

# Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Impact on European Protected Sites of Trafford Council's DPD1 Core Strategy (Publication)

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# Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Impact of Trafford Council's Preferred Option for the Local Development Framework on European Protected Sites

## 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Article 6(3) of the European Habitats Directive dealing with the conservation of European protected sites states that:

*'Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, shall be subject to assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.'*

- 1.2 Under the terms of amendments made to the Habitats Directive in 2007 the following relevant land-use plans are considered to require a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA):

- The Regional Spatial Strategy under Part 1 of the 2004 Planning Act.
- A Local Development Document as provided for in Part 2 of the 2004 Planning Act other than a statement of community involvement.

The Core Strategy of Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council's Local Development Framework is considered to be a Local Development Document (a 'Plan') that falls under Part IV, 85A-(2) of the 2007 Habitats Regulations Amendments and therefore is required to be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment (to be taken at least through the screening stage (Stage 1)).

- 1.3 European protected sites (the 'Natura 2000 Network') are of exceptional importance for the conservation of important species and natural habitats within the European Union. The purpose of Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) of land use plans is to ensure that protection of the integrity of European protected sites is an integral part of the planning process at a regional and local level. The network of European protected sites comprises Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar sites. Government guidance advises that potential SPAs (pSPA), candidate SACs (cSAC) and potential Ramsar (pRamsar) sites are also included in HRAs.
- 1.4 The earliest iteration of the HRA (GMEU June 2008) looked at the three preferred spatial options presented by Trafford MBC for consultation. This Assessment concluded that "it is considered likely that it is the scale and type of development as a whole that will be the determining factor for any impact of development on the special interest of the European Sites, rather than the spatial location of this development within the borough" but that further work would be required once the Core Strategy had developed further.
- 1.5 A further iteration of the HRA (GMEU June 2009) looked at the refined Core Strategy (Preferred Option) and:
- Identified by a screening process that the Manchester Mosses SAC could potentially be affected by either development in areas selected by Trafford MBC as Strategic Locations or Strategic Sites or affected by Core Policies outlined in the Preferred Option.

- Identified the possible impacts that the Core Policies in the Preferred Option or that development within the Strategic Locations and Strategic Sites may have on features of nature conservation importance within the Manchester Mosses SAC.
  - Identified sites and development proposals that would require further Assessment as part of the ongoing HRA of Trafford's Core Strategy.
- 1.6 Following consultation during 2009 and 2010, the Trafford's Core Strategy has been further revised. This HRA therefore reassesses the potential impacts of the Core Strategy on European Sites in the North of England.
- 1.7 Habitats Regulation Assessments can be seen as having a number of discrete stages -
- Stage 1 - Screening
  - Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment
  - Stage 3 – Assessment of Alternatives
  - Stage 4 – Assessment where no alternatives are available
- 1.8 This document comprises Stage 1 of the Habitats Regulation Assessment process and contributes to the fulfilment of the Council's statutory duty as regards Article 6(3). That is, it is an Opinion on, and an Assessment of, whether or not the selection of Strategic Locations for development and the Core Policies identified within Trafford Council's DPD1 Core Strategy (hereafter referred to as 'the Plan'), may have a significant effect on the special interest of the Manchester Mosses SAC. It is also an Opinion on, and an Assessment of, whether any of the identified effects (if any) can be avoided or mitigated or whether any of the Strategic Locations need to be deselected or whether the wording of the Core Policies needs to be amended.
- 1.9 It is noted that the Plan being assessed is still at the development stage and further assessments may be required as the Plan develops further. There is no statutory guidance on what stage of Plan production to best prepare a HRA but Natural England recommends that HRA begins at an early stage and if necessary continues through all the stages of plan production. HRA Methodologies are at a relatively early stage of development and examples of Best Practice have not yet emerged. As Best Practice emerges the methodology undertaken for this HRA may develop.
- 1.20 The Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU), as the specialist ecological adviser to Trafford Council, has prepared this Screening Opinion. Natural England and the JNCC were consulted for information on the conservation objectives and favourable condition tables for the European Sites concerned (the information is summarised below). GMEU ecologists, who are familiar with the European sites concerned and their special interest, reviewed the ecological information for the site. The key vulnerabilities and sensitivities of the European sites concerned are well understood by GMEU allowing for an informed assessment of the possible effects of the Plan, and any specific aims, objectives and policies contained in the Plan.

## **2 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PLAN**

- 2.1 The Plan being assessed is the Core Strategy of Trafford's Local Development Framework, DPD1 (Publication).

The Plan will:

- (i) Outline the Council's vision for Trafford up to the year 2023 and how managing the change necessary to achieve this vision is envisaged.
- (ii) Provide a strategic framework against which decisions about the use of land can be planned.

- 2.2 Since the Preferred Option a number of significant revisions have been made to the Core Strategy. The number of Strategic Locations has been reduced from thirteen to five and Strategic Sites have been removed from the plan. The majority of the Core Policies have not been significantly changed. The details of these Strategic Sites and Core Policies are not repeated in this document but can be found in the Core Strategy documentation that should be read along side this HRA.
- 2.3 For the purposes of this Assessment the Plan is not complete; further iterations will likely arise following consultation on the Plan. An opinion is being sought at this stage of Plan development to ensure that the requirements to meet terms of the Regulations regarding Habitats Regulation Assessment can be properly planned for and addressed.
- 2.4 As part of the Plan five Strategic Locations have been identified. These are areas within Trafford where development will be centred. The areas are briefly described below and are represented spatially in Fig 2, located at the end of the document for ease of production. It should be noted that the boundaries of the Strategic Locations shown are indicative only and exact boundaries will not be defined until the production of the Land Allocation DPD and Carrington Area Action Plan. The rationale behind the selection of these Locations can be found in other documents within the overall LDF. Details of the exact nature and type of development that may be allowed in these areas may be subject to change. At this stage of the process only the broad type and scale of preferred development is available for Assessment and consequently the Assessment has largely considered the principle of allowing the Sites to be proposed as areas where development is to be brought forward as part of the Plan. The identified Strategic Locations will be further consulted upon as part of the development of the Local Development Framework and it is recognised that the locations, and the type of preferred development in these areas, may be subject to change.
- 2.5 It should be noted that none of the Strategic Locations lies on or directly adjacent to any SAC, therefore no direct land take of a European Site is proposed. No Natura 2000 sites lie within the administrative boundary of Trafford MBC and the majority of the Strategic Locations lie more than 5km away from any protected sites. Where a site lies in closer proximity, this is highlighted below.

## 2.6 Strategic Locations

	Name	Area (ha)	Distance from European Site* (km)	Strategic Proposal
SL1	Pomona Island	12.9	Over 11.5	<p>A new mixed-use commercial district will be created to complement the offers of the city centre and Salford Quays / Mediacity:uk. It will be a new destination for business and leisure users combining significant commercial and recreational development for communities in the city centre and Old Trafford areas. Specifically, development in this location will potentially deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10 Ha of employment activity;</li> <li>• 546 residential units in line with the extant planning permission;</li> <li>• New commercial leisure facilities;</li> <li>• Small scale ancillary retail and restaurant uses;</li> <li>• Appropriate new community facilities to support those people using the development;</li> <li>• A substantial new area of open space for informal recreation, and,</li> <li>• New and improved pedestrian links.</li> </ul>
SL2	Trafford Wharfside	86.1	Over 9.6	<p>The Council will identify and promote land for development within this Location to create a major mixed-use area of regional and international significance. The focus will be on opportunities for new economic (particularly digital and media industries), leisure (hotels and visitor attractions) and residential development.</p> <p>Specifically, redevelopment to potentially provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the Mediacity:uk area: high quality mixed-use development for employment activity (15 hectares of mainly B1 office and light industrial uses), leisure (including hotels) residential development (900 units) and an appropriate scale of supporting retail and community uses;</li> <li>• A high quality, high density, multi-storey mixed-use redevelopment of Victoria Warehouses which is a prominent long-standing, under-used, 1.4 hectare site located at the Trafford Wharfside eastern gateway. The mixed-use redevelopment to comprise: residential apartments; commercial office accommodation; hotel accommodation; and ancillary leisure and retail accommodation;</li> <li>• In the Manchester United stadium area: development that supports the existing football stadium and associated hospitality, conference, retail and visitor facilities.</li> </ul>
SL3	Lancashire County Cricket Club Quarter	33.3	Over 9.3	<p>A major mixed-use development will be delivered in this Location to provide a high quality experience for visitors balanced with a new, high quality residential neighbourhood centred on an improved stadium at Lancashire County Cricket Club.</p> <p>Specifically, development in this Location will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a redeveloped LCCC sports stadium with ancillary sports and leisure facilities;</li> <li>• 400 residential units comprising predominantly accommodation suitable for families;</li> <li>• A redeveloped and renovated Trafford Town Hall providing new accommodation for Trafford Council's Civic and Administrative functions;</li> <li>• improvements to education, community and commercial facilities (including a superstore), and,</li> <li>• Improvements to the local highway network and better linkages with public transport infrastructure.</li> </ul>

	Name	Area (ha)	Distance from European Site* (km)	Strategic Proposal
SL4	Trafford Centre Rectangle	208.6	over 5.4	<p>A major mixed-use development will be delivered in this Location, providing a new residential neighbourhood, together with commercial, leisure and community facilities and substantial improvements to the public transport infrastructure.</p> <p>Specifically over the Plan period, development in this Location will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,050 residential units comprising, predominantly, accommodation suitable for families, on the land known as "Trafford Quays", commercial office (B1) space and, community facilities;</li> <li>• 15 hectares of land for employment activity providing high quality commercial (B1) development, and including a landmark building, not exceeding 30,000 sq m at the Former Kratos site;</li> <li>• New community facilities to support those people using the development;</li> <li>• A high quality (4* minimum) hotel and conference facility, in the region of 200 bed spaces located close to Junction 9 of the M60;</li> <li>• A new museum facility on land at the corner of Barton Dock Road and Phoenix Way.</li> </ul>
SL5	Carrington	390.8	Approximately 3.1	<p>A major mixed-use development will be delivered in this Location, providing a new residential community, together with employment, educational, health and recreational facilities. This will be supported by substantial improvements to both public transport and road infrastructure.</p> <p>Specifically development in this Location during the Plan period will deliver:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1,560 residential units comprising, predominantly, accommodation suitable for families;</li> <li>• 75 hectares of land for employment activities as detailed in Policy W1;</li> <li>• Contributions towards a scheme to mitigate the impact of traffic generated by the development on the Strategic, Primary and Local Road Networks;</li> <li>• Significant improvements to public transport infrastructure;</li> <li>• Community facilities including a new Local Centre, convenience retail, school provision, health and recreational facilities of a scale appropriate to the needs of the new community, and,</li> <li>• High quality green infrastructure within the new community and connects with the surrounding open countryside and protects and enhances the existing sites of environmental importance.</li> </ul>



- 2.7 The Core Policies of the Plan have also been considered in preparing this Assessment. The details of these Core Policies can be found elsewhere in the LDF documentation. The results of the Assessment of the Core Policies can be found in Section 5 of this Report.

### 3 IDENTIFICATION OF EUROPEAN DESIGNATED SITES CONCERNED

- 3.1 The HRA of the Core Strategy (Preferred Option) (GMEU 2009) initially identified two European protected sites that could potentially be effected by the Core Strategy. For easy of use, this screening process has been repeated in this iteration of the HRA, although it has not changed since 2009.
- 3.2 This Assessment has first screened European protected sites in the North of England to decide which of these sites are likely to be affected by development in Trafford (and in particular by development within the Strategic Locations). When assessing the impact of a Plan on European protected sites it is important to consider the impact on sites not only within the administrative area covered by the Plan but also those which fall outside the Plan boundary, as these could still potentially be affected by the Plan.
- 3.3 As a useful starting point, the Assessment has considered the suite of European sites assessed within the North West Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) Habitat Regulations Assessment. These sites are listed in Appendix 1. This ensures that *all* European sites considered to have the potential to be affected by development within the north-west region can be initially considered for assessment (screened).

#### 3.4 The Screening Criteria

In carrying out this screening process the Assessment has considered the main possible **sources** of effects on the European sites arising from the Plan, possible **pathways** to the European sites and the effects on possible sensitive **receptors** in the European sites. Only if there is an identifiable source, a pathway and a receptor is there likely to be a significant effect.

Possible sources and pathways for effects arising from development in the identified Sites and used in the screening of European sites are considered to be:

- Water (water pollution and hydrology)
- Air (air pollution)
- Direct land-take
- Habitat/Species Disturbance
- Increased recreational pressure

Guidance from the Environment Agency (EA) concerning distances at which significant effects on European sites are caused by water or air pollution have been taken into account during the screening of European sites. The EA has set recommended buffer zones for certain types of operation (in particular, waste treatment operations) that are in part applicable to other types of operation. Outside of these buffer zones significant effects on European sites arising from water and air pollution are considered unlikely to arise. The largest (most cautious) buffer zone considered by the EA is 5km; that is, most operations with the potential of causing direct water and/or air pollution impacts located further than 5km from the boundary of a European site are considered very unlikely to have a significant effect on the special interest of that site. Having taken advice DCLG has recognised a 5km buffer in its award of special resources to local authorities for carrying out HRA of Plans; those authorities whose boundaries lie more than 5km away from a European protected sites have not received additional resources to carry out Assessments because it is considered that effects are less likely to arise from development within the boundaries of these authorities.

Although this guidance has been taken into account when screening European protected sites, in the case of a Plan affecting the development of an entire metropolitan area, the 5km buffer zone should be regarded as important but not as definitive – for example, this buffer zone may not be sufficient when assessing certain large-scale developments or secondary impacts. In particular, applying the 5km buffer may not be appropriate where the likely effect on a European site is caused by **diffuse air or water pollution** that may arise from large scale development, or where there are secondary **recreational** pressures on more distant protected sites arising from increased regional and sub-regional populations.

#### **3.4.1 Diffuse Air Pollution**

The main types of air pollutants likely to have an adverse effect on an ecological site are:

- Oxides of Nitrogen (NO<sub>x</sub>)
- Ammonia (NH<sub>3</sub>)
- Dust
- Sulphur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>)
- Low level Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>)

*(Scott Wilson Ltd 2007)*

Of these NO<sub>x</sub> and SO<sub>3</sub> are the most likely to arise as a result of development controlled by the LDF process. The greatest damage caused by these pollutants occurs close to where they are emitted (within 250m) but an individual source of pollution may add to the general background levels, as pollutants are dispersed by prevailing winds. The main sources of these pollutants are road traffic and industrial processes. Where proposed developments within Trafford are likely to result in these pollutants arising, these have been screened into this Assessment. Where the proposed scale of development has already been assessed at the Regional level, these will be screened out.

#### **3.4.2 Diffuse Water Pollution**

Effects on distant European sites can occur through increases in water pollution caused by nutrient enrichment and/or industrial processes. Where proposed developments within Trafford are likely to result in this type of diffuse pollution arising and affecting a European site, these have been screened into this Assessment.

Of the sites considered under Appendix 1, diffuse water pollution could potentially have an effect on the Mersey Estuary SPA/Ramsar Site, since the river Bollin and the Manchester Ship Canal pass through Trafford and these eventually discharge into the Estuary. However, prior to discharging into the Estuary these watercourses pass through other Metropolitan areas, and the Estuary itself is adjacent to the Merseyside conurbation. It would therefore be very difficult to establish whether any water pollution arising from development in Trafford was responsible for a significant effect on pollution in the Estuary. It is further noted that the HRA for the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) did not identify development with Greater Manchester as likely to have a significant effect on this European protected site and for these reasons, the Mersey Estuary has been screened out of this HRA.

#### **3.4.3 Recreational Pressure**

The effects of increased regional and sub-regional populations on recreational pressures on north west European protected sites has been considered in the HRA of the North West RSS and is therefore not considered in detail in this report. Since there are no protected sites within Trafford it is generally considered that any recreational pressures arising from development within Trafford on protected sites will be diffuse and not significant.

3.5 The detailed results of the site screening process are found in Appendices 1 and 2 of this document. Appendix 1 shows the likely effects of the possible pathway and sources, outlined above (3.1), of future development in Trafford on these European Sites. Appendix 2 summarises the results of this screening process. The outcomes of the site screening process are given below.

### 3.6 Summary Results of Screening of Sites

From the screening process detailed in Appendix 1 and 2 the following European designated sites have been identified as having the potential to be affected by development within the selected Strategic Locations and by the Core Policies:

- **Manchester Mosses SAC**
- **Rixton Clay Pits SAC**

The nature conservation importance of these 'screened in' European designated sites is described in section 4 below.

3.7 **There are no European sites within the administrative boundary of Trafford Council and therefore, direct impacts such as habitat loss will not occur.**

## 4 THE NATURE CONSERVATION INTEREST OF THE MANCHESTER MOSSES SAC AND RIXTON CLAY PITS SAC

*The following information is derived from information available from Natural England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee and from information held by GMEU.*

### 4.1 Description of Rixton Clay Pits SAC

Situated east of Warrington, this site comprises part of an extensive disused brickworks excavated in glacial boulder clay. The excavation has left a series of hollows, which have filled with water since workings ceased in the 1960s, leading to a variety of pond sizes. New ponds have also been created more recently for wildlife and amenity purposes. **Great crested newt *Triturus cristatus*** are known to occur in at least 20 ponds across the site. The site also supports species-rich grassland, scrub and mature secondary woodland.

### 4.2 Primary Reason For Designation Of Rixton Clay Pits

The primary reason for the designation of Rixton Clay Pits is its population of great crested newts (*Triturus cristatus*). Sites are selected as SACs where there is evidence of a relatively large and robust population of great crested newts based on reliable recent survey data.

### 4.3 Conservation Objective for Rixton Clay Pits

The draft conservation objective for this site is to maintain the designated species, great crested newt, in favourable condition. On this site favourable condition requires the maintenance of the population of the newts and maintenance implies restoration if evidence from condition assessment suggests a reduction in size of the population (Natural England 2008).

### 4.4 Description of the Manchester Mosses SAC

Mossland formerly covered a very large part of low-lying Greater Manchester, Merseyside and southern Lancashire, and provided a severe obstacle to industrial and agricultural expansion. While most has been converted to agriculture or lost to development, several examples have survived as degraded raised bog, such as Astley & Bedford Mosses (Wigan), Risley Moss (Warrington) and Holcroft Moss (Warrington) on the Mersey floodplain. Their surfaces are now elevated above surrounding land due to shrinkage of the

surrounding tilled land, and all except Holcroft Moss have been cut for peat at some time in the past. While past drainage has produced dominant purple moor grass (*Molinia caerulea*), bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) and birch (*Betula*) spp. scrub or woodland, wetter pockets have enabled the peat-forming species to survive. Recent rehabilitation management on all three sites has caused these to spread.

#### 4.5 Primary Reason For Designation Of The Manchester Mosses SAC

The site supports degraded bog still capable of natural regeneration (JNCC code 7120), which has the potential to be restored to active raised bog (JNCC code 7110).

SAC sites have been selected on a site-by-site basis and according to the [\*Interpretation manual of European habitats\*](#) (European Commission DG Environment 1999); "where the hydrology can be repaired and where, with appropriate rehabilitation management, there is a reasonable expectation of re-establishing vegetation with peat-forming capability within 30 years".

#### 4.6 Conservation Objective of the Manchester Mosses

The Conservation Objective for the Manchester Mosses SAC is to maintain the bog habitat, subject to natural change, in favourable condition (Natural England 2007).

On this site favourable condition requires the maintenance of the extent of each designated habitat type. Maintenance implies restoration if evidence from a condition assessment suggests a reduction in extent. A series of site-specific standards defining favourable condition has been produced by Natural England. However these relate to management of the habitats on the site and are not particularly applicable to assessing the effects of development proposals on the SAC. Therefore in order to consider these potential impacts the operations that may damage the special interest of the SAC have to be considered. These include:

- Cultivation
- Grazing
- Mowing or cutting
- Application of manure, fertilisers or lime
- Application of pesticides
- Burning
- Drainage, both within and outside the boundaries of the site
- Extraction of minerals including peat, topsoil and subsoil
- Construction or removal of roads, tracks, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying or removal of pipelines and cables
- Erection of permanent structures
- Use of vehicles likely to damage the vegetation
- Pollution including atmospheric pollutants and NOxs
- Recreational activities

*(Adapted from information available from Natural England)*

## 5 SCREENING OPINIONS

### 5.1 Possible Impacts of the Plan on Rixton Clay Pits – Screening Opinion

Great crested newts rarely travel more than 500m from their breeding sites, and Natural England's Mitigation Guidelines (2001) quotes up to 1.3km as the longest distance travelled. Rixton Clay Pits is some 800m from the boundary of Trafford MBC. Since this boundary is the Manchester Ship Canal, there is a physical barrier which prevents the

newts from the clay pits moving into Trafford. In addition, the presence of the Ship Canal means that there is no direct hydrological connectivity between the Clay Pits and Trafford.

Since the site has no direct hydrological connectivity with Trafford it is considered that there will be no significant effects arising on the site through water pollution or loss/ gain of water.

Although publicly accessible, Rixton Clay Pits is regarded as a specialised *local* recreational resource. It is not considered that any increases in recreational activity arising from the Plan will significantly affect Rixton Clay Pits.

Since the site lies to the west of Trafford and prevailing wind directions are predominantly from the west and south west the possibility of air pollution from Trafford affecting the site is considered to be remote. In any case, none of the habitats present at Rixton Clay pits are considered to be particularly susceptible to small changes in air pollution.

**It is therefore concluded that there will be no direct or indirect effects arising from the Plan on the special nature conservation interest of Rixton Clay Pits.**

## **5.2 Possible Impacts of the Plan on the Manchester Mosses SAC – Screening Opinion**

Of the Operations listed above those considered to be the most important in relation to matters subject to the LDF process in Trafford are:

- Drainage, both within and outside the boundaries of the site
- Extraction of minerals including peat, topsoil and subsoil
- Construction or removal of roads, tracks, walls, fences, hardstands, banks, ditches or other earthworks or the laying or removal of pipelines and cables
- Erection of permanent structures
- Use of vehicles likely to damage the vegetation
- Pollution including atmospheric pollutants and NOx
- Recreational activities

5.3 It should be noted that in this section and in Section 6 of the Report it is the *broad principle* of development that is being assessed, rather than the detail of any proposed development, since these details are not yet available. Details of possible sources, pathways and receptors for impacts are not available for assessment at this stage of Plan production. The results of the screening are shown in Tables 5.1 for Strategic Locations

5.4 Table 5.2 shows the results of the screening for the Core Policies. Each of the Policy themes has been assessed to determine whether it is:

- Unlikely to have an effect on a European Site
- Could have a potential positive effect on a European Site
- Could have a potential negative effect on a European Site
- Would be likely to have a significant effect on a European Site

Only sites or policies with potential negative effects or significant effects have been “screened in”.

**Table 5.1 Screening Summary Table Strategic Locations – Manchester Mosses SAC**

Strategic Location	Damaging Impact	Likely significant effects of development	Screening Assessment
<b>LS1 Pomona Island</b>	Drainage	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise	Screened Out
	Mineral extraction	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising	Screened Out
	Construction or removal of physical structures	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Erection of permanent structures	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Use of vehicles	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Pollution	Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise (taking into account EA advice on buffer zones)	Screened Out
	Recreation Activities	Unlikely – site is too distant from the European site & there are nearer recreational sites within the Mersey Valley, for example.	Screened Out
<b>LS2 Trafford Wharfside</b>	Drainage	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise	Screened Out
	Mineral extraction	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising	Screened Out
	Construction or removal of physical structures	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Erection of permanent structures	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Use of vehicles	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Pollution	Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise (taking into account EA advice on buffer zones)	Screened Out
	Recreation Activities	Unlikely – site is too distant from the European site & there are nearer recreational sites within the Mersey Valley, for example.	Screened Out

Strategic Location	Damaging Impact	Likely significant effects of development	Screening Assessment
<b>LS3</b> Lancashire County Cricket Club Quarter	Drainage	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise	Screened Out
	Mineral extraction	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising	Screened Out
	Construction or removal of physical structures	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Erection of permanent structures	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Use of vehicles	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Pollution	Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise (taking into account EA advice on buffer zones)	Screened Out
	Recreation Activities	Unlikely – site is too distant from the European site & there are nearer recreational sites within the Mersey Valley, for example.	Screened Out
<b>LS4</b> Trafford Centre Rectangle	Drainage	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise	Screened Out
	Mineral extraction	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising	Screened Out
	Construction or removal of physical structures	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Erection of permanent structures	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Use of vehicles	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising.	Screened Out
	Pollution	Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise (taking into account EA advice on buffer zones)	Screened Out
	Recreation Activities	Unlikely – site is too distant from the European site & there are nearer recreational sites within the Mersey Valley, for example.	Screened Out

Strategic Location	Damaging Impact	Likely significant effects of development	Screening Assessment
<b>LS5 Carrington</b>	Drainage	Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and is separated by Manchester Ship Canal.	Screened Out
	Mineral extraction	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising	Screened Out
	Construction or removal of physical structures	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising	Screened Out
	Erection of permanent structures	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising	Screened Out
	Use of vehicles	Highly Unlikely – site is too distant from the Moss for such direct effects to arise and the nature of proposed development is unlikely to result in this impact arising	Screened Out
	Pollution	Possible – the industrial accommodation could result in an increase in atmospheric pollution depending on the type of industry	Screened In
	Recreation Activities	Possible – increase in residential units could result in increased recreational pressures on parts of the SAC	Screened In



**Table 5.2 Screening Summary Core Policies (June 2010) – Manchester Mosses SAC**

Policy Principle	Potential for Effect	Likely effects of Core Policy	Screening Assessment
<b>L1 - Land for new Homes</b>	Could have a potential negative effect on a European Site	Proposals to for new housing in the Carrington Strategic Location and the South City Region could have a negative effect on the SAC in relation to recreational pressures.	Screened In
<b>L2 - Meeting Housing Needs</b>	Unlikely to have an effect on a European Site	None	Screened Out
<b>L3 - Regeneration &amp; Reducing Inequalities</b>	Could have a potential positive effect on a European Site	The requirement for proposals within Regeneration Areas to secure improvements to the local environment could reduce any recreational pressures on the SAC.	Screened Out
<b>L4 - Sustainable Transport &amp; Accessibility</b>	Could have a potential negative effect on a European Site  Could have a potential positive effect on a European Site	New highway & public transport infrastructure schemes could lead to increases in atmospheric pollution, dependent on the location and type of the individual scheme.  However, some schemes may improve local environmental conditions and the emphasis of the policy towards an environmentally sustainable operation of the transport network could reduce atmospheric pollution. Measures to improve the public transport, pedestrian and cycling network may also reduce pollution.	Screened In
<b>L5 – Climate Change</b>	Could have a potential positive effect on a European Site	Measures to reduce the impact of new developments in relation to carbon, pollution and the water environment are likely to have a positive or neutral impact on the European site.	Screened Out
<b>L6 – Waste</b>	Could have a potential negative effect on a European Site	Level of impact depends on type and location of waste management facilities proposed. However the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document has been subject to a separate HRA.	Screened Out
<b>L7 – Design</b>	Unlikely to have an effect on a European Site	None	Screened Out
<b>L8 – Planning Obligations</b>	Unlikely to have an effect on a European Site	None	Screened Out
<b>W1 – Economy</b>	Could have a potential negative effect on a European Site	The level of employment provision within Trafford is set by the RSS and therefore should have been considered under the regional HRA. Of the Strategic Locations identified as the focus for economic activity only Carrington has been identified as having the potential to have a negative impact on the European Site. This impact is considered elsewhere.	Screened Out
<b>W2 – Town Centre</b>	Unlikely to have an effect on a European Site	None	Screened Out
<b>W3 Minerals</b>	Could have a potential negative effect on a European Site	Dependent on policies in the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Plan Document in relation to peat extraction and sand and gravel extraction beneath the peat. However the Joint Minerals Plan will be subject to a separate HRA and currently has a presumption against further peat extraction.	Screened Out

Policy Principle	Potential for Effect	Likely effects of Core Policy	Screening Assessment
<b>R1 Historic Built Environment</b>	Unlikely to have an effect on a European Site	None	Screened Out
<b>R2 - Natural Environment</b>	Could have a potential positive effect on a European Site	Protection given to the natural environment in Trafford could reduce any recreational pressures with the SAC by encouraging residents to visit sites within Trafford. Support also to given the Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan	Screened Out
<b>R3 – Green Infrastructure</b>	Could have a potential positive effect on a European Site	The measures outlined in this Policy could have positive benefits to the European site.	Screened Out
<b>R4 – Green Belt &amp; Other Protected Open Land</b>	Could have a potential positive effect on a European Site	The protection given to the green belt, agricultural land and other protected open land particularly in the west of the borough could also offer protection to the SAC from impacts such as airborne pollutants.	Screened Out
<b>R5 – Open Space &amp; Recreation</b>	Could have a potential positive effect on a European Site	Measures to protect and enhance the open spaces and recreational facilities within Trafford could reduce any recreational pressures (existing or future) on the SAC	Screened Out
<b>R6 – Culture &amp; Tourism</b>	Unlikely to have an effect on a European Site	None	Screened Out

## 6 Summary of the Screening Opinion – Manchester Mosses SAC

### 6.1 Impacts on the Manchester Mosses SAC

The Screening Opinion of the HRA has concluded that development in the following area could have a significant effect on the special interest of the Manchester Mosses:

**Table 6.1 Potential effects on the special interest of the Manchester Mosses SAC arising from development of Strategic Locations and Locations**

Strategic Location / Site	Potential effect/impact on the Manchester Mosses SAC
LS5 Carrington	Effects could arise from potential atmospheric pollution and recreational pressure

- 6.2 The Screening Opinion of the HRA has concluded that the following Core Policies could have a significant effect on the special interest of the Manchester Mosses:

**Table 6.2 Potential effect on the special interest of the Manchester Mosses SAC arising from the Core Policies**

Core Policy	Potential effect/impact on the Manchester Mosses SAC
L1 - Land for new Homes	Proposals for new housing in the Carrington Strategic Location and the South City Region could have a negative effect on the SAC in relation to recreational pressures.
L4 - Sustainable Transport & Accessibility	New highway & public transport infrastructure schemes could lead to increases in atmospheric pollution, dependent on the location and type of the individual scheme.

- 6.2 Further Assessment of these impacts is carried out below.

## 7. CONSIDERATION OF 'IN COMBINATION' EFFECTS WITH OTHER PLANS AND PROPOSALS

- 7.1 The Habitats Regulation Assessment must consider the likely significant effect of the Plan in relation to other proposals and plans current or planned within the relevant administrative area, other administrative authorities and prepared by other statutory organisations (e.g. Environment Agency, United Utilities) and in combination with the identified effects of those Plans.
- 7.2 It can be considered that this will fall into two categories: those effects associated with regional strategic plans and proposals and those related to more localised 'in-combination' effects, either with adjacent Authorities or geographically localised plans from other statutory agencies.
- 7.3 The North West Regional Spatial Strategy has considered the 'in-combination' effects of the Region's Projects and Plans at a strategic level (Entec January 2007) and therefore such regionally strategic plans are not considered further in this Assessment.

- 7.4 As regards the emerging Core Strategies and other Development Plan Documents of neighbouring Greater Manchester authorities, those ready for initial Assessment have been screened by GMEU. These are listed in Appendix 3. Two, Manchester and Oldham, have been assessed as potentially having an effect on a European site. However, the European Site in question is the Rochdale Canal, which has been screened out of this Assessment. Salford City Council's LDF also has the potential to have a significant effect on the Manchester Mosses SAC. However, the LDF is still at an early stage with no information available as yet to any potential impacts on the SAC.
- 7.5 The HRA of Wigan Council's LDF has identified potential site allocations that could have a significant effect on the Manchester Mosses SAC. However, this Assessment concluded that providing mitigating plans, policies and strategies are adopted and implemented appropriately through the development management process, development within the Sites could proceed without harm being caused to the special interest of the SAC. It was not justifiable to restrict development *per se* in any of the identified areas. At this stage it is therefore considered that there will be no identifiable in-combination effects with Trafford's Core Strategy.
- 7.6 Given the nature of the Manchester Mosses SAC, plans and proposals in Warrington MBC area also need to be considered. Warrington's LDF is still at an early stage, with Issues and Options yet to go out for consultation. A number of Supplementary Planning Documents have been produced, which are listed in Appendix 3. However none of these were found to have a significant effect on the SAC.
- 7.7 This Assessment will be updated and amended as necessary as further Plans come forward for Assessment in order to take into account possible 'in-combination' effects arising, particularly within Wigan, Warrington and Salford.

## 8 ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS IDENTIFIED THROUGH THE SCREENING PROCESS

**Table 8.1** Assessment of the potential effects of development on the special interest of the Manchester Mosses SAC identified through the Screening stage of the HRA with consideration of the potentially mitigating influence of other plans, policies and strategies.

Strategic Location / Site	Potential Effects	Mitigating plans, policies and strategies	Is the impact considered to remain significant after applying mitigating influences?
<b>LS5 Carrington</b>	<p>The proposed use of this site includes general industrial accommodation, although no details are available as to the exact nature of this industry. There is the potential for an increase in atmospheric pollution depending on the type of industry.</p> <p>The proposal also includes the development of 1560 residential units. There is the potential for this to place recreational pressure on the SAC.</p> <p>Details of these impacts cannot be fully assessed at this stage because details of any specific development are not yet available. This Assessment considers the <i>principle</i> of allowing the area to be put forward as a Strategic Location and whether there are sufficient safeguards in place to allow it to be brought forward for development without damaging the integrity of the European site.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Proposal includes provision for recreational facilities.</li> <li>2. Policy L5 on Climate Change, particularly the requirements relating to pollution.</li> <li>3. Policy R3 on Green Infrastructure.</li> <li>4. Policy R2 on Natural Environment.</li> <li>5. Policy EM1 of the NW RSS requiring due consideration to be given to the conservation of biodiversity and the natural environment.</li> <li>6. Policy EM3 of the NW RSS for enhancing green infrastructure.</li> <li>7. The Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan identifying Mosslands as a priority habitat for conservation.</li> <li>8. European Habitats Directive requiring Appropriate Assessment of plans.</li> <li>9. Requirement within LS5 Policy to protect and enhance the Mossland.</li> </ol>	<p>Providing that the mitigating plans, policies and strategies are adopted and implemented appropriately through the development management process, it is considered that there will be sufficient safeguards in place to avoid significant harm to the special interest of the Manchester Mosses arising from the development at this Strategic Location. However, if further details of the likely nature of the industrial allocation come forward further assessment may be needed.</p>

**Table 8.2** Assessment of the potential effects of Core Policies on the special interest of the Manchester Mosses SAC identified through the Screening stage of the HRA with consideration of the potentially mitigating influence of other plans, policies and strategies.

Core Policy	Potential Effects	Mitigating plans, policies and strategies	Is the impact considered to remain significant after applying mitigating influences?
<b>L1 - Land for new Homes</b>	Proposals for new housing in the Carrington Strategic Location and the South City Region could have a negative effect on the SAC in relation to recreational pressures.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policy L3 on Regeneration &amp; Reducing Inequalities.</li> <li>2. Policy L4 on Sustainable Transport &amp; Accessibility, particularly the requirements relating to pedestrian and cycling network.</li> <li>3. Policy L8 on Planning Obligations.</li> <li>4. Policy R3 on Green Infrastructure.</li> <li>5. Policy R2 on Natural Environment.</li> <li>6. Policy R5 on Open Space &amp; Recreation</li> <li>7. Policy EM1 of the NW RSS requiring due consideration to be given to the conservation of biodiversity and the natural environment</li> <li>8. Policy EM3 of the NW RSS for enhancing green infrastructure</li> <li>9. The Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan identifying Mosslands as a priority habitat for conservation.</li> <li>10. European Habitats Directive requiring Appropriate Assessment of plans</li> </ol>	Providing that the mitigating plans, policies and strategies are adopted and implemented appropriately through the development management process, it is considered that there will be sufficient safeguards in place to avoid significant harm to the special interest of the Manchester Mosses arising from the development at this Strategic Location.
<b>L4 - Sustainable Transport &amp; Accessibility</b>	New highway & public transport infrastructure schemes could lead to increases in atmospheric pollution, dependent on the location and type of the individual scheme. Conversely local scheme could decrease pollution by improvements to congestion or reduction in the number of journeys made.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Policy L5 on Climate Change, particularly the requirements relating to pollution.</li> <li>2. Policy R3 on Green Infrastructure.</li> <li>3. Policy R2 on Natural Environment.</li> <li>4. Policy EM1 of the NW RSS requiring due consideration to be given to the conservation of biodiversity and the natural environment.</li> <li>5. Policy EM3 of the NW RSS for enhancing green infrastructure.</li> <li>6. The Greater Manchester Biodiversity Action Plan identifying Mosslands as a priority habitat for conservation.</li> <li>7. European Habitats Directive requiring Appropriate Assessment of plans.</li> </ol>	Providing that the mitigating plans, policies and strategies are adopted and implemented appropriately through the development management process, it is considered that there will be sufficient safeguards in place to avoid significant harm to the special interest of the Manchester Mosses arising from this Core Policy. However individual transport schemes may require further assessment, depending on their type and location.

## 9 SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Screening of European sites has established that the following site has the potential to be affected by development in the Strategic Locations and Core Policies identified as part of Trafford's LDF Core Strategy:

- Manchester Mosses SAC

9.2 Screening of these factors has established that development within the following locations and the Core Policies have the potential to have a significant effect on the Manchester Mosses SAC:

Strategic Location / Site / Core Policy	Potential effect/impact on the Manchester Mosses SAC
<b>LS5 Carrington</b>	Effects could arise from potential atmospheric pollution and recreational pressure
<b>LS1 - Land for new Homes</b>	Proposals to for new housing in the Carrington Strategic Location and the South City Region could have a negative effect on the SAC in relation to recreational pressures.
<b>L4 - Sustainable Transport &amp; Accessibility</b>	New highway & public transport infrastructure schemes could lead to increases in atmospheric pollution, dependent on the location and type of the individual scheme.

9.3 Further, more detailed Assessment of the possible effects of development of the Strategic Locations and Core Policies on the Manchester Mosses SAC identified in the Screening process has been undertaken (Section 8).

9.4 This Assessment has concluded that, providing mitigating plans, policies and strategies are adopted and implemented appropriately through the development management process, development within the identified areas could proceed without harm being caused to the special interest of the Moss. It is recognised that the implementation of such plans, policies and strategies may restrict the scale and type of development brought forward in the identified Sites, but that it is not justifiable to restrict development *per se* in these areas. This opinion is based on this Screening Opinion supplemented by the experience and knowledge of the author in assessing the impacts of developments considered to have the potential to affect the special interest of the Moss.

9.5 It is **recommended** that the Carrington Area Action Plan be subject to a separate HRA

9.6 It is **recommended** that the Land Allocation DPD be subject to a separate HRA.

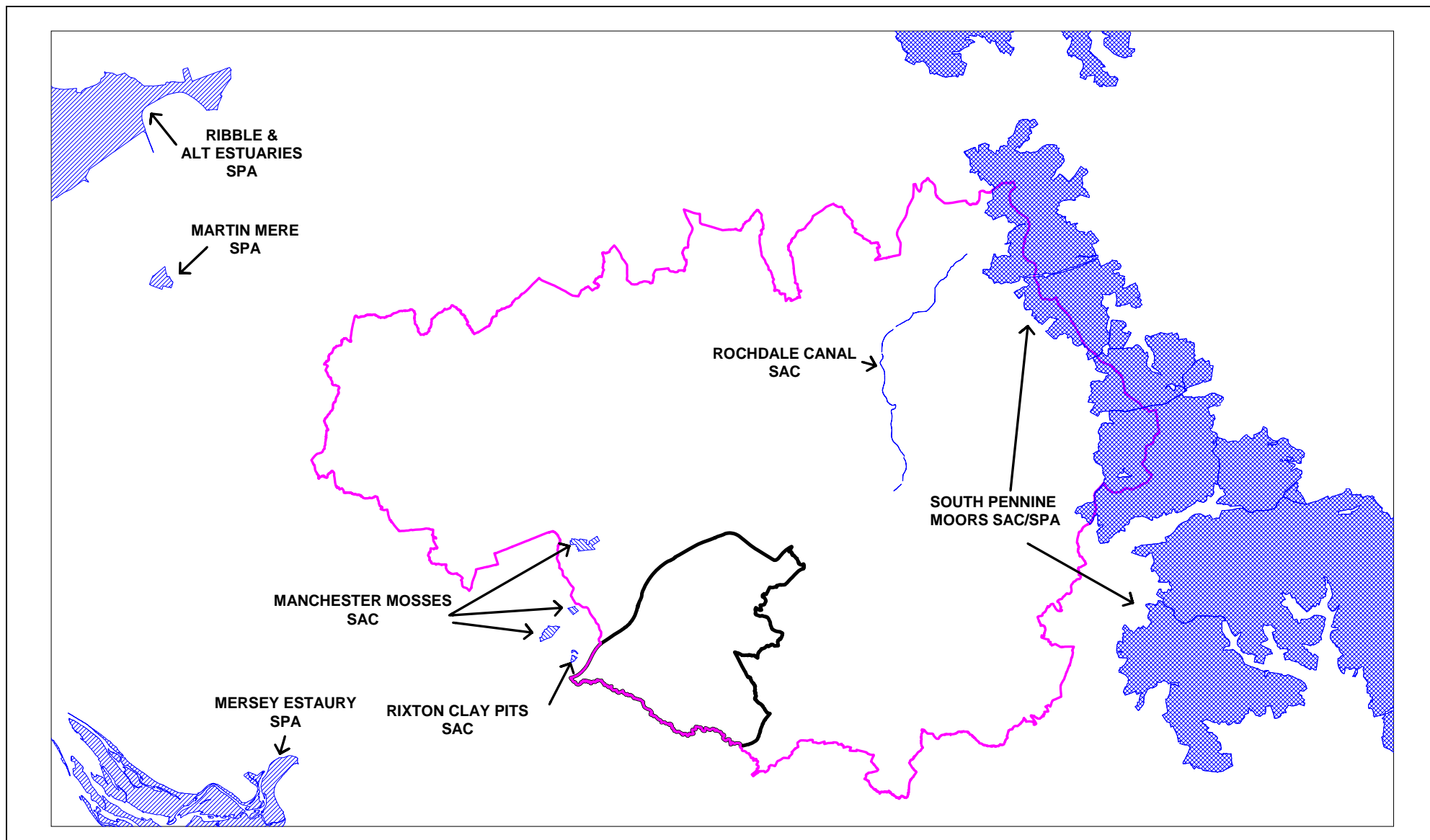
9.7 It is **recommended** that any housing provision (under Policy L1), particularly those within the South City Region and within the 5km radius of the Manchester Mosses SAC that would result in increased recreational pressure on the Manchester Mosses SAC be referred for possible HRA so that appropriate mitigation for any damaging impacts can be implemented.

9.8 It is **recommend** that any transport infrastructure schemes (under Policy L4) that could potentially have a negative effect on the European Site be referred for possible HRA as part of the development management process so that appropriate mitigation for any damaging impacts can be implemented. As a preliminary guide, proposals within 5km of Manchester Mosses SAC should be considered.

- 9.9 It is **recommended** that the outcome of the Greater Manchester Joint Minerals Development Document and any implications for Core Policy W3 be kept under review.



**Figure 1 – Map Showing Location of European Sites within Greater Manchester and in Close Proximity to the County**



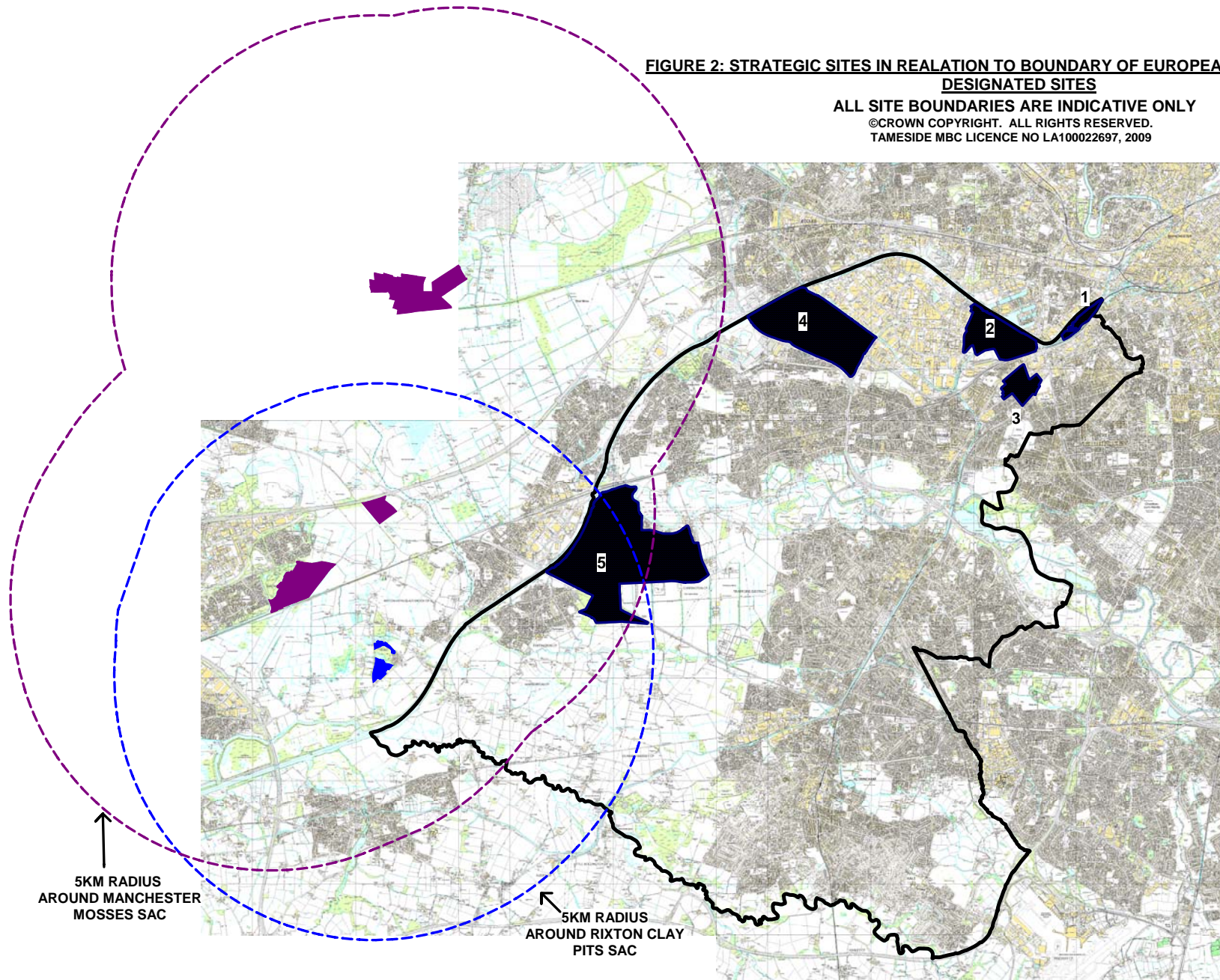
**FIGURE 2: STRATEGIC SITES IN REALATION TO BOUNDARY OF EUROPEAN DESIGNATED SITES**  
**DESIGNATED SITES**

**ALL SITE BOUNDARIES ARE INDICATIVE ONLY**

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**KEY:**

- STRATEGIC LOCATIONS**
- 1 POMONA ISLAND
- 2 TRAFFORD WHARFSIDE
- 3 LANCASHIRE COUNTY CRICKET CLUB QUARTER
- 4 TRAFFORD CENTRE RECTANGLE
- 5 CARRINGTON
- BOUNDARY OF TRAFFORD MBC**
- MANCHESTER MOSSES SAC**
- RIXTON CLAY PITS SAC**



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- Natural England (2007) *Conservation Objectives: Astley & Bedford Moss – Consultation Draft*. Available from Natural England

## APPENDIX 1: European designated sites within the North West Region and possible effects from development within Trafford MBC

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Asby Complex	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species in SAC are generally restricted to habitat types that do not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Border Mires, Kielder – Butterburn	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direction disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Borrowdale Woodland Complex	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Bowland Fells	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – identified species are highly unlikely to utilise habitats within Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford



Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Calf Hill & Cragg Woods	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Clints Quarry	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None - Species population too distant to be affected by any development with Greater Manchester and species dispersion known to be less than 2km.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Cumbrian Marsh Fritillary Site	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None - Species found in Cumbria is distinct national population, with adults being sedentary. Species not known to occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Dee Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Drigg Coast	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford. Trafford rivers do not discharge into Drigg Estuary
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats in SAC are restricted to habitat types that do not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Duddon Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Duddon Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Esthwaite Water	Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Irthinghead Mires	Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Lake District High Fells	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats or species
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Leighton Moss	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA and Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Liverpool Bay	pSPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – no information available as to species site selected for but type of species present highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford (based on knowledge of Greater Manchester bird populations)
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Manchester Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	Potential drainage effects
		Air Pollution	Potential effects from airborne pollutants
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	Potential for habitats to be effected by hydrological impacts and pollution
		Increased recreational Pressure	Potential effects due to increased population
Martin Mere	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Mersey Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - Strategic impacts of increased development in Trafford on the water quality in the SPA/Ramsar Site are considered under the HRA for RSS, where figures for employment land and residential development are set.
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be significantly effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford



Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Mersey Narrows & Wirral Foreshore	pSPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	Site classification details unavailable but there are unlikely to be any hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	Site classification details unavailable but there are unlikely to be any atmospheric pathways between SPA and land within Trafford
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – no information available as to species site selected for but type of species present highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford (based on knowledge of Greater Manchester bird populations).
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Midland Meres & Mosses – Phase 1 & Phase 2	2 x Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Moor House – Upper Teasdale	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Morcombe Bay	SAC/Ramsar/SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Trafford. Trafford rivers do not discharge into Morcombe Bay
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats in SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site are restricted to habitat types that do not occur in Greater Manchester. Dispersion of Great Crested Newts is known to be less than 2km. Bird species unlikely to be effected by habitat changes within Trafford.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Morcombe Bay Pavements	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species in SAC are generally restricted to habitat types that do not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Naddle Forest	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
North Pennine Dales Meadows	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species. Habitats in SAC are generally restricted to habitat types that do not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
North Pennine Moors	SAC/SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC/SPA and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC/SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species. Species unlikely to be effected by changes to habitats in Trafford.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Oak Mere	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant from for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – Any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Ribble & Alt Estuaries	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
River Dee & Bala Lake	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
River Derwent & Bassenthwaite Lake	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None – no water borne pollution pathways to SAC from Greater Manchester. Strategic impacts of increased development in Trafford on the water levels in the SAC are considered under the HRA for RSS, where figures for employment land and residential development are set.
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
River Eden	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
River Ehen	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None - No hydrological connections and main species (fresh water pearl mussel) does not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
River Kent	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Rixton Clay Pits	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	Possible - site lies within 800m of Trafford
		Air Pollution	Unlikely – air pollution not identified as potentially damaging operation on interest of SAC
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	Possible - site lies within 800m of Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	Possible - site lies within 800m of Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Rochdale Canal	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Rostherne Mere	Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Roudsea Wood & Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Sefton Coast	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species. Habitat types do not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Solway Firth	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
South Pennine Moors	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None – hydrological impact pathways are in reverse direction.
		Air Pollution	None – Any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
South Pennine Moors Phase 2	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – Any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
South Solway Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Subberthwaite , Blawith & Torver Low Commons	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Tarn Moss	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Tyne & Nent	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats. Habitat not found in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford



Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Ullswater Oakwoods	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Upper Solway Flats & Marshes	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Trafford
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Walton Moss	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Wast Water	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitat. Habitat does not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
West Midlands Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Witherslack Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford
Yewbarrow Woods	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Trafford
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Trafford

**APPENDIX 2: Screening Summary of European designated sites within the North West Region and possible impacts from development within Trafford MBC**

Site Name	Designation	Screened in/out	Justification
Asby Complex	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Border Mires, Kielder – Butterburn	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Borrowdale Woodland Complex	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Bowland Fells	SPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Calf Hill & Cragg Woods	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Clints Quarry	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Cumbrian Marsh Fritillary Site	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Dee Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Drigg Coast	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Duddon Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Duddon Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Esthwaite Water	Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Irthinghead Mires	Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Lake District High Fells	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Leighton Moss	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA

Site Name	Designation	Screened in/out	Justification
Liverpool Bay	pSPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Manchester Mosses	SAC	In	Site lies partly within Wigan MBC area
Martin Mere	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Mersey Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Mersey Narrows & Wirral Foreshore	pSPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Midland Meres & Mosses – Phase 1 & Phase 2	2 x Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Moor House – Upper Teasdale	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Morcombe Bay	SAC/Ramsar/SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Morcombe Bay Pavements	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Naddle Forest	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
North Pennine Dales Meadows	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
North Pennine Moors	SAC/SPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Oak Mere	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)	SPA	Out	Although within Greater Manchester the site is considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no known pathways exist between SPA and Wigan.
Ribble & Alt Estuaries	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
River Dee & Bala Lake	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA

Site Name	Designation	Screened in/out	Justification
River Derwent & Bassenthwaite Lake	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
River Eden	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
River Ehen	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
River Kent	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Rixton Clay Pits	SAC	In	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Rochdale Canal	SAC	Out	Although within Greater Manchester the site is considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no known pathways exist between SPA and Wigan.
Rostherne Mere	Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Roudsea Wood & Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Sefton Coast	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Solway Firth	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
South Pennine Moors	SAC	Out	Although within Greater Manchester the site is considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no known pathways exist between SPA and Wigan.
South Pennine Moors Phase 2	SPA	Out	Although within Greater Manchester the site is considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no known pathways exist between SPA and Wigan.
South Solway Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise
Subberthwaite, Blawith & Torver Low Commons	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Tarn Moss	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA

Site Name	Designation	Screened in/out	Justification
Tyne & Nent	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Ullswater Oakwoods	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Upper Solway Flats & Marshes	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Walton Moss	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Wast Water	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
West Midlands Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Witherslack Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Yewbarrow Woods	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA

### APPENDIX 3 – List of Other Plans and Projects Considered within the Assessment

Plans Assessed under the Terms of the Habitats Regulations by GMEU

District	Plan	Outcome of Assessment
Rochdale MBC	SPD 'Energy and New Development'	No effect on European Sites
Rochdale MBC	SPD provision of Recreational Open Space in New Housing Developments	No effect on European Sites
Rochdale MBC	SPD Development of East Central Rochdale	No effect on European Sites
Rochdale MBC	SPD Biodiversity and Development	No effect on European Sites
Rochdale MBC	SPD Affordable Housing	No effect on European Sites
Manchester CC	SPD Providing for Housing Choice	No effect on European Sites
Manchester CC	LDF Core Strategy (Proposed Option)	Potential Effect on Rochdale Canal SAC
Bolton MBC	LDF Core Strategy Issues and Options	No effect on European Sites
Bolton MBC	LDF Core Strategy (Publication Document)	No effect on European Sites
Trafford MBC	LDF Core Strategy Issues and Options	No effect on European Sites
Trafford MBC	LDF Core Strategy (Preferred Option)	Potential Effect on Manchester Mosses SAC
Bury MBC	LDF Core Strategy Issues and Options	No effect on European Sites
Oldham MBC	LDF Broad Locations for Preferred Options	Potential Effects on Rochdale Canal SAC
Wigan MBC	LDF Core Strategy Preferred Options	Potential Effects on Manchester Mosses
Salford CC	LDF Draft Core Strategy	No identified effect on European Sites at this stage – further assessment may be needed at a later stage

Plans Assessed under the Terms of the Habitats Regulations by other bodies

District	Plan	Outcome of Assessment
Warrington MBC	SPD – Managing the Housing Supply	No effect on European Sites
Warrington MBC	SPD – Affordable Housing	No effect on European Sites
Warrington MBC	SPD – Travel Plans	No effect on European Sites
Warrington MBC	SPD – Planning Obligations	No effect on European Sites
Warrington MBC	SPD – Landscape Design Guide for new development	No effect on European Sites
Warrington MBC	SPD – Open Space & Recreation Provision	No effect on European Sites
Warrington MBC	SPD – Bridge Street Area	No effect on European Sites
Rochdale MBC	LDF – Draft Core Strategy	Potential effect on Rochdale Canal SAC