



**Habitat Regulations Screening Assessment
Blackpool Core Strategy
Proposed Submission**

May 2014

Control sheet

Project No & Title: BOWK001/13 Habitat Regulations Screening Assessment,
Blackpool Core Strategy, Proposed Submission

Client: Blackpool Council

Prepared by: Lyndsey Husband, Senior Ecologist
Ellen Milner, Senior Ecologist

Checked by: Jeremy James, Principal Ecologist
Louise Redgrave, Principal Ecologist

Date of Issue: 22 May 2014 **Status:** Final

Version No: 4

Revisions: 0

This report is prepared by Bowland Ecology Ltd for the sole and exclusive use of Blackpool Council in response to their particular instructions. No liability is accepted for any costs, claims or losses arising from the use of this report or any part thereof for any purpose other than that for which it was specifically prepared or by any party other than Blackpool Council.

This report has been prepared by an environmental specialist and does not purport to provide legal advice. You may wish to take separate legal advice.

Bowland Ecology Ltd

No 8 Poorsland Barn
Slaidburn
Clitheroe
BB7 3AE

Tel: 01200 446777

Fax: 01200 446775

Web : www.bowlandecology.co.uk

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Screening	5
3. Recommendations	7
References	8
Appendices	10
Appendix 1 – Broad Screening of Natura 2000 Sites	11
Appendix 2 – Evidence gathered for Natura 2000 sites	30
Appendix 3 – Coding used for recording effects / impacts on a European site	33
Appendix 4 – Assessment of policies in relation to Natura 2000 sites	34
Appendix 5 – Plans indicating the Location of Natura 2000 sites in the North West	47
Appendix 6 –Blackpool Council Authority Boundary in relation to the Fylde and Wyre Regions	50
Appendix 7 – RSPB Summary map showing important populations of sensitive wintering bird species	51

1. Introduction

1.1. Background of Blackpool Core Strategy

Blackpool Council, as part of their new Local Plan, has been working since 2008 to produce the Blackpool Core Strategy. This strategy will sit at the centre of all planning documentation and forms the key document in the Blackpool Local Plan. It is intended that the Core Strategy sets out a strategic approach for the development of Blackpool until 2027.

The strategy 'sets out where new development should be located to meet Blackpool's future needs. The strategy also identifies which areas within Blackpool will be regenerated, protected or enhanced; and sets out key development principles, such as design and affordable housing'.

In March 2010 Bowland Ecology undertook a Habitats Regulations Screening Assessment (HRA) of the Preferred Options document, which was issued for public consultation in April 2010. The HRA 2010 report identified that there are 67 Natura 2000 sites (refer to section 1.3 for the definition of a Natura 2000 site)¹ within the region that potentially could be impacted by the policies within the proposed Core Strategy. Impacts upon each of these sites were then assessed and it was highlighted that there was the potential for significant impacts upon 23 Natura 2000 sites through the wording of the policies within the Core Strategy.

- South Pennine Moors Special Protection Area (SPA)
- Morecambe Bay Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Morecambe Bay (SPA/Ramsar)
- Morecambe Bay Pavements (SAC)
- Ribble and Alt Estuaries (SPA/Ramsar)
- Leighton Moss (SPA/Ramsar)
- Dee Estuary (SPA)
- Duddon Estuary (SPA/Ramsar)
- Liverpool Bay (SPA)
- Mersey Estuary (SPA/Ramsar)
- Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore (SPA/Ramsar)
- North Pennine Moors (SPA)
- Peak District Moors (SPA)
- Upper Solway Flats and Marshes (SPA/Ramsar)
- Martin Mere (SPA/Ramsar)

These potential impacts include the potential loss of Annex 1 bird foraging/roosting sites through the development of Marton Moss/M55 area and due to strikes during migration if any wind turbines/farms were to be constructed.

The HRA 2010 report recommended that wording was added to the relevant policies within the Core Strategy which would indicate that development within Marton Moss/M55 hub and any construction of wind turbines would need to take into consideration grazing and migrating Annex 1 bird species. These changes were made to the Preferred Options document (including the

¹ Note: When discussing individual sites the full name of the SPA/SAC/RAMSAR site will be used. If talking about more than one site then they will be referred to as Natura 2000 sites.

removal of references specifically to wind turbines) prior to its release for public consultation, therefore removing the need to undertake an Appropriate Assessment.

Bowland Ecology was commissioned in 2012 to repeat the Habitat Regulations Screening Assessment, upon the Revised Preferred Option document. This document had been developed in response to public consultation, the introduction of the localism agenda and the Localism Act 2011, new evidence based documents and following a review of Blackpool Council's priorities.

In 2014, Bowland Ecology has been commissioned to update the Habitat Regulations Screening Assessment on the Proposed Submission Document. The Proposed Submission Document is the version of the Core Strategy that the Council will seek to adopt. It represents the final consultation stage in the document's preparation. As part of this update, any changes to the UK Natura 2000 site lists have been assessed.

1.2. Summary of Key Policies within Blackpool's Core Strategy

Key policy areas within the Core Strategy Revised Preferred Option document, in relation to the Natura 2000 sites, include:

- A focus on the redevelopment / enhancement of existing urban areas within Blackpool (Policy CS1, 3, 4, 11 and –17-21).
- Encouragement of the use of public transport and cycling within the town (Policy CS5 and 27).
- Development at Moss House Road and Whyndyke Farm to meet housing demands and improve the quality and choice of accommodation available (CS1, 2, 3, 24, 25 and 26).
- Protect and improve Marton Mere SSSI and Biological Heritage Sites (BHS's) surrounding the town (Policy CS6).
- Encouragement of alternative energies (Policy CS10).

1.3. The Need for an Appropriate Assessment

The Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) established a network of Natura 2000 sites, within the European Community, with the objective of protecting sites that are considered to be of exceptional importance for rare, endangered or vulnerable natural habitats and/or species. These sites are also known as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Offshore Marine Sites (OMS). The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, Published March 2012) also recommends that proposed and actual Ramsar sites (sites designated under the 1971 Ramsar Convention for their internationally important wetlands), potential SPAs and candidate SACs should be afforded the same level of consideration as the Natura 2000 site listed above.

To ensure that the protection of these sites was considered during the planning process at a regional and local level, the Habitats Directive established the requirement for an Appropriate Assessment of land use plans to be undertaken via Article 6(3) and 6(4) detailed below;

Article 6(3)

“Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [Natura 2000] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, shall be subjected to appropriate 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 implication for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having 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”

Article 6(4)

“If, in spite of a negative assessment of the implications for the site and in the absence of alternative solutions, a plan or project must nevertheless be carried out for imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature, the Member State shall take all compensatory measures necessary to ensure that the overall coherence of Natura 2000 is protected. It shall inform the Commission of the compensatory measures adopted”.

Where the site concerned hosts a priority natural habitat type and/or a priority species, the only considerations which may be raised are those relating to human health or public safety, to beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment or, further to an opinion from the Commission, to other imperative reasons of overriding public interest”

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulation (2010) transposed the Habitats Directive 1992 into UK legislation. This document specifies that Appropriate Assessment should be undertaken for land use plans, such as the Blackpool Core Strategy.

1.4. Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment

The process followed and the legal requirements dictating the need for a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) are different. A Sustainability Appraisal aims to ensure that plans result in sustainable development by looking at social, environmental and economic considerations; while the Habitat Regulations Assessment is focused on ensuring that the plan has no negative impact upon any European protected site (e.g. the Natura 2000 sites including SPA/SAC/Ramsar).

However, typically they are undertaken at the same time as evidence gathered for either the SA or the HRA may be relevant to the other assessment. Evidence gathered as part of the HRA for Natura 2000 sites that could be significantly affected is shown in Appendix 1 and 2.

As a consequence Blackpool Council has commissioned Hyder Consulting to complete the SA at the same time as commissioning Bowland Ecology Ltd to complete the HRA.

1.5. Habitat Regulations Assessment Process

A Habitat Regulations Assessment includes a number of stages. However, it may not be necessary to undertake all of the stages, if it is determined that a plan will have no negative effects upon any European site.

Stage 1 – Screening

Evidence gathering stage which involves the identification of European sites that could be affected by the plan, the characteristics of these sites and their conservation objectives. In addition plans and project that may have an in combination effect with the Blackpool Core Strategy are considered. The information collected is then used to determine if there are any policies within the Core Strategy that may have a likely significant effect.

Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment

Policies identified at the screening stage to potentially have a likely significant effect, will be further assessed through an Appropriate Assessment to determine whether the policies will affect the integrity of a Natura 2000 site.

Integrity is described by OPDM Circular 06/2005: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation as “the site’s coherence, ecological structure and function across its whole area that enables it to sustain the habitat, complex of habitats and/or the levels of populations of species for which it was classified”

Stage 3 – Assessment of Alternative Solutions

Options identified to potentially have a negative impact should be investigated to identify if there are alternatives.

Stage 4 – Assessment where No alternatives Exist and Negative Impacts may Remain

This document will be produced to provide evidence that the option needs to occur as it is for Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest (IROPI), which is a difficult test to satisfy.

1.6. Structure of this Report

This report undertakes Stage 1 of the process detailed above, which is known as the screening phase or Assessment of Likely Significant Effects (ALSE).

The screening process is broken down into:

Broad screening – All Natura 2000 sites within the North West region are assessed to determine if there are impact pathways between these sites and the Blackpool Core Strategy.

Evidence gathering for detailed screening – If impact pathways were identified in the broad screening phase for a Natura 2000 site further information was obtained of these designations including their conservation objectives which are presented in Appendix 2.

Detailed screening – In Appendix 4 the policies within the Core Strategy are assessed in relation to the Natura 2000 sites (identified during the broad screening process). The impacts are described by a scoring system presented in Appendix 3. The impacts of the policies within the Core Strategy are considered alone and then in relation to other relevant plans.

Recommendations – Recommendations are made as to how the wording of policies could be refined by Blackpool Council to prevent any likely significant impacts occurring (if identified in Appendix 4). If changes are made it will remove the need for an Appropriate Assessment.

2. Screening

2.1. Connected Documentation

The planning documentation produced by Blackpool Council, Wyre Borough Council and Fylde Borough Council are all closely connected as issues such as economics, development and transport are shared resources.

Consultation took place on the emerging Fylde Local Plan to 2030: Part 1 - Preferred Options in June - August 2013. It is scheduled to be adopted in April 2015. Therefore, Fylde Borough Council is still working to their adopted Local Plan (as altered Oct 2005), which was assessed in connection with the Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission to assess if there are any in-combination effects. A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Fylde Local Plan Preferred Option was undertaken by Hyder Consulting in August 2013, and has been reviewed as part of this process.

Wyre Borough Council consulted on their Core Strategy Preferred Options draft, between the 2nd April and the 21st May 2012. As no further revisions have been issued, the documentation has been assessed in connection with Blackpool Core Strategy to assess if there are any in-combination effects. A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Wyre Council Preferred Options Core Strategy was undertaken by Hyder Consulting in January 2012, and has been reviewed as part of this process.

The North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy (NWRSS) was revoked in May 2013. Although now defunct, this document was the subject of a Habitat Regulations Assessment, which was used as the starting point for assessing which Natura 2000 sites could be affected by the Blackpool Core Strategy.

2.2. Identification of Natura 2000 Sites

Broad Screening

As stated above, the NWRSS (now revoked) was used as the starting point for the identification of Natura 2000 sites that could potentially be affected by the proposed policies within the Blackpool Core Strategy. These sites have been the subject of a broad screening phase (refer to Appendix 1).

In this screening process, a review was undertaken of the factors which ensure that the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites are not negatively affected. This information was collected from the Habitats Regulations Assessment that was undertaken for the NWRSS, which has been reviewed and commented on by Natural England (no further Natura 2000 sites have been designated since this documentation was produced – the only change is that the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore candidate SAC/proposed Ramsar site has now been fully designated as a SAC/Ramsar site as of July 2013). Using this information a list of potential routes of impact were developed (source – pathway – receptor). It was then determined if the Core Strategy could have a direct or indirect impact upon any of the Natura 2000 sites. The detailed results of this assessment are provided within Appendix 1. Maps illustrating the location of all Natura 2000 sites in the North West are provided in Appendix 5 of this report.

On conclusion of the broad screening it was determined that there are four sites (SPA/Ramsar have been grouped if they cover a similar area) that

require detailed screening. However, the extent of the screening will vary as described below.

Detailed Screening

There are no Natura 2000 sites within Blackpool's Authority boundary. The Authority boundary abuts the boundary of the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar designated site to the south. It was determined that due to the position of this designation that the impact of all policies on this designation should be assessed.

Morecambe Bay SPA and Ramsar site are separated from Blackpool Authority boundary as they are situated within Wyre Authority Boundary. These habitats would not be impacted directly but could be affected indirectly due to potential for disturbance of roosting/foraging birds. Therefore the assessment will be focused on these issues in relation to these designations.

In March 2010 at the broad screening stage it was highlighted that there was the potential for a further 17 SPA/Ramsar sites to be affected indirectly by policies on alternative energies within the Blackpool Core Strategy, due to the potential increase in wind turbines. The Core Strategy no longer includes a policy which indicate support for the development of wind turbines, therefore the potential for significant impacts upon these Natura 2000 sites is removed.

In March 2010 impacts upon Morecambe Bay SAC and Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC were assessed due to concerns relating to increased visitor numbers within the local area. However, it is considered that the Core Strategy is focused on increasing visitors to the town centre that the potential for impacts upon these designated sites are so low that it does not justify further assessment.

2.3. Consultation with Natural England

As part of the HRA undertaken in 2010 informal consultation was undertaken with Natural England (Jed Nicholson, Joe Green (Marine Advisors) and Mandy North (Planner)) and Bowland Ecology Ltd, on the 17th February 2010. This consultation was to clarify the process that should be followed during the screening phase and how the Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report should be presented.

The consultation also clarified how policies could be amended to ensure that no significant affects would occur as a result of policies, therefore, preventing the need for an Appropriate Assessment.

Natural England has not been consulted again since 2010 as the consultation comments are still relevant in 2014. Formal consultation with Natural England will occur when Blackpool Council issues the Proposed Submission document for public consultation in 2014.

3. Recommendations

It is considered that likely significant impacts could occur in relation to four Natura 2000 sites (these include Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar and Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar), due to potential disturbance of Annex 1 bird foraging sites situated adjacent to proposed residential and employment development areas to the south of Blackpool and at Whyndyke Farm (South of Mythop Road). It is noted that the overall housing provision has been reduced from 4500 to 4200 homes (Policy CS2) from the 2012 Revised Preferred Option document to the 2014 Proposed Submission document which will reduce the potential impacts.

These issues are discussed in detail with a discussion of how the policies have been refined to ensure that likely significant impacts on the Natura 2000 sites can be prevented.

3.1. Development

The focus of the development policies within Blackpool Core Strategy is on re-development of brownfield land. It is considered that the development of these areas is beneficial to the Natura 2000 sites as it takes pressure off greenfield areas.

Blackpool Council has identified the need for residential/employment expansion into South Blackpool and an area at Whyndyke Farm south of Mythop Rd. Those areas identified for economic development within the Core Strategy will be focused upon sites where the supporting infrastructure (e.g. roads) for commercial and light industrial development is already in place. An area of residential development will occur along Moss House Road (approx. 600 homes), which already has planning permission and a small area of residential development (150 homes) is proposed at Whyndyke Farm (South of Mythop Road) which is currently a greenfield site. A parcel of land to the South of Blackpool has been identified for the development of a Neighbourhood Plan, which could lead to development within this area. However, impacts of this plan on the Natura 2000 sites will be assessed on production of the Neighbourhood Plan rather than through the Core Strategy.

Therefore, development in this area will occur on a mix of industrial estates, land that already has planning permission and a small area of greenfield land. It is considered that development within this area would not have a direct impact on any Natura 2000 site as it is separated from all designated sites by existing development. However, the potential exists for development in these areas to have an indirect impact upon the Annex 1 bird assemblages for which the four surrounding Natura 2000 sites were designated (Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar and Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar). This impact would potentially occur through the disturbance of these species while foraging.

The Natura 2000 sites have been designated for a broad range of qualifying bird species, a full list of which can be viewed in Appendix 1 of this report. However, when considering qualifying species that could be affected indirectly by development in South Blackpool and Whyndyke Farm the focus is on species such as pink footed geese, Bewick's swan and whooper swan, which are known to forage across the arable and pasture land which surrounds Blackpool (Refer to Appendix 7 which indicates that whooper swan forage within the fields to the south of Blackpool. Species records provided to

Bowland Ecology by Lancashire Environment Record Network indicate the presence of pink footed geese, whooper swan and Bewick's swan upon the fields surrounding Marton Mere and subsequently Whyndyke Farm).

While it is acknowledged that the majority of the proposed development in South Blackpool is within the existing urban area, the development at Whyndyke Farm is upon greenfield land. It is considered that development within all these areas could result in disturbance of foraging Annex 1 bird species to the south and east of these areas. Following a recommendation in the 2012 HRA to strengthen the policy to ensure there are no significant adverse effects likely to occur as a result of implementing the preferred policies, the wording of Policy CS6 Green Infrastructure (point 4) has been amended and now reads:

International, national and local sites of biological and geological conservation importance will be protected having regard to the hierarchy of designated sites and the potential for appropriate mitigation. Measures that seek to preserve, restore and enhance local ecological networks and priority habitats/species will be required where necessary.

The supporting text (Local Ecological Networks, Paragraphs 5.109 and 5.110) has also been modified to provide further context to this policy statement in that:

The Council is also committed to maintaining the biodiversity and natural distinctiveness of sites of nature conservation interest, which specifically include the statutorily protected Marton Mere Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) (much of which is also designated as a Local Nature Reserve) and safeguarded Blackpool Biological Heritage Sites (BHSs).

With respect to Natura 2000, sites development within Blackpool would not directly impact upon the Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar or the Ribble and Alt Estuary SPA/Ramsar. However, the qualifying bird species of these sites (including whooper swan) are dependent upon the large areas of agricultural land on the edge of Blackpool which extend into Fylde and Wyre districts. Therefore, future development will need to ensure that there are no significant negative impacts upon the integrity of Natura 2000 sites (SPA/Ramsar sites).

References

Blackpool Council (2012). *The Blackpool Core Strategy Revised Preferred Option*.

Department of Communities and Local Government (2006). *Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Appropriate Assessment*.

Fylde Bird Club Website (viewed February 2009)
<http://www.fyldebirdclub.freeuk.com/bwsites.htm#Goose>

Natural England. (Three documents provided on the 23/02/10 to Bowland Ecology Ltd)
Conservation objectives and definitions of favourable condition for designated features of interest for Morecambe Bay and Ribble and Alt Estuary.

RSPB (2008). *Biomass planting and Sensitive Bird Populations: A Spatial Planning Guide for biomass energy crop planting in North West England.*

Scott Wilson, Treweek Environmental Consultants and Levett-Therivel (2008). *Habitats Regulations Assessment of the North West Regional Spatial Strategy.*

Hyder Consulting (2012). *Wyre Borough Council Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment Core Strategy, Screening Report.*

Hyder Consulting (2013). *Habitats Regulation Assessment. Fylde Local Plan to 2030. Part 1: Preferred Option, Screening Report.*

Fylde Council (2013). *Fylde Local Plan to 2030. Part 1 - Preferred Options. .*

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Broad Screening of Natura 2000 Sites

The North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy was revoked in May 2013. However, this document is a valuable tool for this assessment as it identified Natura 2000 sites within the region: 38 Special Areas of Conservation, two candidate Special Areas of Conservation, 12 Special Protected Areas, two proposed Special Areas of Conservation, 13 Ramsar sites and one proposed Ramsar site. These have been assessed in relation to Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission document.

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
Asby Complex SAC	3122.23	Dry grasslands or scrublands on chalk or limestone (important orchid sites), Limestone pavements, Base-rich fens, Dry heaths, Purple moor-grass meadows, Hard-water springs depositing lime, Calcium-rich nutrient poor lakes, lochs and pools, Calcium-rich fen dominated by great fen sedge (saw sedge), Geyer's whorl snail, Slender green, feather-moss.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/mis-management • Changes to hydrology • Alteration of nutrient status • Visitor pressure <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 	<p>The Core Strategy will have no direct impacts on this site due to the distance of the site from Blackpool.</p> <p>The Core Strategy does include policies for industrial development and urban renewal. However, the Core Strategy also includes policies to support the use of public transport. It is therefore considered that the impact of pollution upon the SAC would be negligible when the position of the site is taken into account.</p>	No
Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains SAC	27221.21	Dry heaths, Blanket bog, Dry grasslands or scrublands on chalk or limestone, Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface, Base-rich scree, Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/mis-management • Changes to hydrology • Alteration of nutrient status • Visitor pressure 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
			<u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 		
Border Mires, Kielder-Butterburn SAC	11851.77	Blanket bog, Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface, Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, Dry heaths, Hard-water springs depositing lime.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat destruction/mis-management • Changes to hydrology • Alteration of nutrient status • Visitor pressure <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution/climate change 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Borrowdale Woodland Complex SAC	667.83	Western acidic oak woodland, Plants in crevices on acid rocks, Bog woodland*.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Import of plant diseases • Changes to hydrology and water quality <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Bowland Fells SPA	16002.31	Nationally important breeding populations of hen harrier and merlin. Also up to 11% of the Western European/Mediterranean/West African breeding population of lesser black-backed gull (Natural England recently held a consultation on the proposal to include lesser black backed gull as an additional feature of the SPA and is in the process of considering and responding to the representations they have received).	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Changes in hydrology • Disturbance during the breeding season. 	<p>It is considered that there will be no direct impacts upon this SPA as the site is a significant distance from Blackpool.</p> <p>It is not considered that these bird species are likely to be migrating from the west coast to Bowland Fells and therefore would not be affected by any development within Blackpool.</p>	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
Calf Hill and Cragg Woods SAC	34.43	Western acidic oak woodland, Alder woodland on floodplains.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat mis-management Change in hydrology Import of plant diseases <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Clints Quarry SAC	12.03	Great crested newts.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat loss Habitat degradation 	As the site is in Cumbria the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
Cumbrian Marsh Fritillary Site SAC	22.96	Marsh fritillary.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat mis-management Habitat fragmentation 	As the site is in Cumbria the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
Dee Estuary SPA	13076.29	Nationally important for breeding little tern and common tern, and for passage sandwich tern. Nationally important for over-wintering bar-tailed godwit. Internationally important for passage common redshank. Black-tailed godwit, dunlin, Eurasian curlew, grey plover, red knot, Eurasian oystercatcher, northern pintail, common redshank, common shelduck and Eurasian teal are present in internationally significant over-wintering numbers. Total numbers of waterfowl overwintering are of international significance.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change in hydrology Habitat modification Maintenance of views Over fishing Disturbance to birds <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Loss of birds during migration 	It is considered that there will be no direct impacts from the Core Strategy due to the location of the site in relation to Blackpool. Originally in the Preferred Options report reviewed in March 2010 policies were present that supported the erection of wind turbines. If large numbers of turbines had been erected in inappropriate locations this could have had a negative impact upon migratory bird species. However, this policy was removed before the Revised Preferred Options document and is not included within the Proposed Submission.	No
Dee Estuary Ramsar	13084.85	Extensive intertidal mudflats and sandflats, saltmarsh and dune systems. Internationally significant waterfowl numbers with many species reaching internationally important counts in spring/autumn and winter.			

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
				Therefore the potential for significant impacts to occur on migratory bird species as a result of the Core Strategy has been eliminated.	
Drigg Coast SAC	1397.44	Estuaries, Coastal dune, heathland, Dunes with creeping willow, Intertidal mudflats and sandflats, Glasswort and other annuals colonising mud and sand, Atlantic salt meadows, Shifting dunes, Shifting dunes with marram, Dune grassland, Humid dune slacks.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alteration of habitat conditions (e.g. sediment, temp, salinity) • Over fishing • Visitor pressure • Habitat mis-management • Water pollution (inc. releases of organic matter) • 	As the site is in Cumbria the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
Duddon Estuary SPA	6806.3	Nationally important breeding population of sandwich tern. Internationally significant numbers of passage ringed plover and sanderling. Internationally important numbers of wintering red knot, northern pintail and common redshank. Total wintering waterfowl numbers are of international importance.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in hydrology • Habitat modification • Habitat mis-management • Loss of views • Over fishing • Disturbance to birds 	As per Dee Estuary SPA/Ramsar	No
Duddon Estuary Ramsar	6806.3	Natterjack toad occurs at 18- 24% of UK population. Wetland plants and invertebrates are well represented. Nationally important numbers of passage waterfowl. Internationally important numbers of northern pintail, red knot and common redshank over-winter.	<u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 		

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
Duddon Mosses SAC	318.07	Active raised bogs, Degraded raised bog.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in hydrology • Habitat mis-management <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Esthwaite Water Ramsar	137.4	A good example of a mesotrophic lake, with a well developed hydrosere. Important for aquatic invertebrates and pondweed species, and is the only known site for slender naiad in England and Wales.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in hydrology • Habitat mis-management <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Helbeck and Swindale Woods SAC	136.38	Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Import of plant diseases • Changes to hydrology and water quality <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Irthinghead Mires Ramsar	792.08	Outstanding examples of undamaged blanket bogs. Rare plants, including bog-mosses, and tall bog-sedge are present as is a rare species of spider.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Changes to hydrology and water quality <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution/climate change 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Lake District High Fells SAC	26999.36	Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels, Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, Dry heaths,	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
		Alpine and subalpine heaths, Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands, Montane acid grasslands, Tall herb communities, Blanket bog, Acidic scree, Plants in crevices on acid rocks, Western acidic oak woodland, Species-rich grassland with mat grass, in upland areas, Base-rich fens, Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks, Slender green feather-moss.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water pollution/sediment release • Changes to hydrology and water quality • Visitor pressure <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution/climate change 		
Leighton Moss SPA	128.61	Nationally important for breeding great bittern (20% of UK population) and Eurasian marsh harrier. Nationally important numbers of great bittern also over-winter.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Changes in hydrology • Disturbance during the breeding season. 	As per Dee Estuary SPA/Ramsar	No
Leighton Moss Ramsar	128.61	A large reedbed site with northerly outposts of breeding great bittern, Eurasian marsh harrier and bearded tit, Important numbers of northern shoveler and water rail occur outside the breeding season.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water pollution <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 		
Liverpool Bay SPA	197,505	Nationally important populations of over-wintering red-throated diver (Annex 1) and common scoter (migratory species), Regularly supports more than 20,000 waterfowl during non-breeding season.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in hydrology • Habitat modification • Loss of views • Over fishing • Disturbance to birds <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 	As per Dee Estuary SPA/Ramsar	No
Martin Mere SPA	119.89	Nationally important populations of over-wintering Bewick's swan and whooper swan (11% of UK numbers). Internationally significant numbers of	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in hydrology • Habitat modification 	As per Dee Estuary SPA/Ramsar	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
		pink-footed goose and northern pintail over-winter. Total wintering waterfowl numbers are of international importance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of views • Over fishing • Disturbance to birds 		
Martin Mere Ramsar	119.89	Supports large numbers of waterfowl, including internationally important figures for pink-footed geese on passage and wintering Bewick's swan, whooper swan, Eurasian wigeon and northern pintail.	<u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 		
Manchester Mosses SAC	172.81	Degraded raised bog.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Changes in hydrology • Water pollution • Visitor pressure 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Mersey Estuary SPA	5033.14	Nationally important wintering population of European golden plover. Internationally significant numbers of ringed plover and common redshank on passage. Internationally important numbers of common redshank, northern pintail, Eurasian teal, common shelduck, and dunlin overwinter. Total wintering waterfowl numbers are of international importance.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in hydrology • Habitat modification • Loss of views • Over fishing • Disturbance to birds <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 	As per Dee Estuary SPA/Ramsar	No
Mersey Estuary Ramsar	5023.35	Internationally important numbers of common shelduck, black-tailed godwit and common redshank on passage, and wintering Eurasian teal, northern pintail and dunlin.			
Mersey Narrows and	2228	Breeding common tern; wintering bar-tailed godwit; migrating knot, redshank and turnstone; waterfowl	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in hydrology 	As per Dee Estuary SPA/Ramsar	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
North Wirral SPA (this site was fully designated as an SPA in 2013)		assemblage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat modification • Loss of views • Over fishing • Disturbance to birds • Water pollution 		
Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Ramsar (this site was fully designated as a Ramsar site in 2013)	2228	Breeding common tern; wintering bar-tailed godwit; migrating knot, redshank and turnstone; waterfowl assemblage.	<u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 		
Midland Meres and Mosses – Phase 1 and 2 Ramsar	510.88m (Phase 1) 1588.24 (Phase 2)	<p>Phase 1 - Site has a diverse range of habitats from open water to raised bog. Five nationally scarce plants and three endangered insects occur.</p> <p>Phase 2 - Site has a diverse range of habitats from open water to raised bog. Nationally scarce plants include cowbane, elongated sedge, golden bogmoss and <i>Dicranum affine</i>. Endangered species of moth, caddis fly and sawfly occur.</p>	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Changes in hydrology and water chemistry • Water pollution • Visitor pressure • Increased occurrence of invasive weeds <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution/climate change 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Moorhouse – Upper Teesdale SAC	38795.99	Calcium-rich nutrient poor lakes, lochs and pools, Alpine and subalpine heaths, Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands, Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals, Montane acid grasslands, Dry	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Water pollution • Alteration of water 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
		grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone, Purple moor-grass meadows, Tall herb communities, Mountain hay meadows, Blanket bog, Hard-water springs depositing lime, Base-rich fens, High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage, Acidic scree, Base-rich scree, Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks, Plants in crevices on acid rocks, Dry heaths, Limestone pavements, Round-mouthed whorl snail, Marsh saxifrage.	chemistry • Visitor pressure <u>Indirect Impacts</u> • Atmospheric pollution/climate change		
Morecambe Bay SAC	61506.22	Estuaries, Intertidal mudflats and sandflats, Shallow inlets and Bays, Coastal shingle vegetation outside the reach of waves, Glasswort and other annuals colonising mud and sand, Atlantic salt meadows, Shifting dunes with marram, Dune grassland, Humid dune slacks, Subtidal sandbanks, Lagoons, Reefs, Shifting dunes, Coastal dune heathland, Dunes with creeping willow, Great crested newt.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> • Habitat mis-management • Habitat fragmentation • Changes in hydrology and water chemistry • Water pollution • Over fishing • Visitor pressure • Increased occurrence of invasive weeds <u>Indirect Impacts</u> • Atmospheric pollution/climate change	Morecambe Bay Pavements are separated from Blackpool by Wyre District. Therefore the Core Strategy will not have any direct impacts upon this habitat. In addition, the focus of the Core Strategy is to increase visitor numbers to the centre of Blackpool. There are no policies that specifically aim to increase visitor numbers to the region. Therefore, there will be no indirect impacts upon this habitat (e.g. trampling by increased visitor numbers).	No
Morecambe Bay SPA	37404.6	Nationally important breeding population of sandwich tern and little tern. Nationally important overwintering population of bar-tailed godwit and European golden plover. Internationally significant	<u>Direct Impacts</u> • Change in hydrology • Habitat modification • Loss of views	Morecambe Bay is separated from Blackpool by Wyre District therefore the majority of the policies developed within	Yes

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
		<p>numbers of lesser black-backed and herring gull in breeding season. Internationally important numbers of ringed plover and sanderling on passage. Eurasian curlew, grey plover, red knot, pink footed goose, northern pintail, common redshank, common shelduck, turnstone and dunlin overwinter in internationally significant numbers. Total wintering waterfowl numbers are of international importance as are total numbers of breeding seabirds.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over fishing • Disturbance to birds • Water pollution <p><u>Indirect Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 	<p>Blackpool's Core Strategy will not have a direct impact upon this SAC.</p> <p>However, the potential could exist for policies relating to increased visitor numbers to the Blackpool area to cause disturbance to designated birds outside of the SPA and thereby indirectly affect the SPA. The development of Marton Moss/M55 (loss of foraging) could impact on Annex 1 birds listed within the SPA citation.</p>	
Morecambe Bay Ramsar	37404.6	<p>This site is a staging area for migratory waterfowl including internationally important numbers of ringed plover. Internationally significant colonies of herring gull, lesser black-backed gull, and sandwich tern are present. Numerous water bird species achieve internationally important counts in spring/autumn and winter.</p>			
Morecambe Bay Pavements SAC	2609.69	<p>Calcium-rich nutrient poor lakes, lochs and Pools, Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands, Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone, Limestone pavements, Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes, Yew-dominated Woodland, Dry heaths, Calcium-rich fen dominated by great fen sedge (saw sedge), Western acidic oak woodland, Narrow-mouthed whorl-snail.</p>	<p><u>Direct Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Water pollution • Alteration of water chemistry • Visitor pressure <p><u>Indirect Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution/climate change 	As per Morecambe Bay SAC	No
Naddle Forest SAC	360.89	<p>Western acidic oak woodland, Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, Dry heaths.</p>	<p><u>Direct Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Import of plant diseases 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
			and invasive weeds • Changes to hydrology and water quality <u>Indirect Impacts</u> • Atmospheric pollution		
North Pennine Dales Meadows SAC	497.09	Mountain hay meadows, Purple moor-grass meadows.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> • Habitat mis-management <u>Indirect Impacts</u> • Atmospheric pollution	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
North Pennine Moors SAC	103109.42	Dry heaths, juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands, blanket bog, hard-water springs depositing lime, plants in crevices on acid rocks, western acidic oak woodland, wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals, montane acid grasslands, dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone, base-rich fens, acidic scree, Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks, marsh saxifrage.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> • Habitat mis-management <u>Indirect Impacts</u> • Atmospheric pollution	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
North Pennine Moors SPA	147246.41	Nationally important breeding population of sandwich tern and little tern. Nationally important overwintering population of bar-tailed godwit and European golden plover. Internationally significant numbers of lesser black-backed and herring gull in breeding season. Internationally important numbers of ringed plover and sanderling on passage. Eurasian curlew, grey plover, red knot, pink footed goose, northern pintail, common redshank, common shelduck, turnstone and dunlin overwinter in internationally significant numbers. Total	<u>Direct Impacts</u> • Visitor pressure (dogs) • Loss of views • Habitat mis-management • Change of hydrology • Increased occurrence of invasive weeds • Habitat fragmentation <u>Indirect Impacts</u> • Atmospheric pollution/climate change	As per Dee Estuary SPA/Ramsar	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
		wintering waterfowl numbers are of international importance as are total numbers of breeding seabirds.			
Oak Mere SAC	68.82	Nutrient-poor shallow waters with aquatic vegetation on sandy plains, Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Water pollution including sediment release • Changes to water chemistry <u>Indirect Impacts</u> Atmospheric pollution	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1) SPA	45270.52	Nationally important breeding populations of European golden plover, merlin, and short-eared owl.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Changes in hydrology • Disturbance during the breeding season. <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 	As per Dee Estuary SPA/Ramsar	No
River Dee and Bala Lake SAC	1308.93	Rivers with floating vegetation often dominated by water crowfoot, Atlantic salmon, Floating water plantain, Sea lamprey, Brook lamprey, River lamprey, Bullhead.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alteration to the course of the river • Over extraction of water • Water pollution • Barriers to the movement of fish • Over fishing • Visitor pressure 	Due to the site location it is considered that the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
River Derwent	1832.96	Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation	<u>Direct Impacts</u>	As the site is in Cumbria the Core	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
and Bassenthwaite Lake SAC		and poor to moderate nutrient levels, Rivers with floating vegetation often dominated by water crowfoot, Marsh fritillary butterfly, Sea lamprey, Brook lamprey, River lamprey, Atlantic salmon, Otter, Floating water plantain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alteration to the course of the river • Over extraction of water • Water pollution • Barriers to the movement of fish • Over fishing • Visitor pressure 	Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	
Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA	12361.13	Nationally important breeding populations of common tern and ruff, over-wintering bar-tailed godwit (36% of UK numbers), Bewick's swan, whooper swan and European golden plover. Internationally important numbers of lesser black backed gull breed. Internationally significant numbers of ringed plover and sanderling occur on passage. Black-tailed godwit, dunlin, grey plover, red knot, Eurasian oystercatcher, pink-footed goose, northern pintail, common redshank, sanderling, common shelduck, Eurasian teal and Eurasian wigeon over-winter in numbers of international significance. Total assemblages of breeding seabirds and wintering waterfowl are of international importance.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in hydrology • Habitat modification • Loss of views • Over fishing • Disturbance to birds • Water pollution <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 	The Ribble and Alt Estuaries boundary abuts the authority boundary of Blackpool. Therefore the impact of the Core Strategy upon this designation requires further consideration.	Yes
Ribble and Alt Estuaries Ramsar	13464.1	Up to 40% of the UK natterjack toad population is on this site. Lesser lack-backed gulls breed in internationally important numbers. Numerous water bird species achieve internationally important counts in spring/autumn and winter.			
River Eden	2463.23	Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation	<u>Direct Impacts</u>	As the site is in Cumbria the Core	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
SAC		and poor to moderate nutrient levels, Rivers with floating vegetation often dominated by water crowfoot, Alder woodland on floodplains, White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish, Sea lamprey, Brook lamprey, River lamprey, Bullhead, Otter, Atlantic salmon.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alteration to the course of the river • Over extraction of water • Water pollution • Barriers to the movement of fish • Over fishing • Visitor pressure 	Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	
River Ehen SAC	24.39	Freshwater pearl mussel, Atlantic salmon.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alteration to the course of the river • Over extraction of water • Water pollution • Barriers to the movement of fish • Over fishing • Visitor pressure 	As the site is in Cumbria the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
River Kent SAC	109.12	Rivers with floating vegetation often dominated by water crowfoot, White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish, Freshwater pearl mussel, Bullhead.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alteration to the course of the river • Over extraction of water • Water pollution • Barriers to the movement of fish • Over fishing • Visitor pressure • Habitat mis-management 	As the site is in Cumbria the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
Rixton Clay Pits	13.99	Great crested newt.	<u>Direct Impacts</u>	As the site is in Warrington the	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
SAC			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat loss Habitat degradation 	Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	
Rochdale Canal SAC	25.55	Floating water plantain.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water pollution Introduction of invasive weeds Visitor pressure 	Due to the site location it is considered that the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
Rotherne Mere Ramsar	79.76	One of the deepest and largest meres of the Shropshire- Cheshire plain, fringed with common reed.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alteration to water levels and chemistry Introduction of invasive weeds Habitat mis-management 	Due to the site location it is considered that the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
Roudsea Wood and Mosses SAC	470.45	Active raised bogs, Degraded raised bog, Mixed woodland on base-rich soil associated with rocky slopes, Yew-dominated woodland.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alteration to water levels and chemistry Habitat mis-management Visitor pressure <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Sefton Coast SAC	4563.97	Shifting dunes, Shifting dunes with marram, Dune grassland, Dunes with creeping willow, Humid dune slacks, Coastal dune heathland, Petal wort, Great crested newt.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat mis-management Habitat fragmentation and degradation Visitor pressure Establishment of invasive weeds 	Due to the site location it is considered that the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
Solway Firth SAC	43636.72	Subtidal sandbanks, Estuaries, Intertidal mudflats and sandbanks, Glasswort and other annuals colonising mud and sand, Atlantic salt meadows, Reefs, Coastal shingle vegetation outside the reach of waves, Dune grassland, Sea lamprey, River lamprey.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Habitat fragmentation and degradation • Changes to water chemistry and movements • Visitor pressure • Barriers to fish migration 	Due to the site location it is considered that the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
South Pennine Moors SAC	64983.13	Dry heaths, Blanket bog, Western acidic oak woods, Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath, Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Changes to hydrology • Visitor pressure • Establishment of invasive weeds <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 	Due to the site location it is considered that the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
South Pennine Moors (Phase 2) SPA	20936.53	Nationally important breeding populations of European golden plover and merlin. An internationally important assemblage of breeding birds occurs.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Changes in hydrology • Disturbance during the breeding season. <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 	As per Dee Estuary SPA/Ramsar	No
South Solway Mosses SAC	1962.36	Active raised bogs, Degraded raised bog.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management • Changes to hydrology <u>Indirect Impacts</u>	As per Asby Complex SAC	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atmospheric pollution 		
Subberthwaite, Blawith & Torver Low Commons SAC	1865.17	Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface, Depressions on peat substrates.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat mis-management Changes to hydrology Visitor pressure <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Tarn Moss SAC	17.03	Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat mis-management Changes to hydrology Visitor pressure <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Tyne and Nent SAC	36.84	Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutrient enrichment of soils Removal of heavy metals Erosion 	Due to the site location it is considered that the Core Strategy will have no direct impacts upon this site.	No
Ulleswater Oakwoods SAC	123.41	Western acidic oak woodlands.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat mis-management Establishment of invasive weeds or introduction of disease <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Upper Solway	30706.26	Nationally important numbers of over-wintering bar-	<u>Direct Impacts</u>	As per Dee Estuary SPA/Ramsar	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
Flats and Marshes SPA		tailed godwit, barnacle goose (112% of UK population), European golden plover and whooper swan. Internationally important numbers of ringed plover occur on passage. Eurasian curlew, dunlin, red knot, Eurasian oystercatcher, pink-footed goose, northern pintail, and common redshank over-winter in internationally important numbers. Total numbers of waterfowl overwinter are of international significance.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change in hydrology • Habitat modification • Loss of views • Over fishing • Disturbance to birds • Water pollution <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of birds during migration 		
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes Ramsar	43636.73	Over 10% of the UK natterjack toad population is present. Eurasian oystercatcher has an internationally important spring/autumn presence. Numerous water bird species achieve internationally significant winter count.			
Walton Moss SAC	285.89	Active raised bogs, Degraded raised bog.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall in water table • Habitat mis-management <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Wastwater SAC	286.21	Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels.	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall in water levels • Water pollution <u>Indirect Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
West Midlands Mosses SAC	184.18	Acid peat-stained lakes and ponds, Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface	<u>Direct Impacts</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall in water levels • Water pollution • Invasive weeds 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No

Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission

Name of Site	Area (ha) (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Qualifying Features (obtained from NWRSS HRA)	Potential Pollution/Impact Pathways	Possible Impacts Arising from the Plan	Risk of Likely Significant Effects
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Habitat mis-management <p><u>Indirect Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 		
Witherslack Mosses SAC	486.53	Active raised bogs, Degraded raised bog.	<p><u>Direct Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall in water levels • Water pollution • Habitat mis-management <p><u>Indirect Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No
Yewbarrow Woods SAC	112.89	Yew-dominated woodland, Juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands, Western acidic oak woodlands.	<p><u>Direct Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall in water levels • Water pollution • Invasive weeds • Habitat mis-management <p><u>Indirect Impacts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Atmospheric pollution 	As per Asby Complex SAC	No

Appendix 2 – Evidence gathered for Natura 2000 sites that could be significantly affected

The conservation objectives for the Natura 2000 sites which could be affected by Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission document have been provided below.

Natura 2000 Site Name (for qualifying features refer to Appendix 1)	Conservation Objectives (provided by Natural England)	Key Environmental Conditions to Support Site Integrity (obtained from NWRSS HRA)
Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar	<p>The Conservation Objectives for this site are, subject to natural change, to maintain the following habitats and geological features in favourable condition (*), with particular reference to any dependent component special interest features (habitats, vegetation types, species, species assemblages etc.) for which the land is designated (SSSI, SAC, SPA, Ramsar).</p> <p>Habitat Types represented (Biodiversity Action Plan categories)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inlets and bays • Saltmarsh • Littoral sediment • Inshore sublittoral sediment • Littoral rock • Inshore sublittoral rock • Shingle <p>Geological features (Geological Site Types) – N/A</p> <p>Species represented</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breeding bird assemblage • Aggregations of non-breeding birds • Invertebrate assemblage • Vascular plant assemblage <p>(*) or restored to favourable condition if features are judged to be unfavourable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoidance of pollution • Management of saltmarsh grazing • Control of bait digging, fishing and dredging • Maintenance of uninterrupted views • Open ground with short vegetation cover for feeding and roosting birds • Maintain hydrology of wet grassland (for waders) • Limited disturbance to birds (land and water based) • No physical constraints to managed realignment if required in response to coastal squeeze • Maintenance of natural sedimentation patterns • Control of non-native species • Open terrain to provide view lines • No physical constraints to natural migration of mobile habitats

Natura 2000 Site Name (for qualifying features refer to Appendix 1)	Conservation Objectives (provided by Natural England)	Key Environmental Conditions to Support Site Integrity (obtained from NWRSS HRA)
	<p>Table 1 Objectives - To maintain the designated features in favourable condition, which is defined in part in relation to a balance of habitat extents (extent attribute). Favourable condition is defined at this site in terms of the following site-specific standards.</p> <p>On this site favourable condition requires the maintenance of the extent of each habitat type (either designated habitat or habitat supporting designated species). Maintenance implies restoration if evidence from condition assessment suggests a reduction in extent.</p> <p>To maintain the designated species in favourable condition, which is defined in part in relation to their population attributes. Favourable condition is defined at this site in terms of the following site-specific standards.</p> <p>On this site favourable condition requires the maintenance of the population of each designated species or assemblage. Maintenance implies restoration if evidence from condition assessment suggests a reduction in size of population or assemblage.</p>	
<p>Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar</p>	<p>The Conservation Objectives for this site are, subject to natural change, to maintain the following habitats and geological features in favourable condition (*), with particular reference to any dependent component special interest features (habitats, vegetation types, species, species assemblages etc.) for which the land is designated (SSSI, SAC, SPA, Ramsar) as individually listed in Table 1 (see details below extracted from Table 1 original report)..</p> <p>Habitat Types represented (Biodiversity Action Plan categories)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Littoral Sediment (Coastal Saltmarsh) • Littoral Sediment (Mudflats) • Coastal Grazing Marsh(Reclaimed Saltmarshes) <p>Geological features (Geological Site Types)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoidance of pollution • Management of saltmarsh grazing • Control of bait digging, fishing and dredging • Maintenance of uninterrupted views • Open ground with short vegetation cover for feeding and roosting birds • Maintain hydrology of wet grassland (for waders) • Limited disturbance to birds (land and water based) • No physical constraints to managed realignment if required in response to coastal squeeze • Maintenance of natural sedimentation patterns • Control of non-native species • Open terrain to provide view lines

Natura 2000 Site Name (for qualifying features refer to Appendix 1)	Conservation Objectives (provided by Natural England)	Key Environmental Conditions to Support Site Integrity (obtained from NWRSS HRA)
	<p style="text-align: center;">Not applicable</p> <p>(*) or restored to favourable condition if features are judged to be unfavourable.</p> <p>From Table 1: To maintain the designated habitats for the Ribble Estuary in favourable condition, which is defined in part in relation to a balance of habitat extent (extent attribute). Favourable condition is defined at this site in terms of the following site-specific standards:</p> <p>On this site favourable condition requires the maintenance of the extent of each designated habitat type. Maintenance implies restoration if evidence from condition assessment suggests a reduction in extent.</p> <p>To maintain the designated Bird Populations in favourable condition, which is defined in part in relation to their population attributes. Favourable condition is defined at this site in terms of the following site-specific standards:</p> <p>On this site favourable condition requires the maintenance of the population of each designated species or assemblage. Maintenance implies restoration if evidence from condition assessment suggests a reduction in size of population or assemblage.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No physical constraints to natural migration of mobile habitats

Appendix 3 – Coding used for recording effects / impacts on a European site or European offshore marine site (from Tydesley and Associates, 2006, Annex 2)

The numbering within this table is used within the table in Appendix 4 to aid the classification of potential impacts upon Natura 2000 sites. Where necessary in Appendix 4, further clarification is provided on the classification.

Reason why policy will have no effect on a European Site
1. The policy will not itself lead to development (e.g. it relates to design or other qualitative criteria for development, or it is not a land use planning policy).
2. The policy makes provision for a quantum/type of development (and may or may not indicate one or more broad locations e.g. a county, or district, or sub-region) but the location of the development is to be selected following consideration of options in lower tier plans (development plan documents).
3. No development could occur through this policy alone, because it is implemented through sub-ordinate policies that are more detailed and therefore more appropriate to assess for their effects on a European site and associated sensitive areas.
4. Concentration of development in urban areas will not affect a European Site and will help to steer development and land use change away from a European Site and associated sensitive areas.
5. The policy will help to steer development and land use away from a European Site and associated sensitive areas, e.g. not developing in areas of flood risk or areas otherwise likely to be affected by climate change.
6. The policy is intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity.
7. The primary intention of the policy is intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment, and enhancement measures will not be likely to have any effect on a European Site.
Reason why the policy could have a potential effect
8. The policy steers a quantum or type of development towards, or encourages development in, an area that includes a European Site or an area where development may indirectly affect a European site.
Reason why the policy would be likely to have a significant effect
9. The policy makes provision for a quantum, or kind of development that in the location(s) proposed would be likely to have a significant effect on a European Site. The proposal must be subject to appropriate assessment to establish, in light of the site's conservation objectives, whether it can be ascertained that the proposal would not adversely affect the integrity of the site.

Appendix 4 – Assessment of policies in relation to Natura 2000 sites

(refer to Appendix 3 for reference to impact code numbers in **bold** in the following Table).

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
<p>Policy CS1: Strategic location of development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus for Blackpool is regeneration - Development will be focused on Blackpool Town Centre, the Resort Core and Neighbourhoods within inner areas <p>Support growth in South Blackpool whilst recognising the important character of the remaining lands at Marton Moss, identified as a strategic site</p>	<p>4 -- There will be no direct impacts upon this designated site as all areas identified for redevelopment are separated from the SPA/Ramsar by existing urban development or large areas of agricultural land. Refer to indirect impacts below.</p>	<p>4 – see adjacent comment</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
	<p>8 - Indirect impacts – at the Preferred Options stage in April 2010 it was proposed that 2,700 homes were constructed upon Marton Moss/M55 hub. This is no longer proposed. Within South Blackpool, the Proposed Submission identifies land to provide around 750 dwellings up to 2027. This comprises approximately 600 dwellings that already have planning permission at Moss House Road and further 150 dwellings at Whyndyke Farm (South of Mythop Road).</p> <p>The RSPB report titled ‘Biomass Planting and Sensitive Bird Populations’ (2008) identified that Marton Moss is of high importance to whooper swan for foraging. This area is not considered to be of high value for pink footed geese or Bewick’s swan. Whyndyke Farm was not of high importance to any of these species.</p> <p>However, these species are known to be present within the immediate local area and noise disturbance from construction and operation (including increased dog</p>	<p>8 – see adjacent comment</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>8 – Fylde Local Plan – Indicates that residential and employment development could occur in a range of areas if a suitable case was presented. However, policies are also in place which indicate that development would only be allowed if there were no significant impacts upon nature conservation including Natura 2000 sites (SP8, HL2, 7, EMP 3 EP3, 10, 12, 15, 16, 19).</p> <p>The Wyre Core Strategy Preferred Options document indicates in Policies CS3 – 12, CS15 and CS23 urban areas which could expand due to future residential and economic development. This expansion would be</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
	walking) could deter these birds from grazing close to these new developments.			into areas which the qualifying bird species of the surrounding Natura 2000 sites depend on for grazing. Therefore a combination effect could occur with Blackpool's Core Strategy, in that the loss of multiple small areas of grazing land could have a significant impact upon the Natura 2000 sites. However, Wyre's Core Strategy does include statements to indicate that impacts upon the Natura 2000 sites would be considered for all planning applications (e.g. vision for CS7) and that the developments would not be permitted which would compromise the green infrastructure (refer to Policy CS18).	

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
Policy CS2: Housing provision - Development of 4,200 residential properties by 2027. 750 of these properties will be within South Blackpool. 600 at Moss House Road which has planning permission and 150 at Whyndyke Farm (south of Mythop Road).	Refer to Policy CS1 in relation to indirect impacts.	See adjacent comment	Yes	Refer to CS1 Wyre Core Strategy and Fylde Local Plan.	Yes
Policy CS3: Economic development and employment - Safeguard and enhance existing industrial/business land within Blackpool for Employment. - Encourage business start ups within Blackpool Town Centre - Recognise importance of land at South	8 – This policy indicates that development will be supported within the region surrounding the airport and land close to Junction 4 of M55. As indicated in CS1 the fields surrounding Blackpool are used by Annex 1 bird species for foraging. Therefore, any development should take into account potential disturbance of these birds, even if works do not result in the loss of suitable foraging habitat.	8 – see adjacent comment	Yes	Refer to CS1 Wyre Core Strategy and Fylde Local Plan.	Yes

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
Blackpool to meet future employment needs.					
Policy CS4: Retail - Strengthening of Town Centre role	2 & 4 – the focus of proposed development is within existing urban areas, however not all sites have been identified.	N/A	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS5: Connectivity – promote sustainable transport including: - Improvement of Blackpool North rail station. Electrification of lines and upgrade of South Fylde line. - New tram link to Blackpool North and maintaining options to link trams to the South Fylde Line - Improve coach facilities. - Improving interchange between transport modes including the improvement of	1 – The proposals under this policy are all within existing built land or will not impact significantly on greenfield land and will not, therefore impact on the SPA/Ramsar site. The proposals could, however, have an impact in combination with the Fylde and Wyre Core Strategies.	1 - See adjacent comment.	No	8 – Wyre Core Strategy in CS16 does not directly indicate the development of the new infrastructure highlighted within Blackpool Core Strategy. The Fylde Local Plan indicates in Policy TR13 the M55 – St Annes link road. As stated above this will pass through potential qualifying bird species foraging habitat. This is not considered an in combination effect as Blackpool has not indicated that they will be developing any additional	No

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
transport links to airport.				roads within their authority boundary. Wyre and Fylde both include policies within either their Core Strategy or their Local Plan which would ensure that impacts upon the Natura 2000 sites are protected.	
Policy CS6 Green infrastructure – Creation of high-quality and well connected infrastructure	6 – This policy aims to protect existing green space and biodiversity and where possible increase upon it. The policy will also encourage the creation of green space within new developments.	6 - See adjacent comment.	No	6 – Wyre Core Strategy in CS18 and CS19 clearly indicates that the location of Natura 2000 sites will be indicated within the Strategy and that development which compromises this green infrastructure will not be permitted.	N/A
Policy CS7 Quality of design – New development will be designed to take account of character and appearance of the local area.	1 – This policy will not result in development itself.	1 - See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
Policy CS8 Heritage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development proposals will be supported which complement the rich cultural heritage of Blackpool. 	1 – This policy will not result in development itself.	1 - See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS 9 Water Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - direct development away from areas at risk of flooding - incorporate SUDs (including retro-fitting where possible) - allow no increase in the rate of surface run-off as a result of development - promote efficient use of water resources. 	6 – This policy aims to reduce flood risk, manage the impacts of flooding and mitigate the effects of climate change.	6 - See adjacent comment.	No	6 – Wyre Core Strategy Policy CS13 and CS25 will complement Blackpool Council's policy resulting in regional environmental improvements.	N/A
Policy CS10 Sustainable Design and Renewable and Low Carbon Energy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mitigate impacts of climate change, minimise carbon emissions and ensure buildings are energy 	1 – This policy relates to reducing energy use. This policy in itself will not lead to development. The policy does, however, require developments to meet residual energy requirements, where feasible and viable, through the use of renewable and low carbon energy generating technologies and encourages the	1 – See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
efficient <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce the need for energy - Minimise energy use - Meet renewal energy requirements through use of alternative and low carbon energy technologies. 	development of community-led renewable energy schemes. Certain technologies may have potential for indirect effects on the SPA/Ramsar site. However, such proposals would be subject to a project specific HRA to determine whether the proposal was likely to cause significant effects on the SPA/Ramsar site.				
Policy CS11 Planning Obligations Planning will only be provided which is suitable for the existing infrastructure and services or where a contributions is made to provide these services.	1 – This policy in itself will not lead to development.	1– See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS12 Sustainable neighbourhoods <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Existing neighbourhood regeneration and improvement. 	4 – Development within these areas will reduce development within green field areas.	4 – See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS13 Housing mix, density and standards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To ensure that an appropriate mix of well designed housing is 	1 – This policy relates to the design of new developments.	1 – See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
provided.					
Policy CS14 Affordable housing – All conversions or new development which result in a net increase of three dwellings will need to provide an affordable housing contribution.	1 – This policy relates to the design of new developments.	1 – See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS15 Health and Education – Existing health and education facilities will be enhanced and extended. – New development should provide facilities to encourage healthy lifestyles.	4 and 6 – This policy will encourage existing facilities to be developed and will encourage the creation of green space within new developments.	4 and 6 - See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS16 Traveller Sites – To ensure there is appropriate pitch/plot provision to address identified to be a needs.	2 –The identification of future sites would be set out in Part 2 of the Blackpool Local Plan (Site Allocations and Development Management document) once the need for new sites has been identified	2 - See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS17 Blackpool Town Centre	4 – Concentrates development within the town centre relieving pressure on green	2 - See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re-establish the town centre as the first choice shopping destination for the Fylde coast. 	field areas. Considered that if development occurs appropriately there will be no direct or indirect impacts upon Natura 2000 sites.				
Policy CS18 Winter Gardens <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Refurbishment of the Winter Gardens to encourage year rounds usage. 	4 – Refer to Policy CS17	4 - See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS19 Central Business District (Talbot Gateway) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re-development of the central business district located to the north of the town centre. 	4 – Refer to Policy CS17	4 - See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS20 Leisure Quarter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Comprehensive redevelopment of the entire site. 	4 – Refer to Policy CS17	4 - See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS21 Leisure and business tourism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Physically and economically support the regeneration of Blackpool's core resort. 	4 – Refer to Policy CS17	4 - See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS22 Key Resort	4 – Refer to Policy CS17	4 - See adjacent	No	N/A	N/A

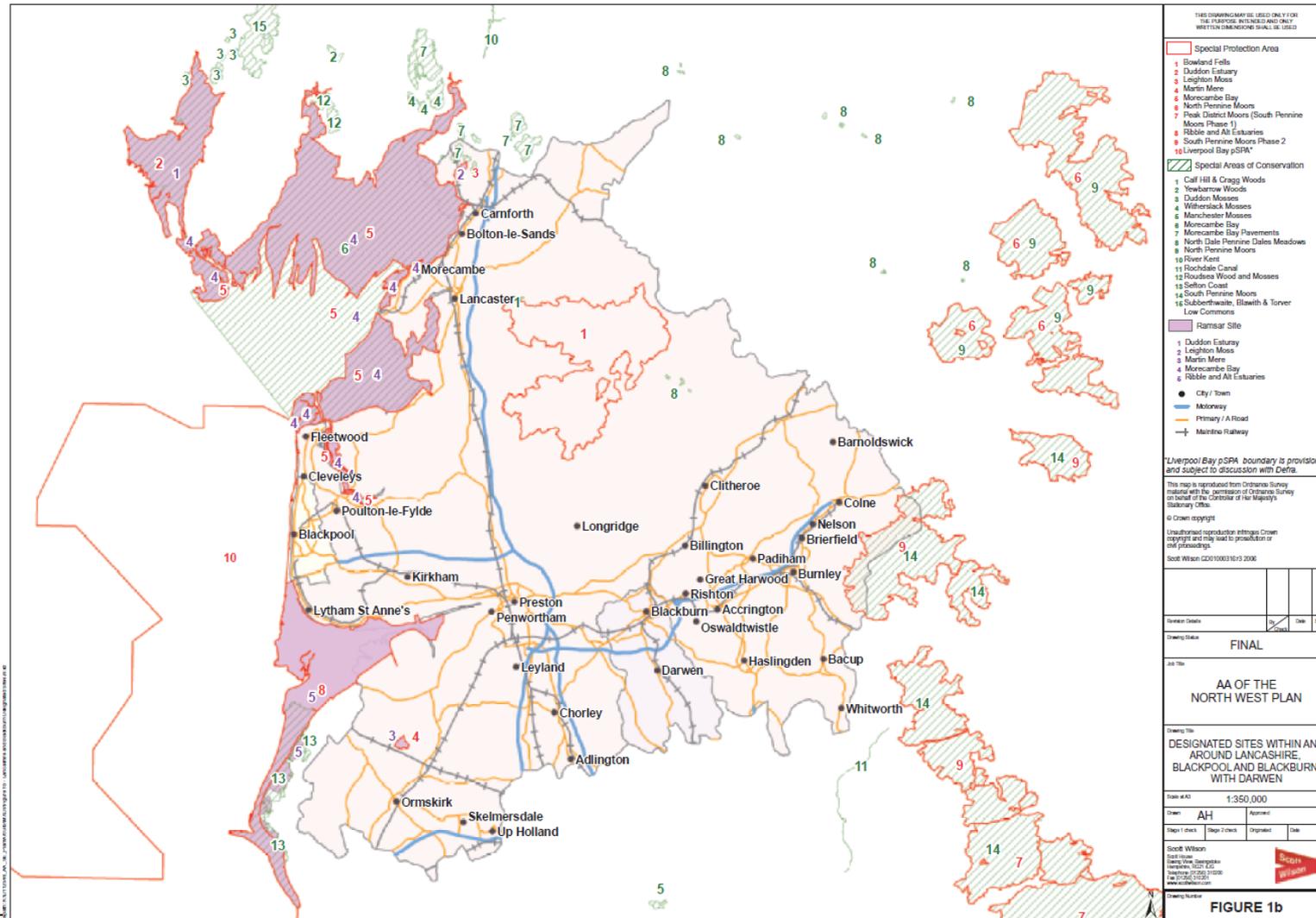
Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
Gateway <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Improvement the central corridor and key strategic gateways to Blackpool. 		comment.			
Policy CS23 Managing holiday bed spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Improvement of holiday accommodation. – Manage a reduction in the oversupply of poor quality holiday bed-spaces 	4 – Refer to Policy CS17	4 - See adjacent comment.	No	N/A	N/A
Policy CS24 South Blackpool Employment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Council will support proposals for major new business/industrial employment in sustainable locations (refer to the plan provided within this policy for proposed expansion areas) 	4 and 8 – The plan provided indicates that development will occur within sites that have already been prepared for development. Therefore, there will be no direct loss of Annex 1 foraging habitat. However, development within these areas should take into account the presence of Annex 1 species to the south and the potential impact that the construction phase and operational phase could have on these species. High noise levels within these areas could displace Annex 1 bird	4 - See adjacent comment.	Yes	Fylde Local Plan indicates that further development could occur in this area.	Yes

Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
<p>Policy CS25 South Blackpool Housing Growth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land identified for development at Whyndyke Farm (South of Mythop Road) and at Moss House Road. - Developments must not impact on the existing surface water and waste water network within Blackpool. 	<p>species further south.</p> <p>6 and 8 – The requirement for sustainable urban drainage will have a positive environmental impact.</p> <p>The development at Whyndyke Farm and Moss House Road need to take into the account the potential presence of grazing Annex 1 bird species adjacent to these areas.</p>	<p>6 and 8 - See adjacent comment.</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Fylde Local Plan supports further development which would extend areas such as Whyndyke.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Policy CS26 Marton Moss</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A neighbourhood planning approach will be promoted for this area to develop neighbourhood policy. - Until this plan is produced development will be limited to change of use of horticultural or agricultural purposes, outdoor recreation appropriate to the rural 	<p>2 – The supporting text for this policy highlights the need for impacts upon Annex 1 bird species and subsequent the Natura 2000 sites into account.</p> <p>However, any development that may occur will be as a result of a neighbourhood planning process rather than at this level.</p>	<p>2 - See adjacent comment.</p>	<p>No</p>		

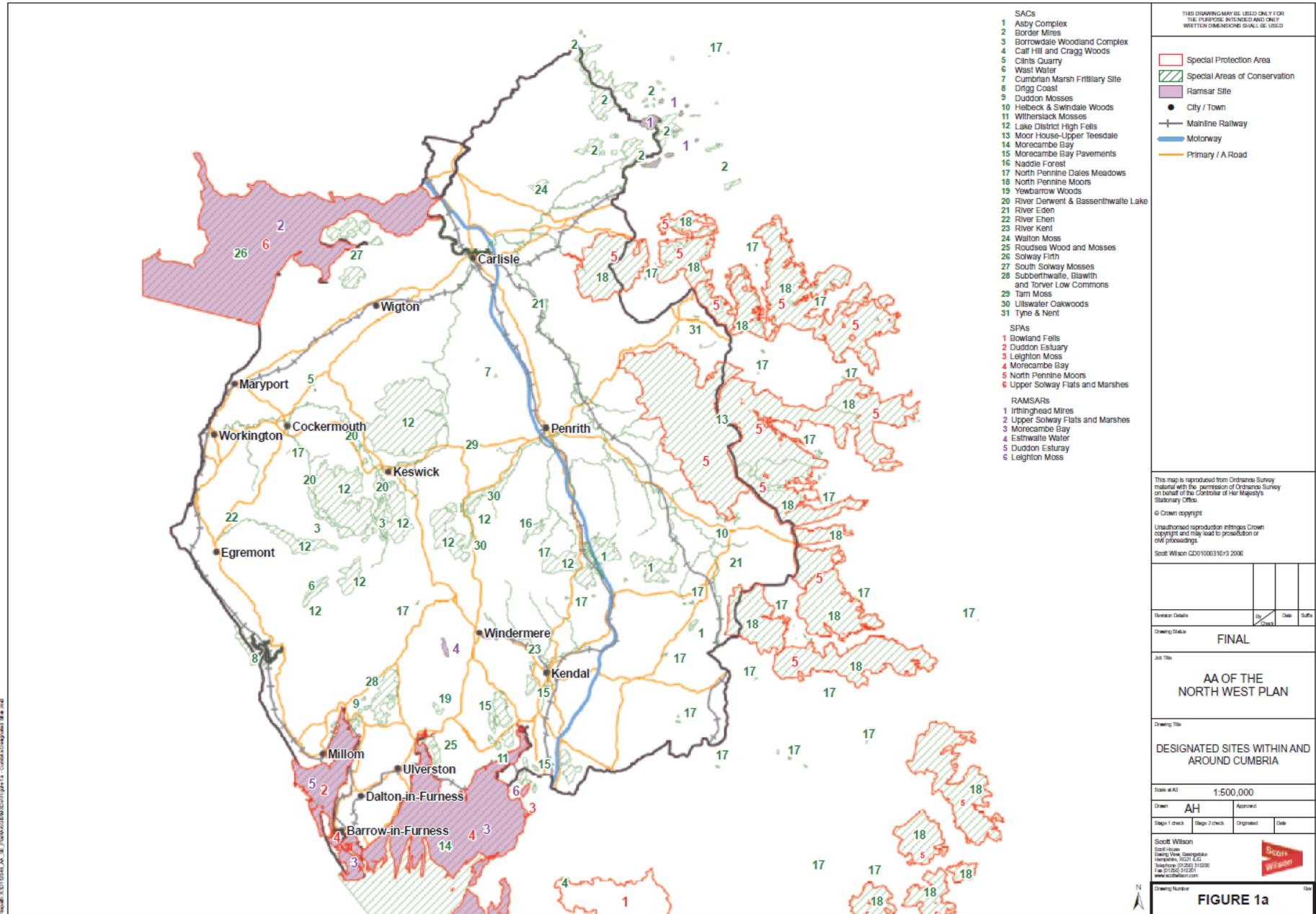
Policy Title and Summary of Policy	Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Morecambe Bay SPA/Ramsar (Indirect Impacts)	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect from the Core Strategy on any Natura 2000 sites	Possible impacts arising from other plans and projects	Is there risk of a significant adverse effect in combination
area and new dwellings required for agricultural and horticultural use.					
Policy CS27 South Blackpool Transport and Connectivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Future developments need to consider connectivity. - A comprehensive public transport, pedestrian and cycle improvement strategy is required. 	2 and 6 – A focus on public transport will result in long term benefits in relation to pollution levels locally. However, this policy in itself will not result in any changes to the public transport network.	2 and 6 - See adjacent comment.	No		

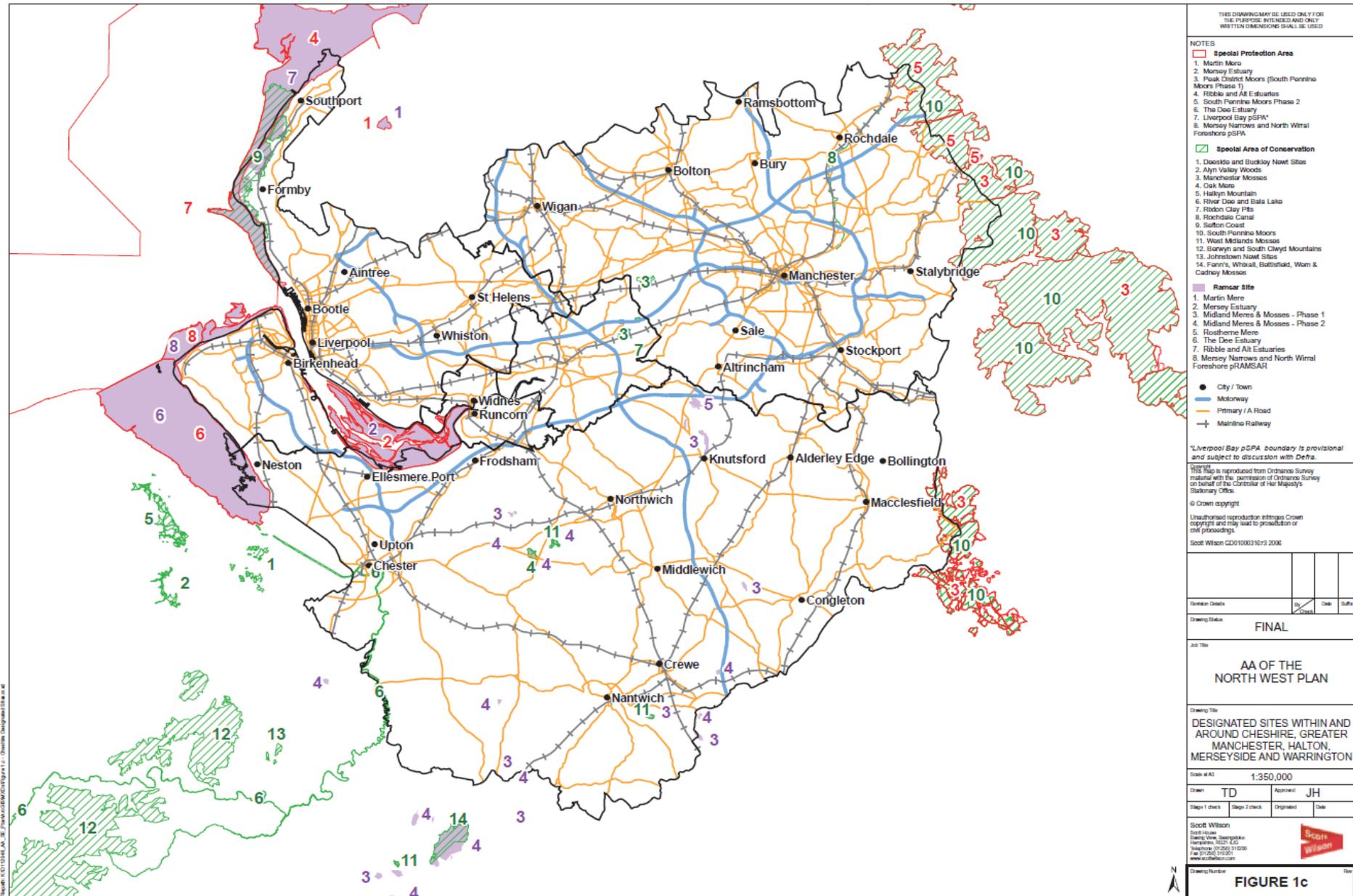
Appendix 5 – Plans indicating the Location of Natura 2000 sites in the North West

Plans copied from the Habitats Regulations Assessment of the North West of England Plan Regional Spatial Strategy (now revoked) (Scott Wilson, Treweek Environmental Consultants and Levett-Therivel, 2008). NB. The Mersey Narrows and Foreshore SPA and Ramsar is now fully designated, as of 2013.



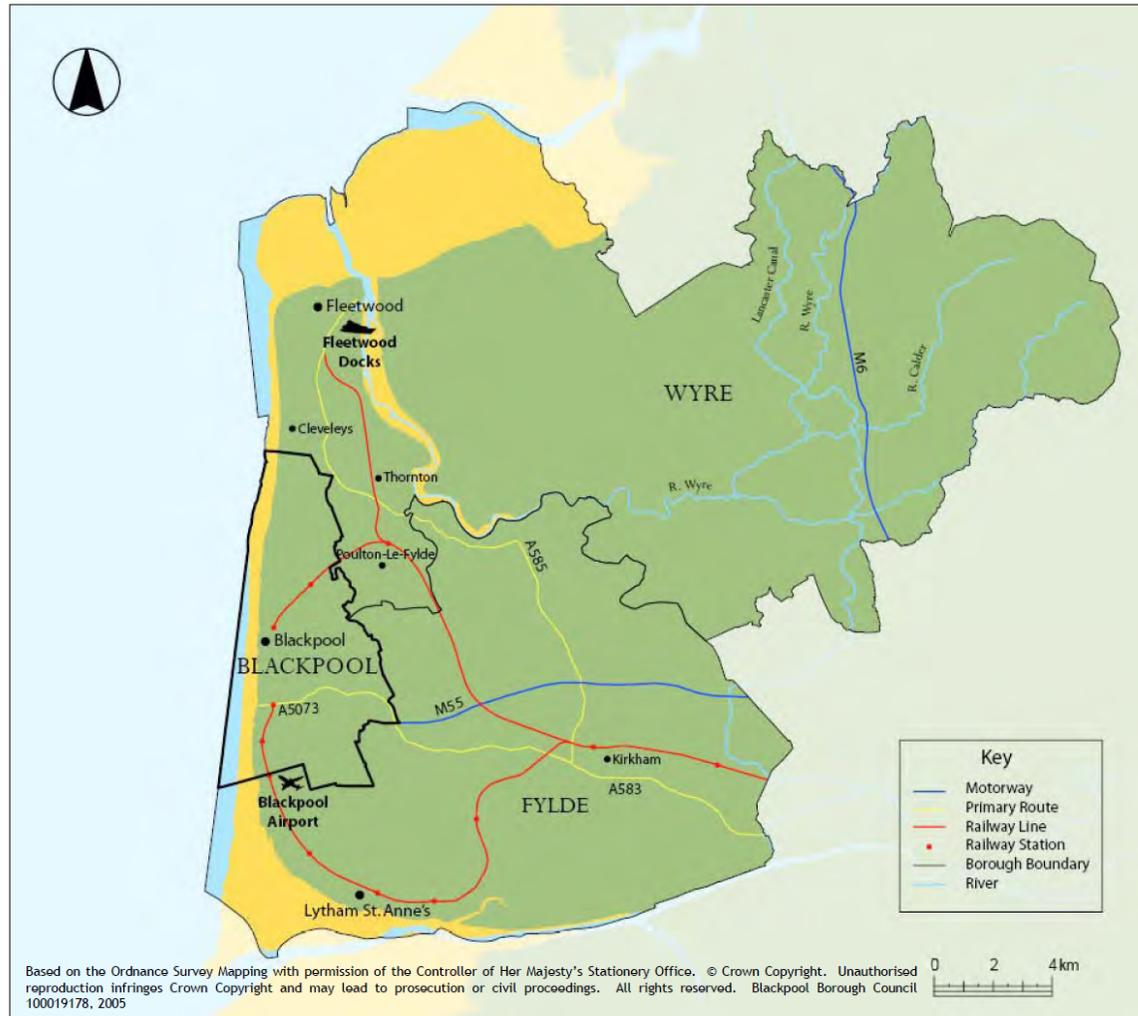
Habitat Regulations Assessment of The Blackpool Core Strategy Proposed Submission





Appendix 6 –Blackpool Council Authority Boundary in relation to the Fylde and Wyre Regions

Plan copied from Blackpool Core Strategy draft preferred options document (Blackpool Council, 2010)



Appendix 7 – RSPB Summary map showing important populations of sensitive wintering bird species in Lancashire, Cheshire, Greater Manchester and Merseyside

