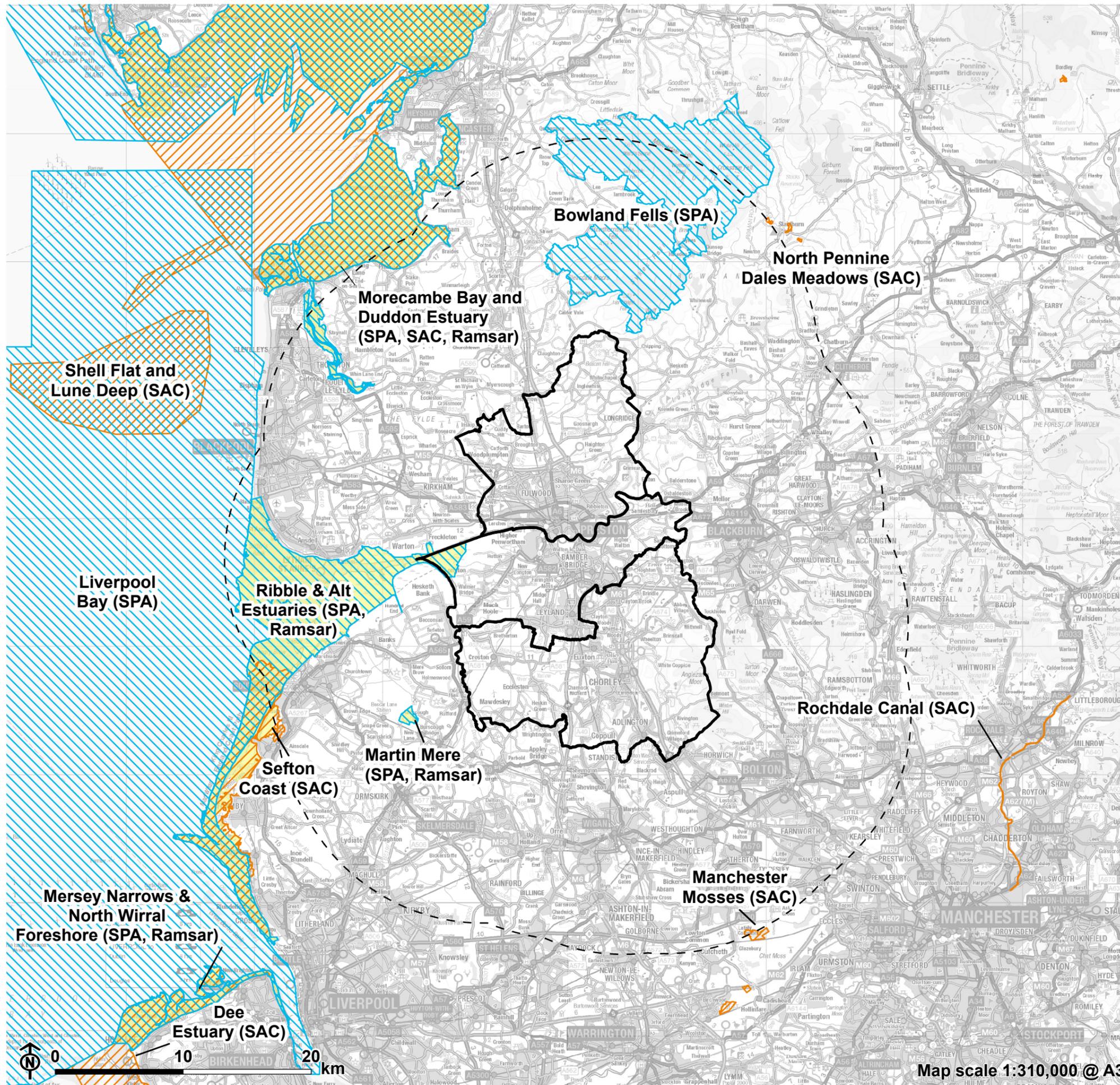
- Cause delays to the achievement of conservation objectives for the site;
- Interrupt progress towards the achievement of conservation objectives for the site;
- Disrupt those factors that help to maintain the favourable conditions of the site;
- Interfere with the balance, distribution and density of key species that are the indicators of the favourable condition of the site;
- Cause changes to the vital defining aspects (e.g. nutrient balance) that determine how the site functions as a habitat or ecosystem;
- Change the dynamics of relationships that define the structure or function of the site (e.g. relationships between soil and water, or animals and plants);
- Interfere with anticipated natural changes to the site;
- Reduce the extent of key habitats or the population of key species;
- Reduce the diversity of the site;

- Result in disturbance that could affect the population, density or balance between key species;
- Result in fragmentation; or
- Result in the loss of key features.

**3.42** The conservation objectives for each Habitats Site (Error! Reference source not found.) are generally to maintain the qualifying features in favourable condition. The Site Improvement Plans for each Habitats Site provide a high-level overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of the European features on the site(s) and outline the priority measures required to improve the condition of the features. These have been drawn on to help to understand what is needed to maintain the integrity of the Habitats Site.

For each Habitats Site where an uncertain or likely significant effect is identified in relation to the Local Plan, the potential impacts will be set out and judgements made (based on the information available) regarding whether the impact will have an adverse effect on the integrity of the site. Consideration will be given to the potential for mitigation measures to be implemented that could reduce the likelihood or severity of the potential impacts such that there would not be an adverse effect on the integrity of the site.

**Figure 3.1: Habitats Sites within 15km of Central Lancashire boundary**



- Chorley, Preston City and South Ribble Council boundaries
- 15km Study area from Council boundaries
- Ramsar site
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Special Protection Area (SPA)

## Chapter 4

### HRA Screening

**4.1** Following the method described in the previous chapter, a Screening assessment of the policies and site allocations was carried out in order to identify the likely significant effects of the Central Lancashire Local Plan on the scoped-in Habitats Sites.

**4.2** The HRA screening of the Local Plan has determined that Appropriate Assessment is required, as likely significant effects from the plan's policies and site allocations cannot be ruled out. The reasoning for this is presented below, with a summary of Screening conclusions provided at the end of the chapter.

#### HRA screening of policies

**4.3** The Screening assessment of the Local Plan policies is presented in **Appendix B**, which sets out the decision-making process used, and the findings are summarised below.

#### No likely significant effect predicted

**4.4** The following 32 policies are not expected to result in development and therefore will not result in significant effects on Habitats Sites:

- SS1 – Strategic Policy – Development Patterns
- SS2 – Strategic Policy - Settlement Hierarchy
- HS5 – Open Space and Playing Pitch Requirements in New Housing Developments
- HS6 – Housing Mix and Density
- HS7 – Affordable Housing
- HS10 – Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)
- EC7 – Protection of Existing Employment Sites
- EC8 – Rural Economy
- EC9 – Skills and Economic Inclusion
- HC1 – Strategic Policy – Health and wellbeing
- HC6 – Protection of Existing Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities
- EN1 – Strategic Policy - Well Designed Places
- EN2 – Design Criteria for New Development
- EN3 – Tall Buildings
- EN4 – Amenity
- EN6 – Biodiversity Net Gain
- EN7 – Designated Sites for Nature Conservation
- EN8 – Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows

- EN9 – Species Protection
- EN10 – Development and Flood Risk
- EN11 – Water Resource Management
- EN12 – Protecting Groundwater Source Protection Zones
- EN13 – Heritage Assets and Archaeology
- EN14 – Environmental Quality
- EN15 – Areas of Green Belt
- EN16 – Protection of Agricultural Land
- CC1 – Strategic Policy – Climate Change
- CC3 – Reducing Energy Consumption
- ST2 – Sustainable and Active Travel
- ST3 – Parking Standards
- ID1 – Strategic Policy – Infrastructure Planning Principles
- ID2 – Developer Contribution and Planning Obligations

### Likely significant effects predicted

**4.5** The following 35 policies include site allocations and/or may result in development on non-allocated sites and have therefore been assessed as having potential impact pathways to Habitats Sites and likely significant effects cannot be ruled out:

- SS3 – Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle
- SS4 – Strategic Site Allocation – Fulwood Barracks
- SS5 – Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West
- SS6 (A+B) Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering’s Farm, Penwortham
- HS1 – Strategic Policy – Scale of Housing Growth and Distribution of Housing Requirements
- HS2 – Housing Allocations Chorley
- HS3 – Housing Allocations South Ribble
- HS4 – Housing Allocations Preston
- HS8 – Rural Exception Sites
- HS9 – Rural Workers’ Dwellings
- HS11 – Self-Build and Custom-Build Housing
- HS12 – Specialist Housing
- HS13 – Strategic Policy – Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Needs
- EC1 – Strategic Policy – Scale of Economic Growth
- EC2 – Employment Allocations Chorley
- EC3 – Employment Allocations Preston
- EC4 – Employment Allocations South Ribble
- EC5 – Mixed-use Allocations Chorley
- EC6 – Mixed-use Allocations South Ribble

- EC10 – University of Central Lancashire
- EC11 – Strategic Policy – Town Centre Hierarchy
- EC12 – Preston City Centre
- EC13 – Development in Leyland and Chorley Town Centres
- EC14 – Priorities for Tourism and the Visitor Economy
- HC2 – Hot Food Take-aways
- HC3 – Community, Health and Educational Facilities
- HC4 – Purpose Built Places of Worship and/or Religious Instruction
- HC5 – Provision of New Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities
- HC7 – Cemeteries and Crematoria
- EN5 – Green Infrastructure
- EN17 – Development in the Open Countryside
- EN18 – Areas of Separation
- CC2 – Renewable Energy Generation and District Heating Networks
- ST1 – Strategic Policy – Strategic Transport Priorities
- ID3 – Digital and Communications Infrastructure

4.6 Further details of the impact pathways associated with these policies and sites is set out below.

## Screening of Impacts

### Physical loss of habitat

4.7 Any development resulting from the Central Lancashire Local Plan will be located within the CLAs' boundaries, therefore only Habitats Sites within the plan area could be affected directly by physical damage or loss of habitat within the site boundaries. Therefore, loss of habitat only needs to be considered for the following Habitats Sites, as they lie partially within the Central Lancashire boundary:

- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and
- Ribble and Alt Estuaries Ramsar site.

4.8 The remaining Habitats Sites are able to be ruled out in relation to loss of habitat as they lie entirely outside of Central Lancashire.

4.9 Following a review of site allocations proposed as part of the Central Lancashire Local Plan, there are no site allocations proposed within any Habitats Sites. **Therefore, no likely significant effects are predicted in relation to Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site from direct physical damage and loss as a result of the Local Plan, alone or in combination.**

### Physical loss of functionally linked habitat

4.10 Habitat loss from development in areas outside of the Habitats Site boundaries may also result in effects where that habitat contributes towards maintaining the interest feature for which the Habitats Site is designated. This includes land which may provide offsite movement corridors or feeding and sheltering habitat for mobile species such as bats, birds, amphibians and fish.

4.11 Consideration of functionally linked habitat has been given to the following Habitats Sites within 15km that are designated for qualifying species that are mobile:

- Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA (birds);
- Ribble and Alt Estuary Ramsar site (birds);
- Sefton Coast SAC (amphibians);
- Bowland Fells SPA (birds);
- Martin Mere SPA (birds)
- Martin Mere Ramsar site (birds)
- Morecambe Bay SAC (amphibians);
- Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA (birds)
- Morecambe Bay Ramsar site (birds); and
- Liverpool Bay SPA (birds).

#### Functionally linked habitat – Great crested newt

**4.12** Sefton Coast SAC and Morecambe Bay SAC all have great crested newt (GCN) among their qualifying features.

**4.13** As GCN typically inhabit the land within 500m of their breeding ponds and are known to only travel up to 2km from their breeding ponds, it is reasoned that any great crested newt populations which form the meta-population associated within the Sefton Coast and Morecambe Bay SACs would be within 500m of the respective Habitats Sites. None of the sites supporting great crested newts are within 500m of the Central Lancashire boundary; therefore, it is considered that the loss of functionally linked habitat associated with the Sefton Coast and Morecambe Bay SACs can be ruled out.

**4.14 Therefore, no likely significant effects are predicted in relation to Sefton Coast and Morecambe Bay SACs from physical damage and loss of functionally linked land as a result of the Local Plan, alone or in combination.**

#### Functionally linked habitat – Birds

**4.15** Natural England has previously advised that its recognised distance for the consideration of offsite functionally linked land is generally 2km, but for certain bird species, including most notably, golden plover, curlew and lapwing, a greater distance of 15km may be appropriate. In addition to this, Natural England have undertaken a detailed assessment<sup>23, 24</sup> on the use of functionally linked land by qualifying bird species of Habitats Sites in the North-West, including Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA, Ramsar site and Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Liverpool Bay SPA. This included the identification of buffers for the following bird species:

- Pink footed Goose: 20km;
- Wigeon: 2km;
- Curlew: 15km;
- Pintail: 2km;
- Whooper Swan: 5km;

**4.16** These buffers have been considered where relevant to the qualifying bird species for the following Habitats Sites (see **Appendix A** for full details of the sites' qualifying features):

<sup>23</sup> Natural England (2021) Identification of Functionally Linked Land supporting SPAs waterbirds in the North West of England (NECR361), <https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6303434392469504>

<sup>24</sup> Natural England (2022) Identification of Functionally Linked Land in the North West of England – Phase 2 (NECR483), <https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5359972901453824>

- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site;
- Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site;
- Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site;
- Bowland Fells SPA; and
- Liverpool Bay SPA.

**4.17** The other scoped-in Habitats Sites are located over 2km from the Central Lancashire boundary (and are not designated for those bird species that would require consideration of functionally linked habitat within 5km (whooper swan), 15km (golden plover, curlew or lapwing) and/or 20km (pink footed goose); therefore, they have been screened out in relation to impacts on functionally linked habitats.

### **Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site**

**4.18** The Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site are partially located within the Central Lancashire boundary and support a diverse assemblage of wetland bird species, including golden plover in relation to the SPA. Based on Natural England's recognised distance a buffer of 2km was applied for the SPA and Ramsar site and further buffers of 5km for whooper swan, 15km for golden plover, and 20km for pink footed goose were also applied.

**4.19** Using Geographical Information Systems (GIS) it was determined that all 117 of the site allocations are within 5km, 15km and/or 20km of the SPA and Ramsar site, and these will need to be considered further at Appropriate Assessment due to the potential for them to include functionally linked habitat used by qualifying features of the SPA and Ramsar site, and therefore have likely significant effects. This included sites allocated through the following policies:

- Policy SS3: Site Specific Policies – North West Preston / Bartle
- Policy SS4: Site Specific Policies – Fulwood Barracks
- Policy SS5: Site Specific Policies – Preston West
- Policy SS6 (A+B): Site Specific Policies – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham
- Policy HS2: Housing Allocations Chorley
- Policy HS3: Housing Allocations South Ribble
- Policy HS4: Housing Allocations Preston
- Policy EC2: Employment Allocations Chorley
- Policy EC3: Employment Allocations Preston
- Policy EC5: Mixed-use Allocations Chorley
- Policy EC6: Mixed-use Allocations South Ribble
- Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities
- Policy H7: Cemeteries and Crematoria

**4.20** Reference should be made to **Table C.1** in **Appendix C**, which identifies the specific site allocations that are within one or more of the functionally linked land buffer distances identified above.

**4.21** **There is potential for likely significant effects to occur in relation to Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site from physical damage and loss of functionally linked land as a result of the Local Plan. These effects are likely to be significant from the Local Plan alone. Therefore, further consideration is required at the Appropriate Assessment (see Chapter 5).**

## Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site

**4.22** The Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site lie within 7.5km of the Central Lancashire boundary at its closest point. These sites are designated for a diverse assemblage of waterfowl. Based on Natural England's recognised distance a buffer of 2km was applied for most qualifying bird species in the SPA and Ramsar site, and further buffers of 15km were applied for golden plover for the SPA, and 20km for pink footed goose for the SPA and Ramsar site. Due to the distance of the SPA and Ramsar site at 7.5km, no likely significant effect is predicted for most of the qualifying bird species with exception to golden plover and pink footed goose, which is considered in more detail below.

**4.23** A review identified 52 of the 117 site allocations are within 15km and/or 20km of the SPA and Ramsar site, and these will need to be considered further at Appropriate Assessment due to the potential for them to include functionally linked habitat used by golden plover and pink footed goose qualifying features of the SPA and Ramsar site. This included the following policies:

- Policy SS3: Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle
- Policy SS4: Strategic Site Allocation – Fulwood Barracks
- Policy SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West
- Policy SS6: Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham
- Policy SS5: Site Specific Policies – Preston West
- Policy HS3: Housing Allocations South Ribble
- Policy HS4: Housing Allocations Preston
- Policy EC3: Employment Allocations Preston
- Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities
- Policy HC7: Cemeteries and Crematoria

**4.24** Reference should be made to **Table C.1** in **Appendix C**, which identifies the specific site allocations that are within one or more of the functionally linked land buffer distances identified.

**4.25** **There is potential for likely significant effects to occur in relation to Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site from physical damage and loss of functionally linked land as a result of the Local Plan. These effects are likely to be significant from the Local Plan alone. Therefore, further consideration is required at the Appropriate Assessment.**

## Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site

**4.26** Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site is located 3.9km of the Central Lancashire boundary at its closest point. These sites are designated for pintail, wigeon, pink footed goose, Bewick swan and whooper swan. Based on Natural England's recognised distance a buffer of 2km was applied for all species with exception to pink footed goose, which had a 20km buffer applied and whooper swan, which had a 5km buffer applied. Given the distance of the SPA and Ramsar site from the Central Lancashire boundary, no likely significant effect was predicted in relation to pintail, wigeon and Bewick swan. However, further consideration was required in relation to pink footed goose and whooper swan, as detailed below.

**4.27** A review identified 98 of 117 site allocations to be within 5km and/or 20km of the SPA and Ramsar site, and these will need to be considered further at Appropriate Assessment due to the potential for them to include functionally linked habitat used by qualifying features of the SPA and Ramsar site. This included the following policies:

- Policy EC2: Employment Allocations Chorley
- Policy EC5: Mixed Use Allocations Chorley

- Policy HS2: Housing Allocations Chorley
- Policy HS3: Housing Allocations South Ribble
- Policy HS4: Housing Allocations Preston
- Policy SS3: Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle
- Policy SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West
- Policy SS6: Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham
- Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities
- Policy HC7: Cemeteries and Crematoria

**4.28** Reference should be made to **Table C.1** in **Appendix C**, which identifies the specific site allocations that are within one or more of the functionally linked land buffer distances identified.

**4.29** There is potential for likely significant effects to occur in relation to Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site from physical damage and loss of functionally linked land as a result of the Local Plan. These effects are likely to be significant from the Local Plan alone. Therefore, further consideration is required at the Appropriate Assessment.

#### Bowland Fells SPA

**4.30** Bowland Fells SPA is located 0.9km from the Central Lancashire boundary and is designated for hen harrier, merlin and lesser black-backed gull. Based on Natural England's recognised distance a buffer of 2km was applied in this assessment. **No site allocations were identified within 2km of the SPA and therefore, no likely significant effect is predicted in relation to Bowland Fells SPA from physical damage and loss of functionally linked land as a result of the Local Plan, alone or in combination.**

#### Liverpool Bay SPA

**4.31** Liverpool Bay SPA is located 10km from Central Lancashire boundary and is designated for red throated diver, little gull, common scoter, little tern and common tern. Based on Natural England's recognised distance a buffer of 2km was applied in this assessment. **No site allocations were identified within 2km of the SPA and therefore, no likely significant effect is predicted in relation to Liverpool Bay SPA from physical damage and loss of functionally linked land as a result of the Local Plan, alone or in combination.**

#### Noise, vibration and light pollution

**4.32** Noise and vibration effects, e.g. during the construction of new housing or other development, are most likely to disturb bird species and are thus a key consideration with respect to Habitats Sites where birds are the qualifying features, although such effects may also impact upon some mammals and fish species. Artificial lighting at night (e.g. from street lamps, flood lighting and security lights) is most likely to affect bat populations and some nocturnal bird species, and therefore have an adverse effect on the integrity of Habitats Sites where bats or nocturnal birds are a qualifying feature.

**4.33** It has been assumed (on a precautionary basis and based on our experience of previous HRAs and consultation with Natural England) that the effects of noise, vibration and light pollution are capable of causing an adverse effect if development takes place within 500 metres of a Habitats Site (or functionally linked habitat) with qualifying features sensitive to these disturbances. All Habitats Sites are located over 500m from the Central Lancashire boundary at the closest point, with the exception to the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site. Therefore, there is no impact pathway for noise, vibration and light pollution for most of the Habitats Sites except for the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site.

**4.34** A review of site allocations confirmed that there are none proposed within 500m of the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site. **Therefore, no likely significant effect is predicted from noise, vibration and**

**light pollution in relation to Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site as a result of the Local Plan, alone or in combination.**

### **Noise, vibration and light pollution of functionally linked land**

**4.35** Noise, vibration and light pollution may also affect qualifying species at functionally linked habitat. In terms of the potential to affect qualifying bird species using functionally linked habitats, the HRA has considered where site allocations and/or their 500m buffer are within the distance buffers identified for relevant bird species (see paragraph 4.13 above) to the following Habitats Sites:

- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar within 2km for the wide assemblage of wetland birds and within 5km for whooper swan, 15km for golden plover and 20km for pink footed goose.
- Morecambe Bay & Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site within 2km for the wide assemblage of wetland birds and within 5km for whooper swan, 15km for golden plover and curlew and 20km for pink footed goose.
- Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site within 2km for the wide assemblage of wetland birds and within 20km for pink footed goose.
- Bowland Fells SPA within 2km for hen harrier, merlin and lesser black-backed gull.

**4.36** As Liverpool Bay SPA is 10km from the plan boundary, and functionally linked habitats only need to be considered within 2km from the SPA's boundary due to supporting the variety of breeding and wintering populations of wetland and coastal bird species for which it is designated, there will not be any site allocations within this distance from the SPA site, so it does not need to be considered for noise, vibration and light pollution.

**4.37** All other Habitats Sites were either are designated for species that are not considered to use functionally linked habitat within the Central Lancashire boundary and/or do not support qualifying features that rely on functionally linked habitat.

### **Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Site**

**4.38** A review of the site allocations identified all were located either within 20km of the SPA and Ramsar site or within 500m of the 20km buffer, which may be used as functionally linked land by qualifying bird species of the Habitats Sites. This included the following policies:

- Policy SS3: Site Specific Policies – North West Preston / Bartle
- Policy SS4: Site Specific Policies – Fulwood Barracks
- Policy SS5: Site Specific Policies – Preston West
- Policy SS6 (A+B): Site Specific Policies – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham
- Policy HS2: Housing Allocations Chorley
- Policy HS3: Housing Allocations South Ribble
- Policy HS4: Housing Allocations Preston
- Policy EC2: Employment Allocations Chorley
- Policy EC3: Employment Allocations Preston
- Policy EC5: Mixed-use Allocations Chorley
- Policy EC6: Mixed-use Allocations South Ribble
- Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities
- Policy HC7: Cemeteries and Crematoria

**4.39** Reference should be made to **Table D.1** in **Appendix D**, which identifies the specific site allocations within 500m of the functionally linked land buffer identified.

**4.40** There is potential for likely significant effects to occur in relation to Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar from noise, vibration and lighting of functionally linked land as a result of the Local Plan. These effects are likely to be significant from the Local Plan alone. Therefore, further consideration is required at the Appropriate Assessment.

#### **Morecambe Bay & Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site**

**4.41** A review identified 55 of the 117 site allocations located either within 20km of the SPA and Ramsar site or within 500m of the 20km buffer, which may be used as functionally linked land by qualifying bird species of the Habitats Sites. This included the following policies:

- Policy SS3: Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle
- Policy SS4: Strategic Site Allocation – Fulwood Barracks
- Policy SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West
- Policy SS6: Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham
- Policy SS5: Site Specific Policies – Preston West
- Policy HS3: Housing Allocations South Ribble
- Policy HS4: Housing Allocations Preston
- Policy EC3: Employment Allocations Preston
- Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities
- Policy HC7: Cemeteries and Crematoria

**4.42** Reference should be made to **Table D.1** in **Appendix D**, which identifies the specific site allocations within 500m of the functionally linked land buffer identified.

**4.43** There is potential for likely significant effects to occur in relation to Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site from noise, vibration and lighting of functionally linked land as a result of the Local Plan. These effects are likely to be significant from the Local Plan alone. Therefore, further consideration is required at the Appropriate Assessment.

#### **Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site**

**4.44** A review identified 102 of the 117 site allocations located either within 20km of the SPA and Ramsar site or within 500m of the 20km buffer, which may be used as functionally linked land by qualifying bird species of the Habitats Sites. This included the following policies:

- Policy EC2: Employment Allocations Chorley
- Policy EC5: Mixed Use Allocations Chorley
- Policy HS2: Housing Allocations Chorley
- Policy HS3: Housing Allocations South Ribble
- Policy HS4: Housing Allocations Preston
- Policy SS3: Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle
- Policy SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West
- Policy SS6: Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham
- Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities

■ Policy HC7: Cemeteries and Crematoria

**4.45** Reference should be made to **Table D.1** in **Appendix D**, which identifies the specific site allocations within 500m of the functionally linked land buffer identified.

**4.46** There is potential for likely significant effects to occur in relation to Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site from noise, vibration and lighting of functionally linked land as a result of the Local Plan. These effects are likely to be significant from the Local Plan alone. Therefore, further consideration is required at the Appropriate Assessment.

### Bowland Fells SPA

**4.47** No site allocations were identified within 500m of the SPA. Therefore, no likely significant effect is predicted in relation to Bowland Fells SPA from physical damage and loss of functionally linked land as a result of the Local Plan, alone or in combination.

### Non-toxic contamination

**4.48** Non-toxic contamination can include the creation of dust which can smother habitats preventing natural processes and may also lead to effects associated with increased sediment and dust which can potentially affect the turbidity of aquatic habitats and can also contribute to nutrient enrichment which can lead to changes in the rate of vegetative succession and habitat composition.

**4.49** The effects of non-toxic contamination are most likely to be significant if development takes place within 500m of a Habitats Site with qualifying features sensitive to these disturbances, such as riparian and wetland habitats, or sites designated for habitats and plant species. This is the distance that, in LUC's experience, provides a robust assessment of effects in plan-level HRA and meets with the agreement of Natural England. All Habitats Sites are located over 500m from the Central Lancashire boundary at the closest point, with the exception to the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site. Therefore, no impacts are considered in relation to these sites excluding the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site and their qualifying features.

**4.50** A review of site allocations confirmed that there were none proposed within 500m of the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site. Therefore, no likely significant effect is predicted from non-toxic contamination in relation to Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site as a result of the Local Plan, alone or in combination.

### Air pollution

**4.51** Air pollution is most likely to affect Habitats Sites where plant, soil and water habitats are the qualifying features, but some qualifying animal species may also be affected, either directly or indirectly, by any deterioration in habitat as a result of air pollution. Deposition of pollutants to the ground and vegetation can alter the characteristics of the soil, affecting the pH and nitrogen (N) availability that can then affect plant health, productivity and species composition. All of the Habitats Sites being considered in this HRA have plant and/or water habitats or species as their qualifying feature.

**4.52** The JNCC's 'Guidance on decision-making thresholds for air pollution'<sup>25</sup> states that, when assessing the air pollution impacts of a development plan, 10km should be used as a zone of influence within which the plan is likely to have significant effects on air quality, i.e. Habitats Sites beyond 10km from the plan area can be screened out in relation to air pollution. Based on this, Habitats Sites, which are identified in the Site Improvement Plans as sensitive to impacts from air pollution in the Site Improvement Plans, including Sefton Coast SAC, Morecambe Bay SAC, North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC and Manchester Mosses SAC, have been screened out. Although within

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<sup>25</sup> JNCC (2021) Guidance on decision-making thresholds for air pollution, <https://hub.jncc.gov.uk/assets/6cce4f2e-e481-4ec2-b369-2b4026c88447>

10km of the plan area, Morecambe Bay Ramsar site and Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site are not identified as being sensitive to air pollution so have also been screened out.

**4.53** The following Habitats Sites identified through their Site Improvement Plans as being sensitive to air pollution are within 10km of the plan boundary:

- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA;
- Ribble and Alt Estuaries Ramsar site;
- Bowland Fells SPA;
- Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA.

**4.54** In terms of vehicle traffic, nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>, i.e. NO and NO<sub>2</sub>) are considered to be the key pollutants. Deposition of nitrogen compounds may lead to both soil and freshwater acidification, and NO<sub>x</sub> can cause eutrophication of soils and water. If necessary, the Appropriate Assessment will refer to the UK Air Pollution Information System<sup>26</sup> determine whether concentrations of NO<sub>x</sub> at the Habitats Sites are currently exceeding critical loads or not.

**4.55** Based on the Highways Agency Design Manual for Road and Bridges (DMRB) Document LA105: Air Quality<sup>27</sup> (which was produced to provide advice regarding the design, assessment and operation of trunk roads (including motorways), it is assumed that air pollution from roads is unlikely to be significant beyond 200m from the road itself. Where increases in traffic volumes are forecast, this 200m buffer needs to be applied to the relevant roads in order to make a judgement about the likely geographical extent of air pollution impacts.

**4.56** The DMRB Guidance for the assessment of local air quality in relation to highways developments provides criteria that should be applied to ascertain whether there are likely to be significant impacts associated with routes or corridors. Based on the DMRB guidance, affected roads which should be assessed are those where:

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

**4.57** In line with the Wealden judgment (Wealden District Council v. (1) Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government; (2) Lewes District Council; (3) South Downs National Park Authority and Natural England), Natural England now expects to see in-combination air pollution effects assessed. The implication of the judgment is that, where the road traffic effects of other plans or projects are known or can be reasonably estimated (including those of adopted plans or consented projects), then these should be included in road traffic modelling by the local authority whose local plan or project is being assessed. The screening criteria of 1,000 AADT should then be applied to the traffic flows of the plans in combination.

**4.58** It has been assumed that only those roads forming part of the primary road network (motorways and 'A' roads) might be likely to experience any significant increases in vehicle traffic as a result of development (i.e. greater than 1,000 AADT etc.). As such, where a site is within 200m of only minor roads, no significant effect from traffic-related air pollution is considered to be the likely outcome.

**4.59** Bowland Fells SPA is not within 200m of a major road, and so has been screened out of the HRA as it is unlikely to be significant affected by air pollution. Most of the areas of the remaining Habitats Sites within 200m of A roads are more than 10km from the plan area boundary. This applies to Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary

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<sup>26</sup> <http://www.apis.ac.uk/>

<sup>27</sup> <https://www.standardsforhighways.co.uk/search/af7f4cda-08f7-4f16-a89f-e30da703f3f4>

SPA, which can be screened out of the HRA as it is unlikely to be significantly affected by air pollution (based on the JNCC Guidance referred to above in paragraph 4.50).

**4.60** The only Habitats Site that could be affected by air pollution is a very small part of the Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site, which is just within 200m of the A584 (Lytham Road) running west-east between Preston and Lytham St. Annes (see **Figure 4.1** below).

**Figure 4.1** Sections of A584 within 200m of the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site



**Table 4.1** Changes in AADT along the A584 where it is within 200m of the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA and Ramsar site (source: Jacobs)

Scenario		Base	Reference		Local Plan		
Year		2024	2031	2041	2031	2041	
A584	Section 1	Both directions	15741	15781	15794	15819	16189
		Eastbound	6960	7000	7013	7038	7408
		Westbound	8748	8781	8915	8815	9024
	Section 2	Both directions	12868	12901	12891	12932	13210
		Eastbound	5783	5816	5806	5847	6125
		Westbound	7085	7112	7228	7145	7325

**4.61** Traffic forecast data was provided to the CLAs by Jacobs (see **Table 4.1**), which confirmed that the forecast increases in AADT along the A584 in both directions, associated with predicted population growth and other

commitments (Reference scenario) and also with growth in the Local Plan (final columns will not be greater than 1,000 AADT by the end of the plan period).

**4.62 Therefore, no likely significant effect is predicted in relation to Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, Bowland Fells SPA and Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA from air pollution as a result of the Local Plan, alone or in combination.**

### Recreation and urban impacts

**4.63** Recreation activities and general human presence can have an adverse impact on the integrity of a Habitats Site as a result of physical damage and disturbance, e.g. through trampling and erosion, walking, dog walking, angling, fire, illegal use of off road vehicles, wildfowling and water sports. Where policies or site allocations in the Local Plan are likely to result in an increase in the local population (i.e. residential development), or where an increase in tourism is considered likely, the potential for an increase in visitor numbers and the associated impacts at sensitive Habitats Sites has been identified.

**4.64** Habitats Sites with qualifying bird species (SPA/Ramsar sites) are likely to be particularly susceptible to recreational disturbances, and Habitats Sites with fragile habitats (e.g. some SACs) are most likely to be susceptible to damage from erosion/trampling.

**4.65** Each Habitats Site will typically have a 'Zone of Influence' (ZOI) within which increases in population would be expected to result in likely significant effects. ZOIs are usually established following targeted visitor surveys and the findings are therefore typically specific to each Habitats Site (and often to specific areas within a Habitats Site). The findings are likely to be influenced by a number of complex and interacting factors and therefore it is not always appropriate to apply a generic or non-specific ZOI to a Habitats Site, particularly in relation to uniquely attractive coastal sites which have the potential to draw large number of visitors from areas much further afield.

**4.66** The coastal Habitats Sites scoped into this HRA fall within two broad areas:

- **Morecambe Bay:** Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA, Morecambe Bay Ramsar and Morecambe Bay SAC.
- **The Sefton Coast:** Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site, Sefton Coast SAC, and Liverpool Bay / Bae Lerpwl SPA.

**4.67** The most recent visitor surveys for Morecambe Bay were published by Footprint Ecology<sup>28</sup> in 2015, which did not establish a 'zone of influence', but identified a median distance of 3.95km (range: 0.12km to 361.3km) within which people visited from. The study is now nearly ten years old, and the population in the region as well as visitor habits (for example due to the Covid-19 pandemic), are likely to have changed. In order to progress the work to understand recreation pressure and any required mitigation, Natural England is in discussion with local authorities in proximity to Morecambe Bay (e.g. Lancaster, Wyre and Westmorland and Furness councils) to agree a joint approach to assessing and mitigating recreation pressure at the bay's Habitats Sites. As there is no current ZOI for Morecambe Bay, taking a precautionary approach, it is assumed that part of Preston district (which is c.13-25km from the bay's Habitats Sites) could fall within the ZOI, once visitor surveys are updated. South Ribble and Chorley are >20km from Morecambe Bay and unlikely to fall within the ZOI, based on the largest ZOIs of Habitats Sites elsewhere in the country<sup>29</sup> (15km or less). Residential site allocations within Preston district are: sites HS4.1 to HS4.30, and sites SS3 to SS5. There are also policies that could result in residential or visitor/tourism development on non-allocated sites within Preston (Policies HS8, HS9, HS11, EC14), and therefore increase the number of residents that might visit Morecambe Bay.

**4.68** Emerging work undertaken by authorities within the Liverpool City Region is seeking to establish a ZOI for the Habitats Sites along the Sefton Coast as part of the development of a recreation mitigation strategy. A ZOI is not

<sup>28</sup> Footprint Ecology (2015) Recreational Disturbance Study, Morecambe Bay Bird Disturbance and Access Management Report, [www.footprint-ecology.co.uk/reports/Liley%20et%20al.%20-%202015%20-%20Morecambe%20Bay%20Bird%20Disturbance%20and%20Access%20Manageme.pdf](http://www.footprint-ecology.co.uk/reports/Liley%20et%20al.%20-%202015%20-%20Morecambe%20Bay%20Bird%20Disturbance%20and%20Access%20Manageme.pdf)

<sup>29</sup> Natural England (2024) RP04518 Edition 1 Compilation and Review of Evidence Leading to SANG and SAMM Provision, <https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6015060338802688>

yet available, but Sefton Council's interim approach (2023)<sup>30</sup> establishes a 'core zone' of 5km within which the greatest impacts are likely to occur from residential development, and an 'outer zone' which covers the rest of the local authority area (up to 11.5km from the Habitats Sites). Mitigation in the form of developer contributions is required from both zones, therefore the ZOI for the Sefton Coast sites is likely to be at least 11.5km. Taking a precautionary approach, it is assumed that all of the Central Lancashire Local Plan residential site allocations could fall within a ZOI for the Sefton Coast Habitats Sites, as the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar is within the plan area, and c.24km from the furthest edge of the plan area; most of the Local Plan site allocations are within 15km of the SPA/Ramsar.

**4.69** In contrast to coastal Habitats Sites, the ZOI for non-coastal Habitats Sites are typically less variable, with visitors travelling from areas more local to the site. Although these sites are unique in their own right, they do not have the same draw as coastal sites and with recreational activities more easily managed and directed to alternative greenspace in the area. Using a precautionary approach and based on ZOIs established for other non-coastal (and non-national park) Habitats Sites around the country, a ZOI of 7km has been applied to the following non-coastal sites:

- Bowland Fells SPA: none of the Local Plan site allocations are within 7km of the SPA; recreation pressure impacts are screened out for this site.
- Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site: the five site allocations at Mawdesley (sites HS2.26-30) are within 7km of the SPA/Ramsar. These are all >6.4km from the SPA/Ramsar and provide for a total of 122 new homes. As public access at Martin Mere SPA/Ramsar is managed by the Wildlife Trust, significant effects associated with recreation pressure from these site allocations are not considered likely. Recreation pressure impacts are screened out for this site.

**4.70 There is potential for likely significant effects to occur at Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA, Morecambe Bay Ramsar and Morecambe Bay SAC, Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site, Sefton Coast SAC, and Liverpool Bay / Bae Lerpwl SPA due to recreation pressure as a result of the Local Plan alone and in combination. Therefore, further consideration is required at the Appropriate Assessment.**

### Water quantity and quality

**4.71** Changes in water quantity or quality can affect Habitats Sites via the following impact pathways associated with growth in the Local Plan, considered further in the sections below:

- Increased demand for water, reducing water quantity or flow in waterbodies.
- Increased need for water treatment, resulting in discharge of water into waterbodies and changes in water quality (e.g. nutrient load).
- Pollution from direct run-off, e.g. during construction, reducing water quality.

**4.72** The following sites have qualifying features that are sensitive to changes in water levels or quality:

- Bowland Fells SPA (birds; affected indirectly via changes to their supporting habitats).
- Liverpool Bay / Bae Lerpwl SPA (birds; affected indirectly via changes to their supporting habitats).
- Manchester Mosses SAC (bog habitats).
- Martin Mere SPA/Ramsar site (birds; affected indirectly via changes to their supporting habitats).
- Morecambe Bay SAC, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site (coastal/estuarine habitats of the SAC and birds of the SPA/Ramsar affected indirectly via changes to their supporting habitats).
- North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC (meadow habitats).

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<sup>30</sup> Sefton Council (2023) Managing and mitigating the impact of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast – Sefton's interim approach for housing development, [https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4485/hrarecpressureinfornote\\_24-25\\_rates\\_final.pdf](https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4485/hrarecpressureinfornote_24-25_rates_final.pdf)

- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar site (birds; affected indirectly via changes to their supporting habitats).
- Sefton Coast SAC (dune habitats, petalwort, great crested newts).

### Increased demand for water (abstraction)

**4.73** Water is supplied to the plan area by United Utilities. The United Utilities 2024 Water Resources Management Plan<sup>31</sup> (WRMP) identifies the plan area as falling within the WRMP's 'Strategic Resource Zone', which sources water from a range of river and reservoir sources linked by aqueducts, and several groundwater sources; water is also transferred between other regions in England and Wales to balance supply and demand during periods of drought. The WRMP plans for water supply to 2050 based on the testing of a range of scenarios to ensure that the plan can adapt to climate change, population growth, and environmental changes. It states that *"In line with the water resources planning guidance, our demand forecasts are based on projections of housing growth prepared by local authorities, to ensure that our forecasts align with local authority plans and do not constrain growth."*

**4.74** The accompanying HRA<sup>32</sup> of the WRMP concludes that *"the WRMP will have no adverse effect alone or in combination on the integrity of any European sites."*

**4.75 Therefore, no likely significant effect is predicted from increased demand for water at any Habitats Site, as a result of the Local Plan, alone or in combination.**

### Increased need for water treatment

**4.76** Wastewater treatment is also provided to the plan area by United Utilities. The United Utilities 2023 Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan<sup>33</sup> (DWMP) identifies that the plan area falls within the United Utilities Ribble, Douglas and Alt Crossens strategic planning areas. As with the WRMP, the DWMP plans for the supply of wastewater treatment services to 2050 and is tested on a range of scenarios, which include local housing plan trajectory forecasts.

**4.77** The accompanying HRA<sup>34</sup> concludes that *"the DWMP (if adopted as proposed) will have no adverse effects on the integrity of any European sites, subject to appropriate consideration of residual uncertainties 'down the line' through the design and planning process and, ultimately, at project level. To ensure this, the DWMP includes an explicit requirement for the potential effects on European sites to be considered at every design and planning stage for each option (and their component schemes), to ensure that potential adverse effects are identified and avoided during the design process."*

**4.78 Therefore, no likely significant effect is predicted from increased need for water treatment at any Habitats Site, as a result of the Local Plan alone or in combination.**

### Direct pollution (run-off)

**4.79** Pollution from direct run-off is most likely to affect Habitats Sites that are within, downstream of, or immediately adjacent to the plan area. Watercourses within the plan area drain towards the sea via the Ribble Estuary, with the exception of the northernmost part of Preston district (i.e. site allocations HS4.4 and HS4.25), where watercourses drain towards Morecambe Bay. However, these two site allocations are not adjacent to watercourses, and dilution would occur over the >15km distance to the Habitats Sites. Habitats Sites downstream of the plan area, at which likely significant effects from direct pollution could occur are:

<sup>31</sup> United Utilities (2024) Final Water Resources Management Plan 2024, [https://www.unitedutilities.com/globalassets/z\\_corporate-site/about-us-pdfs/wrmp24-final/wrmp-main-report.pdf](https://www.unitedutilities.com/globalassets/z_corporate-site/about-us-pdfs/wrmp24-final/wrmp-main-report.pdf)

<sup>32</sup> WSP (2024) United Utilities Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Water Resource Management Plan 2024, [https://www.unitedutilities.com/globalassets/z\\_corporate-site/about-us-pdfs/wrmp24-final/wrmp-hra.pdf](https://www.unitedutilities.com/globalassets/z_corporate-site/about-us-pdfs/wrmp24-final/wrmp-hra.pdf)

<sup>33</sup> United Utilities (2023) Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan 2023, [https://www.unitedutilities.com/globalassets/z\\_corporate-site/about-us-pdfs/dwmp-2023/dp1-main-document.pdf](https://www.unitedutilities.com/globalassets/z_corporate-site/about-us-pdfs/dwmp-2023/dp1-main-document.pdf)

<sup>34</sup> WSP (2023) United Utilities Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan Habitats Regulations Assessment, [https://www.unitedutilities.com/globalassets/z\\_corporate-site/about-us-pdfs/dwmp-2023/c005-dwmp-habitat-regulation-assessment-hra-report.pdf](https://www.unitedutilities.com/globalassets/z_corporate-site/about-us-pdfs/dwmp-2023/c005-dwmp-habitat-regulation-assessment-hra-report.pdf)

- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar site (within plan area); and
- Martin Mere SPA/Ramsar (connected to parts of the plan area via a bedrock aquifer, but no watercourses).

**4.80** Other sites linked to the plan area via the sea (i.e. Liverpool Bay, the Morecambe Bay Habitats Sites and Sefton Coast SAC) are dynamic coastal/marine environments, flushed by currents tides, and likely significant effects are not expected at these sites.

**4.81** Bowland Fells SAC and North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC are uphill/upstream from the plan area and would not be affected by direct pollution.

**4.82** **There is potential for likely significant effects to occur at Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site, and Martin Mere SPA / Ramsar site due to direct pollution as a result of the Local Plan alone. Therefore, further consideration is required at the Appropriate Assessment.**

## Summary and conclusion of Screening Assessment

**4.83** Likely significant effects from the Local Plan, alone or in combination with the other plans and projects cannot be ruled out at the screening stage.

**4.84** Through the Screening Stage, it was identified that the development allocations within the Local Plan alone could have likely significant effects in relation to physical damage and habitat loss and non-physical disturbance (for functionally linked habitat).

**4.85** Impacts on air pollution, recreation pressure and changes in water quantity are largely associated with population increase as a result of development. Other neighbouring local plans within will result in development that could contribute to air pollution, recreation pressure, and changes in water quantity at the same Habitats Sites as those scoped into this HRA.

**4.86** In relation to air pollution, traffic data has shown that there are not likely significant effects due to increased traffic on roads within 200m of any of the Habitats Sites within 10km of the plan boundary. Likely significant effects for air pollution can be ruled out for the Local Plan alone and in-combination with other plans and projects.

**4.87** For recreation pressure, the effect of development proposed within the Central Lancashire Local Plan and in combination with neighbouring plans on the Sefton Coast and Morecambe Bay Habitats Sites is uncertain at this stage.

**4.88** For changes in water quantity and quality, likely significant effects can be ruled out at this stage for the Local Plan alone and in-combination. There is the potential for pollution run-off associated with development proposed in the Local Plan to result in a likely significant effect on Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site, and Martin Mere SPA / Ramsar site.

### Screening conclusion

**4.89** Appropriate Assessment was required as likely significant effects from the Local Plan, alone or in combination with other projects or plans, could not be ruled out.

**4.90** The scope of the Appropriate Assessment has been narrowed down by considering each policy in turn, to determine whether it would result in the type of development that could have an effect on a Habitats Site; this is detailed in **Appendix B**. The policies in the Local Plan that permit the type of development that could result in likely significant effects on Habitats Sites are summarised in paragraph 4.4 and **Appendices C** and **D** list the relevant site allocations.

**4.91** **Table 4.2** summarises the Screening conclusions reached in this HRA, in relation to impact type. Impact types for which likely significant effects (LSE) could not be ruled out were considered in more detail at the Appropriate Assessment stage in **Chapter 5**.

**Table 4.2 Summary of screening assessment**

Habitats Site	Physical damage and loss of habitat	Non-physical disturbance	Non-toxic contamination	Air pollution	Recreation pressure	Water quantity, quality, direct pollution
Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	No LSE	No LSE	Potential LSE	Potential LSE (direct pollution only)
Ribble and Alt Estuaries Ramsar site	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	No LSE	No LSE	Potential LSE	Potential LSE (direct pollution only)
Sefton Coast SAC	No LSE	No LSE	Scoped out	Scoped out	Potential LSE	No LSE
Bowland Fells SPA	No LSE	No LSE	Scoped out	No LSE	No LSE	No LSE
Martin Mere SPA	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	Scoped out	Scoped out	No LSE	Potential LSE (direct pollution only)
Martin Mere Ramsar site	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	Scoped out	Scoped out	No LSE	Potential LSE (direct pollution only)
Morecambe Bay SAC	No LSE	No LSE	Scoped out	Scoped out	Potential LSE	No LSE
Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	Scoped out	No LSE	Potential LSE	No LSE
Morecambe Bay Ramsar site	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	Potential LSE (functionally linked habitat only)	Scoped out	Scoped out	Potential LSE	No LSE
Liverpool Bay SPA	No LSE	No LSE	Scoped out	Scoped out	Potential LSE	No LSE

## Chapter 5 Appropriate Assessment

**5.1** Following the screening stage, the plan-making authority is required under Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended) to make an 'Appropriate Assessment' of the impacts of the plan. The Appropriate Assessment provides a more detailed assessment of the likely significant effects identified during the Screening stage. It considers whether, once mitigation is taken into account, there will be adverse effects on the integrity of a Habitats Site.

**5.2** As described in **Chapter 3**, a conclusion needs to be reached as to whether or not the policies and site allocation in the plan would adversely affect the integrity of a Habitats Site. A Habitats Site's integrity depends on it being able to sustain its 'qualifying features' (i.e. those Annex 1 habitats, Annex II species, and Annex 1 bird populations for which it has been designated) and to ensure their continued viability. A high degree of integrity is considered to exist where the potential to meet a Habitats Site's conservation objectives is realised and where the Habitats Site is capable of self-repair and renewal with a minimum of external management support.

**5.3** To reach a conclusion, consideration needs to be given to whether the predicted impacts of the policies and site allocations (either alone or in combination) have the potential to:

- Delay the achievement of conservation objectives for the site;
- Interrupt progress towards the achievement of conservation objectives for the site;
- Disrupt factors that help to maintain the favourable conditions of the site; and
- Interfere with the balance, distribution and density of key species that are the indicators of the favourable condition of the site.

**5.4** The conservation objectives for the screened in Habitats Sites are to ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and to 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;
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely;
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species;
- The populations of qualifying species; and
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

**5.5** The Appropriate Assessment for the Central Lancashire Local Plan set out in this chapter has focused on the likely significant effects that were identified in **Chapter 4** for the following sites and impact types:

- **Physical damage and/or loss of functionally linked land** – in relation to the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site and Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site.
- **Noise, vibration and lighting disturbance of functionally linked land** – in relation to the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site and Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA.
- **Impacts of recreation** – in relation to the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site, Sefton Coast SAC, and Liverpool Bay / Bae Lerpwl SPA, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site.

- **Water quality – direct pollution** – in relation to Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site, and Martin Mere SPA / Ramsar site.

## Physical damage and loss of functionally linked land

### Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA and Ramsar Site

**5.6** A desk-based study was undertaken to identify potential impacts from development of the site allocations on offsite habitat used by the qualifying bird species of the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA and Ramsar Site. The desk-based study sought to identify each site allocation's suitability for qualifying bird species and included the following components to inform the assessment:

- Identification of the bird species which are susceptible to the loss of the habitat types affected and ruling out those species unlikely to utilise the habitat types located within the site allocations (e.g. species restricted to marine habitats).

**5.7** A review of aerial imagery and the government's Magic Map website<sup>35</sup> to identify main habitat types and land uses within each site allocation and establish their potential value for qualifying birds.

- Recognition of factors likely to affect suitability of site allocations for relevant qualifying bird species, including openness, size, shape, proximity of negative factors such as tall boundary features and urban environs, and potential existing sources of disturbance.
- Consideration of the site allocation's location within the landscape. For example, is there direct functional connectivity along flight lines between the site allocation and the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA and Ramsar site? Are there landscape scale features which would reduce the suitability of the site allocation, e.g. urban areas located along flight lines?
- A review of the site allocation's location within flood risk zones, because many of the SPA bird species favour sites which do or do not flood.

### Bird Habitat Preferences

**5.8** Bird habitat preferences were cross referenced against the habitat types present within each site allocation to determine the suitability of site allocations for qualifying species. Known habitat preferences for the qualifying bird species of the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA And Ramsar site are summarised in **Table 5.1** below, which were taken from the RSPB and British Trust for Ornithology websites. **Table 5.1** also assesses whether each bird species is susceptible to the loss of habitats located within the site allocations (which are generally urban, suburban, pasture and arable fields).

**Table 5.1 Typical Habitat Preferences of Qualifying Bird Species of Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site**

Bird Species	Season	Species Habitat Preferences (relative to season of designation)	Susceptible to loss of offsite habitats present within Local Plan site allocations?
Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	Breeding	This species prefers muddy margins of lakes, pools, ponds, rivers and other watercourses, irrigated levels, flood lands, marshes, and less frequently seashores and tidal mudflats. Dry grasslands, harvested cornfields, airfields, and dried beds of seasonal water bodies may also be used.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>
Common tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Breeding	This species breeds along coasts with shingle beaches and rocky islands, on rivers with shingle bars, and at	No – habitat types affected are of low

<sup>35</sup> [www.magic.defra.gov.uk](http://www.magic.defra.gov.uk)

Bird Species	Season	Species Habitat Preferences (relative to season of designation)	Susceptible to loss of offsite habitats present within Local Plan site allocations?
		inland gravel pits and reservoirs, feeding along rivers and over freshwater.	importance for this species.
Bewick's swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i>	Wintering	This species can be found in freshwater, farmland, coastal, and wetland habitats. They will often feed on fields during the day, eating crops like leftover potatoes and grain, before heading to roost on open water.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>
Whooper swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	Wintering	This species can be found in freshwater, farmland, coastal, and wetland habitats. They will often feed on fields during the day, eating crops like leftover potatoes and grain, before heading to roost on open water.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>
Golden plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	Wintering	In winter, this species is attracted to mown grass or close-grazed pastures, and to stubbles, fallows, harvest fields, and other farmlands of open character, including flood lands. On coast, tends to neglect tidal flats of mud and sand and to prefer open ground above the foreshore.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>
Bar-tailed godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i>	Wintering	Outside of the breeding season, this species is almost entirely coastal, showing pronounced preference for sheltered bays or inlets such as estuaries, or shores of islands or islets free from rock, gravel, or shingle and providing plenty of tidal movement over fine sand or mud.	No – habitat types affected are of low importance for this species.
Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>	Breeding	The lesser black-backed gull breeds in colonies on windswept, low-lying coastal islands but it also breeds on the flat roofs of city-centre buildings and industrial units. They can be found in urban, suburban, marine and intertidal, farmland, wetland and grassland habitats.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise urban and suburban areas and arable fields.</b>
Ringed plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Migratory	The ringed plover is a bird of sea coasts. Whether breeding, migrating or wintering, this species is most numerous and concentrated on wide sandy or shingle tidal beaches, with access to suitable resting or nesting places above high-water mark. Secondly occupies adjoining hinterlands up to substantial distance inland, where estuaries, rivers, lakes, tundra, gravel beds, sand bars, grasslands of sparse and low growth, or other suitable well-drained terrain exists.	No – habitat types affected are of low importance for this species.
Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i>	Migratory	The sanderling prefers tidal sandy beaches on which it can feed and ocean beaches with firm clean sand and strong breakers. Less frequently visits mudflats and estuaries and usually makes only occasional and brief visits to inland waters.	No – habitat types affected are of low importance for this species.

Bird Species	Season	Species Habitat Preferences (relative to season of designation)	Susceptible to loss of offsite habitats present within Local Plan site allocations?
Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i>	Migratory, wintering	Outside of the breeding season, the redshank is predominately coastal, feeding mainly on unvegetated tracts of mud on estuaries, marine inlets, and sheltered bays, tending to avoid cliffs and rocky or shingly sectors, and beaches of pure sand. When inland concentrates at points of ample food resources, such as sewage farms and watersides	No – habitat types affected are of low importance for this species.
Pink-footed goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Wintering	This species winters mainly in coastal lowlands with farmland and marshy grassland. This species can be seen in marine, intertidal, farmland, wetland and grassland habitats.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>
Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	Wintering	The shelduck is a coastal species, ranging only 1-2km out to sea and a little further inland. Choice of wetland, especially for breeding, governed by attachment to salt or brackish water, either shallow coasts and estuaries or inland seas and lakes. Needs foraging areas of high productivity, especially sands and mud flats over which shallow water alternates with drying out through tides or evaporation. Freshwater habitats distant from the sea are used only sporadically by odd pairs or single birds.	No – habitat types affected are of low importance for this species.
Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i>	Wintering	Winter habitats lowland and largely maritime, especially along coasts where shallow, fairly sheltered waters and extensive tracts of mud, sand, or salt marsh offer sustenance and security for gatherings. Freshwater and brackish lagoons and tracts of flooded grassland also often preferred.	<b>Yes – may use flooded pasture.</b>
Teal <i>Anas crecca</i>	Wintering	The teal frequents open habitats such as shallow tidal coasts, large estuaries, saltmarshes, and lagoons, brackish or saline, flooded fields, and artificial waters such as reservoirs devoid of vegetation.	<b>Yes – may use flooded fields.</b>
Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i>	Wintering	The pintail prefers sheltered coasts, grazing marshes and estuaries.	<b>Yes – may use flooded fields.</b>
Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>	Wintering	The oystercatcher feeds on hard-shelled marine molluscs in intertidal shore zones and softer-bodied terrestrial and marine invertebrates. Breeds in secure roosts at high tide and requires nest sites with easily accessible feeding areas. Consequently, primarily tied to shorelines which can be fed on at low tide, and secondarily to lakesides, riversides, and a wide variety of terrestrial open ground.	No – This species may utilise a range of terrestrial habitats but is primarily reliant on marine habitats and the importance of habitats within the site allocations is low.
Grey plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	Wintering	After breeding the grey plover concentrates on the sea coast, mainly using the intertidal zone, on broad mudflats or sandy beaches, and to lesser extent on saltings, islets subject to occasional submergence, and	No – This species may utilise a range of terrestrial habitats but is primarily a marine

Bird Species	Season	Species Habitat Preferences (relative to season of designation)	Susceptible to loss of offsite habitats present within Local Plan site allocations?
		neighbouring freshwater pools. May use inland staging points, often by lakes on sand bars, mudflats, pools, and moist places, including short grassy fields and floodlands.	feeding bird and the importance of habitats within the site allocations is low.
Knot <i>Calidris canutus islandica</i>	Wintering	The knot uses marine intertidal habitats, normally where large flat muddy, sandy, and pebbly beaches are uncovered. At high water, often resists being driven back to vegetated zone behind foreshore, and so forced to pack densely at certain spots.	No – habitat types affected are of low importance for this species.
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>	Wintering	Favours lowland and grassland coastal habitat, especially in late summer, including saltmarshes, rough grazing land, sand dunes or sandy machair with moist depressions and river flood plains. The presence of surface water and unvegetated patches or short grass, moss, or other low herbage is essential. Outside breeding season, strongly attracted to broad coastal beaches, especially mudflats, but also occurs regularly on lagoons, estuaries, tidal rivers, and margins of lakes and other freshwater bodies as well as sewage farms.	<b>Yes – may utilise pasture where regular flooding occurs.</b>
Black-tailed godwit <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>	Wintering	During breeding, favours marshy hummocky moorland. Changes in land management have created new habitat and poorly drained pastures, damp heaths free of scrub, or border of reedy wetland are of primary importance. Other grasslands managed as meadows, especially when grazed and hay-cut and flooded in winter are also used. Outside the breeding season, favoured habitats include sewage farms, lake margins, tidal marshes, mudflats and sheltered coastal inlets.	<b>Yes – despite a preference for coastal habitat outside the breeding period this species may use flooded pasture and other grasslands for feeding.</b>

5.9 The review of habitat types located within the site allocations, in light of individual bird species' preferences, identified the following qualifying bird species of the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site as being potentially susceptible to the loss of offsite habitat associated with site allocations proposed within the Local Plan:

- Ruff;
- Bewick's swan
- Whooper swan;
- Golden plover;
- Lesser black-backed gull;
- Pink footed goose;
- Wigeon;
- Teal;
- Pintail;
- Dunlin;

- Black-tailed godwit.

**5.10** Following a review of these species' habitat preferences and in line with previous discussions with Natural England with regards to recognised buffer zones within which these species are likely to rely on offsite habitats, a distance of 20km was applied.

### Assessment of Site Allocations

**5.11** Following the establishment of typical habitat preferences for each species, each site allocation proposed in the plan within 20km of the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site was assessed for its suitability in supporting the qualifying bird species listed above. The assessment was based on a number of parameters, as described in **Table 5.2** below. Typically, site allocations displayed varying combinations of the parameters outlined below and the conclusions on suitability for SPA and Ramsar site qualifying birds were therefore based on professional judgement. The findings of the assessment of site allocations are set out in **Table E.1 in Appendix E** in relation to the qualifying bird species listed in **para. 5.9**. A summary of this is provided below.

**Table 5.2** Habitat suitability rating criteria

Suitability for SPA and Ramsar Birds	Justification
High	Large area of suitable habitat (e.g. lowland farmland, heathland, wetland, woodland) capable of supporting significant numbers of SPA birds; absence of any notable negative factors such as public rights of way (PRoW) and edge features; land parcel functionally linked with wider habitat and directly linked to SPA via green corridor; site may be prone to flooding; typically close to SPA.
Moderate	Sites support large areas of functionally linked suitable habitat capable of attracting numbers of SPA birds which by themselves are unlikely to be significant, but which may contribute to supporting significant numbers of birds in-combination with other sites. Likely to be further from SPA, and with presence of some limiting factors.
Low	Smaller or fragmented sites; habitats present may be suitable for supporting low numbers of SPA birds on occasion but limited by negative factors such as size, distance from SPA; absence of sight lines and reductions in 'openness' as a result of edge features such as trees, scrub, and buildings; edge features likely to be close to centre of site; suitability may be compromised by existing recreational use; may be isolated within urban areas.
Negligible	Habitats present are entirely unsuitable for SPA birds, for example existing developed land or small urban infill sites.

**5.12** The desk-based review of site allocations identified the majority of sites to have negligible or low potential to support significant numbers of SPA and Ramsar site qualifying bird species, either alone or cumulatively with other allocations, and were therefore discounted from further consideration in terms of offsite functionally linked land.

**5.13** However, the desk-based review did identify 26 site allocations that have moderate potential to support the qualifying bird species of the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA and Ramsar site listed in **para. 5.9**:

- Policy EC2.1: Land East of M61, Chorley
- Policy EC3.2: Preston East Junction 31A M6
- Policy EC3.3: 11 Roman Road Farm
- Policy EC3.4: Riversway Phase B, Maritime Way, Preston

- Policy EC5.3: Land at Bagganley Lane, Chorley\*
- Policy EC6.1: Cuerden
- Policy SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West
- Policy HS2.10: Little Knowley Farm, Chorley
- Policy HS2.11: Great Knowley, Chorley\*
- Policy HS2.34: West of M61 - Land North of Hill Top Farm, Whittle-le-Woods
- Policy HS2.35: West of M61 - Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods
- Policy HS3.1: Emnie Lane, Leyland\*
- Policy HS3.2: Apsley House, Farington\*
- Policy HS3.3: Chapel Lane, Longton\*
- Policy HS3.4: South of Factory Lane and East of the West Coast Main Line, Lower Penwortham\*
- Policy HS3.6: Liverpool Road, Hutton\*
- Policy HS3.7: Branch Road, Mellor Brook\*
- Policy HS4.2: Land off Riversway & West of Dodney Drive Lea
- Policy HS4.4: Cardwell Farm, Garstang Road
- Policy SS3: Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle
- Policy SS6 (A+B): Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham
- HC3.3 Higher Bartle (Maxy Lane/Sandy Lane/Tabley Lane) – this site is within SS3.
- HC3.4 Tabley Lane (Northwest Preston Masterplan) – this site is within SS3.
- HC3.5 Former Whittingham Hospital
- HC3.7 Land at Bartle – this site is within SS3.
- HC3.8 Pickerings Farm, Flag Lane – this site is within SS6 (A+B).

**5.14** Of these 26 site allocations, none were recorded within 2km of the SPA and Ramsar site and as such impacts are only considered in relation to Whooper swan, golden plover and pink-footed goose (which have larger buffer distances). These site allocations provide suitable habitat for these species in the form of arable land and pasture, which are common and widespread within the Central Lancashire boundary. These 26 site allocations are not considered to support habitats or features of notable value, rarity or which populations are likely to be dependent on. In isolation, the importance of such sites for these species is likely to be low, due to the extensive areas of habitat of greater suitability both within the Central Lancashire boundary and the wider land areas surrounding the SPA and Ramsar site. As a result, the potential for the loss of offsite habitat within these 26 site allocations to adversely affect Whooper swan, golden plover and pink-footed goose relates primarily to the cumulative effect of reducing the extent of feeding areas. Given the dependency of these species on offsite arable fields and grasslands, inclusion and implementation of appropriate safeguards and mitigation will be required in the Local Plan to provide certainty that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA and Ramsar site (see Mitigation heading below).

### **Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site**

**5.15** The Local Plan proposes development in areas where qualifying SPA and Ramsar site bird species may make use of offsite habitat for foraging, roosting and loafing. Proposed site allocations with potential to result in a likely significant effect as a result of physical damage and loss were identified in the screening assessment (see **Appendix C**).

**5.16** A desk-based study was undertaken to identify potential impacts from proposed allocations on offsite habitat used by the qualifying bird species with functionally linked land buffers identified in the Screening

assessment, which overlapped Central Lancashire boundary. This was completed in line with the method detailed above in **para 5.6**.

### Bird Habitat Preferences

**5.17** Bird habitat preferences were cross referenced against the habitat types present within each site allocation to determine the suitability of site allocations for the qualifying species of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site. Known habitat preferences are summarised in **Table 5.3** below, which were taken from Birds of the Western Palearctic, British Trust for Ornithology. **Table 5.3** also assesses whether each bird species is susceptible to the loss of habitats generally found within the site allocations.

**Table 5.3 Typical Habitat Preferences of Qualifying Bird Species of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site**

Bird Species	Season	Species Habitat Preferences (relative to season of designation)	Susceptible to loss of offsite habitats present within Local Plan site allocations?
Whooper swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	Wintering	This species can be found in freshwater, farmland, coastal, and wetland habitats. They will often feed on fields during the day, eating crops like leftover potatoes and grain, before heading to roost on open water.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>
Golden plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	Wintering	In winter, this species is attracted to mown grass or close-grazed pastures, and to stubbles, fallows, harvest fields, and other farmlands of open character, including floodlands. On coast, tends to neglect tidal flats of mud and sand and to prefer open ground above the foreshore.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>
Pink-footed goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Wintering, migratory	This species winters mainly in coastal lowlands with farmland and marshy grassland. This species can be seen in marine, intertidal, farmland, wetland and grassland habitats.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>
Curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i>	Wintering, migratory	During the winter, the curlew feeds on tidal mudflats, saltmarshes and nearby farmland. In the spring and summer, curlews breed in upland areas of rough pasture, heather moorland and wetland.	<b>Yes - this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>

**5.18** The review of habitat types located within the site allocations, in light of individual bird species preferences, identified the following qualifying bird species of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site as being potentially susceptible to the loss of offsite habitat associated with site allocations proposed within the Local Plan:

- Whooper swan;
- Golden plover;
- Pink-footed goose; and
- Curlew.

**5.19** Following a review of these species' habitat preferences and in line with previous discussions with Natural England with regards to recognised buffer zones within which these species are likely to rely on offsite habitats, a distance of 20km was applied.

### Assessment of Site Allocations

**5.20** Following the establishment of typical habitat preferences for each species, each site allocation proposed in the plan within 20km of the Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site was assessed for its suitability in supporting the qualifying bird species listed in **para. 5.18**. The assessment was based on a number of parameters, as described in **Table 5.2** above. Typically, site allocations displayed varying combinations of the parameters outlined below and findings on suitability for SPA and Ramsar site qualifying birds were therefore subject to professional judgement. The findings of the assessment of site allocations are set out in **Table E.2 in Appendix E** in relation to bird species that are qualifying features of this SPA and Ramsar site. A summary of this is provided below.

**5.21** The desk-based review of site allocations identified the majority of sites to have negligible or low potential to support significant numbers of SPA and Ramsar site qualifying bird species, either alone or cumulatively with other allocations, and were therefore discounted from further consideration in terms of offsite functional land.

**5.22** However, the desk-based review did identify 15 site allocations that have moderate potential to support qualifying bird species of the Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site:

- Policy EC3.2: Preston East Junction 31A M6
- Policy EC3.4: Riversway Phase B, Maritime Way, Preston
- Policy SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West
- Policy HS3.3: Chapel Lane, Longton\*
- Policy HS3.4: South of Factory Lane and East of the West Coast Main Line, Lower Penwortham\*
- Policy HS3.6: Liverpool Road, Hutton\*
- Policy HS4.2: Land off Riversway & West of Dodney Drive Lea
- Policy HS4.4: Cardwell Farm, Garstang Road
- Policy SS3: Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle
- Policy SS6 (A+B): Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham
- HC3.3 Higher Bartle (Maxy Lane/Sandy Lane/Tabley Lane) – this site is within SS3.
- HC3.4 Tabley Lane (Northwest Preston Masterplan) – this site is within SS3.
- HC3.5 Former Whittingham Hospital
- HC3.7 Land at Bartle – this site is within SS3.
- HC3.8 Pickering's Farm, Flag Lane – this site is within SS6 (A+B).

**5.23** Of these 15 site allocations, none were recorded within 5km of the SPA and Ramsar site and as such impacts are only considered in relation to golden plover, curlew and pink-footed goose. These sites provide suitable habitat for these species in the form of arable land and pasture, which are common and widespread in Central Lancashire's plan boundary. These site allocations were not considered to support habitats or features of notable value, rarity or which populations are likely to be dependent on. In isolation the importance of such sites for these species is likely to be low with the extensive areas of habitat of greater suitability both within the Central Lancashire boundary and the wider land areas surrounding these Habitats Sites. As a result, the potential for the loss of offsite habitat to adversely affect these species relates primarily to the cumulative effect of reducing the extent of feeding areas. Given the dependency of these species on offsite arable fields and grasslands, inclusion and implementation of appropriate safeguards and mitigation will be required in Local Plan to provide certainty that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site.

## Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Site

**5.24** The Local Plan proposes development in areas where qualifying SPA and Ramsar site bird species may make use of offsite habitat for foraging, roosting and loafing. Proposed site allocations with potential to result in a likely significant effect as a result of physical damage and loss were identified in the screening assessment.

**5.25** A desk-based study was undertaken to identify potential impacts from proposed allocations on offsite habitat used by the qualifying bird species with functionally linked land buffers identified in the Screening assessment, which overlapped Central Lancashire boundary. This was completed in line with the method detailed above in **para 5.6**.

### Bird Habitat Preferences

**5.26** Bird habitat preferences were cross referenced against the habitat types present within each allocation to determine the suitability of site allocations for qualifying species. Known habitat preferences are summarised in **Table 5.3** above, which were taken from Birds of the Western Palearctic, British Trust for Ornithology. **Table E.3** in **Appendix E** also assesses whether each bird species is susceptible to the loss of habitats located within the site allocations.

**Table 5.4 Typical Habitat Preferences of Qualifying Bird Species of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site**

Bird Species	Season	Species Habitat Preferences (relative to season of designation)	Susceptible to loss of offsite habitat as a result of the plan
Whooper swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>	Wintering	This species can be found in freshwater, farmland, coastal, and wetland habitats. They will often feed on fields during the day, eating crops like leftover potatoes and grain, before heading to roost on open water.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>
Pink-footed goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Wintering	This species winters mainly in coastal lowlands with farmland and marshy grassland. This species can be seen in marine, intertidal, farmland, wetland and grassland habitats.	<b>Yes – this species may utilise pasture and arable fields.</b>

**5.27** The review of habitat types located within the site allocations, in light of individual bird species' preferences, identified the following bird species as being potentially susceptible to the loss of offsite habitat associated with site allocations proposed within the Local Plan. This included:

- Whooper swan; and
- Pink-footed goose.

**5.28** Following a review of these species' habitat preferences and in line with previous discussions with Natural England with regards to recognised buffer zones within which these species are likely to rely on offsite habitats, a distance of 20km was applied.

**5.29** The findings of the assessment of site allocations are set out in **Table E.3** in **Appendix E** in relation to bird species that are qualifying features of the SPA and Ramsar site. A summary of this is provided below.

### Assessment of Site Allocations

**5.30** Following the establishment of typical habitat preferences for each species, each site allocation proposed in the plan within 20km of the Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site was assessed for its suitability in

supporting the qualifying bird species listed above. The assessment was based on a number of parameters, as described in **Table 5.2** above. Typically, site allocations displayed varying combinations of the parameters outlined below and findings on suitability for SPA and Ramsar site qualifying birds were therefore subject to professional judgement. The findings of the assessment of site allocations are set out in **Table E.3 in Appendix E** in relation to bird species that are qualifying features of the SPA and Ramsar site. A summary of this is provided below.

**5.31** The desk-based review of site allocations identified the majority of sites to have negligible or low potential to support significant numbers of SPA and Ramsar site qualifying bird species, either alone or cumulatively with other allocations, and were therefore discounted from further consideration in terms of offsite functional land.

**5.32** However, the desk-based review did identify 17 site allocations have moderate potential to support qualifying bird species:

- Policy EC2.1: Land East of M61, Chorley
- Policy EC3.4: Riversway Phase B, Maritime Way, Preston
- Policy EC5.3: Land at Bagganley Lane, Chorley\*
- Policy EC6.1: Cuerden
- Policy SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West
- Policy HS2.10: Little Knowley Farm, Chorley
- Policy HS2.11: Great Knowley, Chorley\*
- Policy HS2.34: West of M61 - Land North of Hill Top Farm, Whittle-le-Woods
- Policy HS2.35: West of M61 - Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods
- Policy HS3.1: Emnie Lane, Leyland\*
- Policy HS3.2: Apsley House, Farington\*
- Policy HS3.3: Chapel Lane, Longton\*
- Policy HS3.4: South of Factory Lane and East of the West Coast Main Line, Lower Penwortham\*
- Policy HS3.6: Liverpool Road, Hutton\*
- Policy HS4.2: Land off Riversway & West of Dodney Drive Lea
- Policy SS3: Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle
- Policy SS6 (A+B): Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham
- HC3.3 Higher Bartle (Maxy Lane/Sandy Lane/Tabley Lane) – this site is within SS3.
- HC3.4 Tabley Lane (Northwest Preston Masterplan) – this site is within SS3.
- HC3.7 Land at Bartle – this site is within SS3.
- HC3.8 Pickering's Farm, Flag Lane – this site is within SS6 (A+B).

**5.33** Of these 21 site allocations, none were recorded within 5km of the SPA and Ramsar site and as such impacts are only considered in relation to pink-footed goose. These 21 site allocations provide suitable habitat for pink-footed goose in the form of arable land and pasture, which are common and widespread in Central Lancashire boundary. These site allocations were not considered to support habitats or features of notable value, rarity or which populations are likely to be dependent on. In isolation the importance of these site allocations for pink-footed goose is likely to be low with the extensive areas of habitat of greater suitability both within the Central Lancashire boundary and the wider land areas surrounding these Habitats Sites. As a result, the potential for the loss of offsite habitat to adversely affect pink-footed goose relates primarily to the cumulative effect of reducing the extent of feeding areas. Given the dependency of pink-footed goose on offsite arable fields and grasslands, inclusion and implementation of appropriate safeguards and mitigation will be required in Local Plan to provide certainty that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site.

## Mitigation and Recommendations

**5.34** Policy EN7: Designated Sites for Nature Conservation within the Local Plan provides some safeguards and mitigation for the potential adverse effects of physical damage and loss of habitats. Policy EN7 states that:

*Developments shall avoid adverse impacts on designated sites and their qualifying features. Designated sites of international, national, and local importance as shown on the policies map include:*

- Ribble and Alt Estuaries Ramsar Site
- Ribble and Alt Estuaries Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Ribble Estuary Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)
- Ribble Estuary National Nature Reserves (NNR)
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Forest of Bowland Area National Landscape
- Biological Heritage Sites (BHS)
- Local Nature Reserves (LNR)
- Local Geodiversity Sites (LGS)

**5.35** However, to provide additional certainty that protection will be provided to Habitats Sites located outside of the Central Lancashire boundary with potential to be affected by the Local Plan, **it is recommended that the policy wording is updated to include reference to Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site and Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site.**

**5.36** In addition, despite policy EN7 providing some protection to designated sites of international, national, and local importance, to provide certainty that the loss of functionally linked land within certain site allocations will not adversely affect the integrity of the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site and Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site, and Martin Mere SPA, **it is recommended that the following safeguard measures are implemented:**

- Wintering bird surveys are required for the site allocations identified in Tables E.1, E.2 and E.3 in Appendix E (also listed in paragraphs 5.13, 5.22 and 5.32 above), with moderate suitability to support the relevant qualifying bird species for each Habitats Site.
- The wintering bird surveys should determine the site allocation's individual and cumulative importance for these species and inform mitigation proposals to be included in planning applications. **This requirement should be referred to in either the relevant site allocation policy (i.e. Policies SS3, SS5, SS6, HS2, HS3, HS4, EC2, EC3, EC5, EC6 and HC3) and/or the relevant development brief (for those site allocations that have one in Appendix 4 of the Local Plan.**
- For development proposals that come forward on non-allocated sites within the buffer distances from relevant SPA/Ramsar sites set out below, wintering bird surveys should also be required. **This should be referred to in either the relevant policy (i.e. Policies HS8, HS9, HS11, HS12, HS13, EC10, EC11, EC12, EC13, EC14, HC2, HC3, HC4, HC5, HC7, EN17, EN18 CC2, ST1 and ID3), or Policy E7:**
  - **Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site** (designated for a diverse assemblage of wetland bird species, including golden plover in relation to the SPA) – buffer distance of 2km for all species for all qualifying species except whooper swan (5km buffer), golden plover (15km buffer) and pink footed goose (20km buffer).
  - **Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site** (designated for a diverse assemblage of waterfowl) – buffer distance of 2km for all species for all qualifying species except golden plover (15km buffer) and pink footed goose (20km buffer).

- **Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site** (designated for pintail, wigeon, pink footed goose, Bewick swan and whooper swan) – buffer distance of 2km for all qualifying species except whooper swan (5km buffer) and pink footed goose (20km buffer).
  - **Bowland Fells SPA** (designated for hen harrier, merlin and lesser black-backed gull) – buffer distance of 2km from the SPA boundary.
  - **Liverpool Bay SPA** (designated for red throated diver, little gull, common scoter, little tern and common tern) – buffer distance of 2km the SPA boundary.
- A commitment to mitigation is also required within the Local Plan dependent on the findings of bird surveys. **This commitment should be referred to in in Policy EN7: Designated Sites for Nature Conservation.** This will need to take into account the cumulative numbers of SPA and Ramsar site birds affected within the relevant site allocations as they come forward for development. In the unlikely but possible event that cumulative numbers of SPA and Ramsar site birds affected are likely to exceed thresholds of significance (i.e. >1% of the associated Habitats Site), appropriate mitigation in the form of habitat creation and management in perpetuity, either on-site or through provision of strategic sites for these species elsewhere within Central Lancashire, will be required. If required, mitigation will need to create and manage suitably located habitat which maximises feeding productivity for these SPA/Ramsar species, and such mitigatory habitat would need to be provided and be fully functional prior to development which would affect significant numbers of SPA and Ramsar site birds. Due to the common and widespread nature of the habitats present it is considered with certainty that mitigation can be easily achieved through the creation of alternative habitat of equal or greater value should a significant number of qualifying birds be found to utilise habitats within the relevant site allocations. This approach has been approved at recent Examination in Public for other coastal Local Authorities, including North Essex Authorities.

### Conclusions for physical damage and loss of functionally linked land

**5.37** The above mitigation measures have been incorporated into the Regulation 19 Local Plan by the CLAs. Therefore, provided these policy requirements are implemented successfully, adverse effects on the integrity of the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site and Martin Mere SPA, as a result of damage and loss of habitat to functionally linked land will be avoided.

### Noise, vibration and lighting disturbance of functionally linked land

#### Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site

**5.38** The plan proposes development in areas where qualifying SPA and Ramsar site bird species may make use of offsite habitat for foraging, roosting and loafing. Proposed allocations with potential to result in a likely significant effect as a result of noise, vibration and lighting disturbance were identified in the screening assessment. A full list of the site allocations is provided in **Table D.1** in **Appendix D**.

**5.39** Of these site allocations, it was identified that all site allocations were located within 500m of areas which may be used by qualifying bird species of the SPA and Ramsar site for functionally linked land. Therefore, appropriate mitigation measures will be required to ensure no adverse effects on integrity (see below).

#### Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site

**5.40** The plan proposes development in areas where qualifying SPA and Ramsar site bird species may make use of offsite habitat for foraging, roosting and loafing. Proposed allocations with potential to result in a likely significant effect as a result of noise, vibration and lighting disturbance were identified in the screening assessment. A full list of the site allocations is provided in **Table D.1** in **Appendix D**.

**5.41** Of these site allocations, it was identified that 55 sites were located within 500m of areas which may be used by qualifying bird species of the SPA and Ramsar site for functionally linked land. Based on buffer distances applied to each qualifying bird species, there is potential for impacts in relation to golden plover

and pink-footed goose. No site allocations are located within 500m of the 2km or 5km buffer from the SPA and Ramsar site and as such no adverse effects are predicted in relation to all other qualifying bird species for these Habitats Sites. Therefore, appropriate mitigation measures will be required to ensure no adverse effects on integrity (see below).

### Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site

**5.42** The plan proposes development in areas where qualifying SPA and Ramsar site bird species may make use of offsite habitat for foraging, roosting and loafing. Proposed allocations with potential to result in a likely significant effect as a result of noise, vibration and lighting disturbance identified in the screening assessment. A full list of the site allocations is provided in **Table D.1** in **Appendix D**.

**5.43** Of these site allocations, it was identified that 102 sites were located within 500m of areas which may be used by qualifying bird species of the SPA and Ramsar site for functionally linked land. Based on buffer distances applied to each qualifying bird species, there is potential for impacts in relation to pink-footed goose only. No site allocations are located within 500m of the 2km or 5km buffer from the SPA and Ramsar site and as such no adverse effects are predicted in relation to all other qualifying bird species for these Habitats Sites. Therefore, appropriate mitigation measures will be required to ensure no adverse effects on integrity (see below).

### Mitigation and Recommendations

**5.44** To provide certainty that noise, vibration and lighting disturbance will not adversely affect the integrity of the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site, and Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, it is recommended that any site allocation or development proposal on a non-allocated site, plus a 500m buffer around its boundary, that is within the following distance buffers is required to demonstrate the provision of suitable best practice construction measures, including detailed site-specific working methods and sensitive timings of work, as part of a Construction Environmental Management Plan:

- **Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar:** within 2km for the wide assemblage of wetland birds and within 5km for whooper swan, 15km for golden plover and 20km for pink footed goose.
- **Morecambe Bay & Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site:** within 2km for the wide assemblage of wetland birds and within 5km for whooper swan, 15km for golden plover and curlew and 20km for pink footed goose.
- **Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site:** within 2km for the wide assemblage of wetland birds and within 20km for pink footed goose.
- **Bowland Fells SPA:** within 2km for hen harrier, merlin and lesser black-backed gull.

**5.45** Detailed mitigation and avoidance measures would need to be informed by a site-specific assessment undertaken at the project level. It should be noted that the requirement for project-level HRA will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis dependent on the scale, location and nature of the proposed development. Given that all of the site allocations in Policies SS3, SS5, SS6, HS2, HS3, HS4, EC2, EC3, EC5 and EC6 fall within the buffer distances for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar, and either Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site, or Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, **this requirement could be referred to in Policy EN14: Environmental Quality, and should also apply to any development proposals that come forward on non-allocated sites within the same buffer distances.**

**5.46** As detailed above under the mitigation section for Physical damage and loss of functionally linked land, Policy EN7: Designated Sites for Nature Conservation provide safeguards and mitigation measures to Habitats Sites. **However, to ensure certainty that no adverse effects on integrity occur, the recommendation stated above is repeated here, i.e. that Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site, and Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site should also be referred to within policy EN7.**

## Conclusion for noise, vibration and lighting disturbance of functionally linked land

**5.47** The above mitigation measures have been incorporated into the Regulation 19 Local Plan by the CLAs. Therefore, provided these policy requirements are implemented successfully, adverse effects on the integrity of the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site and Martin Mere SPA, as a result of noise, vibration and lighting disturbance to functionally linked land will be avoided.

## Recreation and urban impacts

### Morecambe Bay Habitats Sites

**5.1** Adverse effects on integrity at Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA, Morecambe Bay Ramsar and Morecambe Bay SAC are uncertain due to recreation pressure as a result of the Local Plan alone or in combination with other plans. This is due to uncertainty relating to zones of influence as discussed in **Chapter 4**.

**5.48** As there is no current ZOI for Morecambe Bay, taking a precautionary approach, it is assumed that part of Preston district (which is c.13-25km from the bay's Habitats Sites) could fall within a ZOI, once visitor surveys are updated and the ZOI is established. South Ribble and Chorley are >20km from Morecambe Bay and unlikely to fall within the ZOI, based on the largest ZOIs of Habitats Sites elsewhere in the country<sup>36</sup> (15km or less). Residential site allocations within Preston district are: sites HS4.1 to HS4.30, and sites SS3 to SS5. There are also policies that could result in residential or visitor/tourism development on non-allocated sites within Preston (Policies HS8, HS9, HS11, EC14), and therefore increase the number of residents that might visit Morecambe Bay.

### Mitigation and Recommendations

**5.49** Existing safeguards are provided in the following policies in the Regulation 19 Local Plan, which seek to ensure that new open space and greenspaces are provided, which will help to alleviate some recreation pressure on the Morecambe Bay Habitats Sites:

- HS5 – Open Space and Playing Pitch Requirement: “All major new residential developments must make provision for open space through on site provision or where appropriate, through financial contributions towards off-site provision or improving the quality, quantity and/or accessibility of existing spaces.” This policy sets out open space standards that must be met within new residential developments.
- EN5 – Green Infrastructure: “1. All developments shall prioritise the protection, quality, connectivity and multi-functionality of green infrastructure, and the ecosystem services that it provides. 2. The design of development shall contribute to improvements, accessibility, connectivity, and expansion of green infrastructure by establishing new green infrastructure features, enhancing and maintaining existing green infrastructure, and maintaining the connectivity between features.” And “6. Land is allocated for a Central Park to the northeast of Lostock Hall.”

**5.2** However, in addition to these policy safeguards, in relation to the Morecambe Bay Habitats Sites, **a commitment is needed by the CLAs to work with neighbouring authorities and Natural England (NE) before the Local Plan is adopted. If the ZOI being established by Lancaster/Wyre/Westmorland and Furness joint working identifies a ZOI that encroaches on the Central Lancashire plan area, then this HRA will need to be updated and mitigation measures will need to be agreed with NE. This would be likely to require the CLAs to join with any strategic mitigation approach, e.g. developer contributions to Strategic Access Management and Monitoring for residential/tourism development within the ZOI.**

### Sefton Coast Habitats Sites

**5.50** Adverse effects on the integrity of Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site, Sefton Coast SAC, and Liverpool Bay / Bae Lerpwl SPA are uncertain due to recreation pressure as a result of the Local Plan

<sup>36</sup> Natural England (2024) RP04518 Edition 1 Compilation and Review of Evidence Leading to SANG and SAMM Provision, <https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/6015060338802688>

alone or in combination with other plans. This is due to uncertainty relating to zones of influence as discussed in **Chapter 4**.

**5.3** Emerging work undertaken by authorities within the Liverpool City Region is seeking to establish a ZOI for the Habitats Sites along the Sefton Coast as part of the development of a recreation mitigation strategy. A ZOI is not yet available, but Sefton Council's interim approach (2023)<sup>37</sup> establishes a 'core zone' of 5km within which the greatest impacts are likely to occur from residential development, and an 'outer zone' which covers the rest of the local authority area (up to 11.5km from the Habitats Sites). Mitigation in the form of developer contributions is required from both zones, therefore the ZOI for the Sefton Coast sites is likely to be at least 11.5km. Taking a precautionary approach, it is assumed that all of the Central Lancashire Local Plan residential site allocations could fall within a ZOI for the Sefton Coast Habitats Sites, as most of the Local Plan site allocations are within 15km of the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar.

### Mitigation and Recommendations

**5.51** As stated above, existing safeguards are provided in policies HS5 and ES5 in the Regulation 19 Local Plan, which seek to ensure that new open space and greenspaces are provided, which will help to alleviate some recreation pressure on the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site.

**5.52** However, in addition to these policy safeguards, in relation to the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site, **the CLAs will need to consult with NE to see if the Liverpool authorities/NE can share their emerging work on ZOIs to determine if this can also be applied to the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site within the Central Lancashire plan area. A commitment to joining with the strategic approach (i.e. seeking developer contributions) is then also likely to be required.**

### Conclusion for recreation and urban impacts

**5.53** Adverse effects on integrity of the Morecambe Bay Habitats Sites and the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site are uncertain until further work is undertaken as outlined above. Prior to the adoption of the Local Plan, any mitigation requirements agreed with NE that are additional to those already within the Regulation 19 Local Plan will need to be embedded within planning policy.

### Water quality – direct pollution

**5.54** Pollution from direct run-off e.g. during construction, is most likely to affect Habitats Sites that are within, downstream of, or immediately adjacent to the plan area, by reducing water quality. Habitats Sites downstream of the plan area, at which likely significant effects from direct pollution could occur are the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar site and the Martin Mere SPA/Ramsar site.

**5.55** The majority of site allocations are adjacent or near to watercourses that are tributaries of the Ribble and Alt Estuary. The five site allocations at Mawdesley (sites HS2.26-30) are closest to the Martin Mere SPA/Ramsar site.

### Mitigation

**5.56** To provide certainty that development associated with the Local Plan would not cause direct pollution at Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar site and Martin Mere SPA/Ramsar site, policy safeguards are required that protect watercourses and groundwater from pollution.

**5.57** In addition to the policies providing general protection for Habitats Sites (in particular, Policy EN7), the following policies already within the Regulation 19 Local Plan provide mitigation that would enable adverse effects on the integrity of Habitats Sites to be avoided:

- EN10 – Development and Flood Risk: “Development proposals must have no adverse impact on the capacity and water quality of any receiving surface water bodies or groundwaters, including watercourses and/or the operational functions of existing flood defence infrastructure.”

<sup>37</sup> Sefton Council (2023) Managing and mitigating the impact of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast – Sefton's interim approach for housing development, [https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4485/hrarecpressureinfornote\\_24-25\\_rates\\_final.pdf](https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4485/hrarecpressureinfornote_24-25_rates_final.pdf)

- EN11 – Water Resource Management: “Sustainable drainage systems shall be incorporated within development proposals as required to manage surface water run-off on-site, close to where it falls, and should be designed to take account of climate change and urban creep. Multi-functional sustainable drainage systems should provide water quantity, water quality, amenity, and biodiversity benefits.”
- EN12 – Protecting Groundwater Source Protection Zones: “2. New development must: a) Not have a detrimental impact on groundwater quantity and quality caused by water run-off into nearby waterways; b) Consider effective and efficient disposal of wastewater; and c) Seek to increase water availability and protect and improve the quality of rivers or groundwater where possible. 3. Where necessary, applicants will be required to undertake a risk assessment (quantitative and qualitative) of the impact on the groundwater environment and public water supply. Development will only be acceptable where it is demonstrated to the Local Planning Authority that there will be no unacceptable impact on the groundwater environment and public water supply.”

### Conclusion for water quality – direct pollution

**5.58** The safeguards within existing Regulation 19 Local Plan policies are considered sufficient to avoid adverse effects integrity on Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar site and Martin Mere SPA/Ramsar site due to direct pollution.

## Chapter 6

### Conclusion and next steps

**6.1** This HRA has considered the potential effects of the Pre-Submission (Regulation 19) version of the Central Lancashire Local Plan on Habitats Sites. Most of the likely significant effects identified at the Screening stage (physical damage or loss of functionally linked land, noise, vibration and lighting disturbance of functionally linked land, and water pollution/runoff during construction) should not result in adverse effects on integrity of the Habitats Sites within 15km of Central Lancashire due to either existing policy safeguards in the Regulation 19 Local Plan, or further mitigation measures recommended within this HRA that are now included in the Local Plan.

**6.2** However, it has not yet been possible to rule out adverse effects on integrity in relation to recreation pressure for the Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA, Morecambe Bay Ramsar and Morecambe Bay SAC and Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site. Chapter 5 set out the next steps required, to ensure that the HRA can conclude 'no adverse effects on integrity' prior to the adoption of the Local Plan.

**6.3** In summary, the CLAs will need to work with neighbouring authorities and Natural England to help establish Zones of Influence for these Habitats Sites to determine whether development within the Local Plan could adversely affect the Habitats Sites. If this is the case, then the CLAs also need to make a commitment to joining with any strategic mitigation approach that might be identified (e.g. seeking developer contributions from residential proposals within the ZOI). Prior to the adoption of the Local Plan, any mitigation requirements agreed with NE that are additional to those already within the Regulation 19 Local Plan will need to be embedded within planning policy.

### Next steps for the HRA

**6.4** This HRA report will be published, alongside the Local Plan, as part of the Regulation 19 consultation.

**6.5** While the Regulation 19 consultation is running, progress will need to be made on the recreation pressure mitigation, and any agreements made with Natural England will need to be documented in a Statement of Common Ground.

**6.6** Any additional information required to conclude the recreation pressure assessments could be presented in a HRA addendum, which would also address any Regulation 19 comments on the HRA, and any amendments made to the Local Plan.

**6.7** The HRA will need to be able to conclude 'no adverse effects on integrity' for all impact pathways and Habitats Sites, prior to adoption of the Local Plan.

LUC

January 2025

## Appendix A

### Attributes of Habitats Sites screened into the HRA

**A.1** This appendix contains information about the Habitats Sites scoped into the HRA. Information about each site's area, the site descriptions, qualifying features and pressures and threats is drawn from Natural England's Site Improvement Plans (SIPs), Supplementary Advice Notes, and the Standard Data Forms or Ramsar Information Sheets available from the JNCC website. Site conservation objectives are drawn from Natural England's website and are only available for SACs and SPAs.

Table A.1 Attributes of Habitats Sites scoped into the HRA

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
<p>Ribble and Alt SPA<sup>38</sup> (12,412.31ha)</p> <p>The Ribble and Alt SPA lies on the coast of Lancashire and Sefton in northwest England.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> (breeding)</li> <li>■ Common tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> (breeding)</li> <li>■ Bewick's swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Whooper swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Golden plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Bar-tailed godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i> (breeding)</li> <li>■ Ringed plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> (migratory)</li> <li>■ Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i> (migratory)</li> <li>■ Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i> (migratory and wintering)</li> <li>■ Pink-footed goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> (wintering)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Coastal squeeze</b></p> <p>Coastline is eroding around Formby Point. Woodland behind the eroding dunes means that the natural process of roll-back cannot occur, leading to fragmentation of dune habitats and loss of embryo and mobile dune habitats</p> <p><b>Air Pollution</b></p> <p>Risk of atmospheric nitrogen deposition – Nitrogen deposition exceeds critical loads and causes rapid growth of vegetation on transitional dune habitats, leading to loss of early successional vegetation communities and associated habitats and species.</p> <p><b>Inappropriate scrub control</b></p> <p>Inadequate control of encroaching scrub into fixed dunes and dune slacks, due to lack of mowing and/or grazing leads to loss of dune habitat.</p> <p><b>Invasive Species</b></p> <p>Encroachment of non-native vegetation (white poplar, Japanese rose, Sea buckthorn) is affecting dynamism of mobile dune habitats and vegetation composition on fixed dunes.</p> <p><b>Hydrological Changes</b></p> <p>Available water in the dunes is affected by presence of invasive scrub, man-made plantations and drainage systems within the adjacent urban</p>	<p>In general, the qualifying bird species of the SPA rely on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ The sites ecosystem as a whole (see list of habitats below);</li> <li>■ Maintenance of populations of species that they feed on (see list of diets below).</li> </ul> <p>Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> (breeding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Lakes, coastal wetlands</li> <li>■ Diet – Insects, larvae, frogs, small fish, seeds</li> </ul> <p>Common tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> (breeding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Shingle beaches, rocky islands, rivers with shingle bars, inland gravel pits and reservoirs. Offshore in autumn.</li> <li>■ Diet - Fish</li> </ul> <p>Bewick's swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Freshwater, farmland, coastal, wetlands</li> <li>■ Diet – potatoes, grain, aquatic plants and grasses</li> </ul> <p>Whooper swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Estuaries and wetlands</li> <li>■ Diet – Aquatic plants, grass, grain, potatoes</li> </ul> <p>Golden plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> (wintering)</p>

<sup>38</sup> Natural England (2023) Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA Supplementary Advice on Conservation Objectives (SACOs)

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Grey plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Knot <i>Calidris canutus islandica</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> (wintering)</li> <li>■ Black-tailed godwit <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i> (wintering)</li> </ul>	<p>settlement. Research has been carried out into dune hydrology and effects of woodland on the water table.</p> <p><b>Public Access/Disturbance</b></p> <p>Disturbance of bird populations through terrestrial and marine recreation (walkers, joggers, dog walkers, off-road vehicles, sand yachting, kite surfing, jet ski, boating, angling) and disturbance to dune and foreshore species and habitats through these recreational activities. Localised nutrient enrichment of dune flora by dog fouling and disturbance of dune slacks by dogs.</p> <p><b>Inappropriate Coastal Management</b></p> <p>Authorised parking on Ainsdale Beach, regulated by Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council, interrupts development of the Green Beach.</p> <p><b>Fisheries: Commercial Marine and Estuarine</b></p> <p>Commercial fishing activities categorised as ‘amber or green’ under Defra’s revised approach to commercial fisheries in EMSs require assessment and (where appropriate) management. This assessment will be undertaken by NWIFCA. For activities categorised as ‘green’, these assessments should take account of any in-combination effects of amber activities, and/or appropriate plans or projects, in the site. There is a potential commercial electro-clam razor fishery on the Sefton Coast. Fishing can cause issues relating to access and disturbance, competition for bird food, disturbance through quad bikes and other vehicles. Unauthorised access rare due to police, EA and IFCA presence.</p> <p><b>Change to site conditions</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – In the summer they prefer upland moorlands, in the winter they prefer lowland fields</li> <li>■ Diet – Worms, beetles and insects</li> </ul> <p>Bar-tailed godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Estuaries</li> <li>■ Diet – Shellfish, marine snails, worms and shrimps</li> </ul> <p>Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i> (breeding)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – In the summer, they prefer coastal areas and inland moors. Common in urban habitats. In winter, they feed over lowland fields, reservoirs and rubbish tips</li> <li>■ Diet – omnivorous, scavenges a wide range of food</li> </ul> <p>Ringed plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> (migratory)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Sandy beaches, gravel pits and former industrial sites.</li> <li>■ Diet – Flies, spiders, marine worms, crustaceans and molluscs</li> </ul> <p>Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i> (migratory/winter)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Sandy beaches, rocky coasts.</li> <li>■ Diet – Small marine worms, crustaceans and molluscs</li> </ul> <p>Redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i> (migratory/wintering)</p>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
		<p>Erosion and retreat of the dune system leads to the exposure of historic remains from the cigarette industry (nicotene waste) at Formby. This has resulted in increased levels of nutrients, leading to changes in plant species. The nicotene cliffs also affect natural dune processes.</p> <p><b>Inappropriate coastal management</b></p> <p>A large quantity of rubble from the Blitz in Liverpool was used to stabilize the coast at Crosby. This has now become exposed and forms an artificial shingle beach, of value to some species. There is, however, an associated risk to human health from hazardous waste and natural coastal processes are inhibited.</p> <p><b>Shooting/scaring</b></p> <p>There are concerns that consented cull of herring gulls and lesser black backed gulls on the Ribble Estuary may result in significant disturbance of the breeding colony and other species, if the conditions are not adhered to.</p> <p><b>Invasive Species</b></p> <p>Liverpool Docks is known to host several species of Marine invasive non-native species (Japanese skeleton shrimp, <i>Caprella mutica</i> and seaweed species <i>Undaris pinnatifida</i>. The Dee Estuary has also recorded Chinese Mitten crab <i>Erocheir sinensis</i> – all of which can spread to the site and affect roosting or feeding habitat (e.g. through competition with native species on which the birds depend).</p> <p><b>Feature location/extent/condition unknown</b></p> <p>There are gaps in current data and monitoring of SPA bird populations. More comprehensive data gathering</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Grassland, heathland, moorland, freshwater, farmland, coastal and wetlands</li> <li>■ Diet – Aquatic invertebrates</li> </ul> <p>Pink-footed goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Farmland, grassland, marine and intertidal</li> <li>■ Diet – Grain, winter cereals, potatoes and grass.</li> </ul> <p>Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Coastal areas, inland reservoirs and gravel workings.</li> <li>■ Diet – Invertebrates, small shellfish and aquatic snails</li> </ul> <p>Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Freshwater, farmland, coastal areas and wetlands</li> <li>■ Diet – Aquatic plants, grasses, roots</li> </ul> <p>Teal <i>Anas crecca</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Freshwater and wetlands</li> <li>■ Diet – Seeds and small invertebrates</li> </ul> <p>Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Freshwater, coastal areas and wetlands.</li> <li>■ Diet – A variety of plants and invertebrates</li> </ul> <p>Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> (wintering)</p>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
		<p>would facilitate adequate site management, including Habitats Regulations Assessments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Farmland, grassland, marine, intertidal, upland and wetland.</li> <li>■ Diet – mussels and cockles on the coast, and worms inland.</li> </ul> <p>Grey plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Freshwater, coastal areas and wetlands.</li> <li>■ Diet – Shellfish and worms</li> </ul> <p>Knot <i>Calidris canutus islandica</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Freshwater, coastal areas and wetlands.</li> <li>■ Diet – Shellfish and worms</li> </ul> <p>Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Heathland, moorland, freshwater, coastal areas and wetlands.</li> <li>■ Diet – Insects, snails and worms.</li> </ul> <p>Black-tailed godwit <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i> (wintering)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat Preference – Grassland, freshwater, coastal areas and wetlands.</li> <li>■ Diet – Insects, worms and snails, with the addition of plants, beetles, grasshoppers and other small insects during the breeding season.</li> </ul>
<p>Ribble and Alt Estuaries Ramsar (13,464ha)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i> (breeding)</li> </ul>	<p>Refer to the threats and pressures noted above for the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA as the boundaries overlap.</p>	<p>As the qualifying features of this SPA include the same species as the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA, please refer See non-qualifying habitats and species</p>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
<p>The Ribble and Alt Estuaries lies on the coast of Lancashire and Sefton in northwest England.</p>	<p>Species with peak counts in spring/autumn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ringed Plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i></li> <li>■ Grey Plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i></li> <li>■ Red Knot <i>Calidris canutus islandica</i></li> <li>■ Sanderling <i>Calidris canutus islandica</i></li> <li>■ Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i></li> <li>■ Black-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i></li> <li>■ Common Redshank <i>Tringa totanus totanus</i></li> <li>■ Lesser Black-backed Gull <i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i></li> </ul> <p>Species with peak counts in Winter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Tundra Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i></li> <li>■ Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i></li> <li>■ Pink-footed Goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i></li> <li>■ Common Shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i></li> </ul>		<p>upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA.</p>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Eurasian Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i></li> <li>■ Eurasian Teal <i>Anas crecca</i></li> <li>■ Northern Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i></li> <li>■ Eurasian Oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus ostralegus</i></li> <li>■ Bar-tailed Godwit <i>Limosa lapponica lapponica</i></li> </ul>		
<p>Martin Mere SPA (119.89ha)</p> <p>Martin Mere is located near Burscough, in Lancashire, England, on the West Lancashire Coastal Plain. It is part of the wider Martin Mere Wetland Centre, managed by the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bewick's swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> (Non-breeding)</li> <li>■ Whooper swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> (Non-breeding)</li> <li>■ Pink-footed goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> (Non-breeding)</li> <li>■ Eurasian teal <i>Anas crecca</i> (Non-breeding)</li> <li>■ Northern pintail <i>Anas acuta</i> (Non-breeding)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Hydrological Changes</b></p> <p>Three hundred years of agricultural activity, land drainage and wind erosion have caused shrinkage of peat surrounding the site resulting in the site being significantly higher than adjacent land. Active management of water levels across the site through pumping and drainage is required. There is considerable pressure on the flood defences, and the embankments require constant maintenance to prevent breaches which would result in water draining from the site onto the lower surrounding land.</p> <p><b>Invasive Species</b></p> <p><i>Crassula helmsii</i> is a non-native invasive plant species and is present within the wider Martin Mere nature reserve in field ditches and the large reedbed (these areas are adjacent to the SPA). This species has a tendency to spread quickly and may form dense smothering mats. It has the potential to affect other plant species and could prevent birds from feeding. It is currently unclear to what extent effective control is feasible, and how prevention of its spread into the site's pools and ditch system can be achieved as</p>	<p>As the qualifying features of this SPA are among the same species as the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA, please refer to the relevant non-qualifying habitats and species preferences in the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA above.</p>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
		<p>effective methods of elimination and control are currently absent.</p> <p>Himalayan Balsam is a non-native invasive plant and is present along the main water courses throughout the site and also in woodland close by. Control of this species needs to be undertaken at the source of the infestation as well as on the site to ensure it is effective.</p> <p><b>Water Pollution</b></p> <p>Diffuse water pollution from surrounding agricultural land and a local industrial estate is entering the watercourses and resulting in the eutrophication and degradation of supporting habitats within the site.</p>	
<p>Martin Mere Ramsar (119.89ha)</p> <p>Martin Mere is located near Burscough, in Lancashire, England, on the West Lancashire Coastal Plain. It is part of the wider Martin Mere Wetland Centre, managed by the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT).</p>	<p>Species with <b>peak counts in winter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 25306 waterfowl</li> </ul> <p>Species with <b>peak counts in spring/autumn</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Pink-footed Goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i></li> </ul> <p>Species with peak counts in winter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Bewick's Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i></li> <li>■ Whooper Swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i></li> <li>■ Eurasian Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i></li> </ul>	<p>See key vulnerabilities listed for Martin Mere SPA.</p>	<p>Refer to the relevant non-qualifying habitats and species preferences in the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA.</p>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Northern Pintail <i>Anas acuta</i></li> </ul>		
<p>Sefton Coast SAC (4563.97ha)</p> <p>Sefton Coast stretches over 20km from Crosby in the south to Southport in the north.</p>	<p><b>Qualifying habitats:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes <i>Calluno-Ulicetea</i></li> <li>■ Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> <i>Salicion arenariae</i></li> <li>■ Embryonic shifting dunes</li> <li>■ Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)</li> <li>■ Humid dune slacks</li> <li>■ Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</li> </ul> <p>Qualifying species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Great crested newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i></li> <li>■ Petalwort <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i></li> </ul>	<p>See Ribble &amp; Alt Estuaries SPA above for key vulnerabilities in relation to the Sefton Coast SAC.</p>	<p>Qualifying habitats</p> <p>In general, qualifying habitats of the SAC rely on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Key species to maintain the structure, function and quality of habitat;</li> <li>■ Natural vegetation transitions to create diversity and support a range of species.</li> <li>■ Habitat connectivity to the wider landscape to allow for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species typical of this habitat.</li> <li>■ Active and ongoing conservation management to protect, maintain or restore these habitats.</li> </ul> <p>More specific information has been provided for each qualifying habitat as follows:</p> <p>Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes</p> <p>This habitat type favours on low rainfall, as it supports drought-resistant species such as grey hair-grass <i>Corynephorus canescens</i>. Relies on the free movement of sand, and therefore is impacted by established forestry</p> <p><b>Dunes with <i>Salix repens</i> ssp. <i>argentea</i> (<i>Salicion arenariae</i>)</b></p> <p>This habitat is closely aligned with the humid dune slacks, relying on wetter climates. Forestries and water abstraction can damage this habitat type.</p> <p>Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>This habitat depends on unrestricted movement of the sand. The dunes are susceptible to coastal defences,</p>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
			<p>dumped waste, forestry plantations and scrub encroachment.</p> <p><b>Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes)</b></p> <p>This habitat relies on sand and water movement (caused by rain). Forestry and scrub encroachment prevents dune movement. Invasive species may suggest dune stability and will require removal. A mixture of areas comprised of bare sand and organic matter will promote a diverse vegetation composition.</p> <p>Humid dune slacks</p> <p>Habitat is found primarily in the northern and western parts of the UK where wetter climates favour their development and the communities which rely on the chemical composition of the sand, prevailing climatic conditions and the successional stage of the dune slack.</p> <p><b>Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> (white dunes)</b></p> <p>This dynamic habitat type is reliant on instability. The marram grass growth is constrained by occasional exposure to saltwater flooding, and hence separates this habitat type from H2110 Embryonic shifting dunes which supports salt-tolerant, sand-binding vegetation.</p> <p>Qualifying species</p> <p>Great crested newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat – Large ponds situated amongst grassland, scrub and woodland. The ponds have widely fluctuating water levels and large great</li> </ul>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
			<p>crested newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i> populations have been recorded breeding here.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Diet – primarily of invertebrates including insects, worms, water snails, larvae and sometimes tadpoles.</li> </ul> <p><b>Petalwort <i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat – Damp hollows, particularly within sand dune slacks</li> <li>■ Require grazing and scrub management. Consistent water levels with low nutrient content.</li> </ul>
<p>Bowland Fells SPA (16,002.3ha)</p> <p>Bowland Fells is located in the east of Lancaster District and encompasses the main upland block within the area of Lancashire known as the Forest of Bowland.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Hen harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i> (Breeding)</li> <li>■ Merlin <i>Falco columbarius</i> (Breeding)</li> <li>■ Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i> (Breeding)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Changes in biotic conditions</li> <li>■ Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial)</li> <li>■ Fire and fire suppression</li> <li>■ Reduced fecundity/ genetic depression</li> </ul>	<p>In general, qualifying species of the SPA rely on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat connectivity to the wider landscape to allow for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species typical of this habitat.</li> <li>■ Active and ongoing conservation management to protect, maintain or restore the supporting habitats.</li> </ul> <p>More specific information has been provided for each qualifying species below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Hen harrier (breeding)</li> <li>■ Habitats: Moorland and grasslands.</li> <li>■ Diet: Small birds and mammals.</li> <li>■ Merlin (breeding)</li> <li>■ Habitats: Moorlands.</li> <li>■ Diet: Small birds and invertebrates.</li> <li>■ Lesser black-backed gull (breeding)</li> </ul>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitats: Grassy slopes, moorland.</li> <li>■ Diet: Omnivorous, invertebrates (aquatic and terrestrial), birds eggs and chicks, carrion and fruit.</li> </ul>
<p>Morecambe Bay SAC<sup>39</sup> (61506.22ha)</p> <p>Morecambe Bay lies between the coasts of South Cumbria and Lancashire, and represents the largest continuous intertidal area in Britain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 1130 Estuaries</li> <li>■ 1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</li> <li>■ 1160 Large shallow inlets and bays</li> <li>■ 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks</li> <li>■ 1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand</li> <li>■ 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima)</li> <li>■ 2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i></li> <li>■ 2130 Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation</li> <li>■ 2190 Humid dune slacks</li> <li>■ 1166 Great Crested Newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities</li> <li>■ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources</li> <li>■ Air pollution, air-borne pollutants</li> </ul>	<p>In general, qualifying habitats and species of the SAC rely on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Key species to maintain the structure, function and quality of habitat.</li> <li>■ Habitat connectivity to the wider landscape to allow for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species typical of this habitat.</li> <li>■ Active and ongoing conservation management to protect, maintain or restore these habitats.</li> </ul> <p>More specific information has been provided for each qualifying species as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Great Crested Newt <i>Triturus cristatus</i></li> <li>■ Habitat: Humid dune slacks, wet grasslands, wetlands, wet woodlands, scrub, deadwood.</li> <li>■ Diet: small invertebrates, molluscs, worms.</li> </ul>

<sup>39</sup> Natural England (2023) [Morecambe Bay SAC Supplementary Advice on Conservation Objectives \(SACOs\)](#)

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
<p>Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA<sup>40</sup> (66,899.97ha)</p> <p>Morecambe Bay &amp; Duddon Estuary lies between the coasts of South Cumbria and Lancashire, and represents the largest continuous intertidal area in Britain.</p>	<p>The following <b>non-breeding species</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Whooper swan <i>Cygnus cygnus</i></li> <li>■ Little egret <i>Egretta garzetta</i></li> <li>■ European golden plover <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i></li> <li>■ Bat-tailed godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i></li> <li>■ Ruff <i>Calidris pugnax</i></li> <li>■ Mediterranean gull <i>Larus melancephalus</i></li> </ul> <p>The following <b>breeding species</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Little tern <i>Sternula albrifrons</i></li> <li>■ Sandwich tern <i>Sternula sandvicensis</i></li> <li>■ Common tern <i>Sternula hirundo</i></li> </ul> <p>The following <b>non-breeding migratory species</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Pink-footed goose <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i></li> <li>■ Common shelduck <i>Tadorna tadorna</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Interspecific faunal relations</li> <li>■ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources</li> <li>■ Airports, flightpaths</li> <li>■ Marine water pollution</li> <li>■ Changes in biotic conditions</li> <li>■ Air pollution, air-borne pollutants</li> <li>■ Changes in abiotic conditions</li> <li>■ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities</li> </ul>	<p>In general, qualifying species of the SPA rely on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat connectivity to the wider landscape to allow for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species typical of this habitat.</li> <li>■ Active and ongoing conservation management to protect, maintain or restore the supporting habitats.</li> </ul> <p>More specific information has been provided for each qualifying species below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Non-breeding and breeding waterfowl species:</li> <li>■ Habitat: Saltmarsh, mudflats, open water, rocky intertidal habitat, grazing marsh, wet grassland.</li> <li>■ Diet: Crustaceans, molluscs, invertebrates, fish, aquatic plants.</li> <li>■ Breeding seabird assemblage:</li> <li>■ Habitat: Open water, coastal lagoons, intertidal habitats.</li> <li>■ Diet: Fish, crustaceans, molluscs.</li> </ul>

<sup>40</sup> Natural England (2023) [Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA Supplementary Advice on Conservation Objectives \(SACOs\)](#)

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Northern pintail <i>Anas acuta</i></li> <li>■ Eurasian oystercatcher <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i></li> <li>■ Grey plover <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i></li> <li>■ Common ringed plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i></li> <li>■ Eurasian curlew <i>Numenius arquata</i></li> <li>■ Black-tailed godwit <i>Limosa limosa</i></li> <li>■ Ruddy turnstone <i>Arenaria interpres</i></li> <li>■ Red knot <i>Calidris canutus</i></li> <li>■ Sanderling <i>Calidris alba</i></li> <li>■ Dunlin <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i></li> <li>■ Common redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i></li> <li>■ Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus</i></li> </ul> <p>The following <b>breeding migratory species</b>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus</i></li> <li>■ European herring gull <i>Larus argentatus argenteus</i></li> </ul>		

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Waterbird assemblage in any season</li> <li>■ Seabird assemblage in any season</li> </ul>		
<p>Morecambe Bay Ramsar (37,404.6ha)</p> <p>Morecambe Bay lies between the coasts of South Cumbria and Lancashire, and represents the largest continuous intertidal area in Britain.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>Criterion 4</b> – Supports migratory waterfowl including internationally important numbers of ringed plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> on passage.</li> <li>■ <b>Criterion 5</b> – Waterfowl assemblage in winter.</li> <li>■ <b>Criterion 6</b> – Waterbird assemblage in winter including bar-tailed godwit, curlew, dunlin, grey plover, knot, oystercatcher, pintail, redshank, shelduck, turnstone.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Pollution to groundwater (point sources and diffuse sources)</li> <li>■ Problematic native species</li> <li>■ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions</li> <li>■ Changes in abiotic conditions</li> </ul>	<p>In general, qualifying species of the Ramsar rely on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat connectivity to the wider landscape to allow for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species typical of this habitat.</li> <li>■ Active and ongoing conservation management to protect, maintain or restore the supporting habitats.</li> </ul> <p>More specific information has been provided for each qualifying species below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Ringed plover (passage)</li> <li>■ Habitat: Rocky shores, estuaries, mudflats and saltmarshes.</li> <li>■ Diet: Molluscs, worms, crustaceans and invertebrates.</li> <li>■ Waterfowl and waterbird assemblages (wintering)</li> <li>■ Habitat: Saltmarsh, mudflats, open water, rocky intertidal habitat, wet grassland.</li> <li>■ Diet: Crustaceans, molluscs, invertebrates, fish, and aquatic plants.</li> </ul>
<p>North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC (497.09ha)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 6410 <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peat or clay-silt soil</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mowing / cutting of grassland</li> <li>■ Fertilisation</li> <li>■ Modification of cultivation practices</li> </ul>	<p>In general, qualifying habitats and species of the SAC rely on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Key species to maintain the structure, function and quality of habitat.</li> </ul>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC is located to the north-east of Lancaster District at the edge of the North Pennines, along the River Wharfe.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 6520 Mountain hay meadows</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Air pollution, air-borne pollutants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat connectivity to the wider landscape to allow for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species typical of this habitat.</li> <li>■ Active and ongoing conservation management to protect, maintain or restore these habitats.</li> </ul>
<p>Manchester Mosses SAC (172.81ha)</p> <p>Manchester Mosses Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is located in Greater Manchester and Cheshire, England.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Hydrological changes</b></p> <p>The combination of historic peat cutting, fragmentation, drainage and peat wastage and some of the early restoration work has significantly modified the hydrological function of all the component mosses. Considerable work has been done and is ongoing within the sites to manage the hydrology and restore the conditions for bog development. Working with partners and stakeholder we have been able to establish hydrological buffer zones around parts of the moss. However there are still areas were agricultural and transport infrastructure requires deep drainage on adjacent land that still dry out or impact on parts of the mosses.</p> <p><b>Air pollution: impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition</b></p> <p>Nitrogen deposition exceeds site relevant critical loads.</p>	<p>In general, qualifying habitats of the SAC rely on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Key species to maintain the structure, function and quality of habitat;</li> <li>■ Natural vegetation transitions to create diversity and support a range of species.</li> <li>■ Habitat connectivity to the wider landscape to allow for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species typical of this habitat.</li> <li>■ Active and ongoing conservation management to protect, maintain or restore these habitats.</li> </ul> <p>More specific information has been provided for each qualifying habitat as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration</li> <li>■ Occur in areas of widespread disturbance to the structure and function of the peat body, which leads to the desiccation, oxidation and loss of species or changes in the balance of the species composition. Supports a similar vegetation assemblage to <i>Active raised bog</i></li> </ul>

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
<p>Liverpool Bay / Bae Lerpwl SPA<sup>41</sup> (252,757.73 ha)</p> <p>Liverpool Bay is located at and off the coast of Lancaster District and supports several breeding and wintering seabird.</p>	<p>The following <b>breeding</b> birds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Little tern <i>Sternula albifrons</i></li> <li>■ Common tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i></li> </ul> <p>The following <b>wintering</b> birds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Red-throated diver <i>Gavia stellata</i></li> <li>■ Little gull <i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i></li> <li>■ Common scoter <i>Melanitta nigra</i></li> </ul> <p>Additionally, a <b>wintering</b> waterbird assemblage including red throated diver, little gull, common scoter, red-breasted merganser and great cormorant, black-headed gull, common gull, common eider, Northern fulmar, great black-backed gull, great crested grebe, guillemot, Northern gannet, Atlantic puffin, herring gull, Black-legged kittiwake, lesser black-backed gull, great northern diver, European shag, razorbill, Velvet scoter.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Pollution to surface waters (limnic &amp; terrestrial, marine &amp; brackish)</li> <li>■ Marine water pollution</li> <li>■ Invasive non-native species</li> <li>■ Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources</li> <li>■ Human induced changes in hydraulic conditions</li> <li>■ Outdoor sports and leisure activities, recreational activities</li> <li>■ Mining and quarrying</li> <li>■ Exploration and extraction of oil or gas</li> <li>■ Renewable abiotic energy use</li> <li>■ Shipping lanes, ports, marine constructions</li> <li>■ Airports, flightpaths</li> <li>■ Utility and service lines</li> <li>■ Roads, paths and railroads</li> </ul>	<p>In general, qualifying species of the SPA rely on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Habitat connectivity to the wider landscape to allow for migration, dispersal and genetic exchange of species typical of this habitat.</li> <li>■ Active and ongoing conservation management to protect, maintain or restore the supporting habitats.</li> </ul> <p>More specific information has been provided for each qualifying species below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Little tern (breeding)</li> <li>■ Habitats: Open water, rocky intertidal habitat, scrapes, spits and inshore islets.</li> <li>■ Diet: Crustaceans, molluscs, invertebrates and fish.</li> <li>■ Common tern (breeding)</li> <li>■ Habitats: Open water, rocky intertidal habitat, scrapes, spits and inshore islets.</li> <li>■ Diet: Crustaceans, molluscs, invertebrates and fish.</li> <li>■ Red-throated diver (wintering)</li> <li>■ Habitats: Open water offshore.</li> <li>■ Diet: Fish, crustaceans, molluscs and marine worms.</li> <li>■ Little gull (wintering)</li> <li>■ Habitats: Open water offshore.</li> </ul>

<sup>41</sup> Natural England (2024) [Liverpool Bay / Bae Lerpwl Special Protection Area Conservation Advice Package](#)

Site name, area (ha) and location	Qualifying features	Threats and pressures	Non-qualifying habitats and species upon which the qualifying habitats and/or species depend
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Diet: Invertebrates and fish.</li> <li>■ Common scoter (wintering)</li> <li>■ Habitats: Open water offshore.</li> <li>■ Diet: Molluscs.</li> <li>■ Wintering waterbird assemblage</li> <li>■ Habitats: Open water offshore, saltmarsh, mudflats, rocky intertidal habitat, wet grassland.</li> <li>■ Diet: Crustaceans, molluscs, invertebrates and fish.</li> </ul>

## Appendix B

### HRA Screening Assessment of policies

**B.1** The table below shows which types of impacts on the scoped in Habitats Sites could potentially result from each of the policies in the Central Lancashire Local Plan. In the table, where a policy is not expected to have a particular type of impact, the relevant cell is shaded green and there will be no likely significant effect from that policy. Where a policy could potentially have a certain type of impact, this is shown in orange. The third column of the table sets out the nature of potential effects if they were to arise. If it is uncertain, or considered likely that the effects will be significant, this is shown in the final column, and these policies are required to be considered further via Appropriate Assessment (as reported in Chapter 5).

Table B.1 HRA Screening of policies in Central Lancashire Local Plan

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
SS1 – Strategic Policy – Development Patterns	None; this policy sets out the principles of development, but will not result in any new development itself.	None	No
SS2 – Strategic Policy - Settlement Hierarchy	None; this policy will not result in new development itself. The new development has been assessed in relation to the associated site allocations, see Appendices C-E.	None	No
SS3 – Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Residential development Employment development Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure Changes in water quality / quantity	Yes. This policy specifies the amount of housing that will be supported on this strategic site allocation along with mixed use development and associated local centres and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.
SS4 – Strategic Site Allocation – Fulwood Barracks	Residential development Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure	Yes. This policy specifies the amount of housing that will be supported on this strategic site allocation and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
		Changes in water quality / quantity	significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.
SS5 – Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West	Residential development Employment development Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure Changes in water quality / quantity	Yes. This policy specifies the amount of housing and employment development that will be supported on this strategic site allocation and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.
SS6 (A+B) Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham	Residential development Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure Changes in water quality / quantity	Yes. This policy specifies the amount of housing that will be supported on this strategic site allocation and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
			functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.
HS1 – Strategic Policy – Scale of Housing Growth and Distribution of Housing Requirements	Residential development Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure Changes in water quality / quantity	Yes. This policy specifies the overall quantum of housing development that will be proposed as part of the plan and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat within specific site allocations is set out in Appendices C and D.
HS2 – Housing Allocations Chorley	Residential development Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure Changes in water quality / quantity	Yes. This policy specifies the amount of housing that will be supported on 37 site allocations and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
HS3 – Housing Allocations South Ribble	Residential development Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure Changes in water quality / quantity	Yes. This policy specifies the amount of housing that will be supported on 19 site allocations and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.
HS4 – Housing Allocations Preston	Residential development Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure Changes in water quality / quantity	Yes. This policy specifies the amount of housing that will be supported on 30 site allocations and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.
HS5 – Open Space and Playing Pitch Requirements in New Housing Developments	None; this policy sets out that all major new residential developments will be required to make provision for open space and playing pitches. The policy will not itself result in new development.	None	This policy sets out standards for the provision of new open space to be provided alongside new development. This may help to reduce recreation pressure.

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
HS6 – Housing Mix and Density	None; this policy describes the mix of dwelling size and type that will be provided, as well as the minimum gross densities to be provided on all housing developments but will not itself result in new development (beyond that defined by other policies).	None	No
HS7 – Affordable Housing	None; this policy specifies the affordable housing requirements and describes the mix of housing tenure that will be provided but will not itself result in new development (beyond that defined by other policies)	None	No
HS8 – Rural Exception Sites	<p>This policy allows for some development in rural areas, which is likely to be small in scale, but may result in some:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential development</li> <li>Changes in vehicle traffic</li> <li>Changes in water use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Recreation pressure</li> <li>Changes in water quality / quantity</li> </ul>	Uncertain. The increase in the number of new residents arising through rural exception sites is likely to be small-scale, and as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new housing sites once put forward at the planning application stage.
HS9 – Rural Workers' Dwellings	<p>This policy allows for some development in rural areas, which is likely to be small in scale, but may result in some:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residential development</li> <li>Changes in vehicle traffic</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Recreation pressure</li> </ul>	Uncertain. The increase in the number of new residents arising through rural workers dwellings is likely to be small-scale, and as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
	Changes in water use	Changes in water quality / quantity	Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new housing sites once put forward at the planning application stage.
HS10 – Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs)	Increase in the number of residents within a property Changes in vehicle traffic Changes in water use	Air pollution Recreation pressure Changes in water quality / quantity	No. This policy enables the conversion of existing residential dwellings into HMOs, so will not itself lead to new development. The increase in the number of new residents arising through HMOs is likely to be small-scale, and as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out.
HS11 – Self-Build and Custom-Build Housing	This policy allows for Self-Build and Custom-Build Housing, which is likely to be small in scale, but may result in some: Residential development Changes in vehicle traffic Changes in water use	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure Changes in water quality / quantity	Uncertain. The increase in the number of new residents arising through Self-Build and Custom-Build Housing is likely to be small-scale, and as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
			depend on the location of the new housing sites once put forward at the planning application stage.
HS12 – Specialist Housing	<p>This policy supports provision of housing for groups with specific needs. These groups include students, elderly, people with disabilities, service families and families with children. It could therefore result in some:</p> <p>Residential development</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p> <p>Changes in water use</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Recreation pressure</p> <p>Changes in water quality / quantity</p>	<p>Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new housing sites once put forward at the planning application stage.</p>
HS13 – Strategic Policy – Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson Needs	<p>This policy supports provision of permanent and transit pitches for Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showperson needs. It could therefore result in some small-scale:</p> <p>Residential development</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p> <p>Changes in water use</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Recreation pressure</p> <p>Changes in water quality / quantity</p>	<p>Uncertain. The increase in the number of new residents arising through this policy is likely to be small-scale, and as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat within the permanent gypsy and traveller pitch site allocations is screened out as these are existing sites already in use. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat within non-allocated sites is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new permanent pitch sites once put forward at the planning application stage.</p>

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
EC1 – Strategic Policy – Scale of Economic Growth	<p>Employment development</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p> <p>Changes in water use</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Changes in water quality / quantity</p>	<p>Yes.</p> <p>The policy provides for a minimum of 173 hectares of employment development across Central Lancashire, which has the potential to contribute to effects relating to changes in (working) population (e.g. air pollution).</p> <p>However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat within specific site allocations is set out in Appendices C and D.</p>
EC2 – Employment Allocations Chorley	<p>Employment development</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p> <p>Changes in water use</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Changes in water quality / quantity</p>	<p>Yes. This policy specifies the amount of employment development that will be supported on two site allocations and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.</p>
EC3 – Employment Allocations Preston	<p>Employment development</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p>	<p>Yes. This policy specifies the amount of employment development that will be supported on four site allocations and therefore will contribute to effects</p>

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
	Changes in water use	Air pollution Changes in water quality / quantity	largely relating to air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.
EC4 – Employment Allocations South Ribble	Employment development Changes in vehicle traffic Changes in water use	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Changes in water quality / quantity	Yes. This policy specifies the amount of employment development that will be supported on two site allocations and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.
EC5 – Mixed-use Allocations Chorley	Residential development Employment development Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure	Yes. This policy specifies the amount of housing and employment development that will be supported on seven mixed-use site allocations and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
		Changes in water quality / quantity	effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.
EC6 – Mixed-use Allocations South Ribble	Residential development Employment development Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Recreation pressure Changes in water quality / quantity	Yes. This policy specifies the amount of housing and employment development that will be supported on one mixed-use site allocation and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is set out in Appendices C and D.
EC7 – Protection of Existing Employment Sites	None; this policy sets out safeguarding measures to protect existing employment sites. This policy will not itself result in new development.	None	No
EC8 – Rural Economy	None; this policy supports the sustainable growth of the rural economy, stipulating what forms of development will be appropriate in rural areas to improve employment opportunities. The policy will not itself result in new development.	None	No
EC9 – Skills and Economic Inclusion	None; this policy supports skills and economic inclusion through Employment Plans which will set out commitments to provide employment,	None	No

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
	apprenticeships, work placements, training and skills opportunities during the development's construction phase. The policy will not itself result in new development.		
EC10 – University of Central Lancashire	<p>While a lot of the development supported by this policy will be redevelopment and renewal of existing facilities, it may result in some new development adjoining or outside the area defined as EC10 on the Policies Map:</p> <p>Educational facilities and other appropriate complementary uses, including student accommodation, knowledge based and creative or cultural industries, or sports related education.</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p> <p>Water abstraction / discharge</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Recreation pressure</p> <p>Changes in water quality / quantity</p>	<p>Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of any development outside the EC10 area once put forward at the planning application stage.</p>
EC11 – Strategic Policy – Town Centre Hierarchy	<p>Retail development (mostly within existing town and local centres, but edge-of-centre and out-of-centre locations are allowed for)</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p> <p>Air pollution</p>	<p>Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of any development outside the town and local centres once put forward at the planning application stage.</p>
EC12 – Preston City Centre	<p>Residential development</p> <p>Employment development</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p>	<p>Uncertain. This policy supports a range of different development within Preston City Centre and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution</p>

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retail development</li> <li>Education, health and community facilities</li> <li>Public open spaces</li> <li>Changes in vehicle traffic</li> <li>Water abstraction / discharge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Recreation pressure</li> <li>Changes in water quality / quantity</li> </ul>	<p>and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of any development outside the EC12 area once put forward at the planning application stage.</p>
EC13 – Development in Leyland and Chorley Town Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Realm improvements</li> <li>Retail development</li> <li>Residential development</li> <li>Employment development</li> <li>Changes in vehicle traffic</li> <li>Water abstraction / discharge</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</li> <li>Air pollution</li> <li>Recreation pressure</li> <li>Changes in water quality / quantity</li> </ul>	<p>Uncertain. This policy supports a range of different development within Leyland and Chorley Town Centres and therefore will contribute to effects largely relating to population increase such as recreation pressure, air pollution and water abstraction/treatment. However, as described in Chapter 4, the overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for likely significant effects associated with loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is screened out due to the development arising within existing town centres.</p>

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
EC14 – Priorities for Tourism and the Visitor Economy	<p>This policy supports provision of expansion of existing and new visitor and tourist accommodation and facilities. It could therefore result in some:</p> <p>Tourist/visitor accommodation development</p> <p>Tourist/visitor attractions</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p> <p>Changes in water use</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Recreation pressure</p> <p>Changes in water quality / quantity</p>	<p>Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is likely to be very small due to the focus on existing centres, although it is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new tourist/visitor sites once put forward at the planning application stage.</p>
HC1 – Strategic Policy – Health and wellbeing	<p>None; this policy sets out criteria for developments to promote inclusive, safe and healthy places, but will not itself result in new development.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>No</p>
HC2 – Hot Food Take-aways	<p>Hot food takeaway development</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Changes in water quality / quantity</p>	<p>Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is likely to be very small due to the focus on existing centres, although it is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new hot food takeaway sites once put forward at the planning application stage.</p>
HC3 – Community, Health and Educational Facilities	<p>Education, health and community facilities</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p> <p>Water abstraction / discharge</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p>	<p>Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water</p>

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
		Air pollution Changes in water quality / quantity	abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat within the education facility site allocations (HC3.1 to HC3.9) is set out in Appendices C and D. The potential for similar effects on non-allocated sites is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new community, health and educational facilities once put forward at the planning application stage.
HC4 – Purpose Built Places of Worship and/or Religious Instruction	Development of new places of worship Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Changes in water quality / quantity	Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new places of worship once put forward at the planning application stage.
HC5 – Provision of New Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities	This policy supports the provision of open space, sport and recreation facilities, or extensions to existing facilities, subject to criteria. The policy may result in small-scale new development of sport and recreation facilities. Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Changes in water quality / quantity	Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new sport and recreation facilities once put forward at the planning application stage.  However, this policy also supports the provision of new open space, which may contribute to mitigation for recreation pressure effects.

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
HC6 – Protection of Existing Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities	None; this policy sets out the principles for protecting existing open space, sport and recreational facilities and will not lead to new development.	None	No  This policy sets out criteria to limit development on open space to ensure adequate access to good quality sports, recreation and open space provision. This may contribute to mitigation for recreation pressure effects.
HC7 – Cemeteries and Crematoria	This policy supports the extension of existing burial and memorial sites through two site allocations, extension of other existing sites and development of new sites where capacity cannot be met through extensions.  Development of new cemetery and crematoria  Changes in vehicle traffic  Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat  Air pollution  Changes in water quality / quantity	Yes. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for direct pollution is uncertain. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat within the two site allocations (HC7.1 and EN5.1) is set out in Appendices C and D. The potential for similar effects on non-allocated sites is uncertain as it will depend on the location of any new burial and/or cremation facilities once put forward at the planning application stage.
EN1 – Strategic Policy - Well Designed Places	None; this policy sets out requirements to ensure that development is high-quality and sustainable, reflecting local character and aligning with national and local design codes and guidance.	None	No
EN2 – Design Criteria for New Development	None; this policy outlines requirements for major developments involving streets and open spaces to prioritise sustainable and people-centred design.	None	No
EN3 – Tall Buildings	None; this policy provides a definition of tall buildings, noting that they will be dependent on the context of the site and location. The policy	None	No

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
	also sets out design principles, but will not itself result in new development.		
EN4 – Amenity	None; this policy sets out design principles to ensure that developments protect and, where possible, enhance visual and residential amenity. The policy will not itself result in new development.	None	No
EN5 – Green Infrastructure	<p>This policy primarily promotes the protection and provision of new green infrastructure. However, the policy allocates land for new green infrastructure provision at Harrison’s Farm, Adlington (EN5.1), which includes the cemetery extension referred to in policy HC7. It also allows for limited residential development to occur as part of the creation of new green infrastructure at the Central Park (EN5.2).</p> <p>Residential development</p> <p>Extension to cemetery and crematoria</p> <p>Changes in vehicle traffic</p> <p>Water abstraction / discharge</p>	<p>Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Recreation pressure</p> <p>Changes in water quality / quantity</p>	<p>Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for direct pollution is uncertain. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat within the two site allocations (EN5.1 and EN5.2) is set out in Appendices C and D.</p> <p>However, the policy requires development to protect the quality, connectivity, and multi-functionality of green infrastructure and makes provision for more new green infrastructure in the plan area, which may contribute to mitigation of recreation pressure, as well as loss of functionally linked habitat.</p>
EN6 – Biodiversity Net Gain	None; this policy sets targets for biodiversity gain.	None	<p>No</p> <p>This policy may contribute to increased resilience of the Habitats Sites, by improving biodiversity throughout Central Lancashire.</p>
EN7 – Designated Sites for Nature Conservation	None; this policy sets out principles for protecting designated sites and Wildlife Corridors.	None	<p>No</p> <p>This policy provides general protection for some Habitats Sites (Ribble &amp; Alt Estuaries SPA and</p>

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
			Ramsar site), other national and local designated sites and wildlife corridors.
EN8 – Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows	None; this policy sets out principles for retention, protection, and improvement of trees, woodlands and hedgerows.	None	No This policy sets out protection measures for trees, woodlands and hedgerows, which may contribute to mitigation for loss or damage to functionally linked habitats.
EN9 – Species Protection	None; this policy sets safeguards to ensure that legally protected species and/or priority species are protected.	None	No This policy sets out protection measures for legally protected species (some of which may be the same as the qualifying features of Habitats Sites), and may contribute to mitigation for disturbance to functionally linked habitats and recreation pressure.
EN10 – Development and Flood Risk	None; this policy sets out principles for managing flood risk in development, emphasising site selection, and mitigation of flood impacts.	None	No
EN11 – Water Resource Management	None; this policy sets out requirements for developers to demonstrate they have incorporated SuDS provision into future development proposals, but will not itself result in new development.	None	No This policy requires development to use SuDs to manage surface water run-off and reduce pollution, where relevant. This may contribute to mitigation for water quality effects due to run-off.
EN12 – Protecting Groundwater Source Protection Zones	None ; this policy sets out principles for protecting groundwater in new developments. This policy itself will not result in new development.	None	No This policy sets out protection measures for protecting groundwater and improving the quality of rivers and groundwater where possible. This may contribute to mitigation for changes in water quantity and quality effects.

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
EN13 – Heritage Assets and Archaeology	None; this policy sets planning requirements and design principles to ensure that new developments will conserve and enhance heritage assets. The policy itself will not result in new development.	None	No
EN14 – Environmental Quality	None; this policy sets out requirements for new development to deliver a high-quality environment through managing emissions and exposure to pollution. The policy itself will not result in new development.	None	No Developments must mitigate the impacts of exposure to pollution, in respect to air quality, contaminated land, noise, odour, dust and artificial light. This may contribute to mitigation for air pollution, non-toxic contamination and non-physical disturbance.
EN15 – Areas of Green Belt	None; this policy sets principles governing development and the use of Green Belt land, but will not itself result in development.	None	No
EN16 – Protection of Agricultural Land	None; this policy establishes requirements for proposals involving the loss of the best and most versatile agricultural land, aiming to safeguard this land. The policy will not itself result in development.	None	No
EN17 – Development in the Open Countryside	This policy may result in limited new development of different types in the open countryside: Residential development Employment development Agricultural / forestry development Transport infrastructure Sport, recreation or cemetery facilities Recreation pressure	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Recreation pressure Air pollution Changes in water quality / quantity	Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the any new

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
	Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge		development proposals once put forward at the planning application stage.
EN18 – Areas of Separation	This policy may result in limited new development in the defined Areas of Separation: Residential development Employment development Agricultural / forestry development Recreation pressure Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Recreation pressure Air pollution Changes in water quality / quantity	Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for likely significant effects associated with recreation pressure is discussed in Chapter 4. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the any new development proposals once put forward at the planning application stage.
CC1 – Strategic Policy – Climate Change	None; this policy explains how the CLAs will seek to address the mitigation of climate change in relation to new development. The policy itself will not result in new development.	None	No  This policy encourages a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and in air pollution across Central Lancashire, and could contribute to mitigation for air pollution effects. The policy also supports the integration of green and blue infrastructure and use of nature-based solutions, which may contribute to mitigation of any loss or damage to functionally linked habitat.
CC2 – Renewable Energy Generation and District Heating Networks	This policy may result in new renewable and low carbon energy generating development and related infrastructure and storage facilities. Changes in vehicle traffic Water abstraction / discharge	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat Air pollution Changes in water quality / quantity	Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. Increased demand for water abstraction and water treatment has also been screened out. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new renewable or low carbon

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
			energy facilities once put forward at the planning application stage.
CC3 – Reducing Energy Consumption	None; the policy sets out requirements for new development to minimise their whole life-cycle emissions and maximise on-site carbon reductions, but will not itself result in new development	None	No
ST1 – Strategic Policy – Strategic Transport Priorities	Transport infrastructure Changes in vehicle traffic	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat  Air pollution	Uncertain. The overall changes in vehicle traffic arising from all growth proposed in the plan has been screened out as unlikely to have a significant effect on Habitats Sites. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location of the new strategic transport infrastructure once put forward at the planning application stage.
ST2 – Sustainable and Active Travel	None; this policy will not result in new development.	None	No  The policy supports development which contributes towards the delivery of a sustainable transport network, prioritising active travel, i.e. through retaining existing footpaths, public rights of way, permissive paths and cycleways. This policy may contribute to mitigation for air pollution effects.
ST3 – Parking Standards	None; this policy will not result in new development.	None	No  The policy requires developments to prioritise sustainable travel when considering parking. This policy may contribute to mitigation for air pollution effects.

Policy/site allocation	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence	Potential effects if implemented	Is the policy likely to have significant effects and therefore need to be scoped into the Appropriate Assessment?
ID1 – Strategic Policy – Infrastructure Planning Principles	None; this policy sets out the principles for the provision of infrastructure and improvements to existing infrastructure, but will not itself result in new development.	None	No
ID2 – Developer Contribution and Planning Obligations	None; this policy sets out the mechanisms and requirements for development contributions, but will not itself result in new development.	None	No  The policy requires developments to provide contributions to ensure delivery and maintenance of open space and green infrastructure, public transport services and biodiversity offsetting among other types of infrastructure. This policy may therefore contribute to mitigation for, loss, damage or disturbance of functionally linked habitats, air pollution and recreation pressure effects.
ID3 – Digital and Communications Infrastructure	Development of telecommunications equipment (including masts)	Loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat	Uncertain. The potential for loss or disturbance of functionally linked habitat is uncertain as it will depend on the location and nature of any new telecommunications equipment once put forward at the planning application stage.

## Appendix C

### HRA Screening Assessment – Physical damage and loss of functionally linked land – Identification of site allocations

Table C.1 Identification of site allocations within functionally linked land relevant buffers for each Habitats Site (X) as identified in the Screening Assessment (Chapter 3). Those site allocations located outside of the buffer are marked with a hyphen (-).

Policy	Site Allocation	Habitats Sites		
		Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site	Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site
SS3: Strategic Site Allocations – North West Preston/Bartle	N/A	X	X	X
SS4: Strategic Site Allocation – Fulwood Barracks	N/A	X	X	-
SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West	N/A	X	X	X
SS6: Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham	N/A	X	X	X
HS2: Housing Allocations Chorley	HS2.1	X	-	X
	HS2.2	X	-	X
	HS2.3	X	-	X
	HS2.4	X	-	X
	HS2.5	X	-	X
	HS2.6	X	-	X
	HS2.7	X	-	-
	HS2.8	X	-	X
	HS2.9	X	-	X
	HS2.10	X	-	X

Policy	Site Allocation	Habitats Sites		
		Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site	Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site
	HS2.11	X	-	X
	HS2.12	X	-	X
	HS2.13	X	-	X
	HS2.14	X	-	X
	HS2.15	X	-	X
	HS2.16	X	-	X
	HS2.17	X	-	X
	HS2.18	X	-	X
	HS2.19	X	-	X
	HS2.20	X	-	X
	HS2.21	X	-	X
	HS2.22	X	-	X
	HS2.23	X	-	X
	HS2.24	X	-	X
	HS2.25	X	-	X
	HS2.26	X	-	X
	HS2.27	X	-	X
	HS2.28	X	-	X
	HS2.29	X	-	X
	HS2.30	X	-	X
	HS2.31	X	-	X
	HS2.32	X	-	X
	HS2.33	X	-	X
	HS2.34	X	-	X
	HS2.35	X	-	X
	HS2.36	X	-	X
	HS2.37	X	-	X

Policy	Site Allocation	Habitats Sites		
		Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site	Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site
HS3: Housing Allocations South Ribble	HS3.1	X	-	X
	HS3.2	X	-	X
	HS3.3	X	X	X
	HS3.4	X	X	X
	HS3.5	X	-	X
	HS3.6	X	-	X
	HS3.7	X	-	-
	HS3.8	X	-	-
	HS3.9	X	X	X
	HS3.10	X	-	X
	HS3.11	X	X	X
	HS3.12	X	-	X
	HS3.13	X	-	X
	HS3.14	X	X	X
	HS3.15	X	-	X
	HS3.16	X	-	-
	HS3.17	X	X	X
	HS3.18	X	X	X
	HS3.19	X	X	X
HS4: Housing Allocations Preston	HS4.1	X	X	-
	HS4.2	X	X	X
	HS4.3	X	X	-
	HS4.4	X	X	-
	HS4.5	X	X	-
	HS4.6	X	X	X
	HS4.7	X	X	X
	HS4.8	X	X	X

Policy	Site Allocation	Habitats Sites		
		Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site	Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site
	HS4.9	X	X	X
	HS4.10	X	X	X
	HS4.11	X	X	X
	HS4.12	X	X	X
	HS4.13	X	X	-
	HS4.14	X	X	-
	HS4.15	X	X	-
	HS4.16	X	X	X
	HS4.17	X	X	X
	HS4.18	X	X	X
	HS4.19	X	X	X
	HS4.20	X	X	X
	HS4.21	X	X	X
	HS4.22	X	X	X
	HS4.23	X	X	-
	HS4.24	X	X	-
	HS4.25	X	X	-
	HS4.26	X	X	X
	HS4.27	X	X	X
	HS4.28	X	X	X
	HS4.29	X	X	X
	HS4.30	X	X	X
EC2: Employment Allocations Chorley	EC2.1	X	-	X
	EC2.2	X	-	X
EC3: Employment Allocations Preston	EC3.1	X	X	X
	EC3.2	X	X	-
	EC3.3	X	-	-

Policy	Site Allocation	Habitats Sites		
		Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site	Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site
	EC3.4	X	X	X
EC4: Employment Allocations South Ribble	EC4.1	X	-	X
	EC4.2	X	-	X
EC5: Mixed Use Allocations Chorley	EC5.1	X	-	X
	EC5.2	X	-	X
	EC5.3	X	-	X
	EC5.4	X	-	X
	EC5.5	X	-	X
	EC5.6	X	-	X
	EC5.7	X	-	X
EC6: Mixed Use Allocations South Ribble	EC6.1	X	-	X
Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities	HC3.1	X	-	X
	HC3.2	X	X	X
	HC3.3	X	X	X
	HC3.4	X	X	X
	HC3.5	X	X	-
	HC3.6	X	X	X
	HC3.7	X	X	X
	HC3.8	X	X	X
	HC3.9	X	-	X
HC7: Cemeteries and Crematoria	HC7.1	X	-	-
	EN5.1	X	-	X

## Appendix D

### HRA Screening Assessment – Noise, vibration and lighting disturbance to functionally linked land – identification of site allocations

Table D.1 Identification of site allocations within 500m of functionally linked land relevant buffers for each Habitats Site (X) as identified in the Screening Assessment (Chapter 3). Those site allocations located outside of the buffer are marked with a hyphen (-).

Policy	Site Allocation	Habitats Sites		
		Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site	Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site
SS3: Strategic Site Allocations – North West Preston/Bartle	N/A	X	X	X
SS4: Strategic Site Allocation – Fulwood Barracks	N/A	X	X	X
SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West	N/A	X	X	X
SS6: Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham	N/A	X	X	X
HS2: Housing Allocations Chorley	HS2.1	X	-	X
	HS2.2	X	-	X
	HS2.3	X	-	X
	HS2.4	X	-	X
	HS2.5	X	-	X
	HS2.6	X	-	X
	HS2.7	X	-	-
	HS2.8	X	-	X
	HS2.9	X	-	X

Policy	Site Allocation	Habitats Sites		
		Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site	Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site
	HS2.10	X	-	X
	HS2.11	X	-	X
	HS2.12	X	-	X
	HS2.13	X	-	X
	HS2.14	X	-	X
	HS2.15	X	-	X
	HS2.16	X	-	X
	HS2.17	X	-	X
	HS2.18	X	-	X
	HS2.19	X	-	X
	HS2.20	X	-	X
	HS2.21	X	-	X
	HS2.22	X	-	X
	HS2.23	X	-	X
	HS2.24	X	-	X
	HS2.25	X	-	X
	HS2.26	X	-	X
	HS2.27	X	-	X
	HS2.28	X	-	X
	HS2.29	X	-	X
	HS2.30	X	-	X
	HS2.31	X	-	X
	HS2.32	X	-	X
	HS2.33	X	-	X
	HS2.34	X	-	X
	HS2.35	X	-	X
	HS2.36	X	-	X

Policy	Site Allocation	Habitats Sites		
		Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site	Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site
	HS2.37	X	-	X
HS3: Housing Allocations South Ribble	HS3.1	X	-	X
	HS3.2	X	X	X
	HS3.3	X	X	X
	HS3.4	X	X	X
	HS3.5	X	-	X
	HS3.6	X	X	X
	HS3.7	X	-	-
	HS3.8	X	-	X
	HS3.9	X	X	X
	HS3.10	X	-	X
	HS3.11	X	X	X
	HS3.12	X	-	X
	HS3.13	X	-	X
	HS3.14	X	X	X
	HS3.15	X	-	X
	HS3.16	X	-	-
	HS3.17	X	X	X
	HS3.18	X	X	X
	HS3.19	X	X	X
HS4: Housing Allocations Preston	HS4.1	X	X	-
	HS4.2	X	X	X
	HS4.3	X	X	-
	HS4.4	X	X	-
	HS4.5	X	X	-
	HS4.6	X	X	X
	HS4.7	X	X	X

Policy	Site Allocation	Habitats Sites		
		Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site	Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site
	HS4.8	X	X	X
	HS4.9	X	X	X
	HS4.10	X	X	X
	HS4.11	X	X	X
	HS4.12	X	X	X
	HS4.13	X	X	-
	HS4.14	X	X	-
	HS4.15	X	X	-
	HS4.16	X	X	X
	HS4.17	X	X	X
	HS4.18	X	X	X
	HS4.19	X	X	X
	HS4.20	X	X	X
	HS4.21	X	X	X
	HS4.22	X	X	X
	HS4.23	X	X	X
	HS4.24	X	X	X
	HS4.25	X	X	-
	HS4.26	X	X	X
	HS4.27	X	X	X
	HS4.28	X	X	X
	HS4.29	X	X	X
	HS4.30	X	X	X
EC2: Employment Allocations Chorley	EC2.1	X	-	X
	EC2.2	X	-	X
	EC3.1	X	X	X
	EC3.2	X	X	-

Policy	Site Allocation	Habitats Sites		
		Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuaries SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar Site	Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site
EC3: Employment Allocations Preston	EC3.3	X	X	-
	EC3.4	X	X	X
EC4: Employment Allocations South Ribble	EC4.1	X	-	X
	EC4.2	X	-	X
EC5: Mixed Use Allocations Chorley	EC5.1	X	-	X
	EC5.2	X	-	X
	EC5.3	X	-	X
	EC5.4	X	-	X
	EC5.5	X	-	X
	EC5.6	X	-	X
	EC5.7	X	-	X
EC6: Mixed Use Allocations South Ribble	EC6.1	X	-	X
Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities	HC3.1	X	-	X
	HC3.2	X	X	X
	HC3.3	X	X	X
	HC3.4	X	X	X
	HC3.5	X	X	-
	HC3.6	X	X	X
	HC3.7	X	X	X
	HC3.8	X	X	X
	HC3.9	X	-	X
HC7: Cemeteries and Crematoria	HC7.1	X	-	-
	EN5.1	X	-	X

## **Appendix E**

### **HRA Appropriate Assessment – Physical damage and loss - assessment of site allocations**

Table E.1 Suitability of site allocations to be functionally linked land for qualifying bird species of Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
Employment Allocations		
Policy EC2.1: Land East of M61, Chorley (19C245x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.3km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~6.92ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two pastoral fields with hedgerows and fences, bordered by the M61 to the west, the A647 to the south, Leeds and Liverpool Canal to the east, and further arable and pastoral fields to the north. A small pocket of broadleaved woodland is present to the south of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pastoral fields. Used for hay bales.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
Policy EC2.2: Former Gas Works, Bengal Street, Chorley (19C350)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.8km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.76ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Brownfield site consisting mostly of hardstanding and buildings. Bordered by the A6 to the west, carparks to the north and south and a railway track to the east. Set within an urban area of Chorley.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Disused urban area. Former gasworks.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy EC3.1: Former Alstom Works and Wider Site, Channel Way, Preston (19P012)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 6.6km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~6.35ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Brownfield site consisting mostly of hardstanding and buildings. Bordered by Strand Road to the east, Channel Way to the south and further urban areas to the north. Set within an urban area of Preston.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy EC3.2: Preston East Junction 31A M6 (19P141)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 11.5km northeast of Ribble and Alt Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~25.31ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Around 13 pastoral fields with hedgerows, lines of broadleaved trees and a small pond. The site is bordered by further arable and pastoral fields to the north, east and west, and by urban areas of hardstanding and buildings to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing horses and arable land.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy EC3.3: 11 Roman Road Farm (19P142)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.8km northeast of Ribble and Alt Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~24.94ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Around 10 pastoral fields with hedgerows and three small ponds. The site is bordered by further arable and pastoral fields to the north, a solar farm to the east, a stretch of broadleaved woodland to the south, and urban areas west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for cattle and arable land.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy EC3.4: Riversway Phase B, Maritime Way, Preston (19P178)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 3.3km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~16.6ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Grassland with lines of trees and hedgerows and areas of broadleaved woodland and scrub with tracks running through. Bordered by Wallend Road and the River Ribble to the south, urban areas to the east, Riversway Road to the north and further areas of grassland</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>and arable fields to the west. Suez waste management services is located to the southwest of the site. Potential for connectivity to the Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site via the River Ribble.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for cattle.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy EC4.1: Land north of Lancashire Business Park (19S188)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8.1km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~9.20ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately six areas of grassland surrounded by lines of broadleaved trees. Lines of trees are present running through the centre of the site, the River Lostock runs through the east of the site, and a small pond is present in the centre of the site. The site is bordered by an industrial park to the south, Centurion Way to the west, Farington Road to the north, and Fowler Lane to the east. The site sits to the south of Lostock Hall and within a wider network of fields and farmland.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland and unmanaged grassland. Potential disturbance from the roads surrounding the site and the industrial park to the south of the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy EC4.2: Land at Leyland Business Park, Farington (19S190)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 9.1km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding set to the north of the urban and residential area of Farington. Bordered by hardstanding and buildings to the north, west, and south, areas of grassland and lines of trees to the east, and priority deciduous woodland to the southeast.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Hardstanding used to store vehicles.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
Mixed Use Allocations		
<p>Policy EC5.1: Southern Commercial, Buckshaw Village (19C265x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.04ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Grassland and tall vegetation within an urban setting. Bordered by Ordnance Road to the north, industrial/retail park to the east, a railway station to the south and further grassland to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unmanaged area of vegetation within an urban/residential setting. Disturbance from residences, play areas, and the railway likely.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy EC5.2: Cowling Farm, Chorley* (19C239x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.4km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~9.50ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately five fields surrounded by hedgerow with trees. Bordered by an industrial park and woodland to the northwest, the M61 to the east, further fields to the south, and Cowling Road and a row of houses and gardens to the west. A small area of hardstanding sits at the west of the site. There is evidence of high levels of disturbance from vehicles, which may reduce the suitability of the site for qualifying bird species.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields possibly used for pasture and hardstanding used as a carpark.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy EC5.3: Land at Bagganley Lane, Chorley* (19C100)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.3km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~13.32ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately seven fields surrounded by hedgerow and trees, with a patch of woodland at the southwest of the site. A farmhouse and gardens sit within the site and a row of houses and gardens sits at the north of the site. A driveway runs through the southwestern end of</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>the site. Bordered by the M61 to the west, further fields, woodland, and the Black Brook to the south, a small residential area to the northeast, and Heapey Road to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture with residential gardens and allotments.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy EC5.4: Land adjacent to Northgate Drive, Chorley (19C248x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.9km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.75ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Small area of grassland and broadleaved woodland adjacent to a residential drive. Bordered by the M61 to the northeast, residential areas to the south and west and buildings to the northwest.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused woodland within a residential setting.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy EC5.5: Botany Bay/Great Knowley, Blackburn Road, Chorley (19C415)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.6km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~12.14ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Areas of grassland and bare ground in the north and grassland and scattered broadleaved trees in the south. Bordered by Leeds and Liverpool Canal and Blackburn Road to the east, a residential area to the west, and grassland to the north and south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> High vehicle access in the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy EC5.6: Woodlands, Southport Road, Chorley (19C242x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.7km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~5.16ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A campus comprising buildings, hardstanding, grassland and scattered broadleaved trees with a small section of broadleaved woodland and scrub present in the east of</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>the site. Southport Road borders the site in the north and woodland borders the site in the east, west, and south, with the River Chor running through to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Comprises the car parking and use of the campus buildings.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy EC5.7: Land south west of The Green and Langton Brow, Eccleston (19C411)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 11.3km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.38ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Highly urban site comprising buildings and hardstanding with limited vegetation. Bordered by Langton Brow to the north and east, and Syd Brook, grassland and woodland to the south and west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy EC6.1: Cuerden (19S052)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 9.2km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~66.5ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large area of land consisting of grassland, arable fields, lines of broadleaved trees, hedgerows, ponds, bare ground and gravel, small pockets of broadleaved woodland and several areas of hardstanding and buildings. Bordered by large roads to the north, Stanifield Lane to the east, Wigan Road to the west, and further areas of grassland and bare ground with lakes to the south. Set within a semi-urban environment but close to larger areas of grassland and wildlife areas including Cuerden Valley Park and Clayton Brook Reservoir.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and unused grasslands.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 3.2km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(19P031, mixed use)	<p><b>Size:</b> ~155.8ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large area of arable and pasture fields surrounded by hedgerows and scattered trees with over ten small ponds. New tree planting is present at the north of the site. A golf course sits at the south of the site with small pockets of woodland surrounding its boundaries. Various dwellings, farm buildings, and small areas of hardstanding are present across the site. The Lancaster canal, a railway track, and various small roads run through the site. The Savick Brook runs to the south of the site, Edith Rigby Way and Lea Road border the site to the west and east respectively, and Sidgreaves borders the site to the northeast. The urban areas of Preston sit to the east of the site and larger areas of fields sit to the west of the site. Priority habitats are present on and adjacent to the site including small areas of traditional orchard and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Mostly arable and pasture fields for grazing cattle, sheep, and horses. Recreational use of the golf course and gardens. High disturbance from the golf course, walkers along the canal, and roads running through the site is likely.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<b>Housing Allocations</b>		
<p>Policy HS2.1: North of Bonds Lane, Adlington (19C227x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.6km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.40ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two small fields with a footpath running through the centre of the site to the canal. The fields are surrounded by fences and an area of hardstanding and grass sits at the south of the site with multiple garages and shed buildings on top. A couple of trees sit at the southeastern and northwestern edges of the site. The site is bordered by the Leeds Liverpool Canal to the north and east, residential areas to the south and west, and another field to the northwest.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing animals. Potential high disturbance from the pathway and access to the canal as well as garages and sheds at the south of the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
<p>Policy HS2.2: Land South East Belmont Road/Abbey Grove, Adlington (19C228x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 19.3km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.69ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field bordered by trees on all sides. The field is bordered by residential areas to the north and east, a railway track to the west, and woodland and the River Douglas to the south. The site sits next to the residential area of Anderton and to the north of a larger area of fields and grassland with pockets of woodland and lines of trees and hedgerow. Two reservoirs sit to the east and northeast of the site ~1-2km away.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An arable field or field used for pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.3: Land off Westhoughton Road, Adlington (19C230x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.2km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.64ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area consisting of grassland, bare ground, hardstanding, and woodland with a few small structures and scattered trees or shrub. Bordered by grassland and a railway track to the east, woodland to the south, and residential houses and gardens to the west and north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Storage, car parking and recreational areas for the adjacent residential houses. High disturbance is likely given the high use of the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS2.4: Land at Carrington Road, Adlington (19C414)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.6km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.73ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field with scattered trees present and bordered by hedgerow and trees. Bordered by fields to the east, residential areas to the south and west, and woodland to the north. The Leeds and Liverpool Canal sits to the east of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for animals.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS2.5: Babylon Lane, Adlington (19C272x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 19.1km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.5ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two areas of grassland separated by a road with another road running through the north of the site. Scattered trees and scrub are present on the site and the grassland at the north is highly managed as a lawn. A small brick building is also present in the southwest of the site. Bordered by Babylon Lane to the west, residential houses to the north, Greenhalgh Lane to the south, and grassland, trees, and private lanes to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for horses.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No but sits almost adjacent to an area of FLL.</p>	Low
Policy HS2.6: Land South of South Road, Bretherton (19C233x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 5.4km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.07ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small section of a larger field. Bordered by grassland to the south, houses to the east and west, and South Road to the north. The site sits within a larger area of fields and farmland with minimal residential areas.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland. Potentially used for pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS2.7: Land at Drinkwater Farm, Windsor Drive, Brinscall (19C283x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.1km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.43ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of grassland in the centre of a residential area. Scattered trees are present, and the site is bordered by houses and gardens on all sides. Grass is likely highly managed as lawns or similar.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Recreational grassland and gardens within a residential area. Limited open space and high disturbance from residences very likely.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.8: Charter Lane, Charnock Richard (19C236x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.42ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Areas of grassland and lines of trees. The site is bordered by sports fields to the north and south, residential housing to the east, and a row of houses to the west. A golf course sits to the west of the site and further fields and grassland is present in the wider area.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for animals. High disturbance likely from sports fields.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Policy HS2.9: Cabbage Hall Fields, Chorley (19C247x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.7km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.63ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of grassland with lines of broadleaved and conifer trees surrounding the border of the site. Bordered by an industrial park to the west, a line of housing to the east and south, and Drumhead Road to the north. Set within a semi-urban and residential area</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An unused area of grassland.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Negligible</p>
<p>Policy HS2.10: Little Knowley Farm, Chorley (19C393a)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.2km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~24.42ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Four fields surrounded by hedgerow with scattered broadleaved trees. The site is bordered by woodland to the north, Blackburn Brow to the northwest, Knowley Brow and a few houses to the southwest, and two more fields to the south which contain a farmyard and</p>	<p>Moderate</p>

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>greenhouse. The site sits to the west of a larger network of fields and farmland and to the east of a larger residential area and the Leeds and Liverpool Canal.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for cattle.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.11: Great Knowley, Chorley* (19C243x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.8km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~9.12ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Eight fields with hedgerows and scattered trees. The site is bordered by Blackburn Road to the east, Leeds and Liverpool Canal to the west, further fields to the north, and a small pocket of woodland to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for cattle.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS2.12: Bengal Street Depot, Chorley (19C250x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.9km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.72ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Small urban area consisting of hardstanding and a building with a thin strip of mown grassland. Bordered by a railway track to the east, Stump Lane to the south, Bengal Street to the west and further urban areas of hardstanding to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS2.13: Eaves Green, off Lower Burgh Way, Chorley (19C238x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.1km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of grassland immediately adjacent to priority deciduous woodland. The grassland contains scattered broadleaved trees and public footpaths and sits to the south of a</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>residential area. Bordered by woodland to the east and south, fields to the west, and highly managed grassland to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Area of grassland with public footpaths likely used for recreation. Potential high disturbance from footpaths and recreational use.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.14: Land 120m South West of 21 Lower Burgh Way, Chorley (19C413)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.1km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~8ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland south of a residential area. The grassland contains scattered broadleaved trees and public footpaths and has previously or is currently a construction site containing large areas of bare ground. Bordered by residential areas to the north, grassland to the east, and priority deciduous woodland to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Area of grassland with public footpaths likely used for recreation and/or a new development. Potential high disturbance from these activities.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.15: Brookfields, Chancery Road, Chorley (19C383)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.75ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> One field surrounded by lines of broadleaved trees. Bordered by West Way to the west, residential housing to the north and east, and areas of grassland and sports fields to the south. Larger areas of grassland and broadleaved woodland across West Way to the northwest.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Limited use as an area of grassland. Potential disturbance from adjacent sports pitches and residential areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
<p>Policy HS2.16: Land to the East of Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods* (19C251x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 10.3km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~13.87ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two sites, one consisting of three fields surrounded by broadleaved trees, and one consisting of a number of small fields with tall grassland, scattered broadleaved trees, hedgerows, an equestrian club, buildings, and areas of hardstanding. Adjacent to residential housing and surrounded by small roads. The eastern site borders Cuerden Valley Park.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and grassland in use in association with equestrian club.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.17: Land adjoining Cuerden Residential Park, Nell Lane, Clayton-le-Woods (19C416)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 10.6km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.53ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An existing area of residential housing and two fields surrounded by hedgerows and broadleaved trees. Bordered by residential housing to the west, Nell Lane to the north, Shady Lane to the east and further fields to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Limited use of grassland areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.18: North of Hewlett Avenue, Coppull (19C254x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.82ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field set to the north of a residential area. The Tanyard Brook runs directly to the west of the site and hedgerows and trees surround the site. An area consisting of a house and a garden with trees sits at the south of the site. Bordered by residential areas to the east, south, and west, and another field to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable field and grassland looks highly managed. Potential disturbance from adjacent residential areas and gardens but field looks uninterrupted.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS2.19: Mountain Road, Coppull (19C255x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.5km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.63ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of tall grassland and vegetation with a line of trees to the south of the site. Priority deciduous woodland sits at the south of the site. Bordered by residential areas to the east, and woodland to the north, west, and south. Set within the residential area of Coppull and at the north of a larger area of grassland and arable fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An unused area of grassland and vegetation. A small site with potential disturbance from adjacent residential areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS2.20: Land adjacent to Blainscough Hall, Blainscough Lane, Coppull (19C256x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.5km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~5.25ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three fields surrounded by hedgerow and with scattered trees on the southern borders of each field. A small strip of woodland sits at the south of the site and a footpath runs through the centre of the site. Bordered by residential houses to the north, Blainscough Lane to the west, woodland to the south, and priority deciduous woodland to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields with high potential disturbance from residential areas and path running through the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS2.21: Orchard Heys Farm, Coppull (19C399a)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.38ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding, bare ground, and farm buildings. Bordered by a field to the north and west, and residential areas to the east and south.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> A farmyard and farm buildings.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.22: Land to the rear of 62-66 Moor Road, Croston (19C434)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.09ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of grassland and buildings situated within an area of residential housing. A residential house sits at the east of the site and a road extends to the south of the site. Bordered by houses and scattered trees on all sides.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Use as a recreational area behind gardens only. Limited access and likely high disturbance from gardens.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS2.23: East of Tincklers Lane, Eccleston (19C262x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 10km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.82ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> One field surrounded by hedgerows with several scattered broadleaved trees. Bordered by Tincklers Lane to the west, an arable field to the south and residential areas to the north and east. Set within a wider network of grassland and fields adjacent to a village.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Used as pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.24: Land at Tincklers Lane, Eccleston (19C417)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 10km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.85ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately five fields surrounded by hedgerow, one pond with a scrub edge, and two small areas of building and garden. Hedgerow heights vary but very low in places. Set within a wider network of grassland and fields adjacent to a village.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Managed grassland potentially used for pasture and arable fields.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.25: Pear Tree Lane, Euxton (19C264x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 11.9km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.63ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Four fields bordered by broadleaved woodland to the west with hedgerows, and a small area of buildings and garden in the northeast of the site. The Chapel Brook runs to the south of the site and several dwellings border the east of the site. Adjacent to a larger area of fields and grassland.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Grassland used as pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.26: Land to the east of New Street, Mawdesley (19C274x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 10.9km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.5ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of broadleaved woodland. Surrounded by residential areas to the north, east, and west, and grassland to the south. Set within a wider network of fields and grassland with scattered villages.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Limited use.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS2.27: Land off Gorsey Lane, Mawdesley (19C276x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 11km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.47ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three fields with hedgerows and lines of broadleaved trees and three small ponds. Bordered by residential housing to the north and east and woodland and grassland to the east and south. Set within a wider network of fields and grassland with scattered villages.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Limited use.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.28: Crow Nest Cottage, Mawdesley (19C346)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 11km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.28ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area consisting of buildings, gardens, and hardstanding. Bordered by broadleaved woodland to the west, grassland to the south, and residential housing to the north and east. Set within a wider network of fields and grassland with scattered villages.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Residential housing.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS2.29: East of New Street, Mawdesley (19C359)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 11km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.39ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of buildings, hardstanding, road, and gardens set within a residential area. Bordered by further residential housing to the south, east and west and a small area of grassland to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Residential housing and a commercial shop.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS2.30: Rear of New Street, Mawdesley (19C275x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 11km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.25ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small patch of grassland and line of trees set within a residential area. Bordered by further residential housing on all sides.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Recreational grassland within an area of residential housing.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS2.31: Blackburn Road, Wheelton (19C400a)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.1km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.38ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of grassland with rushes bordered by trees to the north, grassland and trees to the east, the A674 to the south, and grassland to the west. Immediately south of the residential area of Wheelton and north of a large area of arable fields and grassland with limited residential or urban areas.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing sheep.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS2.32: Land at Millbrook Close/Victoria Street, Wheelton (19C427)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.1km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of tall grassland with scattered trees and hedgerow at the edges. The site is bordered by Victoria Street to the east, the A674 to the south, and grassland to the west. Immediately south of the residential area of Wheelton and north of a large area of arable fields and grassland with limited residential or urban areas. A footpath runs through the east of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing animals. Potential disturbance from footpath and residential areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS2.33: Land off Blackburn Road, Wheelton (19C271x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.9km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.75ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field surrounded by hedgerow and fencing with a number of scattered broadleaved trees. Bordered by the A674 to the southeast, Blackburn Road to the northwest and south, and residential housing to the north. Set within a wider network of fields and grassland with several small villages.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.34: West of M61 - Land North of Hill Top Farm, Whittle-le-Woods (19C277x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.1km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.81ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Six fields with hedgerows and a small pocket of broadleaved woodland and scattered trees. Bordered by residential housing to the west, Hill Top Lane to the north and east, and grassland to the south. A large network of fields site to the east of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland potentially used as arable fields and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS2.35: West of M61 - Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods (19C281x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.1km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~18.57ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately nine fields with scattered trees and small areas of woodland. Bordered by the M61 to the east, further fields and residential areas to the south, residential areas to the west and grassland, woodland, and a number of ponds and the River Lostock to the north. A large network of fields site to the east of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS2.36: West of M61 - Land adjacent to Delph Way, Whittle-le-Woods* (19C401a)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.2km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.80ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland with a line of trees. Bordered by woodland to the north, east and south, and residential housing to the west. The River Lostock runs to the south of the site.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>A large network of fields sits to the east of the site and a lake surrounded by woodland sits to the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.37: Hill Top Farm, Whittle-le-Woods (19C285)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.3km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.60ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three fields separated by Hill Top Lane. A small pocket of broadleaved woodland and some housing sits within one field. Scattered trees, hedgerow, and woodland surround the fields. The site is bordered by a small area of woodland and the M61 to the east, fields to the west and south, and Hill Top Lane and farm buildings to the north. A large network of fields site to the east of the site and a lake surrounded by woodland sites to the southwest of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Policy HS3.1: Emnie Lane, Leyland* (19S250)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~20.20ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately 16 fields surrounded by hedgerow. Scattered trees are present along the hedgerows. Bordered by a residential area to the east, fields to the south, Emie Lane to the north leading to an industrial unit to the west. The River Lostock runs to the west of the site. Set within a larger area of fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>Policy HS3.2: Apsley House, Farington*</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p>	<p>Moderate</p>

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(19S064, 19S098, 19S103, 19S212 and 19S269)	<p><b>Size:</b> ~30.97ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately 13 fields surrounded by hedgerow and trees. Six small areas of houses and gardens are present, and a railway track runs through the site. The site is bordered by a stretch of woodland to the south, Penwortham Way to the west, Chain House Lane to the north, and a separate railway track to the east. The site sits to the west of Lostock Hall and within wider network of grassland and fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS3.3: Chapel Lane, Longton*</p> <p>(19S110, 19S165, 19S169 (east) and SRBC007)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 2.8km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~15.19ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately 12 fields with scattered trees, small areas of woodland, hedgerow, and two small roads running across the site. Bordered by Chapel Lane to the north, arable fields to the south, and residential houses to the east and west. Set within a wider area of grassland and fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS3.4: South of Factory Lane and East of the West Coast Main Line, Lower Penwortham*</p> <p>(19S162 and SRBC009)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.1km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~10.20ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland with lines of trees. Bordered by a stretch of woodland to the east, houses to the south, a railway track to the west, and Factory Lane to the north. A small farmyard is present at the north of the site comprising buildings, bare ground and hardstanding. A small lake is present to the east of the site and the wider area comprises residential towns with farmland to the northeast and southwest of site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland and pasture for grazing animals.</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS3.5: Church Lane, Farington* (19S249)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.8km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~8.17ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large arable field surrounded by hedgerow and trees with a central pond surrounded by scrub and trees. Bordered by an industrial site to the north, residential area to the east and southeast, a pocket of woodland to the south and further farmland to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable field.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS3.6: Liverpool Road, Hutton* (19S331x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 2.9km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~5.74ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three arable fields surrounded by hedgerow and scattered trees. Bordered by residential areas to the east and south, and further arable fields to the north and west. Set next to the urban area of Hutton and at the southern edge of a wider area of farmland.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
Policy HS3.7: Branch Road, Mellor Brook* (19S232)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.6km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~5.87ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three arable fields surrounded by hedgerow and trees. A house and garden sit at the north of the site and three ponds sit at the centre of the site. Bordered by Branch Road and a row of residential houses to the east, Myerscough Smithy Road to the north, fields to the south, and a warehouse and hardstanding to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields or pasture for grazing animals.</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS3.8: Daub Hall Lane, Coupe Green* (19S019)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.3km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.78ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large field surrounded by hedgerow and scattered trees. Bordered by residential areas to the east and south, and further fields to the north and west. A small pocket of broadleaved woodland sits to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable field or used for pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS3.9: South of Liverpool Old Road, Much Hoole* (19S039 and 19S221)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 2.8km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.40ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Five fields and the end of a driveway to the south of a row of residential houses. Pockets of trees and hedgerows surround the fields, and two pathways/tracks run through the site. A small number of buildings, garden, and hardstanding sit at the southwest of the site. The site is bordered by residential houses to the north, Liverpool Road to the west, lines of trees and fields to the south, and a football pitch to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Grassland areas potentially used for pasture or recreational activities of adjacent residential homes. Disturbance likely from paths running through site. Fields largely enclosed by trees and buildings.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS3.10: Kellet Lane, Bamber Bridge (19S191)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.1km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field with a line of trees and small number of houses. The field is surrounded by lines of trees. Bordered by Kellet Lane to the north, Brindle Road to the east, another field to the</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>south, and more housing and a car park to the west. The urban area of Walton Summer Centre sits to the west and further farmland and fields sits to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing animals such as cattle and sheep.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS3.11: South of Factory Lane/ Land off the Cawsey (19S215)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.9km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.58ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two areas of grassland and scrub surrounded by residential housing on all sides. A number of trees are present to the south of the site and scattered trees are present on the boundary of the site. A small number of buildings and hardstanding are also present within the site. The site sits within a larger residential area with areas of grassland to the north and southwest.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused residential grassland and scrub.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS3.12: Browndge Rd / Railway Sidings, Bamber Bridge (SRBC005)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 9.3km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.70ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of broadleaved woodland set within a residential area. Small areas of hardstanding are present on site with various materials stored on top. A railway tracks runs to the south of the site. A sports pitch borders the site to the west and residential housing to the north and east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Woodland with limited public use and areas of storage.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS3.14: Gas Holders Site (aka Land off Wateringpool Lane), Lostock Hall</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8.3km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.90ha</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(SRBC010)	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of bare ground and hardstanding with scattered vegetation in the east of the site and a gas facility in the west of the site. The site is bordered by Handshaw Drive to the north, Wateringpool Lane to the east, sports pitches and woodland to the south, and a couple of houses to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Gas facility and adjacent hardstanding.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS3.15: Golden Hill School, Leyland Lane, Leyland (19S367)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.9km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.69ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A hardstanding area used as a playground for the adjacent school, areas of managed grassland, and several scattered trees. Bordered by the school building to the south, Earnshaw Drive to the east, Leyland Lane to the west, and a church to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Recreational playground for a school.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS3.16: Windmill Hotel site, Preston New Rd, Mellor Brook (19S263)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.7km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.35ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding with two buildings in the south and scattered trees and scrub. Bordered by Branch Road to the east, Long Meadow Road to the west, and the A677 to the south. Set within a small residential area which sits within large areas of grassland and fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused hardstanding area within a residential setting.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS3.17: Brambles Rest Home, Park Avenue, New Longton</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 4.5km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.15ha</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(19S355a)	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Hardstanding and two buildings comprising a care home. A small patch of managed lawn is present next to the buildings. Set within an area of fields and residential areas of New Longton. The site is bordered by lawn to the north, woodland to the west, Park Avenue to the east, and houses with gardens to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> A care home.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS3.18: Land adjacent to The Fields, Long Moss Lane, New Longton (19S021)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 5.2km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.80ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field containing a line of conifer trees. Bordered by residential houses and a play area to the north and east, Long Moss Lane to the south, and a number of houses to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential for recreational use from adjacent housing.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS3.19: Rear of 96-100 Marsh Lane (19S334x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 1.3km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.30ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two small areas of grassland, hardstanding, several houses and gardens and scattered trees. Bordered by Marsh Lane to the south, grassland, hardstanding and a building to the north, and further houses to the east and west. Set within a larger area of farmland at the edge of the residential area of Longton.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Residential use for housing and car parking.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.1: Former Whittingham Hospital (PCC002)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.4km northeast of Ribble and Alt Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~31.24ha</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland and priority deciduous woodland with paths running through the site. The northern section of the site is comprised of a playing field and bowling green which are highly managed. The southern area of grassland is less managed and comprises farmland. A large pond site at the eastern side of the site and an area of bare ground sits at the western side. Areas of woodland surround the edges of the site and are scattered throughout the site. Bordered by grassland and fields to the east, south, and west, and residential areas and hardstanding to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Recreational grassland at the north of the site used by a cricket club, and grassland used as pasture for grazing animals at the south of the site. Potential disturbance from the cricket club and paths running through the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.2: Land off Riversway &amp; West of Dodney Drive Lea (PCC003)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 2.9km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~14.50ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two fields separated by a low hedge and track. The eastern field is an arable field, and the western field consists of grassland and bare ground, previously being used for the construction of the adjacent road. Bordered by Riversway Road to the south, Edith Rigby Way to the west, the Savick Brook to the north and residential areas to the east. Set to the west of the urban area of Lea and within a wider network of fields and grassland. The priority habitat coastal and floodplain grazing marsh is present at the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable field.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS4.3: Land at Eastway (19P035)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 9km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.30ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland with a line of trees and scrub in the southern end of the site. Surrounded by small areas of woodland, the Preston Bypass to the north, Mericourt Road to</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>the southeast, D'Urton Lane to the northeast, and an area of woodland to the west. The site is set at the north of the urban area of Fulwood and to the south of a larger area of farmland and fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unmanaged area of grassland.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.4: Cardwell Farm, Garstang Road (19P042)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 9.9km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~20.20ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area consisting of approximately eight arable fields with hedgerows, lines of trees, a pocket of priority deciduous woodland, and approximately two ponds. The Barton Brook runs directly to the south of the site. The site sits within a wider area of farmland and fields and is surrounded by grassland, small residential areas and small pockets of woodland.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS4.5: Land off Ribbleton Hall Drive (19P051)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 10.7km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.60ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two areas of grassland surrounding a community high school. The areas of grassland are surrounded by hedgerow with scattered trees. The site is bordered by the school to the north and east, residential areas to the south, Ribbleton Hall Drive to the east, and Farrington Lane to the west. Set at the edge of the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Urban grassland.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS4.6: Former Horrocks Mill, Queen Street</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8.1km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.77ha</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(19P061)	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area in the centre of Preston comprising hardstanding, minimal areas of vegetation such as a line of tall ruderal vegetation and scrub, a small line of broadleaved trees, and a small patch of mown grass. Bordered by urban areas and road on all sides.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area comprising a carpark and a materials storage unit.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.7: The Larches, Larches Lane (19P075)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 4.3km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.91ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A thin strip of grassland, broadleaved trees, residential buildings and gardens. Priority deciduous woodland sits at the south of the site, with scattered trees throughout. The site is bordered by residential areas and roads to the north, east, and south, and by an area of urban grassland to the southeast.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> The area is largely residential in nature and grassland is managed and used as recreational areas for the residential housing.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS4.8: 115 Church Street (19P078)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small urban area of hardstanding with minimal scattered vegetation. Bordered by roads to the north, east and west, and further hardstanding and building to the south. Set in the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area comprising two small carparks separated by a small stretch of road.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.9: 37 -41 Church Street</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.9km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(19P080)	<p><b>Size:</b> ~0.06ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small urban area consisting of hardstanding, a building, grassland and vegetation, and a few scattered trees. Bordered by further areas of hardstanding and roads on all sides. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An unused urban area and building.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.10: Moor Park Depot, Moor Park Avenue</p> <p>(19P083)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8.1km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.36ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small site comprising an area of hardstanding and a building with scattered trees surrounding the perimeter. Bordered by a bowling green to the east, St Thomas' Road to the south, houses to the west, and Moor Park Avenue to the north. Set within the urban area of Preston. Lea United Football Club sits directly to the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An area of hardstanding with a warehouse style building.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.11: Former Tulketh High School, Tag Lane</p> <p>(19P089)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 6.3km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~6.30ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Sports college grounds comprising several buildings, a car park, roads, and various areas of grassland and sports pitches. Small areas of trees and several scattered trees are present on the site. Grassland is highly managed as lawns and/or sports fields. Bordered by a strip of woodland and Sharoe Brook to the east, an area of grass to the south, Tag Lane to the west, and residential areas to the north. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Sports college grounds. High disturbance likely from the college.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
Policy HS4.12: Land at Cottam Hall (19P098)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 4.6km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~15.03ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of land comprising grassland, hedgerow, lines of broadleaved trees, residential housing, a building site, and approximately three ponds. Bordered by Sidgreaves Lane to the east, Cottam Way to the south, and residential houses to the north and east. The urban areas of Preston and Cottam sit to the east of the site and large areas of the farmland sit to the west of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Residential housing and fields to be constructed on.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS4.13: Heather Moor, Cumeragh Lane (19P104)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.7km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.97ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three fields surrounding several buildings which sit at the north of the site. A hardstanding driveway is present running into the north of the site. The fields are surrounded by fences and an area of gravel or hardstanding sits within the northern field next to the buildings. The southern, eastern and western borders of the site comprise hedgerows with trees and several scattered trees are present at the north of the site. Bordered by Whittingham Road and residential gardens and houses to the north, and fields to the east, south and west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Grassland and hardstanding potentially used for horse riding and pasture. Disturbance likely from these activities.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS4.14: Gorlands, Whittingham Road (19P105)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.8km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.52ha</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two fields bordered by hedgerow and trees. A path runs through the centre of the site and an area of hardstanding and buildings with gardens sit at the northeast of the site. Bordered by residential areas to the north and east and fields to the south and west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for animals or arable fields.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.15: Lancashire Fire and Rescue HQ, Garstang Road (19P144)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8.5km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.46ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area comprising several buildings surrounded by hardstanding and a carpark, with small areas of managed grassland and lawn, and areas of broadleaved trees at the edges of the site. Several driveways and roads are present on the site. Bordered by Garstang Road to the east, Lightfoot Lane to the south, Eastway Road to the north, and further buildings to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Multiple buildings and carparks including those used by the Lancashire Fire and Rescue service.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.16: Bretherens Meeting Room (19P155)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 5.2km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.53ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding comprising a carpark, with a building at the centre of the site, a small area of lawn at the west of the site, and broadleaved trees at the northwest and northeast of the site. Bordered by buildings and gardens to the north and west, Egerton Road to the south, and broadleaved trees to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> A carpark used for a church.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
<p>Policy HS4.17: Land North of Tom Benson Way (19P156)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 5.3km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> One field with a line of broadleaved trees at the west of the site and a track running through the south of the site. Bordered by Lancaster Canal to the north and east, and Tom Benson Way to the south and west. Sits in the wider urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Undetermined use as a field. Potential disturbance from an emergency access track for the canal which runs through the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Policy HS4.18: Former St Joseph's Orphanage, Theatre Street (19P161)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.2km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.38ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban site comprising a number of buildings and hardstanding. Bordered by Mount Street to the east, a line of trees and a large building to the south, a line of trees to the west, and further buildings to the north. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area. High disturbance from surrounding areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Negligible</p>
<p>Policy HS4.19: Avenham Street Car Park (19P162)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.7km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.55ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding comprising an urban carpark. A small number of trees line the northern and southwestern edge of the site. Set within the urban area of Preston and bordered by roads on all sides.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban carpark.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Negligible</p>

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
Policy HS4.20: Grimshaw Street/ Queen Street (19P165)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.9km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.97ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding within the urban area of Preston. No buildings or significant vegetation are present on site. Bordered by roads to the east, south, and west, and buildings and hardstanding to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Hardstanding used as a carpark. High disturbance from surrounding urban areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.21: Former Byron Hotel, Grimsahw Street (19P166)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.09ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding within the urban area of Preston. Minimal scattered vegetation is present on the site. Bordered by Grimshaw Street to the west, and urban areas consisting of building and hardstanding to the north, east, and south,</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Hardstanding used as a carpark. High disturbance from surrounding urban areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.22: Mount Street/ Garden Street (19P184)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.3km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.06ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding set within the urban area of Preston. Minimal scattered vegetation is present on site. Bordered by Garden Street to the south, Mount Street to the west, buildings to the north, and a driveway to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
<p>Policy HS4.23: Former Perrys Car Showroom, 63-83 Blackpool Road (19P199)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 9.4km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.22ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area consisting of hardstanding, scattered scrub, scattered trees, and introduced shrub. Bordered Blackpool Road to the east, and urban areas to the north, west, and south. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.24: The Summers, 195 Watling Street Road (19P227)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8.8km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.06ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area consisting of broadleaved woodland, grassland, tall vegetation, and hardstanding. Set within the urban area of Preston. The Eaves Brook runs directly to the south of the site and the site is bordered by Watling St Road to the north, Sir Tom Finney Way to the west, and residential houses and woodland to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused urban area and carpark.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.25: 25&amp;27 Whittingham Lane and land to the rear of 25-31 Whittingham Lane Broughton (19P279)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 9.5km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.82ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small, thin area of grassland with broadleaved trees at the north, west, and south of the site. The south of the site extends into gardens and a residential house. The site is bordered by James Towers Way to the east, a field to the north, a small field bordered by tall broadleaved trees on all sides to the west, and residential houses and gardens to the south. Priority deciduous woodland is present on site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland or grassland potentially used for pasture.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS4.26: Former Gassworks, Ribbleton Lane (19P287)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8.8km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.48ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area consisting of hardstanding, two man-made round areas of water, and a small pocket of woodland in the north of the site, surrounded by a line of trees. Surrounded by Ribbleton Lane to the north, and urban areas to the south, east, and west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area with water storage.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.27: 50 Lancaster Road (19P309)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.7km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.02ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> The southern end of a building in the centre of Preston. Bordered by the northern end of the building to the north, Lancaster Road to the west, Lord Street to the south, and an urban area of grass and trees to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban building with commercial space on the ground floor and residential areas on the upper floors.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.28: 10-12 Lancaster Road (19P311)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.7km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.01ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> The central section of a building in the centre of Preston. Bordered by Lancaster Road to the west, the rest of the building to the north and south, and an area of hardstanding to the east.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban building with commercial space on the ground floor and residential areas on the upper floors.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.29: Corner of Manchester Road &amp; Church Street (19P312)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.8km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.35ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding comprising a carpark in the centre of Preston. Small areas of mown grass are present on site. Bordered by roads to the southeast, west and east, and buildings to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban carpark.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.30: Tulketh Crescent (19P318)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 6.1km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.32ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area of grass, a building, a small area hardstanding, and a line of broadleaved trees. The site is bordered by roads to the east, south and southwest, and by areas of hardstanding to the north and northwest. Set in the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area of unmanaged grass and an urban building.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy SS3: Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle (19P095, residential 19P102, residential 19P131, residential)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 4.7km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~382.47ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large area of land at the northern edge of Preston and associated urban and residential areas. The site mostly consists of farmland with arable fields and fields used for pasture of grazing animals. Fields are surrounded by hedgerows and lines of trees and scattered trees are present throughout the site. Residential areas extend from east to west along the south of the site</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
19P293, residential 19P325, residential PCC001, residential)	<p>with grassland more prominent at the north of the site. The eastern section of the site consists mainly of residential areas with new developments and building sites. Multiple roads, areas of hardstanding and bare ground are also present within the site, mainly leading to more commercial areas. There are numerous ponds scattered throughout the fields and few areas of woodland. The site is bordered by farmland to the west, the Preston Northern Bypass to the north, residential areas to the south, and Preston Bypass to the east. Areas of priority lowland fens and traditional orchard are present at the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Mostly arable fields and pasture for grazing animals. Residential areas of houses, gardens, and commercial shops are more prominent in the south. Potential disturbance from roads passing through the site is likely, however some areas of grassland are relatively uninterrupted.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
Policy SS4: Strategic Site Allocation – Fulwood Barracks (19P005, residential)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8.9km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~16.57ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area consisting of grassland, scattered trees, buildings, and hardstanding. Areas of grassland sit at the east of the site and hardstanding and buildings sit at the west of the site. The site is surrounded by residential areas and lines of trees to the east. A small pocket of woodland sits at the north of the site. Grasslands are managed as lawns.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> A community park, the Fulwood Barracks, and Lancashire Infantry Museum are present on site. High disturbance is likely from these areas and grasslands are all managed.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy SS6 (A+B): Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering’s Farm, Penwortham (19S158/159/160/167 (all to be merged into one site), residential	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 6.6km east of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~100.06ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large site consisting of a farm and associated farmland including arable fields and pasture for grazing animals. Several small residential areas and gardens are present throughout the site and multiple roads run through the site. The fields are surrounded by hedgerow with scattered trees and two areas of priority traditional orchard are present on site. The Mill Brook</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
19S163, residential)	<p>runs into the site from the west and the site is bordered by Coote Lane in the south, Penwortham Way in the west, residential areas to the north, and a railway track to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture for grazing animals. Potential disturbance from the railway and roads running through the site as well as residential areas to the north however some sections of grassland are relatively uninterrupted.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities site allocations		
HC3.1 Land to the East of Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods	This allocation is within Chorley Housing Allocation HS2.16 – see row above relating to HS2.16 Land to the East of Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods.	Low
HC3.2 Cottam Hall (Merry Trees Lane/Tom Benson Way)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 5.7km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.57ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small field surrounded by trees and woodland on all sides. The site is bordered by trees to the north, east, and south, and trees and a farmhouse and garden to the west. Set within a large residential area with limited open space and farmland nearby.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused field set next to a farmhouse. Potentially used for pasture but likely unused.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
HC3.3 Higher Bartle (Maxy Lane/Sandy Lane/Tabley Lane)	This allocation is a small site within the larger Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Moderate
HC3.4 Tabley Lane (Northwest Preston Masterplan)	This allocation is a small site within Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
HC3.5 Former Whittingham Hospital	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.8km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.17ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Part of a larger arable field consisting mostly of grassland with a small area of scrub and tall ruderal vegetation in the northwestern corner of the site. A line of young individual trees is present at the west of the site. The site is bordered by Henry Littler Way to the west, Whittingham Lane to the north, St Johns Drive to the south, and the rest of the field to the east. Set within a residential village and surrounded by small residential areas and a larger network of arable fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An arable field potentially used for pasture for grazing animals. Low levels of disturbance likely from residential areas and a house and garden which sits to the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
HC3.6 Land to the south of William Young Way	This allocation is within Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Low
HC3.7 Land at Bartle	This allocation is within Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Moderate
HC3.8 Pickerings Farm, Flag Lane	This allocation is within Strategic Site Allocation SS6 A+B – see row above relating to SS6 A+B Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering's Farm, Penwortham	Moderate
HC3.9 Aston Way, Leyland (19S166)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 6.9km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~40.61ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Largely bare ground with small pockets of woodland and ponds scattered throughout the site. Comprises a construction site and surrounded by areas of woodland, residential and residential housing. The residential area of Moss Side sits to the east and south, and arable fields sit to the north and west of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> A construction site.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HC7: Cemeteries and Crematoria site allocations		
HC7.1 Preston Cemetery and Crematorium	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.5km northeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~10.71ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately three fields which are surrounded by trees and contain two small ponds and scattered trees in the centre of the site. Bordered by a stretch of woodland and Turn Brook to the south, Preston Crematorium to the west, fields to the east, and a series of industrial units to the north. The urban area of Preston sits to the west and a large number of fields sits to the east of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potentially used for pasture and may have a footpath running through the centre of the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
EN5.1 Adlington Cemetery	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 19.1km southeast of Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.80ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland with scattered trees throughout the site. Bordered by a canal to the east, a patch of woodland to the south, a line of trees and a field to the west, and Adlington Cemetery to the north. Sites next to the residential area of Adlington.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Limited use.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low

Table E.2 Suitability of site allocations to be functionally linked land for qualifying bird species of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
Employment Allocations		
Policy EC3.1: Former Alstom Works and Wider Site, Channel Way, Preston (19P012)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.8km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~6.35ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Brownfield site consisting mostly of hardstanding and buildings. Bordered by Strand Road to the east, Channel Way to the south and further urban areas to the north. Set within an urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy EC3.2: Preston East Junction 31A M6 (19P141)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.7km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~25.31ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Around 13 pastoral fields with hedgerows, lines of broadleaved trees and a small pond. The site is bordered by further arable and pastoral fields to the north, east and west, and by urban areas of hardstanding and buildings to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing horses and arable land.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
Policy EC3.4: Riversway Phase B, Maritime Way, Preston (19P178)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.7km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~16.6ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Grassland with lines of trees and hedgerows and areas of broadleaved woodland and scrub with tracks running through. Bordered by Wallend Road and the River Ribble</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
	<p>to the south, urban areas to the east, Riversway Road to the north and further areas of grassland and arable fields to the west. Suez waste management services sits to the southwest of the site. Potential for connectivity to the Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site via the River Ribble.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for cattle.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<b>Mixed Use Allocations</b>		
<p>Policy SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West (19P031, mixed use)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.1km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~155.8ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large area of arable and pasture fields surrounded by hedgerows and scattered trees with over ten small ponds. New tree planting is present at the north of the site. A golf course sits at the south of the site with small pockets of woodland surrounding its boundaries. Various dwellings, farm buildings, and small areas of hardstanding are present across the site. The Lancaster canal, a railway track, and various small roads run through the site. The Savick Brook runs to the south of the site, Edith Rigby Way and Lea Road border the site to the west and east respectively, and Sidgreaves borders the site to the northeast. The urban areas of Preston sit to the east of the site and larger areas of fields sit to the west of the site. Priority habitats are present on and adjacent to the site including small areas of traditional orchard and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Mostly arable and pasture fields for grazing cattle, sheep, and horses. Recreational use of the golf course and gardens. High disturbance from the golf course, walkers along the canal, and roads running through the site is likely.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<b>Housing Allocations</b>		
<p>Policy HS3.3: Chapel Lane, Longton*</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.2km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
(19S110, 19S165, 19S169 (east) and SRBC007)	<p><b>Size:</b> ~15.19ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately 12 fields with scattered trees, small areas of woodland, hedgerow, and two small roads running across the site. Bordered by Chapel Lane to the north, arable fields to the south, and residential houses to the east and west. Set within a wider area of grassland and fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
Policy HS3.4: South of Factory Lane and East of the West Coast Main Line, Lower Penwortham* (19S162 and SRBC009)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 19.2km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~10.20ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland with lines of trees. Bordered by a stretch of woodland to the east, houses to the south, a railway track to the west, and Factory Lane to the north. A small farmyard is present at the north of the site comprising buildings, bare ground and hardstanding. A small lake is present to the east of the site and the wider area comprises residential towns with farmland to the northeast and southwest of site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
Policy HS3.6: Liverpool Road, Hutton* (19S331x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.9km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~5.74ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three arable fields surrounded by hedgerow and scattered trees. Bordered by residential areas to the east and south, and further arable fields to the north and west. Set next to the urban area of Hutton and at the southern edge of a wider area of farmland.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
<p>Policy HS3.9: South of Liverpool Old Road, Much Hoole*</p> <p>(19S039 and 19S221)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.9km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.40ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Five fields and the end of a driveway to the south of a row of residential houses. Pockets of trees and hedgerows surround the fields, and two pathways/tracks run through the site. A small number of buildings, garden, and hardstanding sit at the southwest of the site. The site is bordered by residential houses to the north, Liverpool Road to the west, lines of trees and fields to the south, and a football pitch to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Grassland areas potentially used for pasture or recreational activities of adjacent residential homes. Disturbance likely from paths running through site. Fields largely enclosed by trees and buildings.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS3.11: South of Factory Lane/ Land off the Cawsey</p> <p>(19S215)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 19.9km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.58ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two areas of grassland and scrub surrounded by residential housing on all sides. A number of trees are present to the south of the site and scattered trees are present on the boundary of the site. A small number of buildings and hardstanding are also present within the site. The site sits within a larger residential area with areas of grassland to the north and southwest.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused residential grassland and scrub.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS3.17: Brambles Rest Home, Park Avenue, New Longton</p> <p>(19S355a)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.2km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.15ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Hardstanding and two buildings comprising a care home. A small patch of managed lawn is present next to the buildings. Set within an area of fields and residential areas of</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
	<p>New Longton. The site is bordered by lawn to the north, woodland to the west, Park Avenue to the east, and houses with gardens to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> A care home.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS3.18: Land adjacent to The Fields, Long Moss Lane, New Longton (19S021)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 19.2km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.80ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field containing a line of conifer trees. Bordered by residential houses and a play area to the north and east, Long Moss Lane to the south, and a number of houses to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential for recreational use from adjacent housing.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS3.19: Rear of 96-100 Marsh Lane (19S334x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.4km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.30ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two small areas of grassland, hardstanding, several houses and gardens and scattered trees. Bordered by Marsh Lane to the south, grassland, hardstanding and a building to the north, and further houses to the east and west. Set within a larger area of farmland at the edge of the residential area of Longton.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Residential use for housing and car parking.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.1: Former Whittingham Hospital (PCC002)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.4km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~31.24ha</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland and priority deciduous woodland with paths running through the site. The northern section of the site is comprised of a playing field and bowling green which are highly managed. The southern area of grassland is less managed and comprises farmland. A large pond site at the eastern side of the site and an area of bare ground sits at the western side. Areas of woodland surround the edges of the site and are scattered throughout the site. Bordered by grassland and fields to the east, south, and west, and residential areas and hardstanding to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Recreational grassland at the north of the site used by a cricket club, and grassland used as pasture for grazing animals at the south of the site. Potential disturbance from the cricket club and paths running through the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.2: Land off Riversway &amp; West of Dodney Drive Lea (PCC003)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.8km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~14.50ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two fields separated by a low hedge and track. The eastern field is an arable field, and the western field consists of grassland and bare ground, previously being used for the construction of the adjacent road. Bordered by Riversway Road to the south, Edith Rigby Way to the west, the Savick Brook to the north and residential areas to the east. Set to the west of the urban area of Lea and within a wider network of fields and grassland. The priority habitat coastal and floodplain grazing marsh is present at the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable field.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS4.3: Land at Eastway (19P035)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.1km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.30ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland with a line of trees and scrub in the southern end of the site. Surrounded by small areas of woodland, the Preston Bypass to the north, Mericourt Road to</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
	<p>the southeast, D'Urton Lane to the northeast, and an area of woodland to the west. The site is set at the north of the urban area of Fulwood and to the south of a larger area of farmland and fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unmanaged area of grassland.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.4: Cardwell Farm, Garstang Road (19P042)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.8km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~20.20ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area consisting of approximately eight arable fields with hedgerows, lines of trees, a pocket of priority deciduous woodland, and approximately two ponds. The Barton Brook runs directly to the south of the site. The site sits within a wider area of farmland and fields and is surrounded by grassland, small residential areas and small pockets of woodland.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS4.5: Land off Ribbleton Hall Drive (19P051)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 19.6km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.60ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two areas of grassland surrounding a community high school. The areas of grassland are surrounded by hedgerow with scattered trees. The site is bordered by the school to the north and east, residential areas to the south, Ribbleton Hall Drive to the east, and Farringdon Lane to the west. Set at the edge of the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Urban grassland.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS4.6: Former Horrocks Mill, Queen Street</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.4km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
(19P061)	<p><b>Size:</b> ~2.77ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area in the centre of Preston comprising hardstanding, minimal areas of vegetation such as a line of tall ruderal vegetation and scrub, a small line of broadleaved trees, and a small patch of mown grass. Bordered by urban areas and road on all sides.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area comprising a carpark and a materials storage unit.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
Policy HS4.7: The Larches, Larches Lane (19P075)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.1km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.91ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A thin strip of grassland, broadleaved trees, residential buildings and gardens. Priority deciduous woodland sits at the south of the site, with scattered trees throughout. The site is bordered by residential areas and roads to the north, east, and south, and by an area of urban grassland to the southeast.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> The area is largely residential in nature and grassland is managed and used as recreational areas for the residential housing.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS4.8: 115 Church Street (19P078)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.5km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small urban area of hardstanding with minimal scattered vegetation. Bordered by roads to the north, east and west, and further hardstanding and building to the south. Set in the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area comprising two small carparks separated by a small stretch of road.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
Policy HS4.9: 37 -41 Church Street (19P080)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.4km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.06ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small urban area consisting of hardstanding, a building, grassland and vegetation, and a few scattered trees. Bordered by further areas of hardstanding and roads on all sides. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An unused urban area and building.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.10: Moor Park Depot, Moor Park Avenue (19P083)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.6km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.36ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small site comprising an area of hardstanding and a building with scattered trees surrounding the perimeter. Bordered by a bowling green to the east, St Thomas' Road to the south, houses to the west, and Moor Park Avenue to the north. Set within the urban area of Preston. Lea United Football Club sits directly to the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An area of hardstanding with a warehouse style building.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.11: Former Tulketh High School, Tag Lane (19P089)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.9km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~6.30ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Sports college grounds comprising several buildings, a car park, roads, and various areas of grassland and sports pitches. Small areas of trees and several scattered trees are present on the site. Grassland is highly managed as lawns and/or sports fields. Bordered by a strip of woodland and Sharoe Brook to the east, an area of grass to the south, Tag Lane to the west, and residential areas to the north. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Sports college grounds. High disturbance likely from the college.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.12: Land at Cottam Hall (19P098)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.6km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~15.03ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of land comprising grassland, hedgerow, lines of broadleaved trees, residential housing, a building site, and approximately three ponds. Bordered by Sidgreaves Lane to the east, Cottam Way to the south, and residential houses to the north and east. The urban areas of Preston and Cottam sit to the east of the site and large areas of the farmland sit to the west of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Residential housing and fields to be constructed on.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Policy HS4.13: Heather Moor, Cumeragh Lane (19P104)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 20km east of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.97ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three fields surrounding several buildings which sit at the north of the site. A hardstanding driveway is present running into the north of the site. The fields are surrounded by fences and an area of gravel or hardstanding sits within the northern field next to the buildings. The southern, eastern and western borders of the site comprise hedgerows with trees and several scattered trees are present at the north of the site. Bordered by Whittingham Road and residential gardens and houses to the north, and fields to the east, south and west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Grassland and hardstanding potentially used for horse riding and pasture. Disturbance likely from these activities.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Low</p>

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
Policy HS4.14: Gorlands, Whittingham Road (19P105)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 20km east of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.52ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two fields bordered by hedgerow and trees. A path runs through the centre of the site and an area of hardstanding and buildings with gardens sit at the northeast of the site. Bordered by residential areas to the north and east and fields to the south and west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for animals or arable fields.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS4.15: Lancashire Fire and Rescue HQ, Garstang Road (19P144)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.46ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area comprising several buildings surrounded by hardstanding and a carpark, with small areas of managed grassland and lawn, and areas of broadleaved trees at the edges of the site. Several driveways and roads are present on the site. Bordered by Garstang Road to the east, Lightfoot Lane to the south, Eastway Road to the north, and further buildings to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Multiple buildings and carparks including those used by the Lancashire Fire and Rescue service.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.16: Bretherens Meeting Room (19P155)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.6km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.53ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding comprising a carpark, with a building at the centre of the site, a small area of lawn at the west of the site, and broadleaved trees at the northwest and</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
	<p>northeast of the site. Bordered by buildings and gardens to the north and west, Egerton Road to the south, and broadleaved trees to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> A carpark used for a church.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.17: Land North of Tom Benson Way (19P156)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.5km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> One field with a line of broadleaved trees at the west of the site and a track running through the south of the site. Bordered by Lancaster Canal to the north and east, and Tom Benson Way to the south and west. Sits in the wider urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Undetermined use as a field. Potential disturbance from an emergency access track for the canal which runs through the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS4.18: Former St Joseph's Orphanage, Theatre Street (19P161)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.1km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.38ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban site comprising a number of buildings and hardstanding. Bordered by Mount Street to the east, a line of trees and a large building to the south, a line of trees to the west, and further buildings to the north. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area. High disturbance from surrounding areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.19: Avenham Street Car Park (19P162)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.5km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.55ha</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding comprising an urban carpark. A small number of trees line the northern and southwestern edge of the site. Set within the urban area of Preston and bordered by roads on all sides.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban carpark.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.20: Grimshaw Street/ Queen Street (19P165)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.6km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.97ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding within the urban area of Preston. No buildings or significant vegetation are present on site. Bordered by roads to the east, south, and west, and buildings and hardstanding to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Hardstanding used as a carpark. High disturbance from surrounding urban areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.21: Former Byron Hotel, Grimsahw Street (19P166)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.6km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.09ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding within the urban area of Preston. Minimal scattered vegetation is present on the site. Bordered by Grimshaw Street to the west, and urban areas consisting of building and hardstanding to the north, east, and south,</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Hardstanding used as a carpark. High disturbance from surrounding urban areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.22: Mount Street/ Garden Street (19P184)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.2km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.06ha</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding set within the urban area of Preston. Minimal scattered vegetation is present on site. Bordered by Garden Street to the south, Mount Street to the west, buildings to the north, and a driveway to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.23: Former Perrys Car Showroom, 63-83 Blackpool Road (19P199)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.8km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.22ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area consisting of hardstanding, scattered scrub, scattered trees, and introduced shrub. Bordered Blackpool Road to the east, and urban areas to the north, west, and south. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.24: The Sumners, 195 Watling Street Road (19P227)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.7km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.06ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area consisting of broadleaved woodland, grassland, tall vegetation, and hardstanding. Set within the urban area of Preston. The Eaves Brook runs directly to the south of the site and the site is bordered by Watling St Road to the north, Sir Tom Finney Way to the west, and residential houses and woodland to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused urban area and carpark.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.25: 25&amp;27 Whittingham Lane and land to the rear of 25-31</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.2km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
Whittingham Lane Broughton (19P279)	<p><b>Size:</b> ~0.82ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small, thin area of grassland with broadleaved trees at the north, west, and south of the site. The south of the site extends into gardens and a residential house. The site is bordered by James Towers Way to the east, a field to the north, a small field bordered by tall broadleaved trees on all sides to the west, and residential houses and gardens to the south. Priority deciduous woodland is present on site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland or grassland potentially used for pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
Policy HS4.26: Former Gassworks, Ribbleton Lane (19P287)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.8km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.48ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area consisting of hardstanding, two man-made round areas of water, and a small pocket of woodland in the north of the site, surrounded by a line of trees. Surrounded by Ribbleton Lane to the north, and urban areas to the south, east, and west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area with water storage.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.27: 50 Lancaster Road (19P309)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.2km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.02ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> The southern end of a building in the centre of Preston. Bordered by the northern end of the building to the north, Lancaster Road to the west, Lord Street to the south, and an urban area of grass and trees to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban building with commercial space on the ground floor and residential areas on the upper floors.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
Policy HS4.28: 10-12 Lancaster Road (19P311)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.2km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.01ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> The central section of a building in the centre of Preston. Bordered by Lancaster Road to the west, the rest of the building to the north and south, and an area of hardstanding to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban building with commercial space on the ground floor and residential areas on the upper floors.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.29: Corner of Manchester Road & Church Street (19P312)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.5km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.35ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding comprising a carpark in the centre of Preston. Small areas of mown grass are present on site. Bordered by roads to the southeast, west and east, and buildings to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban carpark.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.30: Tulketh Crescent (19P318)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.5km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.32ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area of grass, a building, a small area hardstanding, and a line of broadleaved trees. The site is bordered by roads to the east, south and southwest, and by areas of hardstanding to the north and northwest. Set in the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area of unmanaged grass and an urban building.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
<p>Policy SS3: Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle</p> <p>(19P095, residential 19P102, residential 19P131, residential 19P293, residential 19P325, residential PCC001, residential)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 11.6km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~382.47ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large area of land at the northern edge of Preston and associated urban and residential areas. The site mostly consists of farmland with arable fields and fields used for pasture of grazing animals. Fields are surrounded by hedgerows and lines of trees and scattered trees are present throughout the site. Residential areas extend from east to west along the south of the site with grassland more prominent at the north of the site. The eastern section of the site consists mainly of residential areas with new developments and building sites. Multiple roads, areas of hardstanding and bare ground are also present within the site, mainly leading to more commercial areas. There are numerous ponds scattered throughout the fields and few areas of woodland. The site is bordered by farmland to the west, the Preston Northern Bypass to the north, residential areas to the south, and Preston Bypass to the east. Areas of priority lowland fens and traditional orchard are present at the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Mostly arable fields and pasture for grazing animals. Residential areas of houses, gardens, and commercial shops are more prominent in the south. Potential disturbance from roads passing through the site is likely, however some areas of grassland are relatively uninterrupted.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy SS4: Strategic Site Allocation – Fulwood Barracks</p> <p>(19P005, residential)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.4km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~16.57ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area consisting of grassland, scattered trees, buildings, and hardstanding. Areas of grassland sit at the east of the site and hardstanding and buildings sit at the west of the site. The site is surrounded by residential areas and lines of trees to the east. A small pocket of woodland sits at the north of the site. Grasslands are managed as lawns.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> A community park, the Fulwood Barracks, and Lancashire Infantry Museum are present on site. High disturbance is likely from these areas and grasslands are all managed.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy SS6 (A+B): Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering’s Farm, Penwortham</p> <p>(19S158/159/160/167 (all to be merged into one site), residential 19S163, residential)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 19.2km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~100.06ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large site consisting of a farm and associated farmland including arable fields and pasture for grazing animals. Several small residential areas and gardens are present throughout the site and multiple roads run through the site. The fields are surrounded by hedgerow with scattered trees and two areas of priority traditional orchard are present on site. The Mill Brook runs into the site from the west and the site is bordered by Coote Lane in the south, Penwortham Way in the west, residential areas to the north, and a railway track to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture for grazing animals. Potential disturbance from the railway and roads running through the site as well as residential areas to the north however some sections of grassland are relatively uninterrupted.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities site allocations		
<p>HC3.2 Cottam Hall (Merry Trees Lane/Tom Benson Way)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.8km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.57ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small field surrounded by trees and woodland on all sides. The site is bordered by trees to the north, east, and south, and trees and a farmhouse and garden to the west. Set within a large residential area with limited open space and farmland nearby.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused field set next to a farmhouse. Potentially used for pasture but likely unused.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site Qualifying birds
HC3.3 Higher Bartle (Maxy Lane/Sandy Lane/Tabley Lane)	This allocation is a small site within the larger Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Moderate
HC3.4 Tabley Lane (Northwest Preston Masterplan)	This allocation is a small site within Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Moderate
HC3.5 Former Whittingham Hospital	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.4km southeast of Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA and Morecambe Bay Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.17ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Part of a larger arable field consisting mostly of grassland with a small area of scrub and tall ruderal vegetation in the northwestern corner of the site. A line of young individual trees is present at the west of the site. The site is bordered by Henry Littler Way to the west, Whittingham Lane to the north, St Johns Drive to the south, and the rest of the field to the east. Set within a residential village and surrounded by small residential areas and a larger network of arable fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An arable field potentially used for pasture for grazing animals. Low levels disturbance likely from residential areas and a house and garden which sits to the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
HC3.6 Land to the south of William Young Way	This allocation is a small site within Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Low
HC3.7 Land at Bartle	This allocation is a small site within Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Moderate
HC3.8 Pickerings Farm, Flag Lane	This allocation is within Strategic Site Allocation SS6 A+B – see row above relating to SS6 A+B Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering’s Farm, Penwortham	Moderate



Table E.3 Suitability of site allocations to be functionally linked land for qualifying bird species of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
Employment Allocations		
Policy EC2.1: Land East of M61, Chorley (19C245x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~6.92ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Several pastoral fields with hedgerows and fences, bordered by the M61 to the west, the A647 to the south, Leeds and Liverpool Canal to the east, and further arable and pastoral fields to the north. A small pocket of broadleaved woodland is present at the south of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pastoral fields. Used for hay bales.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
Policy EC2.2: Former Gas Works, Bengal Street, Chorley (19C350)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.2km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.76ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Brownfield site consisting mostly of hardstanding and buildings. Bordered by the A6 to the west, carparks to the north and south and a railway track to the east. Set within an urban area of Chorley.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Disused urban area. Former gasworks.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy EC3.1: Former Alstom Works and Wider Site, Channel Way, Preston (19P012)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~6.35ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Brownfield site consisting mostly of hardstanding and buildings. Bordered by Strand Road to the east, Channel Way to the south and further urban areas to the north. Set within an urban area of Preston.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy EC3.4: Riversway Phase B, Maritime Way, Preston (19P178)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~16.6ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Grassland with lines of trees and hedgerows and areas of broadleaved woodland and scrub with tracks running through. Bordered by Wallend Road and the River Ribble to the south, urban areas to the east, Riversway Road to the north and further areas of grassland and arable fields to the west. Suez waste management services sits to the southwest of the site. Potential for connectivity to the Ribble and Alt SPA and Ramsar site via the River Ribble.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for cattle.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy EC4.1: Land north of Lancashire Business Park (19S188)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.7km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~9.20ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately six areas of grassland surrounded by lines of broadleaved trees. Lines of trees are present running through the centre of the site, the River Lostock runs through the east of the site, and a small pond is present in the centre of the site. The site is bordered by an industrial park to the south, Centurion Way to the west, Farington Road to the north, and Fowler Lane to the east. The site sits to the south of Lostock Hall and within a wider network of fields and farmland.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland and unmanaged grassland. Potential disturbance from the roads surrounding the site and the industrial park to the south of the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
Policy EC4.2: Land at Leyland Business Park, Farington (19S190)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.1km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding set to the north of the urban and residential area of Farington. Bordered by hardstanding and buildings to the north, west, and south, areas of grassland and lines of trees to the east, and priority deciduous woodland to the southeast.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Hardstanding used to store vehicles.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<b>Mixed Use Allocations</b>		
Policy EC5.1: Southern Commercial, Buckshaw Village (19C265x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.04ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Grassland and tall vegetation within an urban setting. Bordered by Ordnance Road to the north, industrial/retail park to the east, a railway station to the south and further grassland to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unmanaged area of vegetation within an urban/residential setting. Disturbance from residences, play areas, and the railway likely.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy EC5.2: Cowling Farm, Chorley* (19C239x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.1km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~9.50ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately five fields surrounded by hedgerow with trees. Bordered by an industrial park and woodland to the northwest, the M61 to the east, further fields to the south, and Cowling Road and a row of houses and gardens to the west. A small area of hardstanding sits at the west of the site.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields possibly used for pasture and hardstanding used as a carpark.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy EC5.3: Land at Bagganley Lane, Chorley* (19C100)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~13.32ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately seven fields surrounded by hedgerow and trees, with a patch of woodland at the southwest of the site. A farmhouse and gardens sit within the site and a row of houses and gardens sits at the north of the site. A driveway runs through the southwestern end of the site. Bordered by the M61 to the west, further fields, woodland, and the Black Brook to the south, a small residential area to the northeast, and Heapey Road to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture with residential gardens and allotments.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy EC5.4: Land adjacent to Northgate Drive, Chorley (19C248x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.9km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.75ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Small area of grassland and broadleaved woodland adjacent to a residential drive. Bordered by the M61 to the northeast, residential areas to the south and west and buildings to the northwest.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused woodland within a residential setting.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>EC5.5: Botany Bay/Great Knowley, Blackburn Road, Chorley (19C415)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.2km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~12.14ha</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Areas of grassland and bare ground in the north and grassland and scattered broadleaved trees in the south. Bordered by Leeds and Liverpool Canal and Blackburn Road to the east, a residential area to the west, and grassland to the north and south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> High vehicle access in the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy EC5.6: Woodlands, Southport Road, Chorley (19C242x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.7km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~5.16ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A campus comprising buildings, hardstanding, grassland and scattered broadleaved trees with a small section of broadleaved woodland and scrub present in the east of the site. Southport Road borders the site in the north and woodland borders the site in the east, west, and south, with the River Chor running through to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Comprises the car parking and use of the campus buildings.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy EC5.7: Land south west of The Green and Langton Brow, Eccleston (19C411)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 9.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.38ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Highly urban site comprising buildings and hardstanding with limited vegetation. Bordered by Langton Brow to the north and east, and Syd Brook, grassland and woodland to the south and west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy EC6.1: Cuerden (19S052)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.3km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~66.5ha</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large area of land consisting of grassland, arable fields, lines of broadleaved trees, hedgerows, ponds, bare ground and gravel, small pockets of broadleaved woodland and several areas of hardstanding and buildings. Bordered by large roads to the north, Stanifield Lane to the east, Wigan Road to the west, and further areas of grassland and bare ground with lakes to the south. Set within a semi-urban environment but close to larger areas of grassland and wildlife areas including Cuerden Valley Park and Clayton Brook Reservoir.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and unused grasslands.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy SS5: Strategic Site Allocation – Preston West (19P031, mixed use)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~155.8ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large area of arable and pasture fields surrounded by hedgerows and scattered trees with over ten small ponds. New tree planting is present at the north of the site. A golf course sits at the south of the site with small pockets of woodland surrounding its boundaries. Various dwellings, farm buildings, and small areas of hardstanding are present across the site. The Lancaster canal, a railway track, and various small roads run through the site. The Savick Brook runs to the south of the site, Edith Rigby Way and Lea Road border the site to the west and east respectively, and Sidgreaves borders the site to the northeast. The urban areas of Preston sit to the east of the site and larger areas of fields sit to the west of the site. Priority habitats are present on and adjacent to the site including small areas of traditional orchard and coastal and floodplain grazing marsh.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Mostly arable and pasture fields for grazing cattle, sheep, and horses. Recreational use of the golf course and gardens. High disturbance from the golf course, walkers along the canal, and roads running through the site is likely.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
Housing Allocations		
<p>Policy HS2.1: North of Bonds Lane, Adlington</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.8km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(19C227x)	<p><b>Size:</b> ~3.40ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two small fields with a footpath running through the centre of the site to the canal. The fields are surrounded by fences and an area of hardstanding and grass sits at the south of the site with multiple garages and shed buildings on top. A couple of trees sit at the southeastern and northwestern edges of the site. The site is bordered by the Leeds Liverpool Canal to the north and east, residential areas to the south and west, and another field to the northwest.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing animals. Potential high disturbance from the pathway and access to the canal as well as garages and sheds at the south of the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.2: Land South East Belmont Road/Abbey Grove, Adlington</p> <p>(19C228x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.2km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.69ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field bordered by trees on all sides. The field is bordered by residential areas to the north and east, a railway track to the west, and woodland and the River Douglas to the south. The site sits next to the residential area of Anderton and to the north of a larger area of fields and grassland with pockets of woodland and lines of trees and hedgerow. Two reservoirs sit to the east and northeast of the site ~1-2km away.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An arable field or field used for pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.3: Land off Westhoughton Road, Adlington</p> <p>(19C230x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.9km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.64ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area consisting of grassland, bare ground, hardstanding, and woodland with a few small structures and scattered trees or shrub. Bordered by grassland and a railway track to the east, woodland to the south, and residential houses and gardens to the west and north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Storage, car parking and recreational areas for the adjacent residential houses. High disturbance is likely given the high use of the site.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS2.4: Land at Carrington Road, Adlington (19C414)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.8km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.73ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field with scattered trees present and bordered by hedgerow and trees. Bordered by fields to the east, residential areas to the south and west, and woodland to the north. The Leeds and Liverpool Canal sits to the east of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS2.5: Babylon Lane, Adlington (19C272x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.3km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.5ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two areas of grassland separated by a road with another road running through the north of the site. Scattered trees and scrub are present on the site and the grassland at the north is highly managed as a lawn. A small brick building is also present in the southwest of the site. Bordered by Babylon Lane to the west, residential houses to the north, Greenhalgh Lane to the south, and grassland, trees, and private lanes to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for horses.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No but sits almost adjacent to an area of FLL.</p>	Low
Policy HS2.6: Land South of South Road, Bretherton (19C233x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.6km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.07ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small section of a larger field. Bordered by grassland to the south, houses to the east and west, and South Road to the north. The site sits within a larger area of fields and farmland with minimal residential areas.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland. Potentially used for pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.8: Charter Lane, Charnock Richard (19C236x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.8km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.42ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Areas of grassland and lines of trees. The site is bordered by sports fields to the north and south, residential housing to the east, and a row of houses to the west. A golf course sits to the west of the site and further fields and grassland is present in the wider area.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for animals. High disturbance likely from sports fields.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Policy HS2.9: Cabbage Hall Fields, Chorley (19C247x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.63ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of grassland with lines of broadleaved and conifer trees surrounding the border of the site. Bordered by an industrial park to the west, a line of housing to the east and south, and Drumhead Road to the north. Set within a semi-urban and residential area</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An unused area of grassland.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Negligible</p>
<p>Policy HS2.10: Little Knowley Farm, Chorley (19C393a)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~24.42ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Four fields surrounded by hedgerow with scattered broadleaved trees. The site is bordered by woodland to the north, Blackburn Brow to the northwest, Knowley Brow and a few houses to the southwest, and two more fields to the south which contain a farmyard and</p>	<p>Moderate</p>

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>greenhouse. The site sits to the west of a larger network of fields and farmland and to the east of a larger residential area and the Leeds and Liverpool Canal.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for cattle.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.11: Great Knowley, Chorley* (19C243x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.3km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~9.12ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Eight fields with hedgerows and scattered trees. The site is bordered by Blackburn Road to the east, Leeds and Liverpool Canal to the west, further fields to the north, and a small pocket of woodland to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential pasture for cattle.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS2.12: Bengal Street Depot, Chorley (19C250x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.72ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Small urban area consisting of hardstanding and a building with a thin strip of mown grassland. Bordered by a railway track to the east, Stump Lane to the south, Bengal Street to the west and further urban areas of hardstanding to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible.
<p>Policy HS2.13: Eaves Green, off Lower Burgh Way, Chorley (19C238x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.2km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of grassland immediately adjacent to priority deciduous woodland. The grassland contains scattered broadleaved trees and public footpaths and sits to the south of a</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>residential area. Bordered by woodland to the east and south, fields to the west, and highly managed grassland to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Area of grassland with public footpaths likely used for recreation. Potential high disturbance from footpaths and recreational use.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.14: Land 120m South West of 21 Lower Burgh Way, Chorley (19C413)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.7km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~8ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland south of a residential area. The grassland contains scattered broadleaved trees and public footpaths and has previously or is currently a construction site containing large areas of bare ground. Bordered by residential areas to the north, grassland to the east, and priority deciduous woodland to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Area of grassland with public footpaths likely used for recreation and/or a new development. Potential high disturbance from these activities.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.15: Brookfields, Chancery Road, Chorley (19C383)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.3km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.75ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> One field surrounded by lines of broadleaved trees. Bordered by West Way to the west, residential housing to the north and east, and areas of grassland and sports fields to the south. Larger areas of grassland and broadleaved woodland across West Way to the northwest.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Limited use as an area of grassland. Potential disturbance from adjacent sports pitches and residential areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
<p>Policy HS2.16: Land to the East of Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods* (19C251x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.3km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~13.87ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two sites, one consisting of three fields surrounded by broadleaved trees, and one consisting of a number of small fields with tall grassland, scattered broadleaved trees, hedgerows, an equestrian club, buildings, and areas of hardstanding. Adjacent to residential housing and surrounded by small roads. The eastern site borders Cuerden Valley Park.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and grassland in use in association with equestrian club.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.17: Land adjoining Cuerden Residential Park, Nell Lane, Clayton-le-Woods (19C416)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 15.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.53ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An existing area of residential housing and two fields surrounded by hedgerows and broadleaved trees. Bordered by residential housing to the west, Nell Lane to the north, Shady Lane to the east and further fields to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Limited use of grassland areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.18: North of Hewlett Avenue, Coppull (19C254x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.82ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field set to the north of a residential area. The Tanyard Brook runs directly to the west of the site and hedgerows and trees surround the site. An area consisting of a house and a garden with trees sits at the south of the site. Bordered by residential areas to the east, south, and west, and another field to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable field and grassland looks highly managed. Potential disturbance from adjacent residential areas and gardens but field looks uninterrupted.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS2.19: Mountain Road, Coppull (19C255x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.2km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.63ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of tall grassland and vegetation with a line of trees to the south of the site. Priority deciduous woodland sits at the south of the site. Bordered by residential areas to the east, and woodland to the north, west, and south. Set within the residential area of Coppull and at the north of a larger area of grassland and arable fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An unused area of grassland and vegetation. A small site with potential disturbance from adjacent residential areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS2.20: Land adjacent to Blainscough Hall, Blainscough Lane, Coppull (19C256x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.8km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~5.25ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three fields surrounded by hedgerow and with scattered trees on the southern borders of each field. A small strip of woodland sits at the south of the site and a footpath runs through the centre of the site. Bordered by residential houses to the north, Blainscough Lane to the west, woodland to the south, and priority deciduous woodland to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields with high potential disturbance from residential areas and path running through the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS2.21: Orchard Heys Farm, Coppull (19C399a)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.1km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.38ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding, bare ground, and farm buildings. Bordered by a field to the north and west, and residential areas to the east and south.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> A farmyard and farm buildings.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.22: Land to the rear of 62-66 Moor Road, Croston (19C434)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 7.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.09ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of grassland and buildings situated within an area of residential housing. A residential house sits at the east of the site and a road extends to the south of the site. Bordered by houses and scattered trees on all sides.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Use as a recreational area behind gardens only. Limited access and likely high disturbance from gardens.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS2.23: East of Tincklers Lane, Eccleston (19C262x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 9.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.82ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> One field surrounded by hedgerows with several scattered broadleaved trees. Bordered by Tincklers Lane to the west, an arable field to the south and residential areas to the north and east. Set within a wider network of grassland and fields adjacent to a village.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Used as pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.24: Land at Tincklers Lane, Eccleston (19C417)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 9.2km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.85ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately five fields surrounded by hedgerow, one pond with a scrub edge, and two small areas of building and garden. Hedgerow heights vary but very low in places. Set within a wider network of grassland and fields adjacent to a village.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Managed grassland potentially used for pasture and arable fields.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.25: Pear Tree Lane, Euxton (19C264x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.9km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.63ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Four fields bordered by broadleaved woodland to the west with hedgerows, and a small area of buildings and garden in the northeast of the site. The Chapel Brook runs to the south of the site and several dwellings border the east of the site. Adjacent to a larger area of fields and grassland.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Grassland used as pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS2.26: Land to the east of New Street, Mawdesley (19C274x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 6.5km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.5ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of broadleaved woodland. Surrounded by residential areas to the north, east, and west, and grassland to the south. Set within a wider network of fields and grassland with scattered villages.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Limited use.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS2.27: Land off Gorsey Lane, Mawdesley (19C276x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 6.6km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.47ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three fields with hedgerows and lines of broadleaved trees and three small ponds. Bordered by residential housing to the north and east and woodland and grassland to the east and south. Set within a wider network of fields and grassland with scattered villages.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Limited use.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.28: Crow Nest Cottage, Mawdesley (19C346)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 6.6km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.28ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area consisting of buildings, gardens, and hardstanding. Bordered by broadleaved woodland to the west, grassland to the south, and residential housing to the north and east. Set within a wider network of fields and grassland with scattered villages.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Residential housing.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS2.29: East of New Street, Mawdesley (19C359)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 6.4km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.39ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of buildings, hardstanding, road, and gardens set within a residential area. Bordered by further residential housing to the south, east and west and a small area of grassland to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Residential housing and a commercial shop.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS2.30: Rear of New Street, Mawdesley (19C275x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 6.4km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.25ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small patch of grassland and line of trees set within a residential area. Bordered by further residential housing on all sides.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Recreational grassland within an area of residential housing.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS2.31: Blackburn Road, Wheelton (19C400a)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.38ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of grassland with rushes bordered by trees to the north, grassland and trees to the east, the A674 to the south, and grassland to the west. Immediately south of the residential area of Wheelton and north of a large area of arable fields and grassland with limited residential or urban areas.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing sheep.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS2.32: Land at Millbrook Close/Victoria Street, Wheelton (19C427)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.6km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small area of tall grassland with scattered trees and hedgerow at the edges. The site is bordered by Victoria Street to the east, the A674 to the south, and grassland to the west. Immediately south of the residential area of Wheelton and north of a large area of arable fields and grassland with limited residential or urban areas. A footpath runs through the east of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing animals. Potential disturbance from footpath and residential areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS2.33: Land off Blackburn Road, Wheelton (19C271x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.3km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.75ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field surrounded by hedgerow and fencing with a number of scattered broadleaved trees. Bordered by the A674 to the southeast, Blackburn Road to the northwest and south, and residential housing to the north. Set within a wider network of fields and grassland with several small villages.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.34: West of M61 - Land North of Hill Top Farm, Whittle-le-Woods (19C277x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.5km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.81ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Six fields with hedgerows and a small pocket of broadleaved woodland and scattered trees. Bordered by residential housing to the west, Hill Top Lane to the north and east, and grassland to the south. A large network of fields site to the east of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland potentially used as arable fields and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS2.35: West of M61 - Town Lane, Whittle-le-Woods (19C281x)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~18.57ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately nine fields with scattered trees and small areas of woodland. Bordered by the M61 to the east, further fields and residential areas to the south, residential areas to the west and grassland, woodland, and a number of ponds and the River Lostock to the north. A large network of fields site to the east of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS2.36: West of M61 - Land adjacent to Delph Way, Whittle-le-Woods* (19C401a)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.80ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland with a line of trees. Bordered by woodland to the north, east and south, and residential housing to the west. The River Lostock runs to the south of the site.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>A large network of fields sits to the east of the site and a lake surrounded by woodland sits to the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS2.37: Hill Top Farm, Whittle-le-Woods (19C285)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.5km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.60ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three fields separated by Hill Top Lane. A small pocket of broadleaved woodland and some housing sits within one field. Scattered trees, hedgerow, and woodland surround the fields. The site is bordered by a small area of woodland and the M61 to the east, fields to the west and south, and Hill Top Lane and farm buildings to the north. A large network of fields site to the east of the site and a lake surrounded by woodland sites to the southwest of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Low</p>
<p>Policy HS3.1: Emnie Lane, Leyland* (19S250)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 10.9km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~20.20ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately 16 fields surrounded by hedgerow. Scattered trees are present along the hedgerows. Bordered by a residential area to the east, fields to the south, Emie Lane to the north leading to an industrial unit to the west. The River Lostock runs to the west of the site. Set within a larger area of fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>Policy HS3.2: Apsley House, Farington*</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.3km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p>	<p>Moderate</p>

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(19S064, 19S098, 19S103, 19S212 and 19S269)	<p><b>Size:</b> ~30.97ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately 13 fields surrounded by hedgerow and trees. Six small areas of houses and gardens are present, and a railway track runs through the site. The site is bordered by a stretch of woodland to the south, Penwortham Way to the west, Chain House Lane to the north, and a separate railway track to the east. The site sits to the west of Lostock Hall and within wider network of grassland and fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS3.3: Chapel Lane, Longton*</p> <p>(19S110, 19S165, 19S169 (east) and SRBC007)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 11.7km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~15.19ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Approximately 12 fields with scattered trees, small areas of woodland, hedgerow, and two small roads running across the site. Bordered by Chapel Lane to the north, arable fields to the south, and residential houses to the east and west. Set within a wider area of grassland and fields.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture for grazing animals.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS3.4: South of Factory Lane and East of the West Coast Main Line, Lower Penwortham*</p> <p>(19S162 and SRBC009)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.2km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~10.20ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland with lines of trees. Bordered by a stretch of woodland to the east, houses to the south, a railway track to the west, and Factory Lane to the north. A small farmyard is present at the north of the site comprising buildings, bare ground and hardstanding. A small lake is present to the east of the site and the wider area comprises residential towns with farmland to the northeast and southwest of site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Farmland and pasture for grazing animals.</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS3.5: Church Lane, Farington* (19S249)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.6km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~8.17ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large arable field surrounded by hedgerow and trees with a central pond surrounded by scrub and trees. Bordered by an industrial site to the north, residential area to the east and southeast, a pocket of woodland to the south and further farmland to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable field.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS3.6: Liverpool Road, Hutton* (19S331x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.3km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~5.74ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Three arable fields surrounded by hedgerow and scattered trees. Bordered by residential areas to the east and south, and further arable fields to the north and west. Set next to the urban area of Hutton and at the southern edge of a wider area of farmland.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
Policy HS3.8: Daub Hall Lane, Coupe Green* (19S019)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 20km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~4.78ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large field surrounded by hedgerow and scattered trees. Bordered by residential areas to the east and south, and further fields to the north and west. A small pocket of broadleaved woodland sits to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable field or used for pasture.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
<p>Policy HS3.9: South of Liverpool Old Road, Much Hoole*</p> <p>(19S039 and 19S221)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 8.5km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~3.40ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Five fields and the end of a driveway to the south of a row of residential houses. Pockets of trees and hedgerows surround the fields, and two pathways/tracks run through the site. A small number of buildings, garden, and hardstanding sit at the southwest of the site. The site is bordered by residential houses to the north, Liverpool Road to the west, lines of trees and fields to the south, and a football pitch to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Grassland areas potentially used for pasture or recreational activities of adjacent residential homes. Disturbance likely from paths running through site. Fields largely enclosed by trees and buildings.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS3.10: Kellet Lane, Bamber Bridge</p> <p>(19S191)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field with a line of trees and small number of houses. The field is surrounded by lines of trees. Bordered by Kellet Lane to the north, Brindle Road to the east, another field to the south, and more housing and a car park to the west. The urban area of Walton Summer Centre sits to the west and further farmland and fields sits to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Pasture for grazing animals such as cattle and sheep.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS3.11: South of Factory Lane/ Land off the Cawsey</p> <p>(19S215)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.1km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.58ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two areas of grassland and scrub surrounded by residential housing on all sides. A number of trees are present to the south of the site and scattered trees are present on the</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>boundary of the site. A small number of buildings and hardstanding are also present within the site. The site sits within a larger residential area with areas of grassland to the north and southwest.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused residential grassland and scrub.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS3.12: Brownedge Rd / Railway Sidings, Bamber Bridge (SRBC005)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.2km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.70ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of broadleaved woodland set within a residential area. Small areas of hardstanding are present on site with various materials stored on top. A railway tracks runs to the south of the site. A sports pitch borders the site to the west and residential housing to the north and east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Woodland with limited public use and areas of storage.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS3.14: Gas Holders Site (aka Land off Wateringpool Lane), Lostock Hall (SRBC010)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.90ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of bare ground and hardstanding with scattered vegetation in the east of the site and a gas facility in the west of the site. The site is bordered by Handshaw Drive to the north, Wateringpool Lane to the east, sports pitches and woodland to the south, and a couple of houses to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Gas facility and adjacent hardstanding.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS3.15: Golden Hill School, Leyland Lane, Leyland</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.9km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.69ha</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(19S367)	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A hardstanding area used as a playground for the adjacent school, areas of managed grassland, and several scattered trees. Bordered by the school building to the south, Earnshaw Drive to the east, Leyland Lane to the west, and a church to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Recreational playground for a school.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
Policy HS3.17: Brambles Rest Home, Park Avenue, New Longton (19S355a)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 13.3km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.15ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Hardstanding and two buildings comprising a care home. A small patch of managed lawn is present next to the buildings. Set within an area of fields and residential areas of New Longton. The site is bordered by lawn to the north, woodland to the west, Park Avenue to the east, and houses with gardens to the south.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> A care home.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS3.18: Land adjacent to The Fields, Long Moss Lane, New Longton (19S021)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.9km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.80ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A field containing a line of conifer trees. Bordered by residential houses and a play area to the north and east, Long Moss Lane to the south, and a number of houses to the west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Potential for recreational use from adjacent housing.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS3.19: Rear of 96-100 Marsh Lane (19S334x)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 11.5km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.30ha</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two small areas of grassland, hardstanding, several houses and gardens and scattered trees. Bordered by Marsh Lane to the south, grassland, hardstanding and a building to the north, and further houses to the east and west. Set within a larger area of farmland at the edge of the residential area of Longton.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Residential use for housing and car parking.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.2: Land off Riversway &amp; West of Dodney Drive Lea (PCC003)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~14.50ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Two fields separated by a low hedge and track. The eastern field is an arable field, and the western field consists of grassland and bare ground, previously being used for the construction of the adjacent road. Bordered by Riversway Road to the south, Edith Rigby Way to the west, the Savick Brook to the north and residential areas to the east. Set to the west of the urban area of Lea and within a wider network of fields and grassland. The priority habitat coastal and floodplain grazing marsh is present at the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable field.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy HS4.6: Former Horrocks Mill, Queen Street (19P061)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.5km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~2.77ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area in the centre of Preston comprising hardstanding, minimal areas of vegetation such as a line of tall ruderal vegetation and scrub, a small line of broadleaved trees, and a small patch of mown grass. Bordered by urban areas and road on all sides.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area comprising a carpark and a materials storage unit.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
Policy HS4.7: The Larches, Larches Lane (19P075)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 16.7km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.91ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A thin strip of grassland, broadleaved trees, residential buildings and gardens. Priority deciduous woodland sits at the south of the site, with scattered trees throughout. The site is bordered by residential areas and roads to the north, east, and south, and by an area of urban grassland to the southeast.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> The area is largely residential in nature and grassland is managed and used as recreational areas for the residential housing.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
Policy HS4.8: 115 Church Street (19P078)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small urban area of hardstanding with minimal scattered vegetation. Bordered by roads to the north, east and west, and further hardstanding and building to the south. Set in the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area comprising two small carparks separated by a small stretch of road.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.9: 37 -41 Church Street (19P080)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.5km 4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.06ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small urban area consisting of hardstanding, a building, grassland and vegetation, and a few scattered trees. Bordered by further areas of hardstanding and roads on all sides. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An unused urban area and building.</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	
Policy HS4.10: Moor Park Depot, Moor Park Avenue (19P083)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 19.5km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.36ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small site comprising an area of hardstanding and a building with scattered trees surrounding the perimeter. Bordered by a bowling green to the east, St Thomas' Road to the south, houses to the west, and Moor Park Avenue to the north. Set within the urban area of Preston. Lea United Football Club sits directly to the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An area of hardstanding with a warehouse style building.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.11: Former Tulketh High School, Tag Lane (19P089)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~6.30ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Sports college grounds comprising several buildings, a car park, roads, and various areas of grassland and sports pitches. Small areas of trees and several scattered trees are present on the site. Grassland is highly managed as lawns and/or sports fields. Bordered by a strip of woodland and Sharoe Brook to the east, an area of grass to the south, Tag Lane to the west, and residential areas to the north. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Sports college grounds. High disturbance likely from the college.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.12: Land at Cottam Hall (19P098)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.96km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~15.03ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of land comprising grassland, hedgerow, lines of broadleaved trees, residential housing, a building site, and approximately three ponds. Bordered by Sidgreaves Lane to the east, Cottam Way to the south, and residential houses to the north and east. The urban areas of</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p>Preston and Cottam sit to the east of the site and large areas of the farmland sit to the west of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Residential housing and fields to be constructed on.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.16: Bretherens Meeting Room (19P155)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.3km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.53ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding comprising a carpark, with a building at the centre of the site, a small area of lawn at the west of the site, and broadleaved trees at the northwest and northeast of the site. Bordered by buildings and gardens to the north and west, Egerton Road to the south, and broadleaved trees to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> A carpark used for a church.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.17: Land North of Tom Benson Way (19P156)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.9km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.10ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> One field with a line of broadleaved trees at the west of the site and a track running through the south of the site. Bordered by Lancaster Canal to the north and east, and Tom Benson Way to the south and west. Sits in the wider urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Undetermined use as a field. Potential disturbance from an emergency access track for the canal which runs through the site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
<p>Policy HS4.18: Former St Joseph's Orphanage, Theatre Street</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.9km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.38ha</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(19P161)	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban site comprising a number of buildings and hardstanding. Bordered by Mount Street to the east, a line of trees and a large building to the south, a line of trees to the west, and further buildings to the north. Set within the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area. High disturbance from surrounding areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
Policy HS4.19: Avenham Street Car Park (19P162)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.55ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding comprising an urban carpark. A small number of trees line the northern and southwestern edge of the site. Set within the urban area of Preston and bordered by roads on all sides.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban carpark.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.20: Grimshaw Street/ Queen Street (19P165)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.5km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.97ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding within the urban area of Preston. No buildings or significant vegetation are present on site. Bordered by roads to the east, south, and west, and buildings and hardstanding to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Hardstanding used as a carpark. High disturbance from surrounding urban areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HS4.21: Former Byron Hotel, Grimsahw Street (19P166)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.5km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.09ha</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding within the urban area of Preston. Minimal scattered vegetation is present on the site. Bordered by Grimshaw Street to the west, and urban areas consisting of building and hardstanding to the north, east, and south,</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Hardstanding used as a carpark. High disturbance from surrounding urban areas.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.22: Mount Street/ Garden Street (19P184)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.6km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.06ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding set within the urban area of Preston. Minimal scattered vegetation is present on site. Bordered by Garden Street to the south, Mount Street to the west, buildings to the north, and a driveway to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused urban area.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.26: Former Gassworks, Ribbleton Lane (19P287)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 19.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.48ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area consisting of hardstanding, two man-made round areas of water, and a small pocket of woodland in the north of the site, surrounded by a line of trees. Surrounded by Ribbleton Lane to the north, and urban areas to the south, east, and west.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area with water storage.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.27: 50 Lancaster Road (19P309)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.02ha</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> The southern end of a building in the centre of Preston. Bordered by the northern end of the building to the north, Lancaster Road to the west, Lord Street to the south, and an urban area of grass and trees to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban building with commercial space on the ground floor and residential areas on the upper floors.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy HS4.28: 10-12 Lancaster Road (19P311)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.3km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.01ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> The central section of a building in the centre of Preston. Bordered by Lancaster Road to the west, the rest of the building to the north and south, and an area of hardstanding to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban building with commercial space on the ground floor and residential areas on the upper floors.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.29: Corner of Manchester Road &amp; Church Street (19P312)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.35ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of hardstanding comprising a carpark in the centre of Preston. Small areas of mown grass are present on site. Bordered by roads to the southeast, west and east, and buildings to the north.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban carpark.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
<p>Policy HS4.30: Tulketh Crescent</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.7km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p>	Negligible

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
(19P318)	<p><b>Size:</b> ~0.32ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An urban area of grass, a building, a small area hardstanding, and a line of broadleaved trees. The site is bordered by roads to the east, south and southwest, and by areas of hardstanding to the north and northwest. Set in the urban area of Preston.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> An urban area of unmanaged grass and an urban building.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
<p>Policy SS3: Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle</p> <p>(19P095, residential 19P102, residential 19P131, residential 19P293, residential 19P325, residential PCC001, residential)</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.8km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~382.47ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large area of land at the northern edge of Preston and associated urban and residential areas. The site mostly consists of farmland with arable fields and fields used for pasture of grazing animals. Fields are surrounded by hedgerows and lines of trees and scattered trees are present throughout the site. Residential areas extend from east to west along the south of the site with grassland more prominent at the north of the site. The eastern section of the site consists mainly of residential areas with new developments and building sites. Multiple roads, areas of hardstanding and bare ground are also present within the site, mainly leading to more commercial areas. There are numerous ponds scattered throughout the fields and few areas of woodland. The site is bordered by farmland to the west, the Preston Northern Bypass to the north, residential areas to the south, and Preston Bypass to the east. Areas of priority lowland fens and traditional orchard are present at the north of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Mostly arable fields and pasture for grazing animals. Residential areas of houses, gardens, and commercial shops are more prominent in the south. Potential disturbance from roads passing through the site is likely, however some areas of grassland are relatively uninterrupted.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Moderate
<p>Policy SS6 (A+B): Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering’s Farm, Penwortham</p>	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 14.6km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~100.06ha</p>	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
<p>(19S158/159/160/167 (all to be merged into one site), residential 19S163, residential)</p>	<p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A large site consisting of a farm and associated farmland including arable fields and pasture for grazing animals. Several small residential areas and gardens are present throughout the site and multiple roads run through the site. The fields are surrounded by hedgerow with scattered trees and two areas of priority traditional orchard are present on site. The Mill Brook runs into the site from the west and the site is bordered by Coote Lane in the south, Penwortham Way in the west, residential areas to the north, and a railway track to the east.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Arable fields and pasture for grazing animals. Potential disturbance from the railway and roads running through the site as well as residential areas to the north however some sections of grassland are relatively uninterrupted.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	
Policy HC3: Community, Health and Education Facilities site allocations		
HC3.1 Land to the East of Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods	This allocation is within Chorley Housing Allocation HS2.16 – see row above relating to HS2.16 Land to the East of Wigan Road, Clayton-le-Woods.	Low
HC3.2 Cottam Hall (Merry Trees Lane/Tom Benson Way)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 18.7km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~1.57ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> A small field surrounded by trees and woodland on all sides. The site is bordered by trees to the north, east, and south, and trees and a farmhouse and garden to the west. Set within a large residential area with limited open space and farmland nearby.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> Unused field set next to a farmhouse. Potentially used for pasture but likely unused.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Low
HC3.3 Higher Bartle (Maxy Lane/Sandy Lane/Tabley Lane)	This allocation is a small site within the larger Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Moderate

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
HC3.4 Tabley Lane (Northwest Preston Masterplan)	This allocation is a small site within Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Moderate
HC3.6 Land to the south of William Young Way	This allocation is a small site within Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Low
HC3.7 Land at Bartle	This allocation is a small site within Strategic Site Allocation SS3 – see row above relating to SS3 Strategic Site Allocation – North West Preston/Bartle	Moderate
HC3.8 Pickerings Farm, Flag Lane	This allocation is within Strategic Site Allocation SS6 A+B – see row above relating to SS6 A+B Strategic Site Allocation – Pickering’s Farm, Penwortham	Moderate
HC3.9 Aston Way, Leyland (19S166)	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 12.4km northeast of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~40.61ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> Largely bare ground with small pockets of woodland and ponds scattered throughout the site. Comprises a construction site and surrounded by areas of woodland, residential and residential housing. The residential area of Moss Side sits to the east and south, and arable fields sit to the north and west of the site.</p> <p><b>Use of Site:</b> A construction site.</p> <p><b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No</p>	Negligible
Policy HC7: Cemeteries and Crematoria site allocations		
EN5.1 Adlington Cemetery	<p><b>Distance from Habitats Site:</b> Approximately 17.4km east of Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar site, at the closest point</p> <p><b>Size:</b> ~0.80ha</p> <p><b>Habitats Present:</b> An area of grassland with scattered trees throughout the site. Bordered by a canal to the east, a patch of woodland to the south, a line of trees and a field to the west, and Adlington Cemetery to the north. Sites next to the residential area of Adlington.</p>	Low

Site allocation name	Review of Site Parameters	Assessment of Suitability for Martin Mere SPA and Ramsar Qualifying birds
	<b>Use of Site:</b> Limited use. <b>Identified within an area of FLL:</b> No	