

**Bootle Area Action Plan  
Publication Draft**

**Final  
Habitats Regulations  
Assessment  
Test of Likely Significant  
Effects and Appropriate  
Assessment Report**

**HRA of Publication Draft  
May 2024**

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April 2024: Finaldraft Draft Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report prepared in April 2024 by a Senior Planner (MRTPI) in Sefton’s planning policy team who is experienced in environmental matters and who is lead planning policy officer for HRA.

May 2024: Finaldraft Draft HRA Report including Screening Report and Test of Likely Significant Effects checked by a Principal Ecologist (MCIEEM) at Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service.

8<sup>th</sup> May 2024: Final version Draft HRA Report sent to Natural England

14<sup>th</sup> May 2024: Natural England comments received regarding Draft HRA Report

15<sup>th</sup> May 2024: Final HRA Report prepared for approval by Sefton Council.

## 1. Purpose of this document

- 1.1 This document is a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Appropriate Assessment Report in relation to the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)<sup>1</sup> (the Habitats Regulations), for the Bootle Area Action Plan Publication Version.
- 1.2 This is part of the wider Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) process for the Bootle Action Area Plan. HRA is needed to assess whether the Plan could significantly harm the designated features of a European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. This may include European sites within the Bootle Area Action Plan area (in fact, there are no such sites), near the Area Action Plan area or European sites which are some distance away but may be affected, for example by air, water or noise pollution, increased recreational pressure, or through impacts on a feeding area (Functionally Linked Land FLL) used by designation features of the European site. As set out in this document, the HRA process for the Area Action Plan is proportionate, given the size and location of the plan area, the fact that the plan area does not include and is not next to any European sites, and the fact that the most Sefton Local Plan policies will continue to apply in the Bootle Area Action Plan area.
- 1.3 European Sites are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the EU Habitats Directive and EU Birds Directive respectively<sup>2</sup>, and the UK Habitats Regulations. They are internationally important nature sites. In the past these were referred to as the Natura 2000 network. Since the UK left the EU, these European sites are increasingly referred to as sites within the National Sites Network. In this document, the term ‘European sites’ includes Ramsar sites designated under the Ramsar Convention, in line with paragraph 181 of the 2023 National Planning Policy Framework<sup>3</sup>.
- 1.3 Where all or part of the Vision, Objectives and policies of the Bootle Area Action Plan Publication Draft is likely to have a significant effect on a European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, this HRA Appropriate Assessment Report will seek to mitigate these effects to less than significant.

### *Overview of Bootle Area Action Plan*

- 1.4 Public consultation on the Bootle Area Action Plan Publication Draft is due to take place in mid-2024<sup>4</sup>. Public consultation on the Bootle AAP Preferred Options<sup>5</sup> took place from 14<sup>th</sup> August to 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023. Consultation on the Issues and Options stage took place from November 2021 to January 2022.

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<sup>1</sup> See [The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

<sup>2</sup> See [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/habitats-directive\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/habitats-directive_en) and [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/birds-directive\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/birds-directive_en)

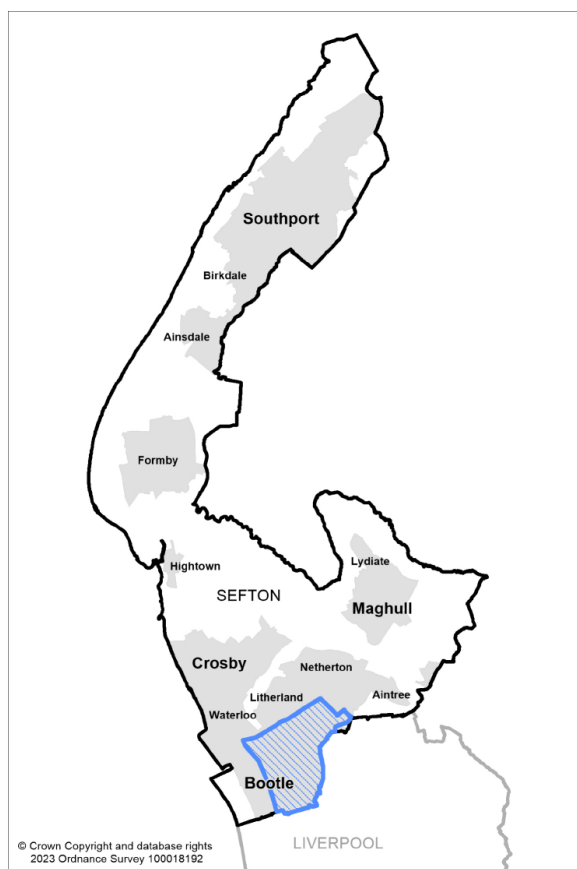
<sup>3</sup> See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

<sup>4</sup> See [local-development-scheme2023\\_26-june2023.pdf \(sefton.gov.uk\)](https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/7094/bootle-aap-local-plan-document-final.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> See <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/7094/bootle-aap-local-plan-document-final.pdf>

- 1.5 It should be noted that the Bootle Area Action Plan area (833.5 ha) covers only 5.38% of the Borough of Sefton (15,480 ha to mean high water), and about 15.9% of Sefton’s population (44,000 people). The plan area is entirely urban. It does not include any part the Port of Liverpool, and therefore does not include Seaforth Nature Reserve with the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Special Protection Area and Ramsar site, nor any other internationally designated sites. The extent of nature assets in Bootle is much less than for Sefton as a whole, and there are no landscape-scale natural assets in the plan area. The area covered by Bootle Area Action Plan, within the Sefton context, is shown in Figure 1.1.

**Figure 1.1 Bootle Action Area Plan within the Sefton context**



- 1.6 Most of the 58 policies in the 2017 Sefton Local Plan will remain in force within the Bootle Area Action Plan area. The conclusions of the Local Plan HRA Reports were that the Local Plan is compliant with the Habitats Regulations. The Council considers that quantum of development set out in the Bootle Action Area Plan will not be significantly different from that set out for the area in the Sefton Local Plan, or joint Waste Plan.
- 1.7 Appendix A of Bootle Area Action Plan sets out the Local Plan policies to be replaced, partially replaced or amended by the Bootle Area Action Plan. This shows that several policies will be directly replaced, for example those relating to health, affordable housing and housing mix. These do not relate to the location or type of development within the plan area. Policy BAAP8 Getting Around replaces the Local Plan accessibility policy EQ3. The new public greenspace and environmental improvements policies in effect supersede

the Local Plan provision and protection of open space policies, and specifically add (and give greater protection to) two new public greenspace sites.

- 1.8 There are a number of sites where Bootle Area Action Plan amends or replaces allocations or designations in the Local Plan. The 9 employment sites listed in policy BAAP15 include both Local Plan employment allocations and 'Existing Employment Areas' adjacent to them, and one area within the Port & Maritime Zone. BAAP15 identifies 32.24 hectares of employment land available for(re)development across these 9 sites; 17.7 hectares at Atlantic Park alone, 8.98 hectares at Senate Business Park, and only 0.98 hectares in the site formerly on the western edge of the Local Plan's Port & Maritime Zone. The Local Plan identified 16.8 ha of land at Atlantic Park and 4.2 hectares at Senate Business Park, both previously developed sites. The Bootle Action Area Plan also includes Hawthorne Road/Canal Corridor Regeneration Area (BAAP20) land which had an industrial allocation and surrounding Existing Employment Area designations in the Local Plan and a Waste Plan allocation. The Joint Waste Plan allocation within Atlantic Park is retained.
- 1.9 Bootle Action Area Plan policy BAAP16 identifies 6 housing sites. Two of these were identified in the Local Plan (one with a slightly amended boundary and increased indicative capacity of 6 net new homes). A further two are previously developed sites which already have planning permission for housing. One of the other 2 sites was identified as a Regeneration Opportunity Site in the Local Plan, the other as part Regeneration Opportunity Site, part Primarily Residential Area. In both allocations/designations, housing development would have been acceptable in principle. Bootle Area Action Plan does not take forward Local Plan housing allocations which have already been completed. The Area Action Plan policy BAAP20 Hawthorne Rd/ canal Corridor Regeneration Opportunity Area also identifies 3 Regeneration Sites, for uses (including existing uses) broadly compatible with the surrounding residential area. In the Local Plan, 1 of these sites was within a Regeneration opportunity Area, 1 was part industrial allocation, part Existing Employment Area and the other was an Existing Employment Area. Notably, the Local Plan housing allocation MN2.41 Rawson Road (1.0 ha), the site closest to European sites, is not being taken forward in the Area Action Plan, although it will remain in the Primarily Residential Area.
- 1.10 There are two entirely new development site allocations in the Area Action Plan, for Bootle Village Opportunity Area (BAAP21) which is previously developed land, and is within the Primarily Residential Area in the Local Plan, and Open land between Irlam Road and the Asda Store Opportunity Area (BAAP22) which is open space in the Local Plan. These sites cover 0.33 ha and 0.80 ha respectively.
- 1.11 While the Council considers that that quantum of development set out in the Bootle Action Area Plan will not be significantly different from that set out for the area in the Sefton Local Plan and Joint Waste Plan, the relevant policies and allocations are of course subject of Habitats Regulations Assessment as set out elsewhere in this report.
- 1.12 The vision to 2040 and beyond for the Bootle Action Area Plan Publication Draft is supported by 15 objectives. The **vision** is that:

*‘Our ambition is for Bootle to be one of the best places in which to grow up in the country. By 2040 Bootle will be a place that provides a full range of opportunities to all its residents to live secure, fulfilling, healthy and supported lives whilst addressing key environmental challenges, including pollution and climate change. It will be a place that is open to sustainable business and provide skills, expertise, land, facilities and infrastructure that is attractive to a range of high-quality employers particularly those that would benefit from Bootle’s superb locational advantages. Key to Bootle’s success will be our children and young people who will have the spaces, opportunities, support and a voice to shape their town for the future.’*

1.13 Bootle Area Action Plan's twenty four policies cover:

- Design and Best Use of Resources (policies BAAP1-2)
- Bootle Central Area (policies BAAP3-6)
- Local Shopping Parades (policy BAAP7)
- Getting Around (policy BAAP8)
- Nature (policy BAAP9)
- Healthy Bootle (policy BAAP10)
- Parks, Public Open Space and Playing Fields (policy BAAP11)
- Employment, Jobs and Training (policies BAAP12-15)
- Homes & Living (policies BAAP16-19)
- Regeneration Opportunity Areas (policies BAAP20-23)
- Environmental Improvements (policy BAAP24).

## 2. Overview of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process

2.1 The requirement for a HRA is in accordance with article 6 of the EC Habitats directive 1992, as interpreted by Regulation 61(1) of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the Habitats Regulations). The aim of the Directive is to “maintain or restore, at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest” (Habitats Directive, Article 2(2)). This aim relates to habitats and species, not the European sites themselves, although the sites have a significant role in delivering favourable conservation status.

2.2 The Government has provided guidance on HRA<sup>6</sup>. This states that a HRA may have up to 3 stages although there may not be a need to complete all stages, depending on what decision the assessment supports at each stage. EU guidance<sup>7</sup> refers to 4 tasks. Based on these, the stages are:

- [Screening](#) – Likely significant effects screening /Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (EU HRA task 1) - to check if the plan is likely to have a significant effect on European sites’ conservation objectives, either alone or in combination with other plans or proposals. If not, there is no need to go through the appropriate assessment or derogation stages.
- [Appropriate assessment](#) - to assess the likely significant effects of the proposal on site integrity in more detail and identify ways to avoid or minimise any effects (EU HRA task 2). This refers to likely significant effects either alone or in combination with other plans or proposals.

EU guidance also refers specifically to the need to consider mitigation measures and alternative solutions (HRA task 3), where adverse effects are identified. The plan should be altered until adverse effects are cancelled out fully. In 2018 the ‘Sweetman’ European Court of Justice ruling<sup>8</sup> clarified that ‘mitigation’ (i.e. measures that are specifically introduced to avoid or reduce a harmful effect on a European site that would otherwise arise) should **not** be taken into account when forming a view on likely significant effects. Mitigation should instead only be considered at the Appropriate Assessment stage.

- [Derogation](#) - to consider if proposals that would have an adverse effect on a European site qualify for an exemption.

2.3 It is generally accepted that HRAs should be proportionate, for example to the geographical scope of the plan policy. This principle of proportionality has also been reflected in court rulings. The Court of Appeal<sup>9</sup> has ruled that providing the Council

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<sup>6</sup> See [Habitats regulations assessments: protecting a European site - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>7</sup> See [Guidance document on assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites - Publications Office of the EU \(europa.eu\)](#)

<sup>8</sup> See [CURIA - Documents \(europa.eu\)](#) People Over Wind and Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta (C-323/17)

<sup>9</sup> See [Court of Appeal Judgment Template \(eastsuffolk.gov.uk\)](#) Adastral New Town Ltd (NANT) v Suffolk Coastal District Council Court of Appeal, 17th February 2015

(competent authority) was duly satisfied that proposed mitigation could be ‘achieved in practice’ to satisfy that the proposed development would have no adverse effect, then this would suffice. This ruling has since been applied to a planning permission (rather than a Core Strategy document)<sup>10</sup>. In this case the High Court ruled that for ‘*a multistage process, so long as there is sufficient information at any particular stage to enable the authority to be satisfied that the proposed mitigation can be achieved in practice it is not necessary for all matters concerning mitigation to be fully resolved before a decision maker is able to conclude that a development will satisfy the requirements of Reg 61 of the Habitats Regulations*’.

2.4 The HRA for the Bootle Action Area Plan will be proportionate, in the light of its relatively small geographical scope and environmental character and the relatively limited range of new policies. It is considered that the Bootle Action Area Plan is more akin to a Neighbourhood Plan than a full Local Plan, and that a proportionate HRA would therefore be more akin to an HRA of a Neighbourhood Plan than an HRA of a Local Plan.

2.5 Many policies in the 2017 Sefton Local Plan will continue to apply in the Action Area Plan area, as set out in Chapter 1 above. The extensive HRA work already carried out in relation to the Sefton Local Plan (2017)<sup>11</sup>, notably the 2015 and 2016 HRA Reports<sup>12</sup> for the Sefton Local Plan will also continue to apply. The Conclusion of the 2015 HRA Report for the Sefton Local Plan was that:

*“With the inclusion of these recommended changes, this HRA/AA has concluded that the Sefton Local Plan would contain an adequate policy framework to enable the required amount of development to occur within Sefton whilst adequately protecting European Sites. This would allow the Sefton Local Plan to be compliant with the Habitats Regulations”*

The Conclusion of the 2016 HRA Report for the Sefton Local Plan was that:

*“This HRA has concluded that the Proposed Modifications to Sefton Local Plan, coupled with the unamended policies, would constitute a sufficient policy framework to enable the required amount of development to occur within Sefton whilst adequately protecting internationally designated sites. This would mean that the Proposed Modifications to Sefton Local Plan are compliant with the Habitats Regulations and will not result in a likely significant effect either alone or in combination”.*

2.6 However, amongst other issues, the 2015 and 2016 HRA Reports for the Sefton Local Plan identify the potential for new housing development in Sefton to increase recreation pressure on the internationally important nature sites on the Sefton Coast; and the need to mitigate this pressure to less than significant. Similar issues arise for the other LCR authorities and West Lancashire<sup>13</sup>, for both the Sefton Coast and the wider LCR coast. The HRAs for all of the LCR and West Lancashire Local Plans require applicants for new housing to show how they will mitigate for the additional recreation pressure on the LCR coast to

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<sup>10</sup> See High Court Judgement [Devon Wildlife Trust, R \(On the Application Of\) v Teignbridge District Council \[2015\] EWHC 2159 \(Admin\) \(28 July 2015\) \(bailii.org\)](#)

<sup>11</sup> See <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/localplan>

<sup>12</sup> See [Microsoft Word - Sefton HRA Local Plan 210115ih.docx](#) and [Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Proposed Modifications to Sefton Local Plan](#)

<sup>13</sup> These are listed in the ‘References’ section.



less than significant, so that the Council can carry out project level HRAs for each relevant planning application.

- 2.7 Sefton Council adopted the ‘Information Note: Managing and mitigating the impact of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast - Sefton’s Interim Approach for housing development’<sup>14</sup> in May 2023. This sets out mitigation measures for visitor pressure from development of 10 or more homes in Sefton, and is supported by Natural England. This is an interim approach pending collection of further evidence and future agreement of a LCR and West Lancashire Recreation Mitigation Strategy approach, as a response to the HRAs of their Local Plans, as above. It is intended that, once approved, this will replace Sefton’s Interim Approach Information Note. Work on this joint strategic, joint approach is underway<sup>15</sup>. Sefton Council, together with the other Liverpool City Region local authorities, the Mayoral Combined Authority, West Lancashire Council and the National Trust is preparing a joint ‘Recreation Mitigation on the Coast’ to provide a strategic, longer-term solution. Consultation on the scope<sup>16</sup> of a joint Recreation Mitigation Strategy Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) took place from 14<sup>th</sup> August until Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023, and it is anticipated that consultation on the draft SPD will take place later in 2024.
- 2.8 Currently the Sefton Interim Approach currently applies to, and in future the joint LCR and West Lancashire strategic approach will apply to, and mitigate the impacts of housing development in Bootle, as in the rest of Sefton. This will continue to be the case.

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<sup>14</sup> See <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4485/hrarecpressureinfontemay2023.pdf>

<sup>15</sup> See <http://www.meas.org.uk/1383>

<sup>16</sup> See <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning-policy-including-local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/recreation-mitigation-strategy/>

### 3. Relevant European sites

3.1 European sites are often termed nature sites designated for their international importance or internationally important nature sites. The HRA for Bootle Area Action Plan will assess any likely significant effects on the following European sites:

*Within (or partly within) Sefton*

- Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site<sup>17</sup>
- Ribble and Alt Estuaries Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site<sup>18</sup>
- Sefton Coast Special Area of Conservation (SAC)<sup>19</sup>

*Outside Sefton*

- Liverpool Bay SPA<sup>20</sup>.

These, together with the Bootle Area Action Plan area, are shown in Figure 3.1. The footnotes listed for each site relate to links below to the Site Information / Conservation Objectives for each site (as set out on the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (more commonly known as JNCC) website<sup>21</sup>).

3.2 Liverpool Bay SPA has been included only because the 2015 HRA Report into the Sefton Local Plan<sup>22</sup> identified that the SPA was subject to the same potential water quality issues (potential increased pressure on sewage treatment works) as the Sefton Coast SAC and the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site. Other issues affecting Liverpool Bay SPA identified in the 2015 HRA Report related to the Port, which is outside the scope of the Action Area Plan.

3.3 While consideration was given to inclusion of the Manchester Mosses SAC (outside Sefton), this has not been included. The Manchester Mosses SAC is located over 30 km (20 miles) from the western boundary of the Bootle AAP area. The quantum of development set out in the Bootle Action Area Plan is unlikely to be significantly different from that set out in the Sefton Local Plan for same area (833.5 ha). The 2015 HRA Report into the Sefton Local Plan concluded that, with its policy framework, the impact of Local Plan development on the Manchester Mosses SAC would be “*effectively inconsequential*”.

3.4 As shown in Figure 3.1, none of these European sites are within or next to the Bootle Area Action Plan area. The plan area does not include any part the Port of Liverpool, and therefore does not include Seaforth Nature Reserve which is within the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Special Protection Area and Ramsar site, The north-western corner of the plan area (A565/A5036 junction) is at its closest over 750 m from Seaforth

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<sup>17</sup> See [UK9020287.pdf \(jncc.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>18</sup> See [UK9005103.pdf \(jncc.gov.uk\)](#)

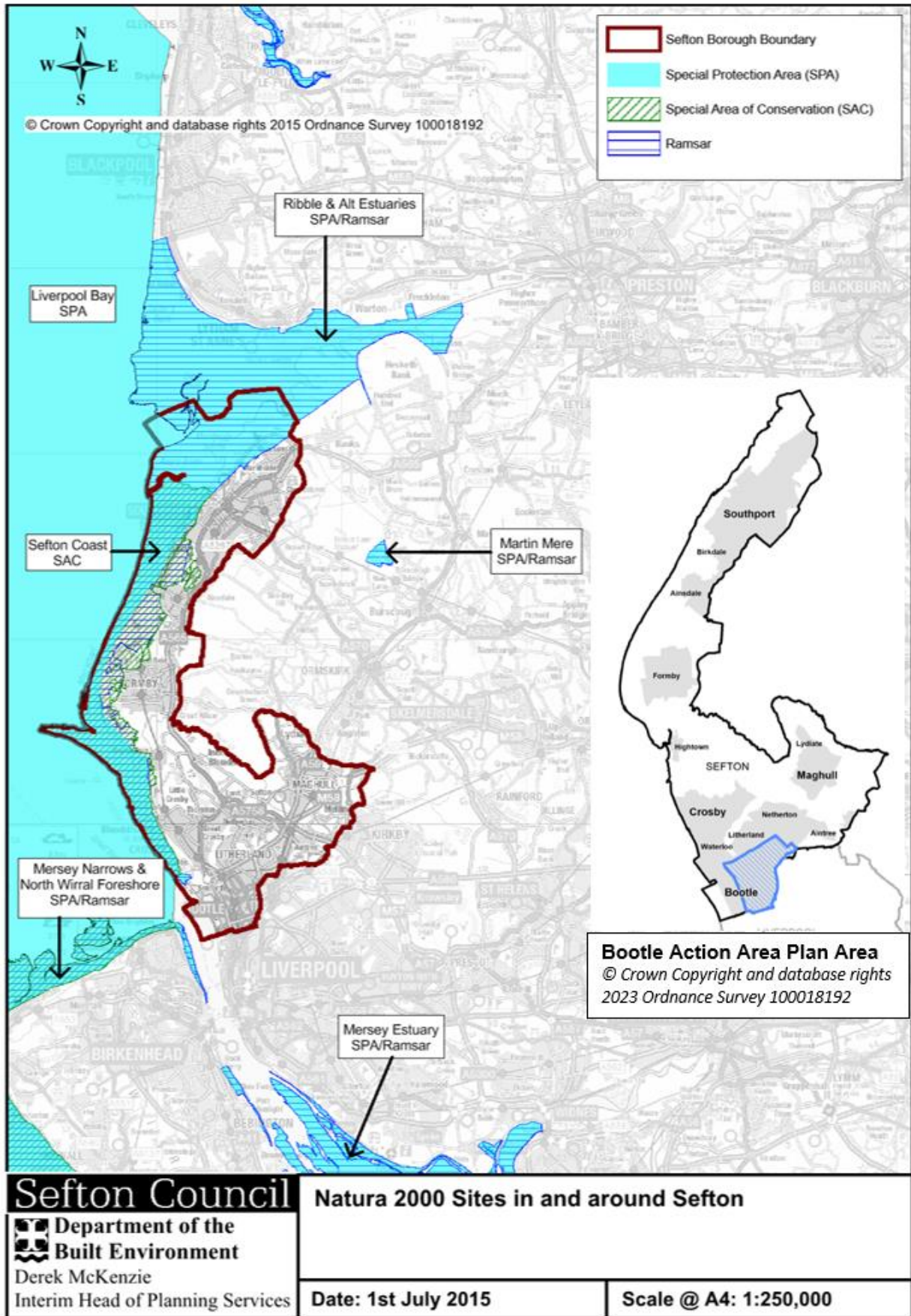
<sup>19</sup> See [Sefton Coast - Special Areas of Conservation \(jncc.gov.uk\)](#)

<sup>20</sup> See [Liverpool Bay SPA | JNCC - Adviser to Government on Nature Conservation](#)

<sup>21</sup> See [JNCC - Adviser to Government on Nature Conservation](#)

<sup>22</sup> See [Microsoft Word - Sefton HRA Local Plan 210115ih.docx](#), notably paragraph 9.13 in relation to Liverpool Bay SPA and paragraph 10.7 in relation to Manchester Mosses SAC.

**Figure 3.1 European sites and the Bootle Area Action Plan area**



Nature Reserve. The western boundary of the plan area approximately follows the A565 (now including some smaller areas west of the road). The northern boundary of the plan area is the A5036 Princess Way/Dunningsbridge Road. The Plan will not include policies relating to the Port of Liverpool or access arrangements for the Port; the Sefton Local Plan will continue to set this policy framework.

- 3.5 The other European sites also lie to the north and west of the Bootle Area Action Plan area. The closest part of the plan area to the other European sites is at least 1.35 km from the Sefton Coast SAC and Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar site, and further from Liverpool Bay SPA. The western boundary of the plan area is at least 1.75 km from closest part of the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA/Ramsar site within Wirral.

#### 4. Other plans or proposals which may have ‘in combination’ effects

4.1 The Habitats Regulations require that the impacts and effects of any land use plan being assessed are considered not just in isolation, but in combination with other plans and projects that may also be affecting the relevant European sites. In practice, ‘in combination assessment’ is of greatest importance when a development plan would otherwise be screened out because its individual contribution is inconsequential. However, because the Bootle Area Action Plan area does not include or abut any European sites and has no policies relating to the Port, coastal activities or Port or offshore renewable or low carbon energy infrastructure such as wind farms, the scope for the Plan to act ‘in combination’ is very limited (although other plans and projects may of course have direct impacts requiring plan or project mitigation).

4.2 The principal other plans and projects to be considered here<sup>23</sup> are:

- **Mersey Ports Masterplan** (Consultation draft; June 2011), including the Port expansion into Seaforth Nature Reserve and the Seaforth River Terminal (a deepwater container port expansion in Sefton which is now operational, new opportunities for renewable energy, development of single and multi-user port centric warehousing and of new processing facilities for imported commodities, potentially leading to the Liverpool SuperPort – an integrated port, airport, intermodal terminal, freight and commercial network based upon the Port of Liverpool, the Manchester Ship Canal, Liverpool John Lennon Airport and the Mersey Multimodal Gateway (Liverpool City Region).
- **New Everton Stadium, Bramley Moore Dock, Liverpool** (planning application 20F/0001 granted 21 June 2021, stadium due to open autumn 2025) for development including piling works, infill of the Bramley-Moore Dock, alteration to dock walls and access, a stadium predominantly for football use, ancillary offices, Club Shop; retail, food and drink and betting concessions, internal and external to the stadium, exhibition and conference facilities; and associated infrastructure including a water channel, external concourse / fan zone including performance stage, vehicular and pedestrian access and circulation areas, hard and soft landscaping, cycle and vehicle parking, and an exhibition / cultural centre. Mitigation measures have been proposed, and secured by planning condition / legal agreement, to remove or reduce adverse impacts identified through the project HRA.
- **Sandon Dock Waste Water Treatment Works outfall extension** – towards the Wirral (Egremont) part of the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar
- **Morecambe proposed offshore wind farm**; still at an early stage and subject to project HRA
- **Awel y Môr offshore wind farm**; development consent order approved by the Secretary of State in September 2023 after all necessary assessments
- **Sefton Local Plan** (2017), associated HRA reports and Interim Approach/ strategic joint LCR and West Lancashire approach to visitor pressure at the coast
- **Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan** (2022) and associated HRA reports
- **Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy** (2016) and associated HRA reports

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<sup>23</sup> The websites for these documents are listed in Section 10. References

- **Liverpool Local Plan** (2022) and associated HRA reports
- **St Helens Borough Local Plan** (2022) and associated HRA reports
- **Emerging Wirral Local Plan** (Submission Draft 2022) and associated HRA reports
- **West Lancashire Local Plan** (2013) and associated HRA reports.
- **Emerging Liverpool City Region Recreation Mitigation Strategy**, which is a strategic response to management and mitigation of recreation pressure at the Sefton and City Region Coast, in response to the Local Plans of the Liverpool City Region local authorities and West Lancashire
- **Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Plan** (2013) and associated HRA Report
- **Emerging Spatial Development Strategy** for the Combined Authority

The **Mersey Tidal Power, Mersey Approach Channel Dredging and potential expansion of the Liverpool Cruise Terminal**<sup>24</sup> projects are noted but not formally taken into account because they are at a very early stage.

- 4.3 The key plan which will have 'in combination effects' is the **Sefton Local Plan** (2017), together with its associated HRA reports and the Interim Approach/ strategic joint LCR and West Lancashire approach to visitor pressure at the coast, pending the completion of a joint LCR and West Lancashire Recreation Mitigation Strategy. The HRA reports into the Sefton Local Plan, encompassing its housing and employment allocations and regeneration opportunity areas including those in the Bootle AAP area, concluded that the Local Plan is compliant with the Habitats Regulations.
- 4.4 Most of the policies in this Habitat Regulations compliant 2017 Sefton Local Plan will remain in force within the Bootle Area Action Plan area. As set out in more detail in section 1 (and an appendix of the forthcoming Publication Draft plan), the Bootle Area Action Plan will replace only six of, and partially replace or add to only nine of the 58 policies in the Sefton Local Plan. The Council considers that quantum of development set out in the Bootle Action Area Plan will not to be significantly different from that set out for the area in the Sefton Local Plan, and that the net impacts of the Bootle Area Action Plan compared to the Sefton Local Plan are not significant.
- 4.5 The Test of Likely Significant Effects and Appropriate Assessment in later sections of this document will include a proportionate assessment of the 'in combination' effects of the Bootle Action Area Plan and these other plans and projects within the Liverpool City Region or wider region. This proportionate assessment recognises that the Habitats Regulations Assessments of the development plans listed have shown them to be compliant, subject in some cases to interim approaches to management of recreation pressure on the LCR Coast pending the adoption of a LCR Recreation Mitigation Strategy referred to elsewhere in this document. The projects listed above have also been subject to HRA where relevant. The construction of the new Everton Stadium is at an advanced stage. By contrast the Mersey Tidal Power project is at too early a stage for its 'in combination' impacts to be assessed here. The deepwater Seaforth River Terminal has been operational for some years. The impacts of other 'in combination' projects such as the Mersey Ports Masterplan, the Morecambe off-shore wind farm proposals, and Awel y Môr windfarm recently granted permission will be assessed where relevant in the next chapters of this document.

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<sup>24</sup> See <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-merseyside-68721476>

## 5. Screening of potential impact pathways

- 5.1 The assessment of impact pathways relevant to the Bootle Action Area Plan draws especially on the HRA of the 2017 Sefton Local Plan, but also on HRAs of other Local Plans across the Liverpool City Region (LCR) and West Lancashire, HRA Screening Reports for Sefton’s many Supplementary Planning Documents<sup>25</sup> and joint recreation mitigation work across the LCR and West Lancashire, as well as other plans and projects discussed in chapter 4.
- 5.2 Figure 5.1 lists each relevant European site, setting out the potential impact pathways for each site (the physical scope of the HRA for relevant European sites), as identified in Table 1 of the 2015 HRA Report into the Sefton Local Plan<sup>26</sup>.

<b>Figure 5.1 European sites and their potential impact pathways</b>	
<b>European Site</b>	<b>Reason for inclusion (potential impact pathway)</b>
<b>Sites within Sefton; Potential for significant effects</b>	
Sefton Coast SAC	<p>Located within Sefton; potential pathways exist through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recreational pressure</li> <li>• disturbance to qualifying species</li> <li>• reduction in water quality</li> <li>• reduction in air quality</li> <li>• coastal squeeze</li> <li>• loss of habitat/supporting habitat outside the SAC boundary</li> </ul>
Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	<p>Much of the European site is within Sefton, part extends to northwards into Lancashire. Potential pathways exist through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recreational pressure</li> <li>• disturbance to qualifying species</li> <li>• coastal squeeze</li> <li>• loss of supporting habitat outside of the SPA / Ramsar boundary</li> <li>• reduction in water quality</li> <li>• reduction in air quality</li> <li>• direct loss of habitat through mineral extraction.</li> </ul>
Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA and Ramsar site	<p>Seaforth Nature Reserve in Sefton is within this European site. The rest of this European site is located at least 1.75 km from Sefton, in Wirral. Potential pathways exist through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• direct habitat loss through expansion of the Port at Seaforth</li> <li>• mineral extraction</li> <li>• reduction in water quality</li> </ul>

<sup>25</sup> See <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/SPD>

<sup>26</sup> See [Microsoft Word - Sefton HRA Local Plan 210115ih.docx](#)

<b>Figure 5.1 European sites and their potential impact pathways</b>	
<b>European Site</b>	<b>Reason for inclusion (potential impact pathway)</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduction in air quality</li> <li>• increase in recreational pressure</li> <li>• loss or damage to benthic habitat through dredging</li> <li>• coastal squeeze</li> <li>• disturbance to qualifying bird species</li> </ul>
<b>Potential for ‘in combination’ effects with other plans and projects</b>	
Liverpool Bay SPA	<p>Located outside but immediately adjacent to Sefton at low tide mark.</p> <p>Potential pathways exist through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• loss of water quality through sewage effluent discharges</li> <li>• dredging and disturbance of sediments/benthic habitats following port expansion</li> <li>• in-combination disturbance of birds through increase in ship movements and recreational [watercraft] pressure</li> </ul>

**Source:** Table 1, 2015 HRA Report into Sefton Local Plan, see [Microsoft Word - Sefton HRA Local Plan 210115ih.docx](#)

5.3 The rest of this section refers to the screening process for these potential pathways carried out at the earlier Screening / Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) stage (unpublished). It provides the justification of which of these potential pathways have been ‘screened out’ and which have been ‘screened in’ for Bootle Area Action Plan.

**Potential pathways which were screened out at the Screening Stage**

5.4 Figure 5.2 sets out potential impact pathways and European sites were screened out at the Screening stage for the Issues & Options version and which remain screened out at this Publication Draft and Appropriate Assessment stage; and the justification for this. This means that these impact pathways will not be subject to any further HRA or Appropriate Assessment and will not be considered further in any detail in this document.

5.5 **These potential impact pathways which have been screened out are:**

- **Recreational pressure only for the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar** as set out in figure 5.2 below (Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar)
- **Coastal squeeze** (Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar, Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar)
- **Direct habitat loss through expansion of the Port at Seaforth** (Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar)
- **‘Disturbance of birds through increase in ship movements and recreational pressure** (‘in combination effects’ for Liverpool Bay SPA)
- **Dredging and disturbance of sediments/benthic habitats** (Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar, and ‘in combination effects’ for Liverpool Bay SPA).



Figure 5.2 Potential impact pathways on European sites which have been 'screened out'.			
Potential pathway	European site(s)	HRA assessment regarding likely significant effects	Further comments
Recreational pressure (only in relation to one specific European site)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mersey Narrows &amp; North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar</li> </ul>	<p>Only for this European site:</p> <p>No significant impacts. – no likely significant effects, either directly from Bootle AAP or 'in combination'.</p>	<p>The 2015 HRA of the Sefton Local Plan stated (para 8.8.1) that Seaforth Nature Reserve, the part of the SPA/Ramsar site within Sefton:</p> <p><i>“is not a significant location for visitors. Entry is strictly controlled by Port Police and although it does attract a number of bird watchers these are subject to a permit system for entry in to the Port of Liverpool. Due to the restricted access to Seaforth, the Sefton Local Plan is unlikely to result in disturbance to qualifying species as a result of increased recreation”.</i></p> <p>Therefore, in relation to the part of this European site in Sefton only, recreation pressure can be screened out in relation to Bootle Area Action Plan. There are no significant direct or 'in combination' effects in relation to this European site. <b>(NB: This pathway remains 'screened in' for other European sites).</b></p>
Coastal squeeze	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sefton Coast SAC</li> <li>Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar</li> <li>Mersey Narrows &amp; North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar</li> </ul>	<p>No significant impacts. – no likely significant effects, either directly from Bootle AAP or 'in combination'.</p>	<p>There is no coastline within the Action Area Plan area, and no part of any of these European sites is within the Action Area Plan area. The plan area is entirely urban, one of the most densely built-up parts of Sefton. The vast majority of the plan area is currently occupied or previously developed land; the exception being parks and amenity open spaces, the Leeds and Liverpool Canal Corridor and other green and blue infrastructure. The extent of nature assets in Bootle is much less than for Sefton as a whole, and there are no landscape-scale natural assets or local, national or internationally designated nature sites in the plan area.</p> <p>The HRAs of the Sefton Local Plan and HRAs of other Local Plans in the LCR and West Lancashire recommended mitigation measures where relevant and concluded no adverse effects on coastal squeeze on these European sites, and it is considered that there are no project 'in combination effects'.</p>

<b>Figure 5.2 Potential impact pathways on European sites which have been ‘screened out’.</b>			
<b>Potential pathway</b>	<b>European site(s)</b>	<b>HRA assessment regarding likely significant effects</b>	<b>Further comments</b>
<b>Direct habitat loss through expansion of the Port at Seaforth</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mersey Narrows &amp; North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar</li> </ul>	No significant impacts. – no likely significant effects, either directly from Bootle AAP or ‘in combination’..	<p>There is no coastline within the Action Area Plan area, and no part of any of these European sites is within the plan area. The plan area does not include the Port. The Action Area Plan does not include policies dealing with the Port and hence will have no influence on Port expansion, dredging or disturbance of benthic habitats, ship movements, or recreational water craft. There are no significant or other direct impacts arising from Bootle Area Action Plan. Local Plan policy ED1 ‘The Port and Maritime Zone’ will remain as the key policy against which any proposals for Port expansion, including into Seaforth Nature Reserve would be assessed. This policy takes a rigorous approach, setting out specific requirements to protect not just Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA but also Liverpool Bay SPA and other European sites. The 2015 HRA Report into the Local Plan stated that this policy had been amended to the point where there were no significant impacts on European sites, in relation to direct habitat loss through Port expansion, dredging and disturbance of sediments / benthic habitats or ‘in combination’ disturbance of birds through increase in ship movements and recreational watercraft pressure in Liverpool Bay SPA. Other adopted or emerging Local Plans in the LCR and West Lancashire and the emerging LCR Spatial Development Strategy also protect the integrity of European sites. The HRAs of the Sefton Local Plan and HRAs of other Local Plans in the LCR and West Lancashire recommended mitigation measures where relevant and concluded no adverse effects for these pathways on these European sites. It is considered that there will be no significant impacts arising from Bootle AAP in combination with the other plans and projects identified in chapter 4 above. In terms of projects, the Seaforth deepwater berth in the River Mersey is already operational, with associated increases in shipping movements; this was subject to a separate regulatory process. In terms of the</p>
<b>Dredging and disturbance of sediments/benthic habitats</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mersey Narrows &amp; North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar</li> <li>Liverpool Bay SPA (following Port expansion)</li> </ul>	No significant impacts. – no likely significant effects, either directly from Bootle AAP or ‘in combination’.	
<b>‘In combination’ disturbance of birds through increase in ship movements and recreational pressure</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Liverpool Bay SPA</li> </ul>	No significant impacts. – no likely significant effects, either directly from Bootle AAP or ‘in combination’.	

<b>Figure 5.2 Potential impact pathways on European sites which have been ‘screened out’.</b>			
<b>Potential pathway</b>	<b>European site(s)</b>	<b>HRA assessment regarding likely significant effects</b>	<b>Further comments</b>
			Mersey Ports Masterplan, increased activity and vehicle, rail, shipping/water and air freight traffic is across a number of locations across the LCR, Warrington and Greater Manchester. Any specific projects arising from The Mersey Ports Masterplan, Superport or off-shore wind-farms affecting shipping movements or dredging which require planning permission from local authorities or through the National Significant Infrastructure Protect (NSIP) route would be subject to project HRA and project-specific mitigation if relevant. It is considered that there are no project ‘in combination effects’.
<b>Direct habitat loss through mineral extraction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar</li> <li>• Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar</li> </ul>	No significant impacts. – no likely significant effects, either directly from Bootle AAP or ‘in combination’.	<p>The Action Area Plan does not include a minerals policy and hence will have no influence on minerals expansion. Local Plan policy NH8 ‘Minerals’ will remain as the key policy against which any minerals proposals in the plan area would be assessed. As above, Local Plan policies protect the integrity of European sites against development for which planning permission is required. The former ‘sand-winning’ (sand extraction) plant at Crossens, Southport (within European sites) closed many years ago and the operational site has been restored. There are no other extant minerals consents in the Bootle Area Action Plan area or the rest of Sefton (to mean high water). None of the ‘in combination’ plans and projects identified in chapter 4 involve minerals extraction.</p> <p>There are no significant direct or ‘in combination’ effects on direct habitat loss through mineral extraction in relation to these European sites.</p>
<b>Loss of habitat / supporting habitat outside the national site network site boundary</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sefton Coast SAC</li> <li>• Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar</li> <li>• Mersey Narrows &amp; North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar</li> </ul>	No significant impacts. – no likely significant effects, either directly from Bootle AAP or ‘in combination’.	The Bootle Area Action Plan area is entirely urban; one of the most densely built-up parts of Sefton. The vast majority of the plan area is currently occupied or previously developed land; the exception being parks and larger amenity open spaces, the Leeds and Liverpool Canal Corridor and other green and blue infrastructure, none of which provide habitat/ supporting habitat for qualifying features. In any case,

<b>Figure 5.2 Potential impact pathways on European sites which have been ‘screened out’.</b>			
<b>Potential pathway</b>	<b>European site(s)</b>	<b>HRA assessment regarding likely significant effects</b>	<b>Further comments</b>
			<p>the Sefton Local Plan, notably Local Plan policy NH2 ‘Nature’ protects supporting habitat within Sefton with same rigour as it protects European sites. Local Plan housing policies notably MN2, and Appendix 1, set out specific HRA requirements regarding supporting habitat. Other Local Plans take a similar approach. Notably, the HRA of Wirral Local Plan made recommendations to make sure that there are no adverse impacts on functionally linked habitat for the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA/ Ramsar and Ribble &amp; Alt Estuaries SPA/ Ramsar site. Wirral Local Plan reflects these recommendations. Liverpool Local Plan incorporated recommendations from its HRA Report regarding functionally linked habitat for the Mersey Narrows, to ensure no adverse impacts, notably from airport expansion. No ‘in combination projects are considered to affect this pathway. There are no significant direct or ‘in combination’ effects on loss of habitat / supporting habitat outside the national site network site boundary in relation to these European sites.</p>

- **Direct habitat loss through mineral extraction** (Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar, Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar)
- **Loss of habitat / supporting habitat outside the national site network site boundary** (Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar).

*Pathways which have been screened in*

5.3 Figure 5.3 sets out potential impact pathways were not screened out at the Screening stage; together with the European sites which they affect. They are considered in more detail in the next chapters of this document. These potential impact pathways are:

- **Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development (local population growth or relocation), re:**
  - Sefton Coast SAC
  - Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site
  - Liverpool Bay SPA (in-combination disturbance of birds through increase in ship movements and recreational pressure).

Potential impacts and likely significant effects are anticipated, from Bootle AAP and ‘in combination’ with other development plans in the LCR and West Lancashire.

Figure 5.2 sets out why this pathway has been screened out for the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site.

- **Reduction in water quality (due to increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant input arising largely from works to contaminated or previously developed land which may affect groundwater or combined sewer discharges), re:**
  - Sefton Coast SAC
  - Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site
  - Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site
  - Liverpool Bay SPA

Potential impacts and likely significant effects from Bootle AAP and ‘in combination’ with Sefton Local Plan, Liverpool Local Plan, the emerging Wirral Local Plan and any relevant projects have not been screened out at this stage.

- **Disturbance to qualifying species - visual and noise disturbance (due to construction activities, artificial lighting, other urban development), re:**
  - Sefton Coast SAC
  - Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site
  - Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site
  - Liverpool Bay SPA

Potential impacts and likely significant effects from Bootle AAP and ‘in combination’ with Sefton Local Plan, Liverpool Local Plan, the emerging Wirral Local Plan and any relevant projects have not been screened out at this stage.

- **Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (largely from transport emissions), re:**
  - Sefton Coast SAC
  - Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site
  - Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA/Ramsar site.

Potential impacts and likely significant effects from Bootle AAP and ‘in combination’ with Sefton Local Plan, Liverpool Local Plan, the emerging Wirral Local Plan and any relevant projects have not been screened out at this stage.

5.4 As required, the inclusion of these pathways reflects the precautionary principle; mitigation measures are largely in place as a result of the policy framework set by the Sefton Local Plan, much of which remains relevant in the Bootle Action Area Plan area. At this stage they remain ‘screened in’ and will be considered further in the Test of Likely Significant Effects within this document.

5.5 Figure 5.3 below sets out this information in another way. For each European site it shows the potential pathways which remain screened in.

<b>Figure 5.3 European sites and their potential impact pathways which remain screened in</b>	
<b>European Site</b>	<b>Reason for inclusion (pathway)</b>
Sites within Sefton; Potential for significant effects	
Sefton Coast SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recreational pressure</li> <li>• reduction in water quality</li> <li>• reduction in air quality</li> <li>• disturbance to qualifying species</li> </ul>
Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• recreational pressure</li> <li>• reduction in water quality</li> <li>• reduction in air quality</li> <li>• disturbance to qualifying species</li> </ul>
Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA and Ramsar site	<p>A small part of the site at Seaforth Nature Reserve is located within Sefton borough</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduction in water quality</li> <li>• reduction in air quality</li> <li>• disturbance to qualifying bird species</li> </ul>
Potential for ‘in combination’ effects with other plans and projects; site located immediately adjacent to Sefton at low tide mark	
Liverpool Bay SPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• loss of water quality through sewage effluent discharges</li> </ul>

## 6. Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE).

6.1 Appendix 1 shows the results of a ‘stand alone’ Tests of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of the Bootle Area Action Plan objectives. Appendix 2 shows the results of a ‘stand alone’ TOLSE of Bootle Area Action Plan policies, and Appendix 3 is a more specific TOLSE of employment and housing sites. Where relevant, these TOLSE take account of the TOLSE and HRA of the Publication Draft Sefton Local Plan, and the unpublished TOLSE of the Issues and Options Bootle Area Action Plan. In these Appendices, the following shortened forms are used where relevant:

- LSE – Likely significant effect
- Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr = Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site
- Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr = Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site.

### *TOLSE of Bootle AAP objectives*

6.2 Appendix 1 shows that of the fifteen [objectives](#) of the Bootle Area Action Plan, twelve are screened out, with no Likely Significant Effects on any of the potential pathways. These are objective 1 (housing), objective 2 (energy efficiency), objective 4 (control of conversions to Homes in Multiple Occupation), objective 5 (economic growth), objective 6 (jobs and training), objective 7 (amenity), objective 10 (green infrastructure), objective 11 (health), objective 12 (design), objective 13 (climate change) and objective 15 (children and young people).

6.3 Three objectives are screened in, with Likely Significant Effects for cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from new housing development. These are objectives 8 (Town Centre), 9 (reuse of vacant land) and 14 (heritage). None of the fourteen objectives is screened in relation to the other potential pathways for reductions in water quality, disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) or reductions in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution. It is considered that this remains the case even ‘in combination’ with other plans and projects.

### *TOLSE of Bootle AAP policies*

6.4 Appendix 2 shows that of the 24 Bootle Action Area Plan policies, fourteen are screened out with no Likely Significant Effects on any of the potential pathways. The screened out policies are:

- BAAP1 Design
- BAAP2 Best Use of Resources
- BAAP8 Getting Around
- BAAP9 Nature
- BAAP10 Healthy Bootle
- BAAP11 Parks, Public Open Space and Playing Fields
- BAAP12 Employment Land Provision
- BAAP13 Protection of Employment Land
- BAAP14 Limiting the Impact of Industry on Residents

- BAAP15 Securing Opportunities for Employment and Skills from New Development
- BAAP17 Affordable Housing and Housing Mix
- BAAP18 Housing for Older People and Supported Homes.

6.5 Appendix 2 shows that ten policies are screened in, with Likely Significant Effects for cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from new housing development. None of the 24 policies are screened in relation to the pathways for reductions in water quality, disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) or reductions in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution. Appendix 3 shows the TOLSE of employment and housing sites in policies BAAP12 and BAAP 16 respectively. As with their parent policies, none of the employment sites are screened in; there are no Likely Significant Effects. Likewise, the housing sites are screened in only for recreation pressure /disturbance.

***Cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from new housing development including 'in combination' TOLSE***

6.6 This relates to the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site and Liverpool Bay SPA (in-combination disturbance of birds through increase in ship movements and recreational pressure). As shown in the Test of Likely Significant Effects in Appendix 1, three objectives have been screened in for this pathway:

- Objective 8: To improve Bootle Town Centre and the Strand shopping centre to consolidate its position as the main focus of shopping, leisure, cultural, community and other uses for Bootle's residents and those in the wider area
- Objective 9: To bring back into beneficial use vacant land, homes, and buildings
- change responsibilities
- Objective 14: To identify, protect and, where appropriate, find suitable viable uses for Bootle's valued built heritage.

As shown in the Test of Likely Significant Effects in Appendix 2 (policies) and Appendix 3 (employment and housing sites), the ten policies (including site allocations/ identifications) which are screened in for cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from new housing development are:

- BAAP3 Bootle Central Area
- BAAP4 Bootle Town Centre
- BAAP5 Bootle Office Quarter (including allocation BE6 Bootle Office Quarter)
- BAAP6 Civic and Education Quarter
- BAAP 7 Local Shopping Parades (including the following parades:
  - 1 Seaforth Rd/ Stella Precinct
  - 2 Seaforth Rd South
  - 3 Knowsley Rd
  - 4 Bridge Rd
  - 5 Linacre Rd
  - 6 Stanley Rd (Three Banks)
  - 7 Stanley Rd (Parrs Corner)
  - 8 Haris Drive
  - 9 Orrell Rd
  - 10 Ennerdale Drive
  - 11 The Crescent
  - 12 Linacre Lane
  - 13 Aintree Rd
  - 14 Hawthorne Rd/Earl Rd
  - 15 Hawthorne Rd / Park St
  - 16 Irlam Rd
  - 17 Stanley Rd/ Park St
  - 18 Bootle Village



- 19 Stanley Rd South
  - 20 Hawthorne Rd South
  - 21 Marsh Lane)
  - BAAP16 Housing Land Provision (including the following sites:
    - BH1 People’s Site, Linacre Lane
    - BH2 Coffee House Bridge
    - BH3 Site of the former Bootle Gas Works
    - BH4 Site of Litherland House, Litherland Rd
    - BH5 Site of the former Johnsons Cleaners
    - BH6 503-509 Hawthorne Rd, Bootle
  - BAAP19 Conversions to Flats and Homes in Multiple Occupation
  - BAAP20 Hawthorne Road/Canal Corridor Opportunity Area including:
    - BH1 Peoples sites
    - BH3 Site of the former Bootle Gas Works
    - BH4 Site of Litherland House, Litherland Rd
    - BH6 503-509 Hawthorne Rd
- And the BAAP12 Bootle Employment Designation:
- BE3 Hawthorne Rd/Aintree Rd (assessed here as part of BAAP12)
- And the following Regeneration Opportunity Areas:
- BR1 Land to Northwest of Linacre Lane and Hawthorne Road Junction
  - BR2 Land South of Linacre Lane between Hawthorne Road and Canal
  - BR3 Land between Hawthorne Road and Vaux Crescent/Place
- BAAP21 Bootle Village Opportunity Area
  - BAAP23 Coffee House Bridge Regeneration Opportunity Area (Includes housing site BH2 Coffee House Bridge).

6.7 As well as the Bootle AAP, the Sefton Local Plan and all other Local Plans across the LCR and West Lancashire have been assessed as having likely significant effects on recreation pressure and disturbance. The existing Sefton Interim Approach to recreation mitigation<sup>27</sup> and emerging LCR and West Lancashire Recreation Mitigation Strategy are likely to provide all necessary management and mitigation for recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development (local population growth or relocation). This has been accepted by Natural England. More information is set out in chapter 2 above.

6.8 Part 3 of policy BAAP9 Nature says that:

*“3. All relevant development proposals must adhere to the Council’s approach to the mitigation and management of recreation pressure on the internationally important nature sites on the Sefton Coast, in line with Local Plan Policy NH1 and NH2 and to meet the legal requirements set out in the Habitats Regulations.”*

6.9 Appendix 2 shows that while policy BAAP9 Nature is screened out in relation to recreation pressure in the light of its part 3, new text has been added to its explanation to set out the context for the need for the management and mitigation of impacts of cumulative recreation pressure at the Sefton Coast, through the Sefton Interim

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<sup>27</sup> See <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4485/hrarecpressureinfoonotemay2023.pdf> and <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning-policy-including-local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/recreation-mitigation-strategy/>

Approach<sup>28</sup>, and emerging LCR and West Lancashire Recreation Mitigation Strategy Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)<sup>29</sup>. This is relevant to housing development, and in some circumstances may be relevant to tourism development, in line with the HRA Reports for the Sefton Local Plan.

6.10 The rest of this chapter assesses in more detail the pathways screened out, as shown in Appendices 1, 2 and 3, for all objectives, policies and sites. This includes an assessment of ‘in combination effects’ of key plans and projects (see chapter 4), as well as the Bootle AAP as set out in Appendices 1, 2 and 3. These are Sefton Local Plan, Liverpool Local Plan, the emerging Wirral Local Plan and any relevant projects. These are considered to be the only plans and projects which may have significant effects on these pathways for these European sites.

6.11 These pathways which have been screened out, as shown in Appendices 1, 2 and 3, for all objectives, policies, and sites are:

- Reductions in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:
  - Sefton Coast SAC
  - Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site
  - Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site
  - Liverpool Bay SPA
- Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance), re:
  - Sefton Coast SAC
  - Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site
  - Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site
  - Liverpool Bay SPA
- Reductions in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions), re:
  - Sefton Coast SAC
  - Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site
  - Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA/Ramsar site.

#### ***Water quality, including ‘in combination’ TOLSE***

6.12 In relation to the pathways screened out in all cases, as shown in Appendices 1 and 2, all of the Bootle AAP objectives and policies are screened out in relation to the impact pathway for reductions in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant). Local Plan policies EQ8 ‘Flood risk and surface water’, EQ4 ‘Pollution and Hazards’ and IN1 ‘Infrastructure and developer contributions’ remain in force in the Bootle AAP area. Bootle Action Area Plan policy BAAP1 Design part 9, also refers to the need to reduce surface water run-off rates and volumes and other sources of flood risk in the context of helping to mitigate and adapt to the impact of climate change.

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<sup>28</sup> See Sefton’s May 2023 ‘Information Note: Managing and mitigating the impact of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast - Sefton’s Interim Approach for housing development’ - [hrarepressureinfonotemay2023.pdf](https://sefton.gov.uk/hrarepressureinfonotemay2023.pdf) ([sefton.gov.uk](https://sefton.gov.uk))

<sup>29</sup> See [Recreation Mitigation Strategy \(sefton.gov.uk\)](https://sefton.gov.uk/recreation-mitigation-strategy)

- 6.13 While there may be some infiltration of surface water, the area's only watercourse / surface water body is the canal, and so almost all surface water discharges to combined sewers, or flows out in Combined Sewer Overflows during times of flooding. The combined sewers mostly discharge to the MEPAS main sewer which runs north-south broadly parallel to the coast to the Sandon Dock Wastewater Treatment Works.
- 6.14 Effectively, any development or redevelopment within the Bootle Area Action Plan area would be on previously developed sites or from conversion of existing buildings. Conversions would not affect rates and volumes of surface water run-off. For redevelopment schemes and development on previously developed sites, Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water run-off rates and volumes by 20% (compared to the pre-existing rates) for sites covered by buildings or impermeable hard surfaces (brownfield sites). Policy EQ8 also seeks to manage and limit surface water discharge on greenfield sites. In addition, policy EQ8 requires surface water management to include control of pollution, and for enhanced water quality and habitats where practicable.
- 6.15 For foul sewerage and flows, Local Plan policy IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). This requirement stems from the 2015 HRA Report into the Sefton Local Plan. Because of this, it is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant. Local Plan policy EQ4 'Pollution and Hazards' sets out the over-arching requirement for mitigation of any adverse impacts from water and other pollution on European sites. Therefore, the impact pathway to reductions in water quality is screened out in relation to Bootle AAP.
- 6.16 In terms of 'in combination' impacts on water quality from the plans and projects listed in chapter 4, given the location of the Bootle AAP area, the relevant 'in combination' plans and projects are considered to be the Sefton Local Plan, Liverpool Local Plan, Wirral's emerging Local Plan, and Everton Stadium.
- 6.17 As above, Sefton Local Plan policies EQ8, IN1 and EQ4 are considered to reduce any impacts on water quality to less than significant.
- 6.18 Liverpool Local Plan policy R3 'Flood risk and water management' (part 4) requires adequate wastewater infrastructure, with mitigation or compensation for any deficiencies. Policy R5 'Rivers, Canals, Watercourses and Culverts' (part 1) states that: *'Planning permission will not be granted for development which, would adversely affect the quality or supply of surface water or groundwater....'*. The 2017 HRA Report for Liverpool Local Plan concludes that there are no likely significant effects on water quality in the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site, Sefton Coast SAC, Liverpool Bay SPA or Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site. This takes account of in combination effects, such as impacts of the Sandon Dock WasteWater Treatment Works (WwTW) outfall extension on the Wirral part of the Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar, and Peel Ports Masterplan. Everton Stadium was subject to project HRA, and proposals include mitigation measures for any adverse impacts identified through the project HRA.

- 6.19 The 2022 HRA Report for Wirral’s emerging Local Plan considers that for the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar, the amount of proposed development close to the foreshore is relatively small; and that Natural England’s Supplementary Site Conservation Advice Note<sup>30</sup> highlights the site’s risk of eutrophication to be low. In relation to the Liverpool Bay SPA, the HRA Report considers that the main water quality issue is from oil spills from shipping<sup>31</sup>; and that the dilution effect of non-toxic pollutants (including nitrogen) means that water quality is not considered to be a major threat to Liverpool Bay SPA. As the Sandon Dock WwTW is not listed as a ‘in combination’ project for Wirral Local Plan, it is considered to have no significant effects. In relation to the Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar, the HRA Report notes that any treated sewage effluent discharged by WwTWs in Wirral will initially enter the Mersey Estuary SPA / Ramsar or the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar, several kilometres from the SPA / Ramsar. It also notes that water pollutants are attenuated with increasing distance from their source (breaking down), and that also there will be a dilution effect, especially as nutrients enter the more open waters beyond the Mersey Narrows. The HRA concludes “that there will be no in-combination effect of the Wirral Local Plan on the integrity of this [Ribble & Alt Estuaries] SPA and Ramsar regarding water quality”.
- 6.20 Furthermore, no European sites or national sites within Sefton or the LCR are listed in the ‘Notice of designation of sensitive catchment areas 2024’<sup>32</sup> where specified nutrient removal standards must be achieved. These are phosphorus sensitive and nitrogen sensitive catchments.
- 6.21 Therefore it is considered that there are no effects on water quality arising from the Bootle Area Action Plan or ‘in combination effects’ on the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site, Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site or Liverpool Bay SPA.

#### ***Disturbance to qualifying species, including ‘in combination’ TOLSE***

- 6.22 All of the Bootle AAP objectives and policies are also screened out in relation to the impact pathway for disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance), as shown in Appendices 1 and 2. All of the plan’s allocated and designated sites and opportunity areas for (re)development are within the existing built-up area. Almost all of them are at considerable distance from the European sites, mostly at least 2 km distant (closest straight-line distance). This is illustrated in the map in Figure 6.1 below. The scale and phasing of such (re)development is relatively limited. For closer sites, such as Local Shopping Parades at Seaforth Rd / Stella Precinct and Seaforth Rd South which are more than 1 km(at their closest) from the European Sites, the scale of any likely

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<sup>30</sup> As referred to in paragraph 5.88 (p80) of the HRA Report into Wirral Local Plan

<sup>31</sup> See Natural England’s Site Improvement Plan for Liverpool Bay,  
<https://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/5296526586806272>

<sup>32</sup> See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/notice-of-designation-of-sensitive-catchment-areas-2024/notice-of-designation-of-sensitive-catchment-areas-2024>

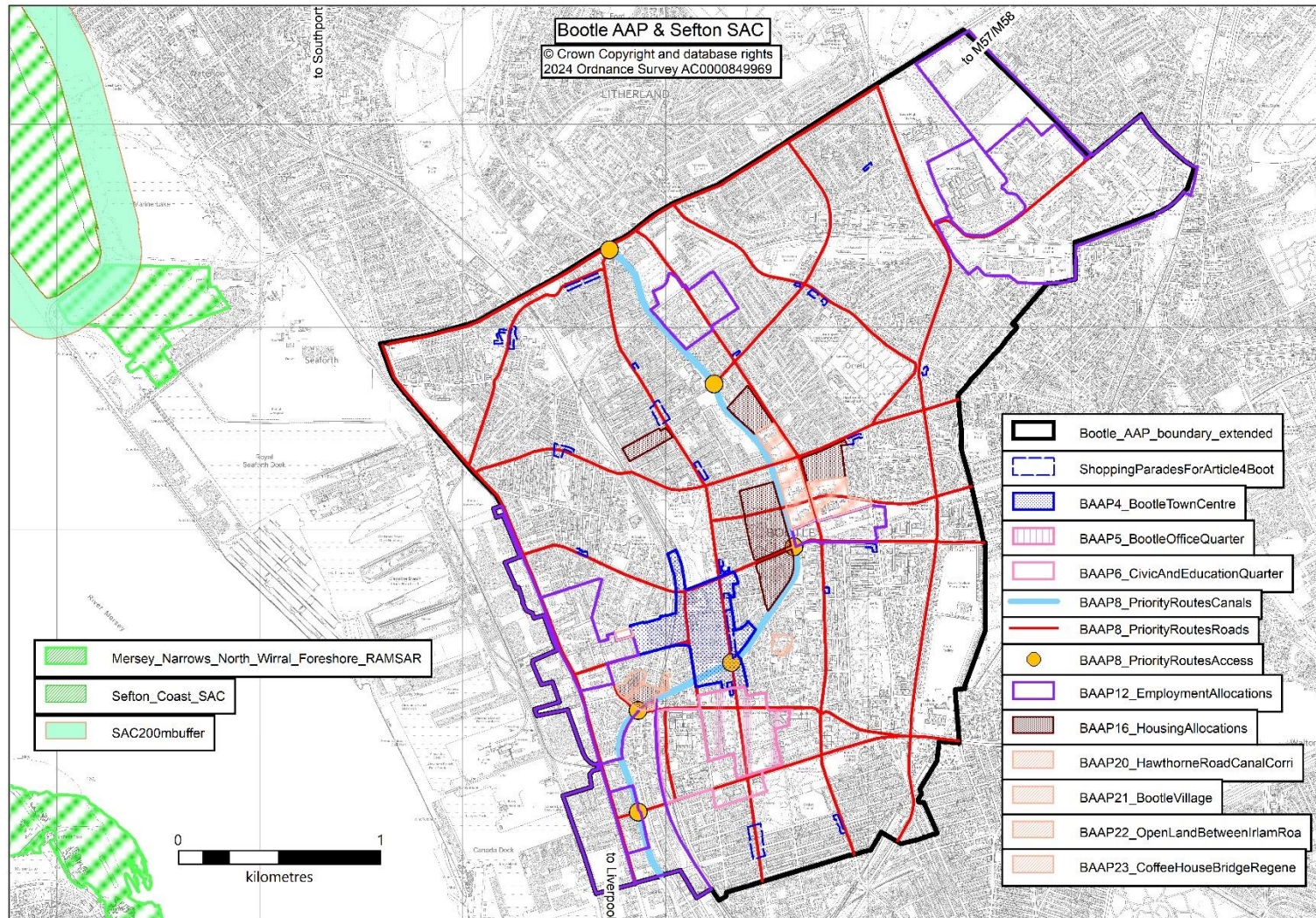
redevelopment (other than conversions) and distance of Local Shopping Parades from the European sites would be very limited.

- 6.23 Even for larger areas, such as Hawthorne Road/Canal Corridor Opportunity Area (BAAP20) and Bootle Central Area (BAAP3), each site with the Area is likely to be developed individually, rather than development across the whole of the Area at the same time (and see Appendix 3). Within each site, larger-scale development is likely to be phased over several years. Therefore, scale and distance mean that the impact pathway to disturbance to qualifying species is screened out for Bootle AAP.
- 6.24 In terms of 'in combination' impacts on disturbance to qualifying species from the plans and projects listed in chapter 4, given the location of the Bootle AAP area, the relevant 'in combination' plans and projects are considered to be the Sefton Local Plan, Liverpool Local Plan and Everton Stadium.
- 6.25 The 2015 HRA Report for the Sefton Local Plan did not identify a disturbance pathway in relation to the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site or Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site. Development sites in the Plan, including those in the AAP area, were considered to have no disturbance impacts. For Liverpool Bay SPA, potential impacts related only to Port expansion. These impacts were mitigated, as set out in Local Plan policy ED1 'The Port and Maritime Zone', leading to a conclusion of no likely significant effects. As above, the Port is not within the scope of Bootle AAP.
- 6.26 The 2017 HRA Report for the Liverpool Local Plan also did not identify a disturbance pathway in relation to the Sefton Coast SAC or Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site. It considered disturbance impacts (flight noise, lighting) on the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar – from Liverpool Airport 12 km away – but concluded no likely significant effects. In relation to Liverpool Bay SPA, for disturbance from onshore or offshore wind turbines (flight paths, other disturbance), maintenance activities and Port expansion, the HRA Report considered that policy mechanisms existed to make sure "no proposals that come forward would have an adverse effect on the SPA"(p55). Everton Stadium was subject to project HRA, and proposals include mitigation measures for any adverse impacts identified through the project HRA.
- 6.27 Therefore it is considered that there are no effects on water quality arising from the Bootle Area Action Plan or 'in combination effects' on the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site, Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site or Liverpool Bay SPA.

#### *Air quality including 'in combination' TOLSE*

- 6.28 Direct assessment of the proximity of proposed development sites in the Bootle AAP area to the European sites and of the layout, functioning and flows on the main route network in the plan area has screened out all of the Bootle AAP objectives, policies and sites in relation to the impact pathway for reductions in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions), as shown in Appendices 2 and 3.

Figure 6.1 Map showing the location of development and opportunity sites in the Bootle AAP area and European nature sites



- 6.29 No part of the Bootle Action Area Plan area is within 200m of the Sefton Coast SAC. Figure 6.1 illustrates that the A565 in Crosby is over 1.15 km from the Sefton Coast SAC, and over 700 m from the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site. Figure 6.1 also shows that (re)development sites in the plan area are even further away from the European sites; by a considerable distance.
- 6.30 Bootle has an extensive road network, and no significant additional road capacity is proposed in the Bootle Area Action Plan. The existing main routes to the national motorway network at Switch Island (A5036; the northern boundary of the plan area), the M62 (A5058), south-north to Liverpool and Southport respectively (A565) are well established. The opening of the Brooms' Cross link road between Switch Island and Thornton reduced through traffic on the A565 in the Crosby area.
- 6.31 The emphasis of Bootle AAP, for example in policy BAAP8 Getting Around, is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development on allocated and designated sites and opportunity areas is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature' (paragraph 11.33 of the explanation to policy NH2) as the critical threshold for emissions and air pollution – more explanation is set out below. Therefore, for Bootle AAP the impact pathway for reductions in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) is screened out.
- 6.32 More detailed justification for this 'screening out' of the impacts of Bootle AAP on air quality, including 'in combination' effects, draws heavily on the content and conclusions of the 2015 HRA Report into the Sefton Local Plan, and on Local Plan policies. It also draws on the more recent APIS<sup>33</sup> and other data in the 2017 HRA Report into the Liverpool Local Plan. By contrast, the 2022 HRA Report into the Wirral Local Plan identified atmospheric pollution as an issue only in relation to the Dee Estuary European sites, not to sites on the Sefton Coast.
- 6.33 These Sefton and Liverpool Local Plan HRA reports<sup>34</sup> noted that for the Sefton Coast SAC, the Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar and the Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA/ Ramsar, sulphur (SO<sub>2</sub>) and nitrogen (N, NO<sub>x</sub>) are the main air pollutants and that:
- A significant proportion of sulphur deposition in the Sefton Coast SAC is due to shipping and other [non-road] transport; 34% accordingly to Sefton HRA, 53% according to the Liverpool HRA
  - Actual SO<sub>2</sub> concentration in the SAC [and Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar] is well below the nationally recognised critical level (according to APIS): compared to a critical level for damage of 20 µgm. Actual SO<sub>2</sub> levels are 1.1 µgm according to the

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<sup>33</sup> See <https://www.apis.ac.uk/>

<sup>34</sup> Quotes and information drawn mainly from p52-53 of the 2015 HRA Report into the Sefton Local Plan and p42 of the 2017 HRA Report into the Liverpool Local Plan in relation to the Sefton Coast SAC; p 63 and p48 respectively re the Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar; p76 & p63-64 respectively re the Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA/Ramsar.

Sefton HRA, 1.9 µgm according to that for Liverpool. These SO<sub>2</sub> levels are well below the critical level

- The Site Relevant Critical Load for each bird species for which the Ribble & Alt Estuaries and Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPAs/ Ramsar sites were designated also indicates that they are not considered likely to be adversely affected by high sulphur deposition; and indeed may benefit, as nitrogen enrichment potentially means more prey species. The only SPA species for which nitrogen deposition may be potentially negative are black-tailed godwit *Limosa limosa* and curlew *Numenius* (due to increased sward height in grassland foraging grounds), although this is more strongly influenced by other factors than atmospheric nitrogen deposition, e.g. cut height & frequency, grazing.
- SAC features such as sand dune succession and petalwort are both vulnerable to excessive nitrogen inputs, which can *“increase the development of vegetation and both out-compete petalwort and more rapidly advance sand dune succession to a point of excessive scrub development”*
- Actual nitrogen deposition in the Sefton Coast SAC is 11.9 kg (Sefton HRA)/ 9.9 kgN/ha/yr (Liverpool HRA) compared to a critical load (for sand dunes) of 10- 20 kgN/ha/yr. That is, the SAC and the two SPAs/ Ramar sites are already at/ above the lower limit of the critical load for nitrogen
- *“Road transport, air transport and shipping are currently responsible for 16% of nitrogen deposition in the Sefton Coast SAC”* and the two SPAs/ Ramar sites
- As the SAC and the two SPAs/ Ramar sites *“is already exceeding its critical load sources of Nox which will increase nitrogen inputs by more than 1% will at least require project level HRA Test of Likely Significant Effects and could lead to an adverse impact “in combination”*.
- *“In places, the A565 that runs north-south through Sefton lies within 200m of the SAC [in Southport rather than Bootle/Crosby]. Numerous residential streets lie within 200 m of the SAC boundary. However, most of these are separated from the SAC by houses and other buildings which will reduce the dispersal distance of any exhaust emissions, such that the majority of emissions will probably not reach the SAC”*. As illustrated by Figure 6.1, the A565 in Crosby is over 1.15 km at its nearest point from the Sefton Coast SAC, and over 700 m from the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site.

6.34 As a result of these HRA Reports, the nature policies and their explanations in both the Sefton and Liverpool Local Plans<sup>35</sup> make clear that there is a:

*“need for site-specific Habitats Regulations Assessments for development proposals that are likely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs / 1% of the Critical Load in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Such proposals are likely to include those in or within 200 metres of the SAC, and those which could increase traffic flows on roads within 200m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day (in terms of annual average daily traffic flows). This might include housing developments of 200 or more homes, office developments of 7,000 m<sup>2</sup> or more, industrial estates of 15,000 m<sup>2</sup> or more, warehousing of 35,000 m<sup>2</sup> or more, hotels with 300 or more bedrooms and leisure facilities or exhibition centres of 9,000 m<sup>2</sup> or more”*.

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<sup>35</sup> Sefton Local Plan policy NH2 'Nature' and paragraph 11.33 of its explanation; Liverpool Local Plan policy G16 Protection of Biodiversity and Geodiversity and paragraph 12.31 of its explanation



- 6.35 While the HRA Report of the joint Waste Plan identified air quality as a potential issue for the 2 sites in the Area Action Plan area (in relation to the Manchester Mosses SAC rather than Sefton’s European sites), the HRA Report also concluded that, *“with that with the amendments made to the Waste Development Document following the Preferred Options consultation, the proposals contained therein are unlikely to lead to a significant effect on European sites either alone or in combination with other plans and projects”*.
- 6.36 Sefton Local Plan policy NH2’ Nature’ applies to the Bootle AAP area. Local Plan policy EQ4 ‘Pollution and Hazards’ will also remain in force within Bootle Action Area Plan area. This sets out the over-arching requirement for mitigation of any adverse air pollution impacts on European sites. While Port operations and access may also affect nitrogen deposition. However, as above, the Port and Port access is outside the area and scope of Bootle AAP.
- 6.37 The above measures mean that the HRA Reports into both the Sefton and Liverpool Local Plans<sup>36</sup> conclude that the plans have a system of measures to minimise the contribution of the plans to any increase in nitrogen depositions with the Sefton Coast SAC and avoid any likely significant effects on the Sefton Coast SAC. There are no likely significant effects for other air quality pathways.
- 6.38 The HRA Report for the Sefton Local Plan notes that these measures and conclusions also apply to the Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar and Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA/ Ramsar. The HRA Report for the Liverpool Local Plan concludes no likely significant effects, even from ports or airport expansion, for either SPA/ Ramsar site. In summary, therefore, there are no ‘in combination’ effects in relation to air quality arising from the Sefton Local Plan, Liverpool Local Plan or Wirral Local Plan.
- 6.39 Therefore it is considered that there are no effects on air quality arising from the Bootle Area Action Plan or from ‘in combination effects’, on the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site or Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site.

### **Recommendations**

- 6.40 In the light of the above, it is recommended that these three impact pathways for water quality, disturbance and air quality are screened out as having no Likely Significant Effects for the Publication Draft Bootle Area Action Plan. Consequently, it is recommended that Appropriate Assessment of the objectives and policies of Bootle Area Action Plan would be needed only the pathway for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development. This Appropriate Assessment is set out in chapter 7.

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<sup>36</sup> SAC: p52-53 of the 2015 HRA Report into the Sefton Local Plan, p43 of the 2017 HRA Report into the Liverpool Local Plan. Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar: p63 & p48 respectively. Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA/Ramsar p76 & p63-64 respectively.

## 7. Appropriate Assessment of Bootle Area Action Plan

7.1 As set out in chapters 5 and 6 above, the screening and Test of Likely Significant Effects of Bootle Area Action Plan objectives and policies (including sites where relevant) screened out or established no Likely Significant Effects for all potential impact pathways except for cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from new housing development. This is for Bootle AAP and ‘in combination’ effects. As set out in Appendices 1 and 2, three objectives and ten policies require Appropriate Assessment in relation to the cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance pathway, for the following European sites:

- Sefton Coast SAC
- Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site
- Liverpool Bay SPA /Ramsar site.

The other objectives and policies have been screened out as having no Likely Significant Effects for all other potential pathways and relevant European sites, as set out in chapters 5 and 6 above and Appendices 1 & 2. These pathways are:

- Recreational pressure (only for Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar)
- Coastal squeeze
- Direct habitat loss through expansion of the Port at Seaforth
- Dredging and disturbance of sediments/benthic habitats
- ‘In combination’ disturbance of birds through increase in ship movements and recreational pressure
- Direct habitat loss through mineral extraction
- Loss of habitat / supporting habitat outside the national site network site boundary
- Reductions in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant)
- Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance)
- Reductions in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions).

7.2 This chapter is the Appropriate Assessment for these objectives and policies, assessing the likely significant effects of the objectives and policies on European site integrity in more detail and identify ways to avoid or minimise any effects. This refers to likely significant effects either alone or in combination with other plans or proposals. As set out in Chapter 2 above, EU guidance refers specifically to the need to consider mitigation measures and alternative solutions where adverse effects are identified. Plans should be altered until adverse effects are cancelled out fully. In line with the 2018 ‘Sweetman’ European Court of Justice ruling<sup>37</sup>, mitigation should instead only be considered at the Appropriate Assessment stage.

7.3 The three objectives are screened in, with Likely Significant Effects for cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from new housing development, are:

- Objective 8: To improve Bootle Town Centre and the Strand shopping centre to consolidate its position as the main focus of shopping, leisure, cultural, community and other uses for Bootle’s residents and those in the wider area

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<sup>37</sup> See [CURIA - Documents \(europa.eu\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/curia/doclist/curia.do?method=docs&docid=62018CJ0323) People Over Wind and Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta (C-323/17)

- Objective 9: To bring back into beneficial use vacant land, homes, and buildings
- change responsibilities
- Objective 14: To identify, protect and, where appropriate, find suitable viable uses for Bootle’s valued built heritage.

7.4 The ten policies which are screened in for cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from new housing development are:

- BAAP3 Bootle Central Area
- BAAP4 Bootle Town Centre
- BAAP5 Bootle Office Quarter (including allocation BE6 Bootle Office Quarter)
- BAAP6 Civic and Education Quarter
- BAAP 7 Local Shopping Parades (including the following parades:
  - 1 Seaforth Rd/ Stella Precinct
  - 2 Seaforth Rd South
  - 3 Knowsley Rd
  - 4 Bridge Rd
  - 5 Linacre Rd
  - 6 Stanley Rd (Three Banks)
  - 7 Stanley Rd (Parrs Corner)
  - 8 Haris Drive
  - 9 Orrell Rd
  - 10 Ennerdale Drive
  - 11 The Crescent
  - 12 Linacre Lane
  - 13 Aintree Rd
  - 14 Hawthorne Rd/Earl Rd
  - 15 Hawthorne Rd / Park St
  - 16 Irlam Rd
  - 17 Stanley Rd/ Park St
  - 18 Bootle Village
  - 19 Stanley Rd South
  - 20 Hawthorne Rd South
  - 21 Marsh Lane
- BAAP16 Housing Land Provision (including the following sites:
  - BH1 People’s Site, Linacre Lane
  - BH2 Coffee House Bridge
  - BH3 Site of the former Bootle Gas Works
  - BH4 Site of Litherland House, Litherland Rd
  - BH5 Site of the former Johnsons Cleaners
  - BH6 503-509 Hawthorne Rd, Bootle
- BAAP19 Conversions to Flats and Homes in Multiple Occupation
- BAAP20 Hawthorne Road/Canal Corridor Opportunity Area including:
  - BH1 Peoples sites
  - BH3 Site of the former Bootle Gas Works
  - BH4 Site of Litherland House, Litherland Rd
  - BH6 503-509 Hawthorne Rd

And the BAAP12 Bootle Employment Designation:

- BE3 Hawthorne Rd/Aintree Rd (assessed here as part of BAAP12)
- And the following Regeneration Opportunity Areas:
- BR1 Land to Northwest of Linacre Lane and Hawthorne Road Junction
  - BR2 Land South of Linacre Lane between Hawthorne Road and Canal
  - BR3 Land between Hawthorne Road and Vaux Crescent/Place
- BAAP21 Bootle Village Opportunity Area
  - BAAP23 Coffee House Bridge Regeneration Opportunity Area (Includes housing site BH2 Coffee House Bridge).
- 7.5 As set out in chapter 2 above, the approach to mitigation already set out in response to the HRA Reports for the Sefton Local Plan is able to provide sufficient mitigation for the impacts of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast; mitigating the impacts of both these objective (as implemented through policies) and policies so that they are less than significant.
- 7.6 The 2015 and 2016 HRA Reports for the Sefton Local Plan identify the potential for new housing development in Sefton to increase recreation pressure on the internationally important nature sites on the Sefton Coast; and the need to mitigate this pressure to less than significant. Similar issues arise for the other LCR authorities and West Lancashire, for both the Sefton Coast and the wider LCR coast. The HRAs for all of the LCR and West Lancashire Local Plans require applicants for new housing to show how they will mitigate for the additional recreation pressure on the LCR coast to less than significant, so that the Council can carry out project level HRAs for each relevant planning application.
- 7.7 As an interim response to this, Sefton Council adopted the ‘Information Note: Managing and mitigating the impact of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast – Sefton’s Interim Approach for housing development’<sup>38</sup> in May 2023. This sets out mitigation measures for visitor pressure from development of 10 or more homes in Sefton, and is supported by Natural England. This is an interim approach pending collection of further evidence and future agreement of a LCR and West Lancashire Recreation Mitigation Strategy approach, as a response to the HRAs of their Local Plans, as above. Work on this joint strategic approach is underway<sup>39</sup>. Consultation on the scope<sup>40</sup> of a joint Recreation Mitigation Strategy Supplementary Planning Document took place from 14<sup>th</sup> August until Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2023.
- 7.8 It is considered firstly that this Sefton Interim Approach, and subsequently the joint LCR and West Lancashire strategic approach, should continue to be applied to all housing development of 10 or more homes (or as otherwise set out in the strategic approach) threshold) in Bootle arising from the above objectives and policies. Secondly, it is considered that this provides sufficient mitigation for the impacts of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast; mitigating the impacts so that they are less than significant. Natural England concur with this view.

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<sup>38</sup> See <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4485/hrarecpressureinfonotemay2023.pdf>

<sup>39</sup> See <http://www.meas.org.uk/1383>

<sup>40</sup> See <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning-policy-including-local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/recreation-mitigation-strategy/>

- 7.9 In March 2023 Natural England were consulted on the Screening and Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of the Bootle Area Action Plan Issues and Options, and in May 2023 on the Bootle Area Action Plan Preferred Options. Their responses are shown in chapter 8. In summary, Natural England supports the inclusion of the Sefton Interim Approach to mitigate for recreational disturbance impacts.
- 7.10 Therefore it is recommended that the Sefton Interim Approach, and subsequently the joint LCR and West Lancashire strategic approach, should continue to be applied to all housing development of 10 or more homes (or as otherwise set out in the strategic approach) threshold) in Bootle arising from these objectives and policies, and to provide all necessary mitigation for the cumulative impacts of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast from housing development.

## 8. Consultation

- 8.1 In May 2023 the Council consulted Natural England on the unpublished Draft Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report. Natural England provided comments on 14 June 2023 and said:

***“Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)***

*We have reviewed the submitted HRA Screening Report (May 2023) for the Bootle Area Action Plan. Your assessment concludes that your authority cannot rule out the likelihood of significant effects arising from the plan, either alone or in-combination. On the basis of the information provided, Natural England concurs with this view. Natural England therefore advise that an appropriate assessment must now be undertaken. An appropriate assessment should now be undertaken, in order to assess the implications of the plan for the European sites, in view of the site conservation objectives. Natural England is a statutory consultee at the appropriate assessment stage of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process.*

***Sefton Interim Approach***

*We note that Figure 6.1 makes reference to the existing Sefton Interim Approach to recreational disturbance mitigation and we agree that alignment with this approach will provide the necessary measures required to mitigate any recreational impacts resulting from Bootle Area Action Plan”.*

- 8.2 On 26 January 2024, Natural England provided comments on the unpublished first Draft HRA Report for Bootle AAP (Preferred Option) and said:

*“Your appropriate assessment concludes that your authority is able to ascertain that the BAAP will not result in adverse effects on the integrity of any of the sites in question. Having considered the assessment, and the measures proposed to mitigate for any adverse effects, it is the advice of Natural England that the assessment does not currently provide enough information and/or certainty to justify the assessment conclusion at this stage, and that further information is required.*

*Natural England has the following comments to make regarding the draft HRA and the additional assessment required:*

***Air quality impacts***

*Natural England note that the HRA screening considers the potential for impacts on designated sites via the reduction in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution. The HRA concludes no likely significant effects (LSE), with reference to the scale of the development, and the plans emphasis on active, public, and low-emission transport. Whilst we agree that the BAAP’s emphasis on encouraging active travel and public transport use, and the distance between the designated sites and policy areas will limit air quality impacts, we advise that further information is required to support the conclusion of no LSE. We note within Figure 7.2, the conclusion that policies “would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements*

*per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day”. We advise that suitable evidence should be provided to support this conclusion.*

*Natural England advise that the methodology employed within the Sefton Local Plan HRA (titled Sefton Local Plan including Strategic Site Allocation Habitats Regulations Assessment, January 2015)<sup>1</sup> to assess air quality impacts to designated sites should be employed in this assessment. This should include explicit reference to major roads that lie within 200m of designated sites and the increased demand on those roads that BAAP policies may cause, thus supporting the conclusion that BAAP policies will not impact designated sites via increase traffic flows on roads.*

#### **Recreational Disturbance Impacts**

*Natural England supports the inclusion of the Sefton Interim Approach to mitigate for recreational disturbance impacts.*

#### **In-combination assessment**

*Natural England agree that the in-combination assessment should be proportionate to the plan, but that considerations should be targeted to specific impacts, such as air quality. We advise that, if following a more detailed assessment of air quality impacts the assessment concludes no adverse impact alone, then further consideration should be given to any of the listed plans or projects that could potentially act in combination to result in an adverse effect.*

#### **Appropriate Assessment – Reference to designated sites**

*An appropriate assessment should include a summary of the screening process indicating those elements of the plan considered to have a likely significant effect on the qualifying features of a European site and that will be subject to appropriate assessment. We advise that it would be useful to reference those European sites within the appropriate assessment, for completeness”.*

8.3 Sefton Council has taken on board these Natural England comments in this HRA Report for Bootle AAP (Publication Draft), to respond to these Natural England concerns. In particular:

- Air quality impacts – a much more detailed assessment and justification has been included, in relation to Area Action Plan policies and sites (new mapping, and policies, the continuing role of Local Plan policy NH2 ‘Nature’, and ‘in combination’ effects, notably in relation to the Sefton Local Plan and Liverpool Local Plan
- In combination assessment - a much more detailed assessment and justification has been included, including extensive ‘in combination’ assessments in relation to reductions in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant), disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) and reductions in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions)
- Greater reference in the Appropriate Assessment to the relevant designated sites.
- Other changes to provide fuller information and for clarity

8.4 The Council has consulted Natural England on the Draft HRA Report for the Bootle Area Action Plan Publication Draft. Natural England are the statutory body for the purposes of HRA. The table below provides Natural England’s response, which is also attached at Appendix 4.

Statutory Body	Comments
Natural England	<p>We welcome the opportunity to comment on the draft Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the Publication Draft stage of the Bootle Area Action Plan (BAAP).</p> <p><b>Habitats Regulations Assessment</b></p> <p>Natural England notes that your authority, as competent authority, has undertaken an appropriate assessment of the BAAP in accordance with regulation 63 of the Conservation of Species and Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended). Natural England is a statutory consultee on the appropriate assessment stage of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process, and a competent authority should have regard to Natural England’s advice.</p> <p>Your appropriate assessment concludes that your authority is able to ascertain that the plan will not result in adverse effects on the integrity of any of the sites in question. Having considered the assessment, and the measures proposed to mitigate for all identified adverse effects that could potentially occur as a result of the plan, Natural England advises that <b>we concur with the assessment conclusions.</b></p>



## 9. Recommendations and Conclusions

### *Recommendations*

- 9.1 Recommendations from earlier chapters are that:
- A. The impact pathways for water quality, disturbance and air quality are screened out as having no Likely Significant Effects for the Publication Draft Bootle Area Action Plan.
  - B. Consequently, Appropriate Assessment of the objectives and policies of Bootle Area Action Plan would only be needed to assess the pathway for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development.
  - C. The Sefton Interim Approach, and subsequently the joint LCR and West Lancashire strategic approach, should continue to be applied to all housing development of 10 or more homes in Bootle (or as otherwise set out in the strategic approach) to provide all necessary mitigation for the cumulative impacts of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast from housing development arising from the Bootle Area Action Plan and ‘in combination’, mitigating this to less than significant.

### *Conclusions*

- 9.2 It should be noted that Sefton Council considers that that quantum of development set out in the Bootle Action Area Plan will not be significantly different from that set out for the area in the Sefton Local Plan and Joint Waste Plan.
- 9.3 It is concluded that, in line with Chapter 3 of this Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report for the Bootle Area Action Plan, the following European sites are relevant to the Bootle Area Action Plan HRA process:
- Within (or partly within) Sefton*
    - Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site
    - Ribble and Alt Estuaries Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar site
    - Sefton Coast Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
  - Outside Sefton*
    - Liverpool Bay SPA.
- 9.4 Chapter 4 identifies the principal other plans and projects to be considered ‘in combination’ with the Bootle Action Area Plan. It is concluded that these include the Mersey Ports/ Peel Ports Masterplan, Sandon Dock Waste Water Treatment Works outfall extension, New Everton Stadium, Bramley Moore Dock, Liverpool, the adopted or emerging Local Plans of all the Liverpool City Region districts and West Lancashire and the emerging Spatial Development Strategy of the Combined Authority.
- 9.5 Chapter 5 screens potential impact pathways, and concludes that the following potential impact pathways for these European sites cannot be screened out at this stage:

- Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development (local population growth or relocation)
- Reduction in water quality (due to increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant input arising largely from works to contaminated or previously developed land which may affect groundwater or combined sewer discharges)
- Disturbance to qualifying species - visual and noise disturbance (due to construction activities, artificial lighting, other urban development)
- Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (largely from transport emissions).

9.6 However, Chapter 5 also concludes that other certain potential impact pathways are screened out, because of the inland location of the Bootle Action Area Plan or the limited scope of Action Area Plan policies. This screening out refers to both the Bootle AAP and ‘in combination’ effects of other plans and projects. These screened out impact pathways are:

- Coastal squeeze (Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar, Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar)
- Direct habitat loss through expansion of the Port at Seaforth (Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar)
- Direct habitat loss through mineral extraction (Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar, Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar)
- Loss of habitat / supporting habitat outside the national site network site boundary (Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar, Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar)
- Dredging and disturbance of sediments/benthic habitats (Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar, Liverpool Bay SPA (following Port expansion)).

9.7 For the ‘screened in’ impact pathways, the Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) has been carried out for Bootle Area Action Plan objectives and policies including site allocations, as set out in chapter 6)).

9.8 As set out in chapter 6, the TOLSE shows that all objectives and policies were screened out, with no Likely Significant Effects, in relation to the pathways for reductions in water quality, disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) or reductions in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution. These findings of no Likely Significant Effects refer to both the Bootle AAP and ‘in combination’ effects of other plans and projects.

9.9 The only impact pathway for which some objectives and policies were screened in with Likely Significant Effects is cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from new housing development. This is screened in for Likely Significant Effects for Bootle Area Action Plan and ‘in combination’ with the Local Plans of other LCR authorities and West Lancashire.

9.10 Chapter 6 includes extensive assessment and justification of the conclusion of no Likely Significant Effects in relation to the impact pathway for reductions in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant). This is relevant to the Sefton

Coast SAC, Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar site, Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA/Ramsar and Liverpool Bay SPA.

- 9.11 Development in the Plan area would be on previously developed sites/ conversions of existing buildings. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' will still apply throughout the AAP area and would manage surface water discharge rates and volumes to at or below existing or reduced rates and volumes. For foul sewerage and flows, Local Plan IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' also applies. This requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes), so that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant. Local Plan policy EQ4 'Pollution and Hazards' sets out the over-arching requirement for mitigation of any adverse impacts from water and other pollution on European sites.
- 9.12 The HRA Report into the Sefton Local Plan indicated that impacts on water quality would be less than significant. The HRA of Liverpool Local Plan looked at policy mitigations and arrived at the same conclusions for each of these European sites. This takes account of in combination effects, such as impacts of the Sandon Dock WasteWater Treatment Works (WwTW) outfall extension on the Wirral part of the Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar, and Peel Ports Masterplan. Everton Stadium was subject to project HRA, and proposals include mitigation measures for any adverse impacts identified through the project HRA.
- 9.13 Therefore, it is concluded that there are no Likely Significant Effects on water quality from Bootle AAP or 'in combination'. Natural England concur with this assessment.
- 9.14 Chapter 6 includes extensive assessment and justification of the conclusion of no Likely Significant Effects in relation to the impact pathway for disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance). This is relevant to the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar, Mersey Narrows SPA/Ramsar and Liverpool Bay SPA.
- 9.15 All of the allocated and designated sites and opportunity areas for (re)development are within the existing built-up area. They are at considerable distance from the European sites – most are at least 2 km distant (closest straight-line distance). The scale and phasing of such (re)development is relatively limited. For closer sites, such as two Local Shopping Parades, the scale of any likely redevelopment would be limited. Within larger spatial priority areas, such as Hawthorne Road/Canal Corridor Opportunity Area (BAAP20) and Bootle Central Area (BAAP3) Bootle Central Area, each site is likely to be developed individually, rather than development of all sites at the same time. Within each site, larger-scale development is likely to be phased over several years. Therefore, there are no Likely Significant Effects for disturbance in relation to Bootle AAP.
- 9.16 The 2015 HRA Report for the Sefton Local Plan did not identify a disturbance pathway in relation to the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site or Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site. Development sites in the Plan, including those in the AAP area, were considered to have no disturbance impacts. For Liverpool Bay SPA, potential impacts related only to Port expansion. These impacts were mitigated, as set out in Local Plan policy ED1 'The Port and Maritime Zone', leading to a conclusion of no likely significant effects. As above, the Port is not within the scope of

Bootle AAP. The 2017 HRA Report for the Liverpool Local Plan also did not identify a disturbance pathway in relation to the Sefton Coast SAC or Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA / Ramsar site. It considered airport disturbance impacts on the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar, and wind turbines and Port expansion, and concluded no Likely Significant Effects / adverse effects respectively. Everton Stadium was subject to project HRA, and proposals include mitigation measures for any adverse impacts identified through the project HRA.

- 9.17 Therefore, it is concluded that there are no Likely Significant Effects on disturbance from Bootle AAP or ‘in combination’. Natural England concur with this assessment.
- 9.18 Chapter 6 includes extensive assessment and justification of the conclusion of no Likely Significant Effects in relation to the impact pathway for reductions in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions). This is relevant to the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar and Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA/Ramsar.
- 9.19 Direct assessment of the proximity of proposed development sites in the Bootle AAP area to the European sites and of the layout, functioning and flows on the main route network in the plan area has screened out all of the Bootle AAP objectives and policies are screened out in relation to the impact pathway for reductions in air quality and increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions). No part of the Bootle Action Area Plan area is within 200 m of the Sefton Coast SAC. The A565 in Crosby is over 1.15 km from the Sefton Coast SAC, and over 700m from the Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA / Ramsar site. The development sites in the plan area are even further away from the European sites; by a considerable distance, as shown in Figure 6.1. Bootle has an extensive road network, and no significant additional road capacity is proposed in the Bootle Area Action Plan. The existing main routes to the national motorway network at Switch Island (A5036; the northern boundary of the plan area), the M62 (A5058), south-north to Liverpool and Southport respectively (A565) are well established. The opening of the Brooms’ Cross link road between Switch Island and Thornton reduced through traffic on the A565 in the Crosby area.
- 9.20 The emphasis of Bootle AAP is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development on allocated and designated sites and opportunity areas is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 ‘Nature’ as the critical threshold for emissions and air pollution. The HRA Reports into the Sefton and Liverpool Local Plans resulted in both Local Plans including nature policies which make clear that proposals which are likely to include those in or within 200 metres of the SAC, and those which could increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day require site-specific (project) HRAs.
- 9.21 Sefton Local Plan policy EQ4 ‘Pollution and Hazards’ will also remain in force within Bootle Action Area Plan area. This sets out the over-arching requirement for mitigation

of any adverse air pollution impacts on European sites. While Port operations and access may also affect nitrogen deposition. However, as above, the Port and Port access is outside the area and scope of Bootle AAP. The HRA Reports into both the Sefton and Liverpool Local Plans conclude that the plans have a system of measures to minimise the contribution of the plans to any increase in nitrogen depositions with the Sefton Coast SAC and avoid any likely significant effects on the Sefton Coast SAC, and that this also applies to the Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar and Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore SPA/ Ramsar. The HRA Report for the Liverpool Local Plan concludes no likely significant effects, even from ports or airport expansion, for either SPA/ Ramsar site. In summary, therefore, there are no 'in combination' effects in relation to air quality arising from the Sefton Local Plan, Liverpool Local Plan or Wirral Local Plan.

9.22 Therefore, it is concluded that there are no Likely Significant Effects on air quality from Bootle AAP or 'in combination'. Natural England concur with this assessment.

9.23 The TOLSE shows that 11 of Plan [objectives](#) are screened out, with no Likely Significant Effects on any of the potential pathways. These are objective 1 (housing), objective 2 (energy efficiency), objective 4 (control of conversions to Homes in Multiple Occupation), objective 5 (economic growth), objective 6 (jobs and training), objective 7 (amenity), objective 10 (green infrastructure), objective 11 (health), objective 12 (design) and objective 13 (climate change). Fourteen of the 24 Plan policies are screened out with no Likely Significant Effects on any of the potential pathways. The screened out policies are:

- BAAP1 Design
- BAAP2 Best Use of Resources
- BAAP8 Getting Around
- BAAP9 Nature
- BAAP10 Healthy Bootle
- BAAP11 Parks, Public Open Space and Playing Fields
- BAAP12 Employment Land Provision
- BAAP13 Protection of Employment Land
- BAAP14 Limiting the Impact of Industry on Residents
- BAAP15 Securing Opportunities for Employment and Skills from New Development
- BAAP17 Affordable Housing and Housing Mix
- BAAP18 Housing for Older People and Supported Homes.

9.24 The 3 objectives screened in, with Likely Significant Effects for cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from new housing development are:

- Objective 8: To improve Bootle Town Centre and the Strand shopping centre to consolidate its position as the main focus of shopping, leisure, cultural, community and other uses for Bootle's residents and those in the wider area
- Objective 9: To bring back into beneficial use vacant land, homes, and buildings
- change responsibilities
- Objective 14: To identify, protect and, where appropriate, find suitable viable uses for Bootle's valued built heritage.

9.25 The 10 policies (including allocations/sites) screened in, with Likely Significant Effects for cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from new housing development are:

- BAAP3 Bootle Central Area
- BAAP4 Bootle Town Centre
- BAAP5 Bootle Office Quarter
- BAAP6 Civic and Education Quarter
- BAAP 7 Local Shopping Parades
- BAAP16 Housing Land Provision
- BAAP19 Conversions to Flats and Homes in Multiple Occupation
- BAAP20 Hawthorne Road/Canal Corridor Opportunity Area
- BAAP21 Bootle Village Opportunity Area
- BAAP23 Coffee House Bridge Regeneration Opportunity Area.

This is in relation to Bootle AAP and ‘in combination’ with other Local Plans in the Liverpool City Region and West Lancashire.

9.26 Appropriate Assessment of these objectives and policies has been carried out, as set out in chapter 7, in relation to recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar and Liverpool Bay SPA. This shows that the approach to mitigation already set out in response to the HRA Reports for the Sefton Local Plan is able to provide sufficient mitigation for the impacts of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast; mitigating the impacts so that they are less than significant. Natural England concur with this view.

9.27 This approach to mitigation is set out in Sefton Council’s ‘Information Note: Managing and mitigating the impact of recreation pressure on the Sefton Coast - Sefton’s Interim Approach for housing development’<sup>41</sup>, adopted in May 2023. This sets out mitigation measures for visitor pressure from development of 10 or more homes in Sefton (or as otherwise set out in the strategic approach), and is supported by Natural England. This is an interim approach pending collection of further evidence and future agreement of a LCR and West Lancashire Recreation Mitigation Strategy approach, as a response to the HRAs of their Local Plans, as above. Work on this joint strategic approach is underway.

9.28 The Appropriate Assessment concludes that, with the above mitigation measures, there will be no adverse effect upon the integrity of the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar and Liverpool Bay SPA. In relation to recreation pressure. Overall, taking account of these mitigation measures the Bootle AAP alone and ‘in combination’ will have no impact in terms of any pathways on the Sefton Coast SAC, Ribble & Alt Estuaries SPA/Ramsar, Mersey Narrows & North Wirral Foreshore SPA/Ramsar and Liverpool Bay SPA. Natural England concur with this assessment.

**9.29 The overall conclusion is that, with the agreed mitigation measures for recreation pressure, the Bootle Area Action Plan (Publication Draft) is unlikely to lead to a significant effect on European sites either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. Natural England concur with this.**

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<sup>41</sup> See <https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4485/hrarecpressureinfonotemay2023.pdf>

## 10. References

**EU Habitats Directive European Council Directive 92/43/EEC** – see

[https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/habitats-directive\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/habitats-directive_en)

**EU Conservation of Wild Birds Directive 79/409/EEC** – see

[https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/birds-directive\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/birds-directive_en)

**EU Guidance document on assessment of plans and projects in relation to Natura 2000 sites (EU, 2013)** – see [CURIA - Documents \(europa.eu\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32013G0001)

**People Over Wind and Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta (C-323/17)** 2018 European Court of Justice Ruling – see [CURIA - Documents \(europa.eu\)](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:62017CJ0323)

**Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the Habitats Regulations)**, HM Government – see [The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukdsi/2010/1231014000000001/eng/full/text.html)

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**National Planning Policy Framework 2023** – see

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<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/notice-of-designation-of-sensitive-catchment-areas-2024/notice-of-designation-of-sensitive-catchment-areas-2024>

**Adastral New Town Ltd (NANT) v Suffolk Coastal District Council Court of Appeal**, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2015 – see [Court of Appeal Judgment Template \(eastsuffolk.gov.uk\)](https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/court-of-appeal-judgment-template)

**Devon Wildlife Trust R c Teignbridge District Council High Court Judgement**, 28<sup>th</sup> July 2015 – see [Devon Wildlife Trust, R \(On the Application Of\) v Teignbridge District Council \[2015\] EWHC 2159 \(Admin\) \(28 July 2015\) \(bailii.org\)](https://www.bailii.org/uk/other/whc/judgments/devon-wildlife-trust-r-c-teignbridge-district-council-2015-ewhc-2159-admin.html)

**Natural England’s Site Improvement Plan: Liverpool Bay** (accessed 28/2/24) - see

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**Liverpool Cruise Terminal potential expansion** - see <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-merseyside-68721476>

**Mersey Ports Draft Masterplan 2011** – see [Mersey Ports Master Plan Executive Summary \(sefton.gov.uk\)](https://www.sefton.gov.uk/mersey-ports-master-plan-executive-summary) for Executive Summary

**Mersey Tidal Power** – see [Mersey Tidal Power project forges close links with world’s largest tidal operator | Liverpool City Region Combined Authority - News \(liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/news/mersey-tidal-power-project-forges-close-links-with-worlds-largest-tidal-operator)

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**Emerging Liverpool City Region Spatial Development Strategy**, Liverpool City Region Combined Authority – see [Spatial Development Strategy | Liverpool City Region Combined Authority \(liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk\)](https://liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk/spatial-development-strategy)

**Emerging LCR Recreation Mitigation Strategy** – see <http://www.meas.org.uk/1383>

**Merseyside and Halton Joint Waste Plan (adopted 2013)** – see [Waste Local Plan \(sefton.gov.uk\)](https://sefton.gov.uk/waste-local-plan)

**Sefton Local Development Scheme (2023)** – see [local-development-scheme2023\\_26-june2023.pdf \(sefton.gov.uk\)](https://sefton.gov.uk/local-development-scheme2023_26-june2023.pdf)

**Bootle Action Area Plan Issues and Options (Nov 2021)** – see

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4863/bootle-aap-issues-and-options-main-document.pdf>

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- **Natural England comments on this unpublished HRA Report** – see Appendix 2 of this current document

**Bootle Area Action Plan Preferred Options (July 2023)** – see

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<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/media/4485/hrarecpressureinfontemay2023.pdf>

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<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/planning-building-control/planning-policy-including-local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/evidence-and-studies/housing/>

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**Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan (adopted 2022)** – see [DALP Adopted.pdf \(halton.gov.uk\)](https://www.halton.gov.uk/dalp-adopted.pdf)

- **HRA of the Halton Delivery and Allocations Local Plan 2021** (AECOM) – see [Isla Hoffmann Heap Report Halton Local Plan 2014-2037; Revised Core Strategy Policies and Delivery Allocations Publication Document: Habitats Regulation Assessment 2017-11-22](https://www.halton.gov.uk/media/2021/hra-halton-local-plan-2021.pdf)

**Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy (adopted 2016)** - see [Knowsley Local Plan: Core Strategy](https://www.knowsley.gov.uk/core-strategy)



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**Liverpool Local Plan** (adopted 2022) – see [The Liverpool Local Plan 2013–2033 - Liverpool City Council](#)

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- **HRA of the St Helens Local Plan 2018 (AECOM)** – see [Isla Hoffmann-Heap Report St Helens Local Plan 2018-2033 Preferred Options December 2016 2016-11-15](#)
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**Appendix 1: Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) for Objectives in Bootle AAP Publication Draft**

<b>Appendix 1 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) for Objectives in Bootle AAP Publication Version</b>					
<b>Bootle AAP Objective</b>	<b>Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions): Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr</b>	<b>Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)</b>
Obj 1: To meet the housing needs of Bootle’s residents in a way that is safe and secure including affordable and aspirational housing, homes for families, older people, and people with special needs	LSE (cumulative impact) as objective allows new housing / conversions. No LSE from re-occupation of existing homes.	No LSE. Sites are previously developed. Allocated and existing housing sites are developed ground. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No LSE. Allocated and existing sites are too small in scale and/or too far from the Coast for this to be a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive existing road network. No significant additional road capacity is proposed.	No LSE. No impact pathways identified.
Obj 2: To ensure new buildings are resource efficient to help reduce running costs and fuel poverty and to support	Objective emphasises design measures, which may have positive effects on the wider environment. Objective and related policies have no impact pathways or LSE.				No impact pathways or LSE from this objective, although it may have a positive effect on the environment.

<b>Appendix 1 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) for Objectives in Bootle AAP Publication Version</b>					
<b>Bootle AAP Objective</b>	<b>Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions): Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr</b>	<b>Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)</b>
the retrofitting of existing homes and buildings with energy efficiency measures					
Obj 3: To prevent the building and conversion of poor-quality houses, flats and homes in multiple occupation that fail to provide a suitable and secure homes or integrate with the community	Objective emphasises design measures, which may have positive effects on the wider environment. Objective and related policies have no impact pathways or LSE.				No impact pathways or LSE from this objective, although it may have a positive effect on the environment.
Obj 4: To ensure that existing and future residents have access to a wide range of easily accessible and high-quality services and facilities with all key facilities and services within a short, safe and attractive walk or cycle ride.	This 'good accessibility' Objective is not considered to have LSE on levels of recreational pressure on the European sites.	No LSE. Sites are previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge	No LSE. It is considered that any impacts would be very small and localised.	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive existing road network. No significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport.	No LSE. No impact pathways identified.

<b>Appendix 1 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) for Objectives in Bootle AAP Publication Version</b>					
<b>Bootle AAP Objective</b>	<b>Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:  Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions): Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr</b>	<b>Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)</b>
		into combined sewers would not be significant.			
Obj 5. To make land, premises and infrastructure available for sustainable economic growth that enables Bootle to build upon its excellent location in the city region, on the coast and close to the motorway and rail network.	No LSE, as objective focuses on employment rather than residential development.	No LSE. Employment sites are previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No LSE. Allocated and existing sites are too small in scale and/or too far from the Coast for this to be a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network. No significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	No LSE. No impact pathways identified.

<b>Appendix 1 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) for Objectives in Bootle AAP Publication Version</b>					
<b>Bootle AAP Objective</b>	<b>Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions): Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr</b>	<b>Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)</b>
Obj 6. To provide good quality, secure jobs, training and business opportunities for Bootle’s residents	No impact pathways or LSE.				No impact pathways or LSE.
Obj 7. To put measures in place to prevent, reduce and mitigate the harm that business and commercial activity can have on residential amenity and quality of life	Objective emphasises development management policies, which may have positive effects on the wider environment. Objective and related policies have no impact pathways or LSE.				No impact pathways or LSE from this objective, although it may have a positive effect on the environment.
Obj 8: To improve Bootle Town Centre and the Strand shopping centre to consolidate its position as the main focus of shopping, leisure, cultural, community and other uses for Bootle’s residents and those in the wider area	LSE (cumulative impact) only if policy approach allows new housing / conversions within Bootle Town Centre.	No LSE. Sites in Bootle Town Centre and the Strand shopping centre are developed ground. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including	No LSE. Bootle Town Centre is at the heart of the urban area, too far from the Coast for this to be a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network, and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport.	LSE for cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from housing.

<b>Appendix 1 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) for Objectives in Bootle AAP Publication Version</b>					
<b>Bootle AAP Objective</b>	<b>Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions): Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr</b>	<b>Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)</b>
		retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.			
Obj 9: To bring back into beneficial use vacant land, homes and buildings	LSE (cumulative impact) only if policy approach allows new housing / conversions though not from re-occupation of existing homes.	No LSE. It is anticipated that all employment sites are previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No LSE. Allocated and existing sites are too small in scale and/or too far from the Coast for this to be a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network, and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport.	LSE for cumulative recreational pressure /disturbance from housing.
Obj 10: To protect and enhance green infrastructure and nature, as part of a high	Objective and related policies may have positive effects on nature and the wider environment. Objective and related policies have no impact pathways or LSE.				No impact pathways or LSE from this objective, although it may have a

<b>Appendix 1 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) for Objectives in Bootle AAP Publication Version</b>					
<b>Bootle AAP Objective</b>	<b>Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions): Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr</b>	<b>Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)</b>
quality environment for Bootle, including identifying locations for tree planting, landscaping and ecological improvements					positive effect on ecology and the environment.
Obj 11: To make Bootle a healthier place to live and to provide an environment that enables residents to live a healthier lifestyle	Objective and related policies have no impact pathways or LSE.				No impact pathways or LSE.
Obj 12 To set high standards of design for new buildings, infrastructure and spaces that complement and improve the places that make Bootle special and which help design out crime and anti-social behaviour	Objective emphasises design measures, which may have positive effects on the wider environment. Objective and related policies have no impact pathways or LSE.				No impact pathways or LSE from this objective, although it may have a positive effect on the environment.
Obj 13: To set standards in new development that help the Council respond to the challenge of climate change	No impact pathways or LSE.			No LSE. Potential positive impacts from reductions in emissions.	No impact pathways or LSE. Likely positive impacts improving air quality.

<b>Appendix 1 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) for Objectives in Bootle AAP Publication Version</b>					
<b>Bootle AAP Objective</b>	<b>Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re: Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA</b>	<b>Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions): Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr</b>	<b>Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)</b>
Obj 14: To identify, protect and, where appropriate, find suitable viable uses for Bootle’s valued built heritage.	LSE (cumulative impact) only if policy approach allows new housing / conversions of heritage assets.	No LSE. Built-heritage comprises previously developed sites. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No LSE. Heritage assets are too small in scale and/or too far from the Coast for this to be a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport.	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure/disturbance if net new housing development / conversions allowed in heritage assets.
Obj 15: to recognise the needs and potential of children and young people in regeneration and place-making in Bootle	No impact pathways or LSE.				No impact pathways or LSE.



**Appendix 2: Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies**

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
<b>BAAP1 Design</b>	No impact pathway or LSE, although the policy may have a positive effect on the wider environment.	Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No impact pathway or LSE, although the policy may have a positive effect on the wider environment.		No impact pathways or LSE.
<b>BAAP2 Best Use of Resources</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. Policy emphasises design measures and re-use of existing resources where possible, which may have positive effects on the wider environment.				No impact pathways or LSE.
<b>BAAP3 Bootle Central Area</b>	LSE (cumulative impact) only if policy approach allows new housing / conversions within Bootle Central Area.	No LSE. These are previously developed sites. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and	No LSE. Overall redevelopment is relatively small in scale and phased. Bootle Central Area is at the heart of the urban area at some distance (around 2.5 km) from European	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network, and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance if net new housing development / conversions is allowed in Bootle Central Area.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	sites. Scale and distance mean that this is not a realistic impact pathway.	encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as the Central Area is around 2.5 km from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<b>BAAP4 Bootle Town Centre</b>	LSE (cumulative impact) only if policy approach allows new housing / conversions within Bootle Town Centre.	No LSE. These are previously developed sites. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce	No LSE. Overall redevelopment is relatively small in scale and phased. Bootle Town Centre is at the heart of	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance if net new housing development /

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	the urban area at some distance from European sites. Scale of (re)development and distance mean that this is not a realistic impact pathway.	and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC.	conversions is allowed in Bootle Central Area.
<b>BAAP5 Bootle Office Quarter</b> • (and allocation BE6 Bootle Office Quarter in policy BAAP12 Employment Land Provision)	LSE (cumulative impact). only if policy approach allows new housing / conversions within existing office buildings	No LSE. These are previously developed sites. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including	No LSE. Within heart of urban area. Over 2.5 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3.5 km from SC SAC & RAE SPA/Ramsar. Scale of (re)development and distance mean that this is not a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance if net new housing development / conversions is allowed in Bootle Office Quarter.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.		(re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC.	
<b>BAAP6 Civic and Education Quarter</b>	LSE (cumulative impact) only if policy approach allows new housing / conversions within existing the Civic and Education Quarter.	No LSE. These are previously developed sites. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No LSE. Within heart of urban area. Over 2 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3 km from SC SAC & RAE SPA/Ramsar. Scale of (re)development and distance mean that this is not a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance if net new housing development / conversions is allowed in the Civic and Education Quarter.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
				roads within 200 m of the SAC.	
<b>BAAP 7 Local Shopping Parades</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Seaforth Rd/ Stella Precinct</li> <li>• 2 Seaforth Rd South</li> <li>• 3 Knowsley Rd</li> <li>• 4 Bridge Rd</li> <li>• 5 Linacre Rd</li> <li>• 6 Stanley Rd (Three Banks)</li> <li>• 7 Stanley Rd (Parrs Corner)</li> <li>• 8 Haris Drive</li> <li>• 9 Orrell Rd</li> <li>• 10 Ennerdale Drive</li> <li>• 11 The Crescent</li> <li>• 12 Linacre Lane</li> <li>• 13 Aintree Rd</li> <li>• 14 Hawthorne Rd/Earl Rd</li> <li>• 15 Hawthorne Rd / Park St</li> <li>• 16 Irlam Rd</li> <li>• 17 Stanley Rd/ Park St</li> </ul>	LSE (cumulative impact) only if policy approach allows new housing / conversions within Local Shopping Parades.	No LSE. These are previously developed sites; much development would be conversions of existing premises. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No LSE. Even the closest parades (1 Seaforth Rd / Stella Precinct and 2 Seaforth Rd South are around 0.75 km (at their closest) from the European Sites. Limited scale of any likely redevelopment and distance of Local Shopping Parades from the European sites would mean that any impacts would be not be significant.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant.	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance if net new housing development / conversions allowed in Local Shopping Parades.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 18 Bootle Village</li> <li>• 19 Stanley Rd South</li> <li>• 20 Hawthorne Rd South</li> <li>• 21 Marsh Lane</li> </ul>					
<b>BAAP8 Getting Around</b>	The policy and identification of a Bootle-wide priority route network (Figure 14) for protection and improvement for all means of travel is not considered to have an LSE on levels of recreational pressure on the European sites.	No LSE. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage systems and to reduce surface water discharge through development 'brownfield land'. No foul sewerage is envisaged.	No LSE. It is considered that any impacts would be very insignificant and localised, and away from the European sites.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty	No impact pathways or LSE.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
				vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<b>BAAP9 Nature</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. Policy likely to have positive effects on nature and the wider environment.				Part 3 of policy BAAP9 says that “3. All relevant development proposals must adhere to the Council’s approach to the mitigation and management of recreation pressure on the internationally important nature sites on the Sefton Coast, in line with Local Plan Policy NH1 and NH2 and to meet the legal requirements set out in the Habitats Regulations”, and the explanation now sets out more information about this. It is considered that there are no impact pathways or LSE, although policy is likely to have a positive effect on

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
					ecology and the wider environment.
<b>BAAP10 Healthy Bootle</b>	No impact pathways or LSE.			No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport.	No impact pathways or LSE.
<b>BAAP11 Parks, Public Open Space and Playing Fields</b>	Policy likely to have positive effects on nature and the wider environment. No impact pathways or LSE.				No impact pathways or LSE, although policy is likely to have a positive effect on ecology and the environment.
<b>BAAP12 Employment Land Provision</b> Sites: • BE1 Canal St/ Berry St • BE2 Maritime Enterprise Park • BE3 Hawthorne Rd/Aintree Rd	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy deals only with a range of employment uses and does not refer to residential development. These employment uses are	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of	The policy sets out the total size of each site and the amount of land available for development. Of the sites closest to the European Sites, BE1 Canal St/Berry St (over 2.4 km away) has	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on	No impact pathways or LSE.



Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BE4 Kingfisher/Orrrell Mount</li> <li>• BE5 Land between Regent Road and A565</li> <li>• BE6 Bridle Road</li> <li>• BE7 Bootle Office Quarter</li> <li>• BE8 Atlantic Park</li> <li>• BE9 Senate Business Park</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>general industrial, storage and distribution, and industrial processes, offices including research and development and financial or professional services.</p>	<p>‘brownfield land’. IN1 ‘Infrastructure and developer contributions’ requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.</p>	<p>1.14 ha of its 17.2 ha available for development. Site BE2 Maritime Enterprise Park (over 1.7 km away) has 0.41 ha of its 12.7 ha available for development. Site BE5 Land between Regent Road and A565 (closest part of a linear site is over 1.2 km away) has 0.98 ha of its 20.7 ha available for development. Scale of (re)development and distances mean that any impacts from this pathway will not be significant.</p>	<p>encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC given the distance of these sites from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 ‘Nature’.</p>	
<b>BAAP13 Protection of Employment Land</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy sets out a limited range of circumstances where other uses will be	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to	The policy sets out the total size of each site and the amount of land available for development. Of the sites	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network	No impact pathways or LSE.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
	permitted, and does not refer to residential development.	reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	closest to the European Sites, BE1 Canal St/Berry St (over 2.4 km away) has 1.14 ha of its 17.2 ha available for development. Site BE2 Maritime Enterprise Park (over 1.7 km away) has 0.41 ha of its 12.7 ha available for development. Site BE5 Land between Regent Road and A565 (closest part of a linear site is over 1.2 km away) has 0.98 ha of its 20.7 ha available for development. Scale of (re)development and distances mean that any impacts from this pathway will not be significant.	and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC given the distance of these sites from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
<b>BAAP14 Limiting the Impact of Industry on Residents</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. This is a development management policy which may have limited positive effects on nature, air quality, groundwater quality and soil pollution and the wider environment.				No impact pathways or LSE although policy may have a positive effect on the local environment.
<b>BAAP15 Securing Opportunities for Employment and Skills</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. This policy seeks to secure social value such as training schemes or other community benefits which would have no impact on European sites.				No impact pathways or LSE.
<b>BAAP16 Housing Land Provision</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•BH1 People’s Site, Linacre Lane</li> <li>•BH2 Coffee House Bridge</li> <li>•BH3 Site of the former Bootle Gas Works</li> <li>•BH4 Site of Litherland House, Litherland Rd</li> <li>•BH5 Site of the former Johnsons Cleaners</li> <li>•BH6 503-509 Hawthorne Rd, Bootle</li> </ul> <i>(Other sites where new housing may be part of wider development)</i>	LSE (cumulative impact) as policy will lead to new housing development /conversions.	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage systems and to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No LSE. All of the sites are within the heart of the existing urban area. The closest site, BH5 Site of the former Johnsons Cleaners, is around 1.5 km from the European Sites. The relatively limited scale of any likely redevelopment and distance of the housing sites from the European sites would mean that any impacts would be not be significant.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as sites are all more than 1.5 km or so from the SAC and would not increase traffic	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance from new housing development / conversions.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
<p><i>proposals are listed: in policy. They are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bootle Town Centre (BAAP4)</li> <li>• Bootle Office Quarter (BAAP5)</li> <li>• Local Shopping Parades (BAAP7)</li> <li>• Hawthorne Rd/ Canal Corridor (BAAP20)</li> <li>• Bootle Village (BAAP21)).</li> </ul> <p>These policies have been separately assessed, including for the potential of housing development (see Appendix 3)</p>				flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<b>BAAP17 Affordable Housing and Housing Mix</b>	No direct impact pathways or LSE. This policy relates solely to the type, not the quantum, of new housing development or conversions.				No impact pathways or LSE.
<b>BAAP18 Housing for Older People and Supported Homes</b>	No direct impact pathways or LSE. This policy sets out requirements for this specific type of housing and does not relate to the overall quantum of new housing development or conversions.				No impact pathways or LSE.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
<b>BAAP19 Conversions to Flats and Homes in Multiple Occupation</b>	LSE (cumulative impact) from any net new/converted flats and houses in multiple occupation.	No LSE. These are existing premises and sites, which would be converted. No surface water run off changes or LSE would be anticipated. In any case, Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No LSE. These sites would be within the existing urban area and relatively small in scale. Scale of development and distance from the European sites mean that this is not a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. These are existing premises and sites, and it is considered that any reduction in air quality from their conversion would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network, and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport.	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure/ disturbance from any net new/converted flats and houses in multiple occupation.
<b>BAAP20 Hawthorne Road/Canal Corridor Opportunity Area</b> •	LSE (cumulative impact) if developed for housing.	No LSE. This is previously developed land. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage	At heart of urban area. More than 3 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3.5 km from SC SAC. Each site is likely to be	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Each site is likely to be developed	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure/ disturbance from housing development.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
The housing, employment and regeneration sites and policies have been separately assessed (see Appendix 3).		systems and to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	developed individually, rather than development across the whole of the Opportunity Area at the same time. Within each site, development is likely to be phased over several years. The relatively limited scale and phasing of any likely redevelopment and distance of the Opportunity Area from the European sites would mean that impacts would not be significant.	individually, rather than development across the whole of the Opportunity Area at the same time. Within each site, development is likely to be phased over several years. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as the Opportunity Area is over 3 km from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements	

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
				per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<b>BAAP21 Bootle Village Opportunity Area</b>	LSE (cumulative impact) as the policy approach allows new housing / conversions within Bootle Village Opportunity Area.	No LSE. These are existing premises and sites, which would be converted or redeveloped. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No LSE. This is a relatively small site is at the heart of urban area, over 3 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3.5 km from SC SAC. Scale of (re)development and distance from the European sites mean that this is not a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. This is a relatively small site. Bootle has an extensive road network, and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as the Opportunity Area is over 3	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure/ disturbance from housing development.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
				km from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<b>BAAP22 Open land between Irlam Road and the Asda Store Regeneration Opportunity Area</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy refers only to range of non-residential uses.	No LSE. Historically this is a previously developed land, to be (re)developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land' and, indeed, greenfield land. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including	No LSE. This is a relatively small site is at the heart of urban area, around 2 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 2.5 km from SC SAC. Scale of (re)development and distance from the European sites mean that this is not a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. This is a relatively small site. Bootle has an extensive road network, and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development is	No impact pathways or LSE.



Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.		unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<b>BAAP23 Coffee House Bridge Regeneration Opportunity Area</b> <i>Includes housing site</i> • BH2 Coffee House Bridge	Over 3.3 km from SC SAC. LSE (cumulative impact) if developed for new housing.	No LSE. Historically this is a previously developed land, to be (re)developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land' and, indeed, greenfield land. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions'	No LSE. This is a relatively small site is at the heart of urban area, over 2.7 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3.2 km from SC SAC. Scale of (re)development and distance from the European sites mean that this is not a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. This is a relatively small site. Bootle has an extensive road network, and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport	LSE for cumulative recreational pressure/ disturbance only.

Appendix 2 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan policies					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.		and low emissions transport. The scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<b>BAAP24 Environmental Improvements</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. Policy likely to have positive effects on nature and the wider environment.				No impact pathways or LSE, although policy is likely to have a positive effect on the wider environment.

**Appendix 3: Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites**

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
<b>BAAP12 Employment Land Provision Sites:</b>					
• <b>BE1 Canal St/ Berry St</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy deals only with a range of employment uses and does not refer to residential development.	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	Over 2.4 km away from nearest European site, within urban area. Only 1.14 ha of the site's 17.2 ha is available for development; the rest of the site is already developed. Limited scale of (re)development and distances mean no LSE.	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network: no significant additional road capacity is proposed. The most direct access routes from the site to the motorway network are 0.6 km away from the closest pair of European sites; routes to Liverpool are in the opposite direction. The location and scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	No impact pathways or LSE.
• <b>BE2 Maritime Enterprise Park</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy deals only with a range of	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy	Over 1.7 km from nearest European site, within urban area.	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network: no significant additional road capacity is proposed. The most	No impact pathways or LSE.

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
	employment uses and does not refer to residential development.	EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	Only 0.41 ha of the site's 12.7 ha is available for development; the rest of the site is already developed. Limited scale of (re)development and distances mean no LSE.	direct access routes from the site to the motorway network are 0.6 km away from the closest part of European sites; routes to Liverpool are in the opposite direction. The location and scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BE3 Hawthorne Rd/Aintree Rd</b> (within Hawthorne Road/ Canal Corridor Regeneration Opportunity Area)</li> </ul>	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy deals only with a range of employment uses and does not refer to residential development.	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment	Over 2.4 km from nearest European site; within built-up area by busy road. Only 1.207 ha of site's 9.2 ha is available for development. Limited scale of (re)development and distances mean no LSE.	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network: no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Access to the motorway network is away from rather than towards the European sites (at closest, 0.6 km away from the closest European sites boundaries). The location and scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic	No impact pathways or LSE.

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.		flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
• BE4 Kingfisher/Orrrell Mount	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy deals only with a range of employment uses and does not refer to residential development.	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	More than 3 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3.5 km from SC SAC within built-up area by busy road.. Only 1.207 ha of site's 9.27 ha is available for development. Limited scale of (re)development and distances mean no LSE.	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network: no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Access to the motorway network is away from rather than towards the European sites. The location and scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	No impact pathways or LSE.
• BE5 Land between Regent Road and A565	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy deals only with a range of	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy	Within urban area. 1.4 km from MNNWF Spa/Ramsar in Sefton	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network: no significant additional road capacity is proposed. The	No impact pathways or LSE.

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
	employment uses and does not refer to residential development.	EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	(over 2 km from site in Wirral Only 0.98 ha of site's 20.7 ha is available for development. Limited scale of (re)development and distances mean no LSE.	location and scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
• <b>BE6 Bridle Road</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy deals only with a range of employment uses and does not refer to residential development.	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment	Over 3 km from nearest European site; within built-up area by busy road. Access to the motorway network is away from rather than towards the European sites. None of this site is currently available for (re) development Limited scale of	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network: no significant additional road capacity is proposed. The most direct access routes from the site to the motorway network (around 2 km away) or Liverpool are in the opposite direction to the European sites. The location and scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on	No impact pathways or LSE.

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	(re)development and distances mean no LSE.	roads within 200 m of the SAC. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
• <b>BE7 Bootle Office Quarter</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy deals only with a range of employment uses and does not refer to residential development.	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	No LSE. Within heart of urban area. Over 2.5 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar (in Wirral), over 2.9 km from SC SAC & RAE SPA/Ramsar and MNNWF SPA/Ramsar in Sefton. Only 1.49 ha of site's 13.5 ha is available for development. Scale of (re)development and distance mean that this is not a realistic impact pathway.	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network; no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The most direct access routes from the site to the motorway network or Liverpool are not close to European sites. The location and scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	No impact pathways or LSE.
• <b>BE8 Atlantic Park</b>	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy deals only with a range of	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy	No LSE. Within heart of urban area. Over 3 km from MNNWF SPA /	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network: no significant additional road capacity is proposed. The most	No impact pathways or LSE.

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
	employment uses and does not refer to residential development.	EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	Ramsar, SC SAC & RAE SPA / Ramsar. Although 17.7 ha of this 19 ha site are available for development, the distance from the European sites means that any impacts from this pathway will not be significant.	direct access routes from the site to the motorway network (around 2 km away) or Liverpool are in the opposite direction to the European sites. The location and scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
• BE9 Senate Business Park	No impact pathways or LSE. The policy deals only with a range of employment uses and does not refer to residential development.	No LSE. All employment land is previously developed. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment	No LSE. Within heart of urban area. Over 3 km from MNNWF SPA / Ramsar, SC SAC & RAE SPA / Ramsar. Although 8.98 ha of the 13.3 ha site are available for development, the distance from the European sites means that any impacts from	No LSE. Bootle has an extensive road network: no significant additional road capacity is proposed. The most direct access routes from the site to the motorway network (more than 2 km away) or Liverpool are in the opposite direction to the European sites. The location and scale of (re)development will not result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC or significantly increase traffic flows on	No impact pathways or LSE.



Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	this pathway will not be significant.	roads within 200 m of the SAC. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<b>BAAP16 Housing Land Provision:</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>BH1 People's Site, Linacre Lane</b> (within Hawthorne Road/ Canal Corridor Regeneration Opportunity Area)</li> </ul>	LSE (cumulative impact) as policy will lead to new housing development /conversions.	No LSE. This is a previously developed site. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage systems and to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	Within heart of urban area. Over 3 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar and 3.7 km from SC SAC. No LSE or significant impacts at this distance.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The location of the site and scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as sites are all more than 1.5 km or so from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance from new housing development / conversions.

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
				Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<p>• <b>BH2 Coffee House Bridge</b> (same boundary as BAAP23 Coffee House Bridge Regeneration Opportunity Area)</p>	LSE (cumulative impact) as policy will lead to new housing development.	No LSE. Part is previously developed site, part may be considered greenfield . Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage systems, to reduce surface water discharge in redevelopment of 'brownfield land' and to achieve retain greenfield discharge rates after development of greenfield sites. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	Within heart of urban area. Over 3 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar and 3.7 km from SC SAC. No LSE or significant impacts at this distance.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The location of the site and scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as sites are all more than 1.5 km or so from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance from new housing development / conversions.

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
<p>• <b>BH3 Site of the former Bootle Gas Works</b> (within Hawthorne Road/ Canal Corridor Regeneration Opportunity Area)</p>	LSE (cumulative impact) as policy will lead to new housing development / conversions.	No LSE. This is a previously developed site. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage systems and to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.	Within heart of urban area. Over 2.8 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3.3 km from SC SAC. No LSE or impact at this distance.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The location of the site and scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as sites are all more than 1.5 km or so from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance from new housing development / conversions.
<p>• <b>BH4 Site of Litherland House, Litherland Rd</b> (within Hawthorne Road/ Canal Corridor Regeneration Opportunity Area)</p>	LSE (cumulative impact) as policy will lead to new housing development / conversions.	No LSE. This is a previously developed site. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage systems and to reduce	Within heart of urban area. Over 2.9 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, 3.5 km from SC SAC. No impact at this distance.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking,	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance from new housing

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.		cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The location of the site and scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as sites are all more than 1.5 km or so from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	development / conversions.
• <b>BH5 Site of the former Johnsons Cleaners</b>	LSE (cumulative impact) as policy will lead to new housing development / conversions.	No LSE. This is a previously developed site. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage systems and to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of	At heart of urban area. Over 2 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 2.8 km from SC SAC. No impact at this distance.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The location of the site and scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as sites are all	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance from new housing development / conversions.

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant.		more than 1.5 km or so from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<p>• <b>BH6 503-509 Hawthorne Rd, Bootle</b> (within Hawthorne Road/ Canal Corridor Regeneration Opportunity Area)</p>	LSE (cumulative impact) as policy will lead to new housing development.	No LSE. This is a previously developed site. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage systems and to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge	At heart of urban area. around 2.7 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3.4 km from SC SAC. No impact at this distance.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The location of the site and scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as sites are all more than 1.5 km or so from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance from new housing development / conversions.

<b>Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites</b>					
<b>Policy</b>	<b>Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:</b>	<b>Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:</b>	<b>Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:</b>	<b>Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:</b>	<b>Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)</b>
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
		into combined sewers would not be significant.		is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<p><b>Regeneration sites in BAAP20 Hawthorne Rd / Canal Corridor Regeneration Opportunity Area:</b>                      (Suitable for a range of uses (including uses consistent with current uses) providing they are compatible with the adjacent existing and proposed residential areas, and help support regeneration in the wider area, and do not prejudice the wider area being becoming a residential neighbourhood in the longer term, and are otherwise in accordance with other policies in this AAP or the Sefton Local Plan.</p>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>BR1 Land to Northwest of Linacre Lane and Hawthorne Road Junction</b></li> </ul>	LSE (cumulative impact) if any housing development is proposed.	No LSE. This is a previously developed site. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage systems and to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant	At heart of urban area. Over 2.5 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3.1 km from SC SAC. No impact at this distance.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The location of the site and scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as sites are all more than 1.5 km or so from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance from new housing development / conversions.

Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites					
Policy	Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:	Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:	Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:	Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:	Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
				Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	
<p>• <b>BR2 Land South of Linacre Lane between Hawthorne Road and Canal</b></p>	LSE (cumulative impact) if any housing development is proposed.	No LSE. This is a previously developed site. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of sustainable drainage systems and to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant	At heart of urban area. Over 2.7 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3.4 km from SC SAC. No impact at this distance.	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The location of the site and scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as sites are all more than 1.5 km or so from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure / disturbance from new housing development / conversions.
<p>• <b>BR3 Land between Hawthorne Road</b></p>	LSE (cumulative impact) if any housing development is proposed.	No LSE. This is a previously developed site. Local Plan policy EQ8 'Flood risk and surface water' seeks use of	At heart of urban area. Over 2.9 km from MNNWF SPA/Ramsar, over 3.6 km from SC	No LSE. It is considered that any reduction in air quality would not be significant. Bootle has an extensive road network and no significant	LSE only for cumulative recreational pressure /

<b>Appendix 3 Test of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) of Bootle Area Action Plan sites</b>					
<b>Policy</b>	<b>Recreational pressure / disturbance due to housing development re:</b>	<b>Reduction in water quality (increases in sewage effluent and industrial pollutant) re:</b>	<b>Disturbance to qualifying species (visual and noise disturbance) re:</b>	<b>Reduction in air quality, increased atmospheric pollution (transport emissions) re:</b>	<b>Initial Test Of Likely Significant Effects (TOLSE) (stand-alone)</b>
	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr Liverpool Bay SPA	Sefton Coast SAC Ribble Alt SPA/Rmsr Mersey Narrows SPA/Rmsr	
<b>and Vaux Crescent/Place</b>		sustainable drainage systems and to reduce surface water discharge on redevelopment of 'brownfield land'. IN1 'Infrastructure and developer contributions' requires timely provision of wastewater treatment infrastructure (including retrofit schemes). It is considered that any increases in foul discharge into combined sewers would not be significant	SAC. No impact at this distance.	additional road capacity is proposed. Emphasis is on encouraging walking, cycling, public transport and low emissions transport. The location of the site and scale of (re)development is unlikely to result in an increase of more than 1% in nitrogen inputs into the Sefton Coast SAC as sites are all more than 1.5 km or so from the SAC and would not increase traffic flows on roads within 200 m of the SAC by over 1,000 vehicle movements per day or 200 heavy duty vehicle movements per day. This threshold is identified in the HRA of the Sefton Local Plan and in relation to policy NH2 'Nature'.	disturbance from new housing development / conversions.



## Appendix 4: Natural England comments on Draft HRA Report (Bootle Area Action Plan Publication Draft)

Date: 13 May 2024  
Our ref: 475393  
Your ref: N/A



Andrea O'Connor  
Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Customer Services  
Hombeam House  
Crewe Business Park  
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Crewe  
Cheshire  
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Andrea,

### **Draft HRA Report for Bootle Action Area Plan (Publication Draft)**

Thank you for your consultation on the above, which was received by Natural England on 08 May 2024.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

We welcome the opportunity to comment on the draft Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the Publication Draft stage of the Bootle Area Action Plan (BAAP).

### **Habitats Regulations Assessment**

Natural England notes that your authority, as competent authority, has undertaken an appropriate assessment of the BAAP in accordance with regulation 63 of the Conservation of Species and Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended). Natural England is a statutory consultee on the appropriate assessment stage of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process, and a competent authority should have regard to Natural England's advice.

Your appropriate assessment concludes that your authority is able to ascertain that the plan will not result in adverse effects on the integrity of any of the sites in question. Having considered the assessment, and the measures proposed to mitigate for all identified adverse effects that could potentially occur as a result of the plan, Natural England advises that **we concur with the assessment conclusions**.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact [REDACTED] For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

Yours sincerely,

Jacob Desmond  
Sustainable Development Lead Adviser  
Cheshire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside & Lancashire Area Team