

Oldham

Local Plan

**Local Plan Review: Draft Local Plan
Habitats Regulations Assessment**

December 2023



Oldham
Council

Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Oldham Draft Local Plan 2022-2039

November 2023



Greater Manchester
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Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Impact of Oldham Local Plan Policies and Proposed Allocations on the Natura 2000 Network; European Protected Sites

1. Introduction

European protected sites (also known as the National Sites Network) are of exceptional importance for the conservation of important species and natural habitats at a European scale.

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 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 should also be included in HRAs.

Article 6(3) of the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) 2019 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.”

The Oldham Local Plan is regarded as a Plan which is considered likely to have significant effects on one or more European protected site and should therefore be subject to assessment.

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

This document forms Stage 1 and Stage 2 of the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) process and contributes to the fulfilment of the Council’s statutory duty as regards Article 6(3). It is a **Screening Opinion and Assessment** concerned with reaching an opinion as to whether the Plan needs to be amended to avoid harm to European sites or needs to go forward for further, more detailed Assessment of impacts. It is not a stand-alone document and must be read in conjunction with the full Plan.

It is noted that the Plan being assessed is still at a developmental stage and will be subject to public consultation and likely further amendment. Further Assessments may therefore be required if further changes are made as a result of any further consultation or Examination.

This report has been prepared by ecologists from the Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU), as the specialist ecological adviser to Oldham Council. GMEU ecologists are familiar with the designated sites concerned and their special interests, and with the negative and positive factors affecting the integrity of these sites. The HRA has been undertaken using the professional judgement of GMEU ecologists.

1.1 Stage 1 – Screening

The purpose of the Screening stage of the HRA process is to identify the risk or the possibility of significant adverse effects on a European site which could undermine the achievement of a site's conservation objectives, and which therefore require further detailed examination through an appropriate assessment. If risks that might undermine a site's conservation objectives can clearly be ruled out (based on the consideration of objective information), a proposal will have no likely significant effect (LSE) and no appropriate assessment will be needed.

In order for a policy or an allocation in a Plan to be screened out of the HRA process a conclusion must be made 'beyond reasonable scientific doubt' that the policy or allocation will not have an LSE on the Natura 2000 site or its qualifying features.

Case law has established in relation to screening that:

- An effect is likely if it 'cannot be excluded on the basis of objective information' (Waddenzee C127-02 ∞ 45). This requires consideration and a conclusion made against known and presented data/survey or results/scientific evidence (for example, literature review).
- An effect is significant if it 'is likely to undermine the conservation objectives' [of the European protected site (Waddenzee (C127-02 ∞ 48)]. This excludes from consideration other impacts not related to the qualifying features and their conservation objectives.
- The Sweetman (case C258-11) also offers some simple guidance that the screening step 'operates merely as a trigger', in order to progress to further assessment stages through the process.

1.2 Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment

In 2017 the decision of the Court of Justice of the European Union (People over Wind, case C323/17) concluded that it was not appropriate within the Screening Stage to consider measures that would mitigate for impacts on the qualifying or designated features of the Natura 2000 site. This ruling has resulted in an update to the Habitats Regulations 2017 as they have been translated into UK domestic legislation and updated to reflect the exit of the UK from the European Union.

In a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment, evidence and detail should be considered which can demonstrate that a Plan including any embedded measures or additional mitigation can result in a conclusion that there would be no 'adverse effect on integrity' (AEOI), when considering a Natura 2000 site's conservation objectives.

In applying the Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment the relevant competent Authority, in this case Oldham Council, must also consider whether there is a relevant planning mechanism (which may apply at a different level of the planning hierarchy) which can secure the necessary mitigation via either conditions or obligations.

In the case of a high level Strategic Plan the level of detail in land use plans concerning developments that will be permitted under the Plan at some time in the future is rarely sufficient to allow the fullest quantification of potential adverse effects. It is therefore necessary to be cognisant of the fact that HRAs for plans can be tiered, with assessments being undertaken with increasing specificity at lower tiers. This is in line with DCLG guidance and court rulings that the level of detail of the assessment, whilst meeting the relevant requirements of the Habitats Regulations, should be 'appropriate' to the level of plan or project that it addresses.

Current Government guidance says:

"The scope and content of an appropriate assessment will depend on the nature, location, duration and scale of the proposed plan or project and the interest features of the relevant

site. 'Appropriate' is not a technical term. It indicates that an assessment needs to be proportionate and sufficient to support the task of the competent authority in determining whether the plan or project will adversely affect the integrity of the site."

That is, the Plan must make every effort to ensure that no Policies or Allocations will cause harm to the special nature conservation interest of European sites. However, where some doubt remains as to whether harm will occur the plan must show that sufficient safeguards will be in place in other levels of the planning hierarchy to ensure that no harm will be caused to the special interest of European sites.

A precautionary approach should always be taken.

1.3 In Combination Assessment

The Habitats Regulations also include a requirement for an assessment not only for a Plan alone but also for consideration of any LSE in combination with other projects or plans. An 'in combination' assessment should be undertaken for any impact that is shown to have an effect even where it might be considered 'de minimis' for the plan in isolation. In the application of the in combination test projects or plans are also considered to include reasonably foreseeable proposals (RFP), which may include projects, plans or schemes which have not concluded their passage through the development planning process, whether they are in full or outline or include other strategic planning documents.

1.4 Scope of the Assessment

This report examines the Oldham draft Local Plan and:

- Identifies by a Screening process any European site that could potentially be affected by the implementation of the Plan.
- Identifies Policies and Allocations that may have impacts on European protected sites.
- Identifies Policies and Allocations that may require further Assessment as part of the ongoing HRA of the Plan as it develops and makes recommendations, where necessary, on possible changes to the wording of future Policies in the Plan and/or changes to Allocations.

2. Brief description of the Plan

The Plan being assessed is the Oldham Draft Local Plan 2022-2039.

The primary purposes of the Plan are to –

- Set out the policies through which the Council will manage development coming forward and use to determine planning applications;
- Identify designations for the protection of the borough's environmental and historical assets, town centres, employment areas and infrastructure;
- Allocate land to meet future housing and employments needs; and
- Support the development of supporting infrastructure, such as transport, education and utilities.

The Local Plan covers the whole of the Borough of Oldham except that part which falls within the Peak District National Park

In line with the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan, the plan covers the period 2022-2039, although its contents may also be relevant after that date.

For the purposes of this Assessment the Plan is not complete; it is at Draft Plan stage, and further changes may take place at the Publication Plan stage and during the examination in public process. An opinion is being sought at this stage of the Plan's development to ensure that the requirements of the Regulations regarding Habitats Regulation Assessment are met and can be properly planned for and addressed within the policies.

The Plan sits beside a number of other planning documents that are also important when making planning decisions, which are considered here in the test of in-combination effects.

These plans will also include their own Habitats Regulation Assessments:

- Greater Manchester Joint Minerals DPD (2013)
- Greater Manchester Joint Waste DPD (2012)
- Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan Document for Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Tameside, Trafford and Wigan (currently at Examination), the Composite plan was published in 2023
- Greater Manchester's Transport 2040,
- Oldham Council's forthcoming Local Plan,
- The Peak Park Management and Local Plans
- Neighbourhood Plans

3. Identification of European designated sites concerned

This Assessment has first screened all European protected sites in the North of England to generate a long list and decide which of these sites are likely to be affected by future development in Oldham. 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.

As a useful starting point, the Assessment has considered the suite of European sites assessed within Habitat Regulations Assessments of other, adopted Local Plans in and around Greater Manchester.

The long list of sites assessed is listed in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2. This ensures that *all* European sites considered to have the potential to be affected by development in Oldham can be initially considered for assessment (screened).

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 on the identified Sites and used in the screening of European sites are considered to be:

- Land take (direct habitat loss)
- Cultivation (agriculture)
- Diffuse and localised air pollution including dust and odour
- Noise disturbance
- Light spill or shading
- Human presence/disturbance
- Emissions to water (surface or ground water) containing pollutants or sediments
- Ground water depression or flow interception
- Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void
- Increase in surface water run-off
- Introduction and spread of invasive species
- Effects on functionally linked land*
- Changes to predator/prey relationships

**Areas of land or sea outside of the boundary of a European site may be important ecologically in supporting the populations for which the site has been designated or classified. Occasionally impacts to such habitats can have a significant effect upon the species interest of such sites, where these habitats are considered to be 'functionally linked' to the site.*

Guidance and precedence concerning distances at which significant effects on European sites are caused by water or air pollution has been taken into account during the screening of European sites. Recommended buffer zones for certain types of 'most damaging' operations (for example, the operation of landfill sites) have been used in the screening of sites. The buffer zones are based on distances before air pollution sources and water pollution sources become so diffuse as to be indiscernible or impossible to ascribe to particular point sources.

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 is 15km; that is, most operations with the potential of causing direct water and/or air pollution

impacts located further than 15km from the boundary of a European site are considered very unlikely to have a significant effect on the special interest of that site.

Natural England also publish SSSI 'Impact Risk Zones' (IRZs) providing guidance on the types of development which should be considered for their possible impacts on SSSIs, and which impacts should be considered. All European designated sites are also designated as SSSIs. IRZs have also been taken into account when screening European sites that could be affected by the Plan.

Additionally, the screening has considered Impact Risk Zones as identified by Natural England for specific European Sites (September 2023). Whilst this is a tool to aid the consideration of *single* applications and their likely risks of impacts and consequently the need to consult Natural England, it acts as a useful guide in considering screening. However, it is not used exclusively in this HRA as the current process considers the policy framework rather than individual applications.

Although the guidance concerning buffer zones/risk zones has been taken into account when screening European protected sites in this particular assessment, the buffer/risk zones should be regarded as important but **not** as definitive; for example, this buffer zone may not be sufficient when assessing certain very large-scale developments or secondary impacts.

In particular applying a 15km buffer may not be appropriate for this Plan where there are unlikely to be direct impacts on any European sites, but where it is more likely that possible impacts will be caused by **diffuse air or water pollution or point-source air or water pollution** that may arise from development planned for Oldham, or where there are secondary **recreational** pressures on more distant protected sites arising from increased regional and sub-regional populations

Summary Results of Screening of Sites

3.20 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 and the possible pathway & sources outlined above on the long list of European sites, from development in Oldham.
- Appendix 2 summarises the results of the Screening process, identifying a short list of Natura 2000 sites (screened in), which may be effected by likely effects from policies within the Plan. These are discussed further below.

3.21 From the Screening process, detailed in Appendix 1 and 2 the following European designated sites have been identified as having some potential to be affected by development proposed and planned for within the Oldham Draft Local Plan.

- Rochdale Canal SAC
- South Pennine Moors SAC
- Dark Peak Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA
- South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA
- Manchester Mosses SAC

Other European sites in the UK are essentially considered too distant from Oldham for harmful effects to occur from the implementation of the Plan.

4 The Nature Conservation Interest of the “Screened In” European Sites

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 Rochdale Canal SAC

Description of Rochdale Canal SAC

The Rochdale Canal SAC extends approximately 20 km from Littleborough at Ben Healey Bridge to Failsworth, passing through urban and industrialised parts of the Metropolitan Boroughs of Rochdale and Oldham and the intervening areas of agricultural land (mostly pasture). Water supplied to the Rochdale Canal in part arises from the Pennines. This water is acidic and relatively low in nutrients, while water from other sources is mostly high in nutrients. The aquatic flora of the canal is thus indicative of a mesotrophic waterbody (i.e. is moderately nutrient-rich) although there is evidence of some local enrichment. The canal continues through Failsworth and terminates at Castlefield in Manchester City, although this section of the canal is not included within the SAC.

Primary Reason for Designation of Rochdale Canal

Qualifying and notifiable features associated with the Rochdale Canal SAC comprise a single species of aquatic plant: floating water-plantain (*Luronium natans*). The Rochdale Canal supports a significant population of floating water-plantain (*Luronium natans*) in a botanically diverse water plant community, which also holds a wide range of pondweeds (*Potamogeton* spp). The Canal has predominantly mesotrophic water. This population of *Luronium* is representative of the formerly more widespread canal populations of north-west England, although the Rochdale Canal supports unusually dense populations of the plant.

Floating water-plantain; description and ecological characteristics

Luronium natans is a species of aquatic plant commonly known as floating water plantain. It is native to western and central Europe, from Spain to the UK to Norway, and east as far as Ukraine. *Luronium natans* occurs as two forms: in shallow water with floating oval leaves, and in deep water with submerged rosettes of narrow leaves. The plant thrives best in open situations with a moderate degree of disturbance, where the growth of other aquatic and emergent vegetation is held in check. Populations fluctuate greatly in size, often increasing when water levels drop to expose the bottom of the water body; this could be because falls in water levels affect competing species more than the *Luronium natans*.

The operations that may damage the special interest of the SAC that have to be considered include:

- Application of pesticides
- Dredging
- Drainage, both within and outside the boundaries of the site
- 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 next to the Canal (shading)
- Diffuse air pollution
- Diffuse water pollution
- Increased boat movements (recreation)
- Climate change

4.2 South Pennine Moors SAC/SPA (Phases 1 and 2)

Description of the South Pennine Moors SAC

This very large site forms part of the Southern Pennines lying between Ilkley in the north and the Peak District National Park boundary in the south. The majority of the site is within West Yorkshire, but it also covers areas of Lancashire, Greater Manchester and North Yorkshire. The largest moorland blocks are Ilkley Moor, the Haworth Moors, Rishworth Moor and Moss Moor. The underlying rock is Millstone Grit that outcrops at Boulsworth Hill and on the northern boundary of Ilkley Moor. The moorlands are on a rolling dissected plateau between 300m and 450m AOD with a high point of 517m at Boulsworth Hill. The greater part of the gritstone is overlain by blanket peat with the coarse gravely mineral soils occurring only on the lower slopes. The site is the largest area of unenclosed moorland within West Yorkshire and contains the most diverse and extensive examples of upland plant communities in the county. Extensive areas of blanket bog occur on the upland plateaux and are punctuated by species rich acidic flushes and mires. There are also wet and dry heaths and acid grasslands. Three habitat types that occur on the site are rare enough within Europe to be listed on Annex 1 of the EC Habitats and Species Directive (92/43) EEC. These communities are typical of and represent the full range of upland vegetation classes found in the South Pennines.

This mosaic of habitats supports a moorland breeding bird assemblage, which, because of the range of species and number of breeding birds it contains, is of regional and national importance. The large numbers of breeding merlin (*Falco columbarius*), golden plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*) and twite (*Carduelis flavirostris*) are of international importance.

Description of the South Pennine Moors SPAs

Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are strictly protected sites classified in accordance with Article 4 of the EC Directive on the conservation of wild birds, also known as the Birds Directive, which came into force in April 1979. They are classified for rare and vulnerable birds, listed in Annex I to the Birds Directive, and for regularly occurring migratory species. The South Pennine Moors SPA includes the major moorland blocks of the South Pennines from Ilkley in the north to Leek and Matlock in the south. It covers extensive tracts of semi-natural moorland habitats including upland heath and blanket mire. The site is of European importance for several upland breeding bird species including birds of prey and waders.

Primary reason for designation of the South Pennine Moors SAC

The site supports the following important habitats:

- European Dry Heath
- Blanket Bog
- Old Sessile Oak Woods

Primary reason for the designation of the South Pennine Moors SPAs

The site qualifies for the designation by supporting populations of European importance of the following species listed on Annex I of the Directive:

For Phase 1 during the breeding season:

- Golden plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*), at least 3.3% of the breeding population in Great Britain
- Merlin (*Falco columbarius*), at least 5.9% of the breeding population in Great Britain
- Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*), at least 1.4% of the breeding population in Great Britain
- Short-eared owl (*Asio flammeus*), at least 2.5% of the breeding population in Great Britain

The SPA supports an internationally important assemblage of birds. During the breeding season the area regularly supports:

Common sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*), Dunlin (*Calidris alpina schinzii*), Twite (*Carduelis flavirostris*), Snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*), Curlew (*Numenius arquata*), Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe*), Redshank (*Tringa totanus*), Ring ouzel (*Turdus torquatus*), Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)

For Phase 2 during the breeding season:

- Golden plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*), at least 1.9% of the breeding population in Great Britain
- Merlin (*Falco columbarius*), at least 2.3% of the breeding population in Great Britain
- Breeding Bird Assemblage

Conservation Objectives of the South Pennine Moors SAC

Natural England lists the conservation objectives for the South Pennine Moors SAC as follows:

To maintain*, in favourable condition, the habitats for the populations of Annex 1 species[^] of European importance, with particular reference to:

- blanket mire
- dwarf shrub heath
- acid grassland
- gritstone edges

[^]*golden plover, merlin, short-eared owl*

To maintain*, in favourable condition, the

- blanket bog (active only)
- dry heaths
- Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix*
- transition mires and quaking bogs
- old oak woods with *Ilex* and *Blechnum* in the British Isles

*maintenance implies restoration if the feature is not currently in favourable condition.

The operations that may damage the special interest of the SAC/SPA which have to be considered 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
- Diffuse air pollution
- Diffuse water pollution
- Introduction or spread of invasive species
- Climate change

4.3 Manchester Mosses SAC

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 Risley Moss, Astley & Bedford Mosses and Holcroft Moss 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.

Primary reason for the designation of the site

The site supports the following important habitats –

7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration

Conservation Objectives for the Manchester Mosses SAC

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

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

Qualifying Features: H7120. Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration

The operations that may damage the special interest of the SAC which have to be considered 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
- Introduction or spread of invasive species

Initial Screening Opinion

5.1 The Screening Criteria

The first stage of an HRA is a Likely Significant Effect Test (Screening). This is essentially a risk assessment to decide whether a particular Policy or Allocated site can be effectively 'screened out' from further, more detailed assessment or needs to go forward for more detailed Assessment.

The essential question to ask is –

“Is the Policy or the development of the proposed Allocated Site, either alone or in combination with other relevant Policies and Plans, likely to result in a significant effect upon the integrity of European sites?”

In carrying out this Screening process the Assessment has considered the main possible sources of effects on the European sites arising from the implementation of the Plan, possible pathways to the European sites and the effects on possible sensitive receptors in the European sites. Where -

- The source is the direct or indirect changes (land take, emissions to air or water, hydrological changes) potentially occurring as a result of the development at an identified site.
- The pathway is the route or mechanism by which any likely significant effect would manifest in the environment and would reach the receptor.
- The receptor is the European Site and more specifically the qualifying features and conservation objectives for the site.

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 (unmitigated) effects used in the screening of potential policy impacts on European sites are considered to be:

- Land take
- Diffuse and localised air pollution including dust and odour
- Noise
- Light spill
- Human presence/disturbance (including recreational disturbance)
- Emissions to water (surface or ground water) containing pollutants
- Ground water depression or flow interception (i.e. hydrological impacts)
- Decrease in surface water run-off e.g. through interception in a void (i.e. hydrological impacts)
- Introduction or spread of invasive species

5.2 The results of the Screening are shown in the 'Screening Summary' tables below.

5.3 Each of the Policies have been assessed to determine whether they are:

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

Only Policies and Allocated Sites with potential negative effects or significant effects have been “Screened In” for further Assessment. This assessment has been made based on the content and type of each Policy and the HRA must be read together with the Plan.

- 5.4 The timescales over which effects (both stand-alone and in-combination) have been considered are the lifetime of the Plan and the lifetime of any proposals (including operational and restoration timescales) that may come forward during the Plan.

Table 5.1 Initial Screening Summary of impacts of Oldham Draft Local Plan on the National Sites Network - POLICIES

Policies screened into this Assessment identified in red text.

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
Homes			
H1	Delivery of a Diverse Housing Offer	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	Screened In
H2	Housing Mix	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	Screened In
H3	Density of New Housing	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	Screened In
H4	Homes for Older People	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	Screened In
H5	Homes for Disabled People	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in	Screened In

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
		increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	
H6	Homes for Children and Care Leavers	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	Screened In
H7	Affordable Housing	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	Screened In
H8	Vacant Building Credit	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
H9	Rural Exception Sites	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	Screened In
H10	Houses in Multiple Occupation	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	Screened In
H11	Custom self-build and community-led housing	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	Screened In

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
H12	Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Show People	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened In
H13	Housing and Residential-led Mixed use Allocations	Additional houses could result in increases in population, resulting in increased air pollution (from road traffic) and recreational disturbance effects	Screened In
Economy and Employment			
E1	Business and Employment Areas (identifies locations within the Borough for the expansion of business and employment)	Possible impacts on European sites arising from air pollution effects (increased traffic flows). Possible direct impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC from development within 200m of the Canal	Screened In
E2	Exceptions within Business and Employment Areas and other existing employment sites (proposes a narrow range of exceptions where other land uses may be allowed within Business and Employment Areas)	Possible impacts on European sites arising from air pollution effects (increased traffic flows) Possible direct impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC from development within 200m of the Canal	Screened In
E3	Reuse and redevelopment of Mill Buildings	Possible impacts on European sites arising from air pollution effects (increased traffic flows) Possible direct impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC from development within 200m of the Canal	Screened In

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
E4	Allows the allocation of new office, industry and warehousing allocations	Possible impacts on European sites arising from air pollution effects (increased traffic flows) Possible direct impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC from development within 200m of the Canal	Screened In
Tourism			
TM1	Tourism – provides support for more tourism related development, makes specific reference to the Rochdale Canal corridor	Possible cause of increase in recreational disturbance, both to the Canal and to the South Pennine Moors	Screened In
TM2	Farm Diversification (supporting the rural economy)	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Centres			
C1	Our centres – promotes and enhances the vitality and viability of the Boroughs urban centres	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
C2	Local Services and Facilities	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
C3	Retail and Leisure Impact Assessments and Sequential Tests – aims to resist service provision outside of centres	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
C4	Changes of use and redevelopment within centres – aims to protect and enhance service provision within centres	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Oldham Town Centre			
OTC1	Oldham Town Centre – aims to continue the enhancement, redevelopment and regeneration of Oldham town centre	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
OTC2	Protecting and Enhancing Oldham Town Centre Conservation Area	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
OTC3	Creating a better public realm in Oldham town centre	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
OTC4	Conserving and enhancing Green Infrastructure within and around Oldham town centre	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
OTC5	Creating better vehicular parking and drop-off facilities in Oldham town centre	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Addressing Climate Change			

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
CC1	Sustainable construction, energy efficiency and retrofitting	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CC2	Renewable and low-carbon energy	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CC3	Managing Flood Risk	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CC4	Sustainable Drainage – Foul and Surface Water	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CC5	Water Efficiency	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CC6	Groundwater Source Protection Zones	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Natural Environment and Open Land			
OL1	Consideration for the Peak District National Park	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
OL2	Protecting and enhancing Oldham's Green Belt	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
OL3	Extensions and alterations to existing buildings within the Green Belt	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
OL4	Local Green Space	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
OL5	Protecting dark skies and tranquillity	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Addressing the Biodiversity Emergency			
N1	Protecting Nature	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
N2	Restoring nature	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
N3	Enhancing Green Infrastructure through development	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
N4	Tree Replacement	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Oldhams Historic Environment			

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
HE1	The Historic Environment	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
HE2	Securing the Preservation and Enhancement of Oldham's Historic Environment	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Conservation Areas			
HE3	Development Proposals affecting conservation areas	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
HE4	Oldham's Mills	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
HE5	Canals – protects the Rochdale Canal	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Creating a Better and Beautiful Oldham			
D1	Promoting a design-led approach for residential and residential-led mixed use development	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
D2	Promoting a design-led approach to non-residential, commercial and employment developments	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
D3	Design Scrutiny	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
D4	Creating better views, gateways and taller buildings	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
D5	Improving the quality of advertisements and signs in Oldham	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
D6	Creating a better public realm in Oldham	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
D7	Development within the curtilage of a dwelling house	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out

Creating a sustainable, active, accessible network for Oldham

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
T1	Delivering Oldham's transport priorities	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
T2	Creating sustainable streets	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
T3	Car parking standards in Oldham	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
T4	Providing for electric vehicle charging points	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
T5	Provision for travel plans	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Communities			
CO1	Protection of existing open spaces	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
CO2	Providing new and enhanced open spaces	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CO3	Open space standards	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CO4	Provision of Cultural, Community and Health Facilities	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CO5	Education and Skills provision	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CO6	Securing educational provision through new residential development	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CO7	Health Impact Assessments in New Development	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
CO8	Hot Food Takeaways	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
CO9	Creating sustainable and accessible communities	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Protecting our Local Environment			
LE1	Noise pollution and vibration in new development	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
LE2	Ground conditions and contaminated land	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
LE3	Air Quality	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
Masterplanning, Infrastructure and Delivery in Oldham			
IN1	Creating successful masterplans in Oldham	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out

POLICY	BRIEF POLICY DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE IMPACTS ON EUROPEAN SITE	SCREENING OUTCOME
IN2	Digital infrastructure and telecommunications	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
IN3	Planning obligations	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out
IN4	Delivering social value and inclusion	No Likely Significant Effect on any European Site is anticipated from the operation of this Policy.	Screened out

Table 5.2 Initial Screening Summary of impacts of Oldham Local Plan 2024 on the National Sites Network - HOUSING and MIXED USE and EMPLOYMENT (OFFICE, INDUSTRY AND WAREHOUSING ALLOCATIONS

Allocations Screened In to this Assessment identified in **red text**.

Site Ref (refers to SHLAA/HLA)	Site Name	Comments	Screening Outcome
HOUSING AND MIXED USE ALLOCATIONS			
HLA2088	Baily Mill Delph	<p>Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects.</p> <p>Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites</p> <p>Proximity to South Pennine Moors necessitates assessment of site as potential functionally linked land</p>	Screened In
HLA2094	Lilac View Close Crompton	<p>Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects.</p> <p>Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites</p>	Screened In
HLA2234	Land at Springhey Mill	<p>Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects.</p> <p>Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites</p>	Screened In

HLA2452	Blackshaw Lane Royton	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA2785	Thornham Mill Oozewood Road Royton	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA2856	Former territorial army centre Rifle Street	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA0021	Land between Prince Street Oldham Way and Mumps Metrolink	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA0040	Land at former Broadway House Broadway	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA0164	Shaw Health Centre	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA1225	Land at Higher Memorial Park Joseph Street Failsworth	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In

SHA1372	Former Lancaster House Rochdale Road Royton	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA1630	Former Cromford Mill Site	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2017	Land at Flint Street, Marble Street	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2147	Land at Mumps and Wallshaw Street	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2148	Land at Waterloo Street	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2001	Magistrates and Chambers	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2155	Henshaw House	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In

HLA2351	Pretoria Road	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA0076	Land at Ripponden Road Denshaw	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA0029	Ashton Road Woodhouses	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA2662	Land at North Werneth	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA2663	Land at Hartford Mill / Edward Street	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA2664	Land at Abbotsford Road Derker	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA3982	Land adjacent to Huddersfield Road Diggle	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In

		Proximity to South Pennine Moors necessitates assessment of site as potential functionally linked land	
SHA0899	London Road Derker	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA0976	South Chadderton School Butterworth Lane	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites Proximity to the Rochdale canal SAC could cause harm to the special interest of the Canal	Screened In
SHA1029	Kaskenmoor School Roman Road Failsworth	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA1033	Higher Lime Recreation Ground Limeside	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA1162	Saddleworth School Uppermill	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites Proximity to South Pennine Moors necessitates assessment of site as potential functionally linked land	Screened In

SHA1759/SHA1998	Tommyfield Market, former Leisure Centre and Linear Park	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2000	Civic Centre West Street	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2002	Bradshaw Street Car Park	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2162	Hilda Street, Oldham	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2044	James Street Failsworth	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA3147	Ward Lane Diggle	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2163	Foundry Street	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In

SHA2016	Southlink	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2153	Royton Wastewater Treatment Works	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
SHA2161	Southlink Phase 2	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA0112	Land at Knowls Lane	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In
HLA3981	Shaw Distribution Centre Linney Lane	Increases in population could result in increased road traffic resulting in increased air pollution effects. Increases in population could result in increased recreational disturbance on European sites	Screened In

EMPLOYMENT – OFFICE, INDUSTRY AND WAREHOUSING ALLOCATIONS

Reference numbers relate to those in the existing Core Strategy and SHLAA/HLA

B1.1.21	Former British Gas site Higginshaw Lane	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
B1.1.3	Land at Mersey Road North / Albert Street	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In

B1.1.5	Sellers Way	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
B1.1.7	Land at Greenside Way	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
B1.1.8	Land at Greengate Chadderton	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
B1.2.6	Land at Albert Street Failsworth	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
FOXEMP/OLD0051	Land at Foxdenton	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution Proximity to the Rochdale Canal SAC could cause harm to the special interest of the Canal during development	Screened In
SHA1728	Former Windsor Mill Hollins Road Failsworth	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA1	Wrigley Street Failsworth	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution Close to the Rochdale Canal SAC (within 200m) development could result in direct impacts on the Canal	Screened In
BEA2	Hawksley Street	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA3	Greengate/Broadgate Chadderton	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In

		Close to the Rochdale Canal SAC (within 200m) development could result in direct impacts on the Canal	
BEA4	Busk Chadderton	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA5	Primrose Bank	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA6	Hathershaw	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA7	Higginshaw	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA8	Shaw Road Royton	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA9 ¹	Shaw	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA11	Greenacres	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA12	Hollinwood	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution Close to the Rochdale Canal SAC (within 200m) development could result in direct impacts on the Canal	Screened In

¹ In the Draft Local Plan this has been split into BEA9 Shaw and BEA10 Linney Lane to taken into account the potential allocation at Shaw Distribution Centre, Linney Lane.

BEA13	Broadway Green	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA14	Chadderton	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA15	Oak View Mill Manchester Road Greenfield	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA16	Hey Bottom Mill Greenfield	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA17	Chew Valley Road Greenfield	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA18	Boarhurst Lane Greenfield	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA19	Waterside Mill Greenfield	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA20	Delph New Road Delph	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA21	Valley Mills Huddersfield Road Delph	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA22	Wharf/Ellis Mills Huddersfield Road Diggle	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In
BEA23	Greenbridge Lane	Could result in increased road traffic resulting in increases in air pollution	Screened In

6.0 Summary of Screening Opinion

The following designated sites were screened in as likely to be affected by the operation of the Plan –

- Rochdale Canal SAC
- South Pennine Moors SAC
- Dark Peak Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA
- South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA

A number of Policies in the Plan, and all of proposed allocations, were screened in as likely to cause effects on designated sites as a result of –

- Air Pollution
- Recreation
- Effects on Functionally Linked Land
- Direct effects on the special interest of the Rochdale Canal

Appropriate Assessment is therefore required.

7.0 Appropriate Assessment

The initial Screening process identified the following sources as potentially likely to have a likely significant effect (LSE) on European designated Sites:

- Effects on functionally linked land
- Recreational pressure
- Air pollution (arising from increased road traffic)
- Direct impact (sites within 200m of the Rochdale Canal SAC)

Therefore, these LSE need to be Assessed.

7.1 Functionally Linked Land (FLL)

Functionally linked land' (FLL) is a term often used to describe areas of land or sea occurring outside a designated site which is considered to be critical to, or necessary for, the ecological or behavioural functions in a relevant season of a qualifying feature for which a Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)/ Special Protection Area (SPA)/ Ramsar site has been designated. These habitats are frequently used by SPA species and support the functionality and integrity of the designated sites for these features.

In the case of Oldham, sites outside of the designated upland areas of the South Pennines may be used by significant numbers of qualifying bird species associated with the SPA for feeding or resting.

Allocated sites within Oldham which are within 2.5km of the South Pennines SPA and are not part of the urban or suburban fabric are considered to have the potential to be functionally linked. This is because urban and suburban sites are considered too disturbed to act as FLL and because more than 2.5km from the designated site it would be very difficult to show that birds using more distant sites were in fact birds moving to and from the designated sites.

Only four allocations are considered to have the potential to act as FLL because of their proximity to the South Pennine Moors SPA and their semi-rural locations. These are –

- Bailey Mill Delph
- Saddleworth School Uppermill
- Land East of Huddersfield Road Diggle
- Land at Ward Lane Diggle

Assessing each of these –

Bailey Mill Delph

This site does not support habitats suitable for use as FLL by SPA qualifying bird species. LSE can be discounted.

Saddleworth School, Uppermill

This site does not support habitats suitable for use as FLL by SPA qualifying bird species. LSE can be discounted.

Land East of Huddersfield Road Delph

This site has been surveyed and assessed as part of a recent planning application. It was concluded from these surveys that the site is not FLL because of a lack of records of qualifying bird species and because the habitat was considered unsuitable for supporting significant numbers of qualifying bird species.

Land at Ward Lane Diggle

The site is considered too small, too disturbed and does not support appropriate habitats to act as FLL.

Conclusion

The operation of the Oldham Draft Local Plan will have no Likely Significant Effects on Functionally Linked Land

7.2 Recreational Disturbance

7.2.1 Rochdale Canal SAC

Policy TM1 (Tourism) is considered to have potential to cause increased disturbance of the Rochdale Canal by potentially causing an increase in canal boat movements.

The Rochdale Canal is managed by the Canal and Rivers Trust. Following a major Canal restoration project in 2003, the Trust undertook to monitor the status of the protected plant *Luronium natans* along the canal, established reserves along the Canal where the conservation of *Luronium natans* is promoted, and monitored boat movements along the Canal to determine possible impacts on *Luronium natans*. The Trust has powers to restrict canal boat movements if boat movements are at any time considered to be causing harm to *Luronium natans*.

Any applications for new boat moorings along the Canal will need to be subject to project level HRAs. The Plan will offer a high level of protection for the Canal through the operation of Policy N1

Conclusion

It is concluded that there are sufficient safeguards in place to effectively avoid any Likely Significant Effects on the Rochdale Canal SAC arising from the operation of Policy TM1

7.2.2 The South Pennine Moors SAC, the Peak District Moors SPA and the South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA

The operation of the Plan is considered likely to cause recreational disturbance effects on the above upland designated sites, because new homes planned for in the Plan may cause an increase in local populations, and these population increases may in turn cause increased recreational disturbance as people pursue leisure activities in the uplands

This impact has already been Assessed as part of the HRA of the Places for Everyone Plan for Greater Manchester (*GMCA 2021*). The Places for Everyone HRA Assessed the impacts of the projected increases in housing numbers on recreational disturbance on the South Pennine Moors SAC, the Peak District Moors SPA and the South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA across the whole of the Plan area, which included Oldham.

Reference –

[Greater Manchester “Places for Everyone” Plan: Habitats Regulations Assessment Appendix 2: Air Quality HRA \(hwa.uk.com\)](https://www.hwa.uk.com/press-releases/greater-manchester-places-for-everyone-plan-habitats-regulations-assessment-appendix-2-air-quality-hra)

Of most relevance to this Assessment is Appendix 3 of the PfE HRA, ‘*Recreation Study for the Greater Manchester Places for Everyone Plan*’, Ricardo Energy and Environment 2022.

It was concluded in the PfE HRA that mitigation was required for impacts arising from recreational disturbance.

While there have been marginal changes in the projected housing numbers to be delivered in Oldham during the Draft Local Plan period as compared to the housing numbers assessed in the PfE HRA, these changes are considered to be *de minimis* in relation to potential recreational disturbance impacts on the upland designated sites (+/- 0.06%).

- Projected housing numbers as per 2021 PfE housing land supply = 13,131 (2020 – 2037)
- Projected housing numbers as per 2023 Composite Plan housing land supply = 13,186 (2022-2039)

The conclusions and recommendations of the HRA of the PfE are therefore considered to also apply to this Plan, and the proposed mitigation for these impacts is also considered to be applicable to the Oldham Draft Local Plan.

Proposed Mitigation

To mitigate for increases in recreational disturbance in the uplands, the HRA of PfE recommends that a Strategic Access Management and Monitoring Strategy (SAMMS) is developed and Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) is provided to mitigate recreation pressure impacts on the South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC, which new development within 7km of the SPA/SAC will need to contribute towards providing.

SANGS are areas of greenspace established with the aim of providing access to greenspace and outdoor recreation in order to reduce pressure on sensitive ecological

sites. They are an established mechanism for mitigating recreational disturbance effects on designated sites. The SAMMS can provide details of the required mitigation and could include:

- On-the-ground dedicated staff to supplement existing warden efforts.
- Education and awareness raising programmes and materials to change visitor perceptions of the Moors and to influence visitor behaviour.
- The creation of new volunteering opportunities for habitat and visitor management.
- New infrastructure, including signage, dog bins, footpath improvements etc.
- Monitoring of visitor usage of SANGs and South Pennine Moor SAC/SPA.
- Monitoring bird populations and distribution within the SPAs

The SAMMS and SANG measures will be funded through developer contributions on planning permission for new development. It is anticipated that the full details of the developer contribution funding mechanism could be developed through a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) outlining –

- The amounts of required contributions.
- The type and size of development to which developer contributions would apply to.
- Further details about the costs of mitigation activities.
- The SPD could also set out a framework for the provision of SANG.

These mitigation proposals are also applicable to the potential impacts of the Local Plan.

The recommended SPD is currently in preparation (*as at November 2023*) in collaboration with Rochdale and Tameside Councils and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

Other Relevant Plan Policies

Notwithstanding the above conclusion, there are a number of Policies within the Draft Local Plan which will act to mitigate any possible increases in recreational pressures, and which will serve to protect designated sites. These Policies include –

- Policy N1 – specifically protects designated sites from any harm
- Policy N3 - will enhance local green infrastructure, reducing the need to travel for outdoor leisure

7.3 Air Pollution Effects

Air pollution from increased road traffic can cause harm to sensitive habitats, including habitats associated with the designation of the South Pennine Moors and the Peak District Moors.

7.3.1 Rochdale Canal SAC

The Conservation Objective of the Canal is to maintain or restore the habitats, population and distribution of the qualifying plant species, *Luronium natans*.

There is no evidence to indicate that elevated nutrient nitrogen deposition or acidity associated with road traffic emissions directly affect the conservation of *L. natans*.

Natural England has advised that measures to maintain the status of Rochdale Canal SAC are being carried out. This is confirmed in Natural England's Supplementary Advice document for the SAC, which notes that the target for this site is to "maintain the distribution and continuity of the feature [*L. natans*] and its supporting habitat." Measures

which are being carried out to achieve this include “ensure the supporting water bodies are sufficiently free of other competing vegetation to allow space for this early successional species to thrive.”

In accordance with the advice provided in the national Air Pollution Information System (APIS), no critical load for nitrogen deposition should apply at this site. Any slight increases in nitrogen deposition at this site due to the development of sites close to the Canal will not undermine the ability of the measures which are currently under way to achieve the site’s conservation objectives.

It is concluded that increased traffic movements in the vicinity of the Canal and arising from the development of sites close to the Canal will not have a harmful effect on the special interest of the Canal – that is, no adverse effect on the integrity of this site will arise. On this basis, it is concluded that any increase in nitrogen deposition above the screening thresholds at this site will not have any adverse effect on the measures currently being implemented to achieve the site’s conservation objective.

7.3.2 The South Pennine Moors SAC, the Peak District Moors SPA and the South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA

The operation of the Plan is considered likely to have the potential to cause effects on the above upland designated sites through increases in air pollution, because new homes planned for in the Plan may cause an increase in traffic flows on certain routes

This impact has already been Assessed as part of the HRA of the Places for Everyone Plan for Greater Manchester (*GMCA 2021*). The Places for Everyone HRA Assessed the impacts of the projected increases in housing numbers and employment land use on air pollution in the South Pennine Moors SAC, the Peak District Moors SPA and the South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA across the whole of the Plan area, which included Oldham.

Reference –

[Greater Manchester “Places for Everyone” Plan: Habitats Regulations Assessment Appendix 2: Air Quality HRA \(hwa.uk.com\)](#)

While there have been marginal changes in the projected housing numbers to be delivered in Oldham during the Local Plan period as compared to the housing numbers Assessed in the PfE HRA, these changes are considered to be *de minimis* in relation to potential air pollution impacts on the upland designated sites (+/- 0.06%).

- Projected housing numbers as per 2021 PfE housing land supply = 13,131 (2020 – 2037)
- Projected housing numbers as per 2023 Composite Plan housing land supply = 13,186 (2022-2039)

Similarly the projected changes in employment land use between the quantum of development Assessed in the PfE HRA are considered to be *de minimis* in relation to the potential air pollution effects on the upland designated sites (+/- 0.6%)

- Projected floorspace as per 2021 PfE employment land supply = 339,067 sqm (2020 – 2037)
- Projected floorspace as per 2023 employment land supply Composite Plan = 360,920 sqm (2022 – 2039)

The conclusions and recommendations of the HRA of the PfE are therefore considered to also apply to this Plan. The HRA of the PfE concluded that there would be no Likely Significant Effects on the South Pennine Moors SAC, the Peak District Moors SPA and the South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA resulting from air pollution.

The PfE HRA did conclude that there may be air pollution impacts from the operation of the Plan on part of the Manchester Mosses SAC (Holcroft Moss) and advised that mitigation was required for this impact as follows –

‘Planning applications which are required to be accompanied by a Transport Assessment will need to consider air quality impacts on Holcroft Moss, within the Manchester Mosses Special Area of conservation (SAC). Any proposals that would result in increased traffic flows on the M62 past Holcroft Moss of more than 100 vehicles per day or 20 Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) per day must devise a scheme-specific range of measures to reduce reliance on cars, reduce trip generation and promote ultra-low emission vehicles and provide a contribution towards restoration measures in accordance with the Holcroft Moss Habitat Mitigation Plan’.

The proposed mitigation would apply to developments within Oldham.

The Holcroft Moss Habitat Mitigation Plan is currently in preparation (Nov 2023), in partnership with Warrington Council and the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

Other Relevant Plan Policies

Notwithstanding the above conclusion, there are a number of Policies within the Local Plan which will act to mitigate any possible increases in air pollution, and which will serve to protect designated sites. These Policies include –

- Policy N1 – specifically protects designated sites from any harm
- Policy N3 - will enhance local green infrastructure, reducing the need to travel for outdoor leisure
- Policy LE3 – seeks to improve air quality within the Borough
- Policy T1 – facilitates walking and cycling in the Borough
- Policy T2 – promotes walking, cycling and the use of public transport
- Policy T4 - promotes the use of electric vehicles
- Policy T5 - requires the preparation of travel plans and transport assessments

It is concluded that, providing the mitigation described above is applied, and providing that the mitigating Policies in the plan are implemented, the Plan will not have any harmful effects on the special interest of the South Pennine Moors through any increases in air pollution.

7.4 Direct Impacts on the Rochdale Canal SAC

Certain allocations within 200m of the Rochdale Canal may have direct impacts on the special interest of the Canal, including –

- Water pollution resulting from site drainage
- Shading of canal waters

Beyond 200m these effects are considered unlikely to arise.

There are a number of allocations within 200m of the Canal –

- Former Junction Mill
- Land at Foxdenton
- Former South Chadderton School
- Greengate/Broadgate Chadderton
- Hollinwood Business District

- Wrigley Street Failsworth

Both effects from diffuse water pollution and shading could be readily avoided by using established mechanisms, although it is recommended that detailed planning proposals for these sites are informed by project-level HRAs.

Policy N1 would apply to developments on these sites and this Policy would serve to avoid significant effects on the special interest of the Canal.

8 Consideration of 'In Combination' Effects with Other Plans and Proposals

It is recognised that the Oldham Draft Local Plan forms part of a wider Plan hierarchy, sitting beneath the Places for Everyone Joint Development Plan (PfE) and above Neighbourhood Plans.

As previously discussed, the PfE has been separately subject to its own HRA process. The PfE Assessed potential significant cumulative effects of development across the wider PfE area, and including development in Oldham.

The HRA of PfE concluded that PfE would not have any Likely Significant Effects on designated sites, *providing* that mitigation plans were prepared for

- Potential cumulative recreational impacts of future development on the South Pennine Moors SPA/SAC.
- Potential cumulative air pollution effects on the Manchester Mosses SAC.

The required mitigation will apply to the Oldham Draft Local Plan and has been taken into account in this HRA.

The mitigation proposed for recreational disturbance impacts takes the form of a Supplementary Planning Document which is being prepared by Oldham, Rochdale and Tameside Council's, in collaboration with GMCA, to address the requirements of Policy JP-G9 within PfE, and the following criterion now part of PfE:

Criteria:

7. Ensure that new development does not have an adverse impact on protected habitats of the South Pennine Moors SAC, the Peak District Moors SPA and the South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA from urban edge effects, loss of and/or disturbance to functionally linked habitats and recreation disturbances.

This will be implemented by:

- (a) Within 400m of the SAC and SPAs boundaries, no development will be permitted, unless, as an exception, the development and/or its use would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC or SPAs;
- (b) Within 2.5km of the SAC and SPAs boundaries, applications for new development should be accompanied by an assessment to determine if the development site provides foraging habitats for the qualifying bird species of the SPAs. If foraging habitats are found on site, appropriate avoidance and/or mitigation measures will be required;
- (c) Within 7km of the SAC and SPAs boundaries, new residential development will be required to mitigate recreation disturbance impacts on the SAC and SPAs through:
 - (i) the provision of on-site suitable alternative natural greenspace or financially contribute to off-site provision of such greenspace; and
 - (ii) A financial contribution to the implementation of a Strategic Access, Monitoring and Management Strategy for the SAC and SPAs.

Upon adoption of Places for Everyone JP-G9 the SPD that is being prepared will become part of Oldham's Local Plan and be applied to relevant developments coming forward in Oldham.

The mitigation proposed for cumulative air pollution effects on the Manchester Mosses SAC (Holcroft Moss) takes the form of a Policy requirement within the PfE,

'Planning applications which are required to be accompanied by a Transport Assessment will need to consider air quality impacts on Holcroft Moss, within the Manchester Mosses Special Area of conservation (SAC). Any proposals that would result in increased traffic flows on the M62 past Holcroft Moss of more than 100 vehicles per day or 20 Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) per day must devise a scheme-specific range of measures to reduce reliance on cars, reduce trip generation and promote ultra-low emission vehicles and provide a contribution towards restoration measures in accordance with the Holcroft Moss Habitat Mitigation Plan'.

This Policy is also relevant to the implementation of the Oldham Local Plan.

Since the HRA of the PfE has already considered in-combination effects which could arise from other developments, it can be said that cumulative impacts have been considered, with a conclusion that no in-combination effects will arise from the operation of the Oldham Local Plan, **providing** that mitigation is provided for recreational disturbance effects on the South Pennines SAC/SPA and for air pollution effects on the Manchester Mosses SAC.

9.0 Summary and Recommendations

Screening of European sites has established that the following European sites have the potential to be affected by development in Oldham as proposed by the Oldham Local Plan:

- Rochdale Canal SAC
- South Pennine Moors SAC
- Dark Peak Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA
- South Pennine Moors Phase 2 SPA
- Manchester Mosses SAC

Further, more detailed Assessment of the possible effects of the operation of Policies included in the Plan, and of the effects of the development of allocations put forward in the Plan, on the European Sites identified in the Screening process has been undertaken.

A number of the Policies and Allocations within the Plan were initially Screened In as potentially having a damaging effect on European Sites due to increased recreational use, air pollution effects, effects on functionally linked land and possible direct effects (in relation to the Rochdale Canal SAC).

Following further Assessment, air pollution effects and potential effects on functionally linked land were ruled out as not likely to have any significant effects on European designated sites, providing that mitigation measures are adopted and applied.

Increased recreational disturbance was also considered to be likely to cause significant effects on European designated sites and this impact was considered to require further mitigation.

Mitigation has been proposed, in the form of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which proposes mitigation for recreational disturbance effects and for possible impacts on functionally linked land. It is **recommended** that this SPD, once completed, is required to be adopted as part of the Oldham Local Plan, and becomes material to the implementation of the Local Plan in addition to the PfE Plan.

Mitigation for effects of air pollution on part of the Manchester Mosses SAC (Holcroft Moss) has also been proposed, in the form of potential contributions to the Holcroft Moss Habitat Mitigation Plan to be made by qualifying developments.

The development of some allocations very close to the Rochdale Canal SAC were Screened In as having the potential to cause harm to the Canal through local impacts, including direct harm, increases in water pollution and increases in shading. However, it is concluded that Policies in the Plan (particularly Policy N1) will provide protection to the SAC sufficient to avoid any likely significant effects. Further (project level) HRAs are **recommended** to be prepared as part of detailed planning applications which may come forward for the allocations concerned.

It is **recommended** that if any changes are made to the Plan as a result of either the public consultation or during any future Examination in Publication, the HRA will need to be revisited and revised to ensure that these changes would not result in a significant effect on any European Site.

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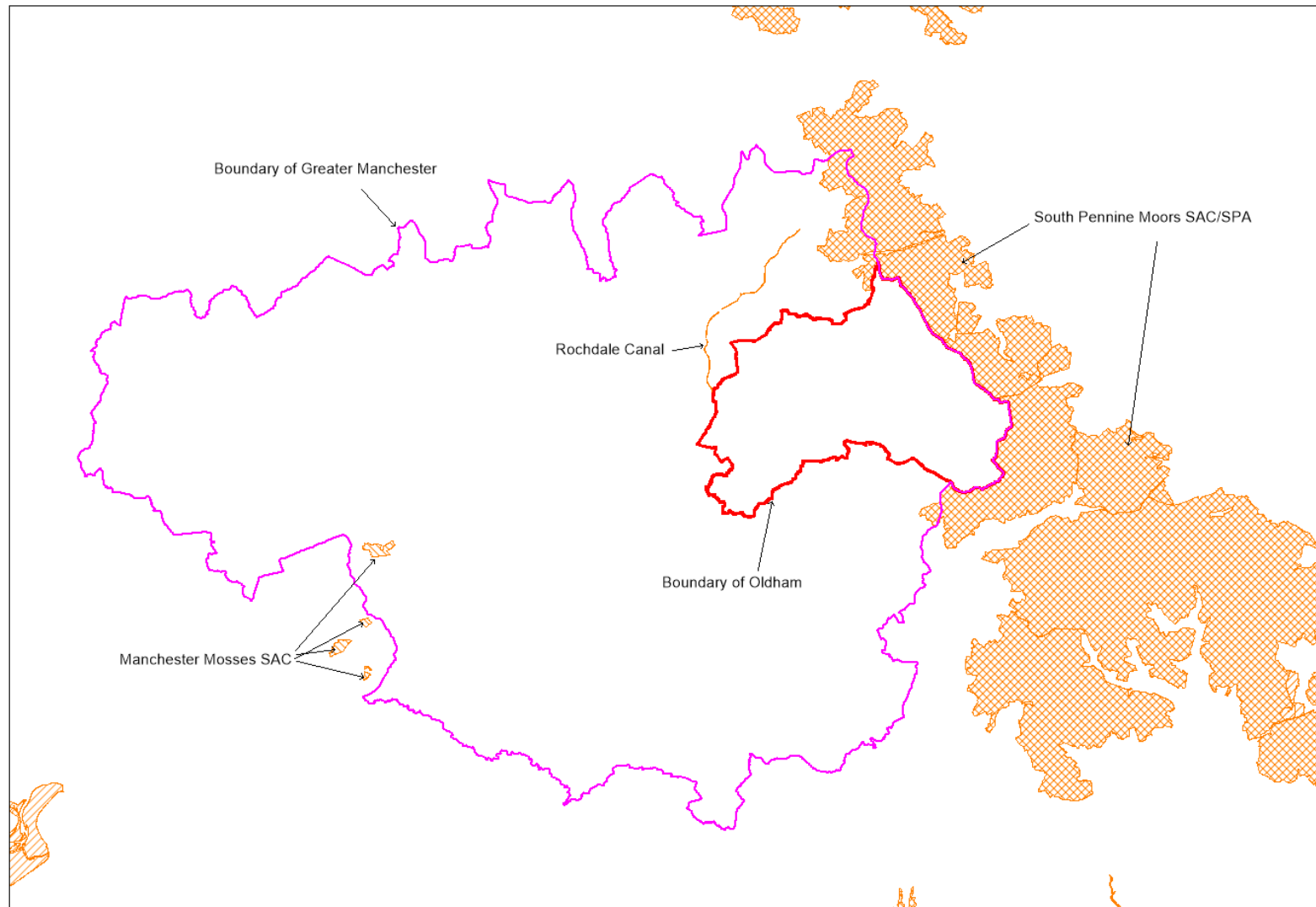
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Map 1 Showing Natura 2000 Network European sites in relation to the boundary of Oldham Borough



APPENDIX 1: European designated sites within the Northern England and possible effects from development within Oldham. Those highlighted sites in red have been 'screened in' to this Assessment

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Asby Complex	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Bolton Fell Moss	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Border Mires, Kielder – Butterburn	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Borrowdale Woodland Complex	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Bowland Fells	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – identified species are highly unlikely to utilise habitats within Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham
Calf Hill & Cragg Woods	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Clints Quarry	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Cumbrian Marsh Fritillary Site	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Dee Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Drigg Coast	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham. Oldham 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.
		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 Oldham
Duddon Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA.
		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 Oldham
Esthwaite Water	Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Irthinghead Mires	Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham
Lake District High Fells	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - Hydrological connectivity with Thirlmere considered as part of United Utilities strategic HRA of WRMP (2013). No pathway for water borne pollution to SAC.
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Leighton Moss	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA and Ramsar Site.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Liverpool Bay	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham
Manchester Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	Possible effects through diffuse air pollution
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham
Martin Mere	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Mersey Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be significantly effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham
Mersey Narrows & Wirral Foreshore	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	Site classification details unavailable but there are unlikely to be any hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	Site classification details unavailable but there are unlikely to be any atmospheric pathways between SPA and land within Oldham
		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 Oldham (based on knowledge of Greater Manchester bird populations).
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham
<i>Midland Meres & Mosses Phase 1 & 2</i>	2 x Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Moor House – Upper Teasdale	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary	SAC/Ramsar/SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Oldham. Oldham rivers do not discharge into Morecambe Bay
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site.
		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 Oldham.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham
Morecambe Bay Pavements	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Naddle Forest	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
North Pennine Dales Meadows	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
North Pennine Moors	SAC/SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC/SPA and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC/SPA.
		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 Oldham.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Oak Mere	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham
		Air Pollution	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham
		Direct land take	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham
Ribble & Alt Estuaries	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
River Dee & Bala Lake	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
River Derwent & Bassenthwaite Lake	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - Hydrological connectivity with Thirlmere considered as part of United Utilities strategic HRA of WRMP (2013). No pathway for water borne pollution to SAC.
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
River Eden	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
River Ehen	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
River Kent	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Rixton Clay Pits	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None – no hydrological connectivity between the site and Oldham. Water bodies on site are fed by rain water.
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Rochdale Canal	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	Possible – Impact Risk Zones identifies discharge of water or liquid waste as potential risks
		Air Pollution	Possible – Impact Risk Zones identifies air pollution from certain livestock & poultry units, slurry lagoons & digestate stores and combustion process as potential risks
		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 Oldham
Rostherne Mere	Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham
Roudsea Wood & Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Sefton Coast	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Shell Flat & Lune Deep	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Solway Firth	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
South Pennine Moors	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham.
		Air Pollution	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham
		Direct land take	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham
South Pennine Moors Phase 2	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham.
		Air Pollution	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham.
		Direct land take	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham.
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham.
		Increased recreational Pressure	Possible – Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham.
South Solway Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Subberthwaite, Blawith & Torver Low Commons	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Tarn Moss	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Tyne & Nent	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Ullswater Oakwoods	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Upper Solway Flats & Marshes	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Oldham
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Oldham
Walton Moss	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Wast Water	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
West Midlands Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham
Witherslack Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Yewbarrow Woods	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Oldham
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		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 Oldham

APPENDIX 2: Screening Summary of European designated sites within the Northern England and possible impacts from development within Oldham

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

Site Name	Designation	Screened in/out	Justification
Liverpool Bay	SPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by Oldham's HRA
Manchester Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by Oldham's HRA
Martin Mere	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by Oldham's HRA
Mersey Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by Oldham's HRA
Mersey Narrows & Wirral Foreshore	SPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by Oldham's 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 Oldham's HRA
Moor House – Upper Teasdale	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary	SAC/Ramsar/ SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Morecambe Bay Pavements	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Naddle Forest	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
North Pennine Dales Meadows	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
North Pennine Moors	SAC/SPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by Oldham's HRA
Oak Mere	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)	SPA	In	Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham boundary
Ribble & Alt Estuaries	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by Oldham's HRA
River Dee & Bala Lake	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's 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 United Utilities WRMP (2013)
River Eden	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
River Ehen	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
River Kent	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Rixton Clay Pits	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Rochdale Canal	SAC	In	Possible impacts from water/liquid waste discharges, air pollution and/or combustion process
Rostherne Mere	Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Roudsea Wood & Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Sefton Coast	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Shell Flats & Lune Deep	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Solway Firth	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
South Pennine Moors	SAC	In	Parts of the SAC lie within the Oldham boundary
South Pennine Moors Phase 2	SPA	In	Parts of the SPA lie within the Oldham boundary
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 Oldham's HRA
Tarn Moss	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's 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 Oldham's HRA
Ullswater Oakwoods	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's 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 Oldham's HRA
Walton Moss	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Wast Water	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
West Midlands Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Witherslack Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA
Yewbarrow Woods	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in Oldham's HRA

Appendix 3 – List of Other Relevant Plans and Projects Considered as part of the Assessment

Plans Assessed under the Terms of the Habitats Regulations

District	Plan	Outcome of Assessment
Rochdale MBC	Local Development Framework - Core Strategy 2010	No effect on the integrity of Manchester Mosses SAC, Rixton Clay Pits SAC and River Mersey SPA
Rochdale MBC	Draft Allocations Plan 2018	No effect on the integrity of Manchester Mosses SAC, Rixton Clay Pits SAC and River Mersey SPA
Trafford MBC	Core Strategy 2012	No effect on the integrity of European sites
Bolton MBC	Core Strategy 2011 and Site Allocations Plan 2014	No effect on the integrity of European sites
Stockport MBC	Core Strategy 2011	No effect on the integrity of European sites
Oldham MBC	Joint Core Strategy and Development Management Policies 2011	No effect on the integrity of European sites
Wigan MBC	Core Strategy 2013	No effect on the integrity of European sites
Manchester City Council	Core Strategy 2012	No effect on the integrity of European sites
All GM Districts	Combined Minerals Plan 2013	No effect on the integrity of European sites
All GM Districts	Combined Waste Plan 2012	No effect on the integrity of European sites
Greater Manchester	Places for Everyone	No effect on the integrity of European sites subject to recommended mitigation

Appendix 4

Summary Policy Assessment Categories From Chapter F of the Habitats Regulations Assessment Handbook (DTA Publications, 2019)

Abbreviation	Category/Policy Type
A	General statements of policy / general aspirations (screened out)
B	Policy listing general criteria for testing the acceptability / sustainability of proposals (screened out)
C	Proposal referred to but not proposed by the plan (screened out)
D	General plan-wide environmental protection / site safeguarding/ threshold policies (screened out)
E	Policies or proposals that steer change in such a way as to protect European sites from adverse effects(screened out)
F	Policy that cannot lead to development or other change (screened out)
G	Policy or proposal that could not have any conceivable effect on a site (screened out)
H	Policy or proposal the (actual or theoretical) effects of which cannot undermine the conservation objectives (either alone or in combination with other aspects of this or other plans or projects) (screened out)
I	Policy or proposal which may have a likely significant effect on a site alone (screened in)
J	Policy or proposal with an effect on a site but unlikely to be significant effect alone so need to check likely significant effects in combination
K	Policy or proposal unlikely to have a significant effect either alone or in combination (screened out after the in combination test)
L	Policy or proposal which might be likely to have a significant effect in combination (screened in after the in combination test)
M	Bespoke area, site or case-specific policies or proposals intended to avoid or reduce harmful effects on a European Site (screened in)