

NEW HOMES FROM OLD PLACES RESIDENTIAL CONVERSION AND SUB-DIVISION SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

Habitats Regulation Assessment

Local Authorities are required by Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) to undertake an Appropriate Assessment of Land Use Plans (including Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents) to consider the potential impacts of policies on Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), and RAMSAR sites, collectively known as Natura 2000 sites. As a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) the *New Homes from Old Places* document is included under the Habitats Directive.

The *New Homes from Old Places* SPD is referred to in the emerging Blackpool Core Strategy Preferred Option document in the supporting text to Policy R20: Mixed Neighbourhoods and Policy G5: Affordable and Supported Needs Housing. Under the Habitats Directive, a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report of the Core Strategy has been undertaken to assess the potential impacts of the policies on Natura 2000 sites. The Screening Report has identified that the Core Strategy policies relevant to the SPD will have no significant adverse effect on any Natura 2000 site.

A formal response from Natural England confirms that the Core Strategy HRA Screening Report sufficiently covers the *New Homes from Old Places SPD*; therefore no further HRA Screening Report or Appropriate Assessment is required at this stage.