

South Kesteven District Council Local Plan 2011- 2036 - Habitat Regulation Assessment



Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	1
APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS	1
ACTIVITIES WITH POTENTIAL TO HAVE IMPACT	2
APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY	2
1. Screening.....	2
2. Appropriate Assessment.....	2
3. Assessment of Alternative Solutions	2
4. Compensatory Measures	2
SCREENING.....	3
Task 1: Identification of the Natura 2000 sites which may be affected by Local Plan	3
Task 2: Analysis of the Natura 2000 sites which may be affected by the Local Plan.....	7
Task 3: Analysis and assessment of the plan or project	9
In-combination effects.....	11
Task 4: Conclusions	13
APPENDIX 1: NATURA 2000 SITES WITHIN SOUTH KESTEVEN.....	14
APPENDIX 1A: NATURA 2000 SITES OUTSIDE SOUTH KESTEVEN.....	17
APPENDIX 2: SITE ASSESSMENT MATRIX	20
APPENDIX 3: FRAMEWORK FOR ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL PLAN POLICIES	24

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of Appropriate Assessment (AA) or Habitat Regulation Assessments (HRA) is to assess any potential impacts that Land Use Plans will have on European Sites. The assessment must determine whether the plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site in terms of its nature conservation objectives. Where negative effects are identified other options should be examined to avoid any potential damaging effects.

European Sites are nature conservation sites designated as Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs).

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The requirement for Assessment of plans or projects affecting Natura 2000 sites is set out in the **Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC)**. Article 6(3) establishes the requirements for Assessment and states:

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

Article 6(4) goes on to discuss alternative solutions and compensatory measures. It states:

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

Natura 2000 is a Europe-wide network of sites of international importance for nature conservation, established under the European Council Directive ‘on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora’ – (92/43/EEC ‘Habitats Directive’).

This Directive has been transposed into UK law as the **Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations (1994; ‘Habitats Regulation’)**. Natura 2000 sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSAC), and Special Protection Areas (SPA) classified under the ‘Birds Directive’ (79/409/EEC).

Government policy in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that planning policies should minimise impact on biodiversity and geodiversity.

ACTIVITIES WITH POTENTIAL TO HAVE IMPACT

It is anticipated that the following activities could have significant effects upon the integrity of the SACs:

- On site development: loss of habitat
- Development nearby: disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat, air pollution caused by increased traffic movements
- Recreation activity: physical damage by trampling, noise and visual presence, by walking, driving, fishing etc, air pollution caused by increased traffic movements
- Water abstraction: water levels could be affected
- Livestock grazing: disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat
- Agricultural activity: contamination from farming operations, including run-off into waterways.

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

There are 4 stages to the Habitats Directive Assessment process set out in the European Commission guidance *“Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites – Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC”* (November 2001).

1. Screening

To identify the likely impacts of a plan or project (alone or in combination with others) upon a Natura 2000 site, and to consider whether these impacts are likely to be significant.

2. Appropriate Assessment

To consider the impact of a plan or project (alone or in combination with others) on the integrity of the Natura 2000 site, with respect to the site’s structure and function and its conservation objectives. Where there are adverse impacts, an assessment of the potential mitigation of those impacts.

3. Assessment of Alternative Solutions

To examine alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan which avoid adverse impact on the integrity of the Natura 2000 site. If, after mitigation, there will still be a negative effect on the integrity of a European site, the plan should be dropped. The only exceptions are where it can be shown that there are ‘imperative reasons of overriding public interest’.

4. Compensatory Measures

To assess compensatory measure where it is decided that the plan should proceed because of overriding public interest.

If, after the screening stage, it is concluded that there will be no significant impacts, there is no need to carry out subsequent stages.

This Screening Report addresses the First Stage only, i.e. Screening.

SCREENING

This stage of the assessment process requires the following steps to be undertaken:

- 1 - Identification of sites which may be affected
- 2 - Analysis of sites
- 3 - Analysis and assessment of the plan or project
- 4 - Conclusion

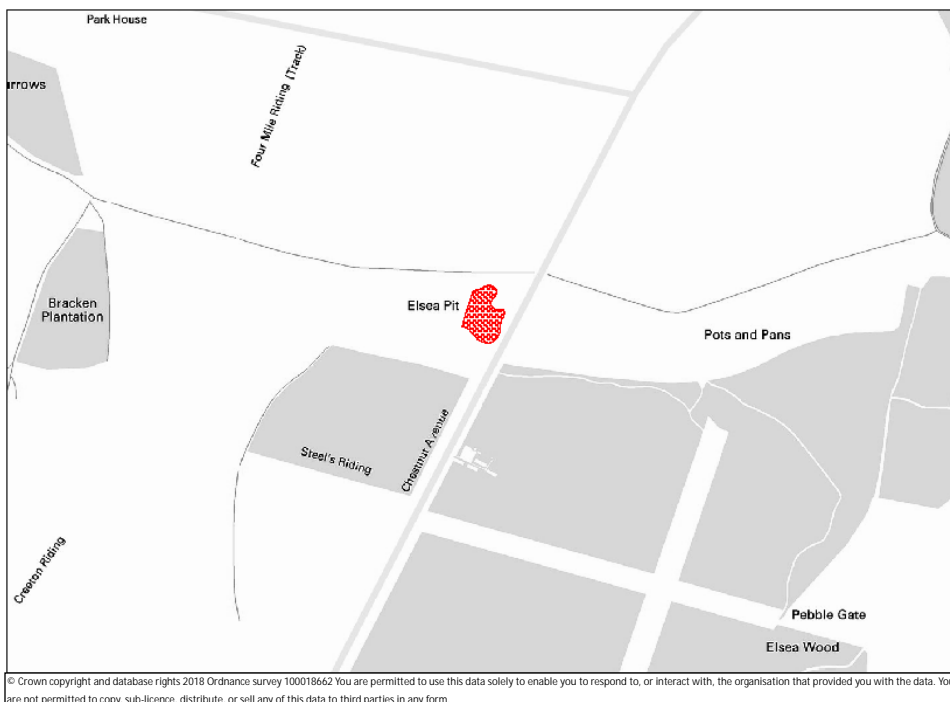
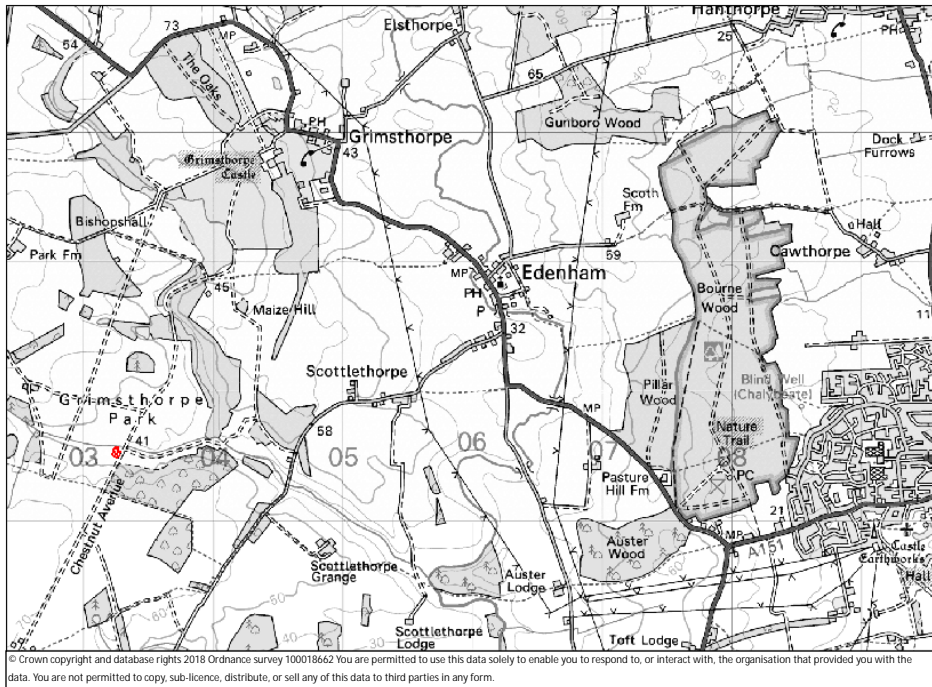
Task 1: Identification of the Natura 2000 sites which may be affected by Local Plan

Details of Natura 2000 sites within South Kesteven district have been obtained from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC). JNCC is the statutory adviser to Government on UK and international nature conservation. It delivers the UK and international responsibilities of the four country nature conservation agencies: the Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside, the Countryside Council for Wales, Natural England and Scottish Natural Heritage.

Two Natura 2000 sites have been identified within South Kesteven district: Baston Fen and Grimsthorpe.

BASTON FEN

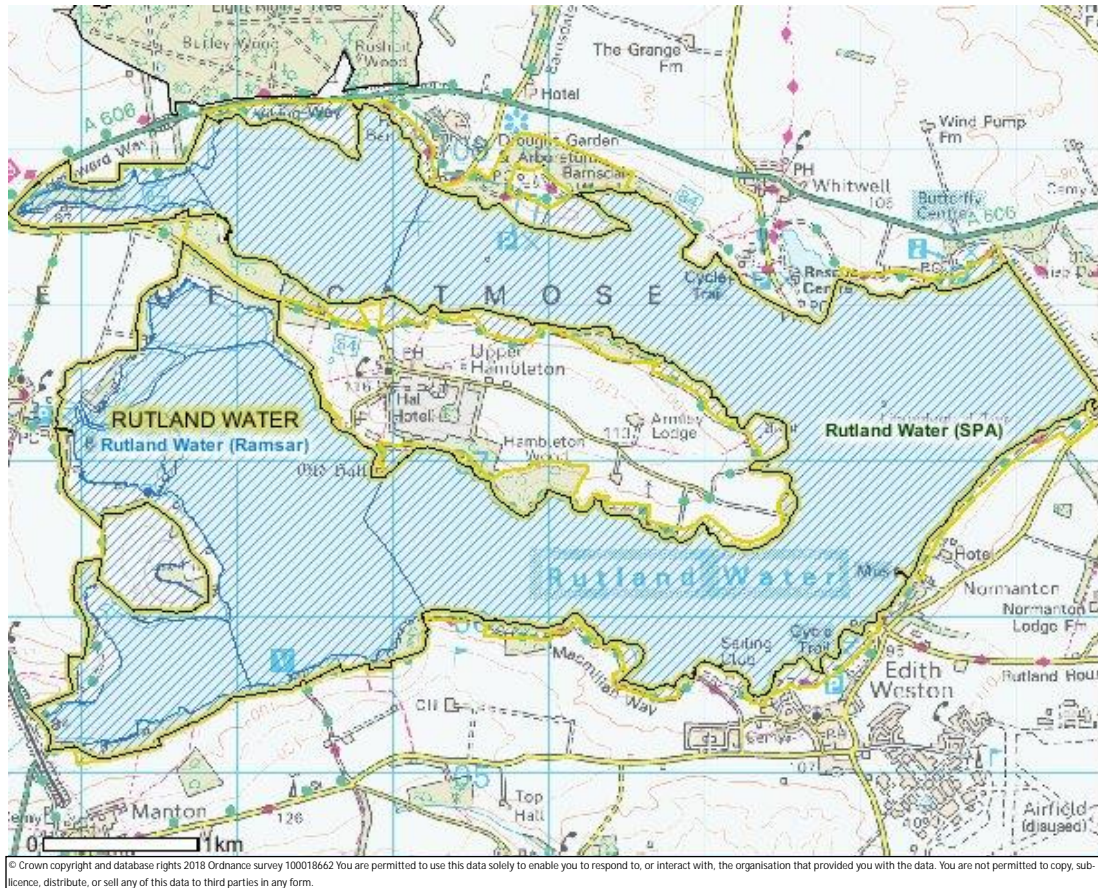
The SAC is part of the inland water body in the eastern, fenland area of South Kesteven, known as Baston Fen. It consists of The Counterdrain, a 2km drainage channel running alongside Baston, and is identified on the map below:



Guidance on the Appropriate Assessment of Plans suggests that, in addition to those within the district, sites should be considered for assessment if they fall within a buffer of 10-15km of a Local Authority boundary. Two Natura 2000 sites have been identified as falling within this buffer: Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar and Barnack Hills and Holes SAC.

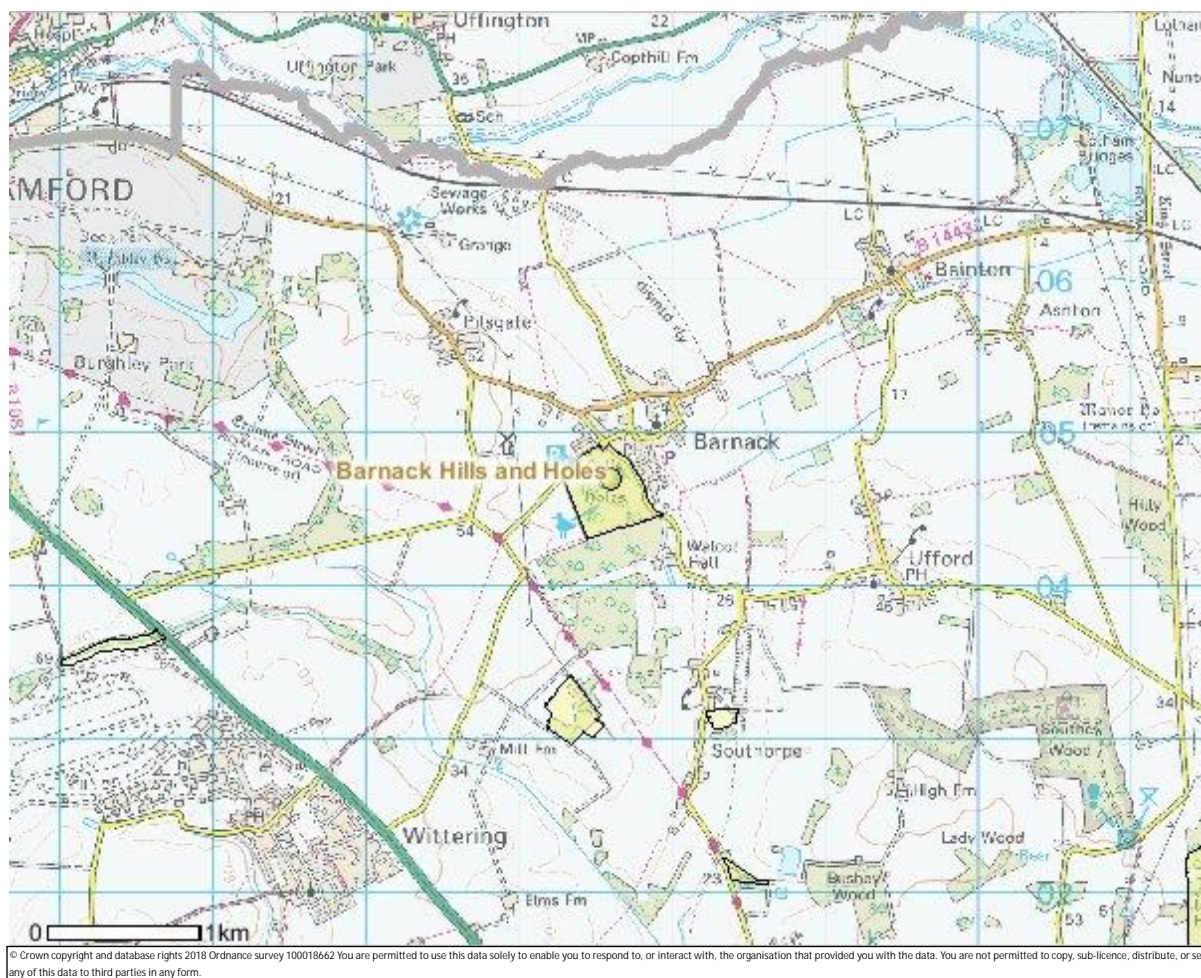
RUTLAND WATER

Rutland Water is a large, man-made reservoir located between Stamford and Oakham in the County of Rutland to the east of South Kesteven. It is an important area for wintering wildfowl. It is identified on the map below:



BARNACK HILLS AND HOLES

Barnack Hills and Holes is an area of limestone grassland which has developed on the site of disused quarry workings. It is a small site, located approximately 4km south of Stamford and Uffington. It is identified on the map below:



Task 2: Analysis of the Natura 2000 sites which may be affected by the Local Plan

BASTON FEN

Baston Fen SAC consists of a 2km long main drain, the Counterdrain, which runs alongside Baston Fen. It is intensively managed by Welland and Deeping Internal Drainage Board. The drain retains a high population of Spined loach *Cobitis taenia*. The patchy cover from submerged plants provides excellent habitat for the species.

The Spined loach is a species included in Annex II of the Directive, and its presence is the primary reason for the selection of this site as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) reports that the spined loach population in Lincolnshire appears to be healthy, and does not appear to be in serious danger. However, "its apparently fragmented distribution in highly regulated rivers and drains means that it is potentially vulnerable to changes in river/land use". [Lincolnshire BAP 2005-2007]

The Baston Fen SAC falls within the type of habitat described by the Lincolnshire 2006 BAP as Rivers, Canals and Drains. Its report highlights threats to these habitats resulting from intensive use of the county's rural landscape and the use and quality of water within individual watercourses. The BAP

lists the following problems which are inherent with high maintenance drainage systems, such as the Baston Fen SAC:

- Water abstraction
- Chemical enrichment and pollution.
- Navigational and flood defence structures and impoundments.
- Climate change • Land drainage and the management of waterways,
- Fishing and fish farming.
- Development within the floodplain.
- Loss of native fauna through swamping of introduced exotic species.

The BAP shows that the Environment Agency, together with partners including the Internal Drainage Boards, British Waterways, Lincolnshire Wildlife Trust and landowners, have ongoing programmes to ensure the safeguarding and management of the SAC as well as management and protection of the species.

GRIMSTHORPE

The Grimsthorpe SAC is a small part, around 0.35ha, of the park and gardens belonging to the Grimsthorpe Estate. The estate itself covers around 3,000 acres of the south Lincolnshire countryside between Bourne and Stamford. The site, known as Elsea Pit, is a small former limestone quarry, and is managed under the terms of a Management Agreement with English Nature.

Grimsthorpe is the most northerly outpost for early gentian *Gentianella anglica*, with 2- 3 colonies totalling several hundred plants in old oolitic limestone quarries. The site is semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland, and is on the northern limit for *Gentianella anglica* in the UK. The JNCC reports that not all of the site is a suitable habitat for the early gentian and there is little scope for increasing its area.

The early gentian is a species included in Annex II of the Directive, and its presence is the primary reason for the selection of this site as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan records that the early gentian is endemic to the UK and occurs in only a few sites, and that it is also listed as vulnerable on the GB Red List. [://www.ukbap.org.uk].

The JNCC report that there has been a marked decline in the species. This is mainly because old chalk grasslands have been ploughed grazing has been abandoned on much of the grasslands which remain. The UK BAP agrees that the threats to the species are the loss of suitable habits and inappropriate management, especially reductions in grazing. JNCC reports that, at Grimsthorpe, there are arrangements for the erection of electric fencing around the site to enable light grazing with sheep or cattle to take place.

RUTLAND WATER

Rutland Water consists of a large man-made reservoir occupying some 1,556 ha in Rutland which is an important area for wintering wildfowl. A nature reserve occupies a narrow strip of land of some 600 acres running for 9 miles round the western end. The reserve is owned by Anglian Water and managed by the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust. The reserve is a Site of Special Scientific Interest, a Ramsar site and a European Special Protection Area.

The site is also a popular tourist attraction: fishing, walking, cycling and bird watching are among the recreational pursuits on offer. The JNCC report that the management of the site for its SPA interests is largely compatible with the recreational uses.

BARNACK HILLS AND HOLES

Barnack Hills and Holes is an area of limestone grassland which has developed on the site of disused quarry workings. The 23ha site is leased to, and managed by, Natural England. It was designated as a Special Area for Conservation in 2005 to protect the orchid-rich grassland.

The site has public access, which is controlled by the provision of gates and stiles. The management plan includes annual grazing by sheep, wardening and seasonal closures of the site. The JNCC reports that these measures control visitor pressures.

Task 3: Analysis and assessment of the plan or project

This stage of the process is to determine whether the issues and options being assessed will have any significant effect on the Natura 2000 site.

South Kesteven District Council is preparing its Local Plan, which provides the planning policies for the district. The policies will, therefore, have possible impacts on the SACs and SPA. Each of these must be assessed to determine whether they will have any significant effects upon the sites.

South Kesteven is producing a single Local Plan, i.e. the document will contain strategic policies, development management policies and site allocations.

All policies and allocations must be in conformity with policies within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The overarching framework for development within the district is provided by the Spatial Strategy (SP1) and the Settlement Hierarchy (SP2). These set out the locational strategy to be adopted when allocating land for development and when considering development proposals. In all cases, priority will be given to previously developed land, although development will be permitted on appropriate greenfield sites. Development in village and rural locations is restricted.

The focus of new development will be in Grantham, to support and strengthen its role as a Sub-Regional Centre. These policies allow for growth to maintain and support the market towns of

Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings, as well as the larger villages, including those settlements which have been identified as Larger Villages. Small scale development is permitted in Smaller Villages. Development in the open countryside is strictly controlled.

This approach will be used to assess all development proposals, whether residential, employment, retail, leisure and other uses.

In broad terms, therefore, it can be seen that development is unlikely to occur in the areas of Baston Fen and the Grimsthorpe SACs. Water abstraction has been highlighted as a possible threat to sites such as Baston Fen. However, this site is intensively managed by the Welland and Deeping Internal Drainage Board, and it is expected that, should development in other areas pose a threat to the site, mitigation measures would be demanded.

The housing figures have been derived from the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA). This has been based upon the 2014 population projections, i.e. the most up to date.

In addition to the Local Plan, the following documents provide policy relevant to the South Kesteven district:

- Minerals and Waste Local Plan (Lincolnshire)
- Local Transport Plan (Lincolnshire)

The key points from these policies can be summed up as follows:

Environmental: to protect, maintain and enhance the natural environment, with particular attention to designated sites at regional, national and international level. The importance of maintaining and enhancing the biodiversity of the area is highlighted.

The environmental policies all seek to reduce the impact on the countryside and the environment generally, through policies which:

- protect the best agricultural land
- prioritise the use of brownfield land
- reduce harmful emissions and improve local air quality
- minimise the disposal of waste by landfill
- making efficient use of existing infrastructure
- seek to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases
- maintain and improve public open space
- protect trees and woodland
- have regard to the character and distinctiveness of the landscape

These documents stress the importance of minimising environmental loss that could occur through development proposals and of ensuring that any development is compatible with the interests of rural conservation.

Economic: to support the local economy and maintain the vitality and viability of the town centres. Support for rural diversification schemes is also emphasised.

A major concern is to minimise the environmental impacts of any industrial and commercial development, although these can only be assessed on a site by site basis.

Social: to improve social well-being by improving the quality of life for all residents. The main points arising from these policies are:

- housing (market and affordable) to be high quality and range of sizes
- encourage walking, cycling and public transport
- reduce the need to travel
- maintain and improve public open space and recreation provision

The need to ensure that development does not cause harm to the environment is a central tenet of all current policies, although this has to be balanced with the need to provide housing and employment opportunities for the resident population.

In-combination effects

Rutland and Peterborough Policy Documents

Table xx:

Local Authority	Plan Status	Summary of Outcomes of HRA Screening
Peterborough City Council	Peterborough Core Strategy DPD (2011)	The report identified that it was reasonable to conclude that the Core Strategy is not likely to adversely affect the integrity of any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or project.
	Peterborough Site Allocations DPD (2012)	The report concludes that the Site Allocations Document is not likely to significantly adversely affect the integrity of any European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects.
	Peterborough Planning Policies DPD (2012)	The screening report concludes that the Planning Policies DPD is in conformity with the Peterborough Core Strategy, no significant new issues are raised in the Planning Policies DPD which could have likely (or unknown) significant negative effects on any Natura 2000 site, and that all policies in the Planning Policies DPD can be 'screened out'

		from the Planning Policies DPD Appropriate Assessment process.
	Peterborough Local Plan – Submission Version (2018)	conclusion, recreational pressure is likely to be the most significant potential impact to result from the policies of the Local Plan. There is the possibility of water pollution, although adherence to the requirements of current legislation and good practice should prevent this. There is also the possibility of changes in soil and water resulting from air pollution caused by increases in traffic volumes. Issues relating to predator bird species and collision risk are possible in connection with the Nene Washes SPA and Ramsar site.
Rutland County Council	Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) (2011)	The overall growth strategy for Rutland to 2026 is for 1,900 homes and 5ha of employment. While no HRA was prepared for the Core Strategy, the HRA prepared for the Site Allocations and Policies DPD considered that there would be no likely significant effect of the allocated sites.
	Site Allocations and Policies DPD (2013)	The overall growth strategy for Rutland to 2026 is for 1,900 homes and 5ha of employment. While no HRA was prepared for the Core Strategy, the HRA prepared for the Site Allocations and Policies DPD considered that there would be no likely significant effect of the allocated sites.
	Local Plan Review – Consultation Draft (2017)	The overall conclusions of the HRA Screening Report are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The review of the Consultation Draft Local Plan cannot conclude no likely significant effects or no

		<p>adverse effects since these judgements can only be made in relation to the completed DPD.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The assessment of the policies shows some potential impact on the three Natura 2000 sites. This should be explored further through the HRA process and taken into consideration as the Local Plan evolves. • Several amendments to policies are suggested to make the policies more robust in terms of aiding protection to the Natura 2000 site. • Taking into account the suggestions from this report, the next stage of the Local Plan will be re-screened to assess likely significant effects to the HRA.
--	--	--

Task 4: Conclusions

The Policies contained within the South Kesteven District Council Local Plan have been assessed, in accordance with the Habitats Directive, to determine whether there are likely to be any significant impacts arising from them on the European sites.

The Local Plan, the policies follow the locational strategy for the District set out in Policies SP1 and SP2. Consequently, the assessment found that the policies are unlikely to have significant impacts on the European Sites.

This assessment concludes that the policies within the South Kesteven Local Plan are not likely to have any significant effects on any Natura 2000 site. There is, therefore, no requirement to proceed to the next stage of an Appropriate Assessment.

APPENDIX 1: NATURA 2000 SITES WITHIN SOUTH KESTEVEN

SITE NAME: BASTON FEN

Designation: Special Area of Conservation (SAC), (also part of SSSI)

Code: UK0030085

Location: Drainage channel adjacent to Baston Fen.

Grid ref: TL 136171 Latitude: 524421 N Longitude 001901 W

Area 2.2 ha

General Site characteristics

Inland water body (standing water, running water) (100%)

Soil and geology: Alluvium, Clay, Neutral

Geomorphology and landscape: Floodplain, Lowland

Primary reason for selection of the site

The presence of the **Spined loach *Cobitis taenia***, a species appearing in **Annex II** of the Habitats Directive.

Species

Spined loach *Cobitis taenia* is a small bottom-living fish that has a restricted microhabitat associated with a specialised feeding mechanism. They use a complex branchial apparatus to filter-feed in fine but well-oxygenated sediments. Optimal habitat is patchy cover of submerged (and possibly emergent) macrophytes, which are important for spawning, and a sandy (also silty) substrate, into which juvenile fish tend to bury themselves.

The **Spined loach *Cobitis taenia*** has an extremely wide distribution across Europe and Asia. Even with such a broad range and ecological niche it is generally regarded as threatened, if not rare, in Europe.

In the UK, **Spined loach *Cobitis taenia*** appears to be restricted to just five east-flowing river systems in eastern England: the rivers Trent, Welland, Witham, Nene and Great Ouse, with their associated waterways (Perrow & Jowitt 2000). Within these catchments it appears to occur patchily in a variety of waterbodies, including small streams, large rivers and both large and small drainage ditches. Little is known about its occurrence in open water, although it is known from a number of small lakes and gravel-pits. With limited means of dispersal, the UK populations are largely genetically isolated from each other.

Site Description

The Baston Fen SAC is a 2km long drainage channel, The Counterdrain, running alongside Baston Fen. It contains high densities of **Spined loach *Cobitis taenia***, and is an example of spined loach populations in the Welland catchment. The patchy cover from submerge plants provides excellent habitat for the species.

Vulnerability

Baston Fen SAC is intensively managed by Welland and Deeping Internal Drainage Board. The drain retains a high population of spined loach and a rich aquatic flora but the effects of drain management on the European interest are presently unknown and require further investigation.

The Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (2005-2007) records that the population of Spined loach in Lincolnshire appears to be healthy, data having been collected for the past 20 years from routine fish surveys, although it is not possible to quantify the populations. The fish are found only in a few locations. While it does not appear to be in serious danger, it is this fragmented distribution in highly regulated rivers and drains which means that it is potentially vulnerable to changes in river/land use.

SITE NAME: GRIMSTHORPE

Designation: Special Area of Conservation (SAC), (also part of SSSI)

Code: UK0030043

Location: Former limestone quarry within the grounds of Grimsthorpe Park.

Grid ref: TL 033205 Latitude: 524619 N Longitude 002809 W

Area 0.35 ha

General Site characteristics

Dry Grassland. Steppes (85/7%)

Inland rocks. Screes. Sands. Permanent snow and ice (14.3%)

Soil and geology: Basic, Limestone, Sedimentary

Geomorphology and landscape: Lowland

Primary reason for selection of the site The presence of **Early gentian *Gentianella anglica***, a species appearing in Annex II of the Habitats Directive.

Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of site
Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (**Festuco- Brometalia**)

Species

Early gentian *Gentianella anglica* is an annual plant, which occurs in calcareous grassland, mainly on steep, south-facing slopes. It grows on bare ground or in thin turf that is kept open by a combination of rabbit or sheep-grazing and trampling by livestock on thin droughted soils. In dense turf it becomes shaded out and unable to compete with other more vigorous species. It is found on a variety of substrates and in different habitats, but is particularly frequent in coastal grasslands. At most of its localities the vegetation is semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia).

Gentianella anglica shows considerable phenotypic plasticity, influenced by such factors as management and germination time. The occurrence of what was believed to be probably the hybrid between *G. anglica* and autumn gentian *Gentianella amarella*, *G. x davidiana*, prompted a taxonomic reassessment of *G. anglica* throughout its British range. Ecological monitoring and genetic investigation of *G. anglica* populations began in 1998. Initial results of this research appear to question the validity of maintaining *G. anglica* as a separate species from the more widespread *G. amarella* (Winfield & Parker 2000). However, the Habitats Directive continues to recognise *G. anglica* as a separate taxon.

Site Description

The site consists of Elsea Pit, a small former limestone quarry within the grounds of Grimsthorpe Park. The old oolitic limestone quarries contain 2-3 of colonies totalling several hundred **early gentian *Gentianella anglica*** plants.

Vulnerability

The site is the most northerly outpost for **early gentian *Gentianella anglica***. It is on the northern limit for the species in the UK, but not all of the site provides suitable conditions and there is little scope for increasing the area of suitable habitat here. As with other biennials, numbers of ***G. anglica*** vary dramatically from year to year, the highest recorded number being 400 individuals.

There has been a marked decline in ***G. anglica*** since 1970, largely because of the ploughing of old chalk grassland, and the abandonment of grazing on some of the remaining grasslands.

The entire parkland, including Elsea Pit, is managed under the terms of a Management Agreement with Natural England. Arrangements are in hand to enable the erection of electric fencing around the site so that it will be possible for light grazing with sheep or cattle to take place.

Information sources:

Joint Nature Conservation committee www.jncc.gov.uk

Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan

APPENDIX 1A: NATURA 2000 SITES OUTSIDE SOUTH KESTEVEN

SITE NAME: RUTLAND WATER

Designation: Special Protection Area (SPA), (also Ramsar)

Code: UK9008051

Location: Reservoir between Oakham and Stamford.

Latitude: 523852 N Longitude 003954 W

Area 1556.87 ha

General Site characteristics

Inland water body (standing water, running water) (80%)

Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (0.1%)

Dry grassland, Steppes (9.9%)

Mixed woodland (10%)

Soil and geology: Clay, Mud, Neutral, Nutrient-rich, Sedimentary

Geomorphology and landscape: Lowland, Valley

Qualifying features

Qualifies under Article 4.2 by supporting populations of European importance of the following migratory species:

Over winter:

- Gadwall *Anas strepera*
- Shoveler *Anas clypeata*

Qualifies under Article 4.2 by regularly supporting at least 20,000 waterfowl.

Ramsar criterion 5 - Assemblages of international importance. Species with peak counts in winter:

- 19274 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1998/99-2002/2003)

Ramsar Criterion 6 - Species/populations occurring at levels of international importance.

Qualifying Species:

- Gadwall *Anas strepera*
- Northern shoveler *Anas clypeata*

Site Description

Large, man-made reservoir in Rutland which is an important area for wintering wildfowl. Nature reserve occupies narrow strip of land amounting to 600 acres and running for 9 miles round the western end of Rutland Water.

Vulnerability

The SPA is vulnerable to pressures from recreation, nutrient inputs, and changes in water level. The site is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the East Midlands. Fishing, walking water sports and cycling currently take place and the reservoir has been zoned to allow this to take place. Management of the site for its SPA interests is currently compatible with these recreation uses except in periods of drawdown. A revised strategy with Anglian Water Supplies (AWS) is intended to address this problem.

The reservoir is filled from the River Nene and the River Welland. In the past phosphate levels have led to algal blooms. Although these have currently had little visible effects on the wildfowl, continued eutrophication could lead to an algal dominated system that may reduce the value of the area for both plant feeding and invertebrate feeding wildfowl. Phosphate inputs are being tackled through implementation of the Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive in the Nene catchment which contributes the major phosphate load to the reservoir. If necessary, monitoring will be introduced to show if the reduction in phosphate level is adequate and to investigate the contribution of agricultural sources to this problem.

Rutland water is a major source of urban water supply. Increased abstraction in the summer up to the current licensed limit may cause further and more extensive periods of drawdown which can affect populations of invertebrates on which some species depend, whilst rapid filling can render other food sources unavailable for dabbling ducks. Drawdown may also increase disturbance through recreation uses. These issues will be tackled through discussions with AWS and the Environment Agency.

SITE NAME: BARNACK HILLS AND HOLES SAC

Designation: Special Area of Conservation (SPA)

Code: UK0030031

Location: Immediately west and south of Barnack village, Cambs.

Latitude: 523740 N Longitude 002441 W

Area 23.27 ha

General Site characteristics

Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (15 %)

Dry grassland. Steppes (79.5 %)

Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (5.5 %)

Qualifying features

Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies; on calcareous substrates (Festuco- Brometalia) (important orchid sites).

Site Description

Small, disused limestone quarry on the outskirts of Barnack village. Access on foot only. Circular limestone walk through reserve.

Vulnerability

The site is leased to, and managed by, Natural England. A management plan is in place. The site is grazed annually by sheep in association with a programme of scrub control to maintain appropriate habitat conditions for grassland flora and fauna. There is public access to the site and a public footpath crosses the southern half. Access is controlled by the provision of grates and stiles. There is high visitor pressure that is controlled by wardening, closing parts of the reserve seasonally, education and interpretation.

.....

Information sources:

Joint Nature Conservation committee www.jncc.gov.uk

Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan

APPENDIX 2: SITE ASSESSMENT MATRIX

Name and location of site	Baston Fen Special Area of Conservation Counterdrain adjacent to Baston Fen in the fenland area of South Kesteven
Reasons for selection	presence of <i>Spined loach Cobitis taenia</i>
Plans or programmes which may affect site	None of the policies within the Local Plan will directly affect the site.

Potential Impact	How the Local Plan (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect SAC	Why these effects are not considered significant
On site development - leading to loss of habitat	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC
Development nearby - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat and air pollution caused by increased traffic movements	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include land in the vicinity of any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC
Recreational activity - causing physical damage by trampling. Disturbance by noise and visual presence caused by walking, driving, fishing etc. Air pollution caused by increased traffic movements	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include land in the vicinity of any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC
Water abstraction - could cause water levels to be affected	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC
Livestock grazing - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC
Agricultural activity - possible contamination from farming operations, including run-off into waterways	No new development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Baston Fen SAC. The site is already managed by the Welland and Deepings IDB.

Name and location of site	Grimsthorpe Special Area of Conservation former limestone quarry within the grounds of Grimsthorpe Park in the south of South Kesteven
Reasons for selection	presence of <i>Early gentian Gentianella anglica</i>
Plans or programmes	None of the policies within the Local Plan will directly affect the site.

which may affect site	
-----------------------	--

Potential Impact	How the Local Plan (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect SAC	Why these effects are not considered significant
On site development - leading to loss of habitat	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC
Development nearby - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat and air pollution caused by increased traffic movements	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include land in the vicinity of any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC
Recreational activity - causing physical damage by trampling. Disturbance by noise and visual presence caused by walking, driving, fishing etc. Air pollution caused by increased traffic movements	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC. Grimsthorpe is a private estate, which allows public access. A Management Agreement with English nature exists.
Water abstraction - could cause water levels to be affected	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC.
Livestock grazing - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC. As part of the Management Agreement with English Nature electric fencing around the site enables light grazing with sheep or cattle to occur.
Agricultural activity - possible contamination from farming operations, including run-off into waterways	No new development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC.

Overall conclusions

The Local Plan, alone and in combination with other plans and programmes, has been assessed for its impact on the Baston Fen and Grimsthorpe SACs, and it has been concluded that there are no likely significant effects on the conservation objectives of the sites.
--

Name and location of site	Rutland Water Special Protection Area Reservoir between Stamford and Oakham to the east of South Kesteven
Reasons for selection	wintering populations of wildfowl
Plans or programmes which may affect site	None of the policies within the Local Plan will directly affect the site

Potential Impact	How the Local Plan (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect SPA	Why these effects are not considered significant
On site development - leading to loss of habitat	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SPA	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA
Development nearby - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat and air pollution caused by increased traffic movements	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include land in the vicinity of any part of the SPA	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA
Recreational activity - causing physical damage by trampling. Disturbance by noise and visual presence caused by walking, driving, fishing etc. Air pollution caused by increased traffic movements	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SPA	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA
Water abstraction - could cause water levels to be affected	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SPA	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA
Livestock grazing - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SPA	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA
Agricultural activity - possible contamination from farming operations, including run-off into waterways	No new development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SPA	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Rutland Water SPA. The Nature Reserve is already managed in partnership with Anglian Water and the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust.

Name and location of site	Grimsthorpe Special Area of Conservation
----------------------------------	---

	former limestone quarry within the grounds of Grimsthorpe Park in the south of South Kesteven
Reasons for selection	presence of Early gentian <i>Gentianella anglica</i>
Plans or programmes which may affect site	None of the policies within the Local Plan will directly affect the site.

Potential Impact	How the Local Plan (alone or in combination with other plans) is likely to affect SPA	Why these effects are not considered significant
On site development - leading to loss of habitat	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
Development nearby - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat and air pollution caused by increased traffic movements	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include land in the vicinity of any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
Recreational activity - causing physical damage by trampling. Disturbance by noise and visual presence caused by walking, driving, fishing etc. Air pollution caused by increased traffic movements	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
Water abstraction - could cause water levels to be affected	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
Livestock grazing - leading to disturbance to, and possible loss of, habitat	No development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
Agricultural activity - possible contamination from farming operations, including run-off into waterways	No new development is proposed in the Local Plan (or any other plan) which will include any part of the SAC	There are no policies in the Local Plan (or other plans) which will have a direct impact on the SAC. The Nature Reserve is already managed by Natural England.

APPENDIX 3: FRAMEWORK FOR ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL PLAN POLICIES

Policy	Description	Baston Fen SAC	Grimsthorpe SAC	Rutland Water SPA	Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
SD1	Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development	This policy follows the presumption of sustainable development. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact on the SAC.	This policy follows the presumption of sustainable development. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact on the SAC.	This policy follows the presumption of sustainable development. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact on the SAC.	This policy follows the presumption of sustainable development. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact on the SAC.
SD2	The principles of sustainable development in South Kesteven	This policy follows the presumption of sustainable development. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact on the SAC.	This policy follows the presumption of sustainable development. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact on the SAC.	This policy follows the presumption of sustainable development. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact on the SAC.	This policy follows the presumption of sustainable development. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact on the SAC.
SP1	Spatial Strategy	This policy locates development in the towns and main villages of the district. The policy discourages development in the countryside. The policy will not have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy locates development in the towns and main villages of the district. The policy discourages development in the countryside. The policy will not have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy locates development in the towns and main villages of the district. The policy discourages development in the countryside. The policy will not have significant impact upon the SPA.	Developing additional housing in Stamford, which is approximately 4km away from Barnack Hills and Holes SAC, may potentially lead to increased recreational pressure on the site. However, it is a relatively small site, which is unlikely to attract visitors from afar and is directly adjacent to the settlement of Barnack. Visitor pressure from dog walkers and others who live adjacent to site is likely to be much more significant
SP2	Settlement hierarchy	This policy supports SP1 by setting out the settlement hierarchy, i.e. towns and large villages. It does not set out any quantum of development to take place. The policy will not have a significant impact.	This policy supports SP1 by setting out the settlement hierarchy, i.e. towns and large villages. It does not set out any quantum of development to take place. The policy will not have a significant impact.	This policy supports SP1 by setting out the settlement hierarchy, i.e. towns and large villages. It does not set out any quantum of development to take place. The policy will not have a significant impact.	This policy supports SP1 by setting out the settlement hierarchy, i.e. towns and large villages. It does not set out any quantum of development to take place. The policy will not have a significant impact.
SP3	Infill Development	This policy permits infill development in all settlements. The supporting text allows for 11 or fewer in Larger Villages (similar to the adopted Core Strategy) and 3 or fewer in the Smaller Villages. This is a change from the adopted Core Strategy, which does not allow open market housing to be developed in these locations. However, only limited development is allowed and the development must take place in the settlements. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy permits infill development in all settlements. The supporting text allows for 11 or fewer in Larger Villages (similar to the adopted Core Strategy) and 3 or fewer in the Smaller Villages. This is a change from the adopted Core Strategy, which does not allow open market housing to be developed in these locations. However, only limited development is allowed and the development must take place in the settlements. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy permits infill development in all settlements. The supporting text allows for 11 or fewer in Larger Villages (similar to the adopted Core Strategy) and 3 or fewer in the Smaller Villages. This is a change from the adopted Core Strategy, which does not allow open market housing to be developed in these locations. However, only limited development is allowed and the development must take place in the settlements. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy permits infill development in all settlements. The supporting text allows for 11 or fewer in Larger Villages (similar to the adopted Core Strategy) and 3 or fewer in the Smaller Villages. This is a change from the adopted Core Strategy, which does not allow open market housing to be developed in these locations. However, only limited development is allowed and the development must take place in the settlements. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.
SP4	Development on the Edge of Settlements	This policy permits development on the edge of settlements, subject to certain conditions. It requires development to be compliant with all other relevant Local plan policies, including the biodiversity policy. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy permits development on the edge of settlements, subject to certain conditions. It requires development to be compliant with all other relevant Local plan policies, including the biodiversity policy. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy permits development on the edge of settlements, subject to certain conditions. It requires development to be compliant with all other relevant Local plan policies, including the biodiversity policy. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy permits development on the edge of settlements, subject to certain conditions. It requires development to be compliant with all other relevant Local plan policies, including the biodiversity policy. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.
SP5	Development in the Open Countryside	This policy allows for development in the open countryside, however, the type of development is strictly controlled. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy allows for development in the open countryside, however, the type of development is strictly controlled. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy allows for development in the open countryside, however, the type of development is strictly controlled. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy allows for development in the open countryside, however, the type of development is strictly controlled. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.
SP6	Retention of community services and facilities	This policy supports retention of, and presumes against loss of, community facilities. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy supports retention of, and presumes against loss of, community facilities. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy supports retention of, and presumes against loss of, community facilities. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy supports retention of, and presumes against loss of, community facilities. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.
H1	Affordable Housing	This is an exceptions policy which aims to provide affordable housing in areas of proven need. The policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.	This is an exceptions policy which aims to provide affordable housing in areas of proven need. The policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.	This is an exceptions policy which aims to provide affordable housing in areas of proven need. The policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SPAs.	This is an exceptions policy which aims to provide affordable housing in areas of proven need. The policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.
H2	Self and Custom Build Housing	This policy does not increase the housing	This policy does not increase the housing	This policy does not increase the housing	This policy does not increase the housing

Policy	Description	Baston Fen SAC	Grimsthorpe SAC	Rutland Water SPA	Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
	on Strategic Housing Allocations	requirement but requires 2% of plots to be set aside for self and custom build housing. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	requirement but requires 2% of plots to be set aside for self and custom build housing. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	requirement but requires 2% of plots to be set aside for self and custom build housing. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	requirement but requires 2% of plots to be set aside for self and custom build housing. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.
H3	Meeting All Housing Needs	This policy requires all proposals for residential development to provide appropriate types and sizes of dwellings. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy requires all proposals for residential development to provide appropriate types and sizes of dwellings. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy requires all proposals for residential development to provide appropriate types and sizes of dwellings. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.	This policy requires all proposals for residential development to provide appropriate types and sizes of dwellings. The policy will not therefore have a significant impact.
H4	Gypsies and Travellers	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SPA.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.
H5	Travelling Showpeople	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SPA.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.
E1	Strategic Employment Sites	<p>This policy allocates sites at the four main towns.</p> <p>The proposed allocations at Grantham are a significant distance from the SAC and there will be no impact.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Stamford. The SAC is not located near to Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p> <p>Baston Fen is also located some distance from Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p> <p>Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Deepings. Although surface water drainage is towards the SAC, policy criteria and incorporation of appropriate management systems will ensure that the policy will not have significant impact upon the SAC.</p>	<p>This policy allocates sites at the four main towns.</p> <p>The proposed allocations at Grantham are a significant distance from the SAC and there will be no impact.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Stamford. The SAC is not located near to Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Bourne. The SAC is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p> <p>The SAC is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC</p>	<p>This policy allocates sites at the four main towns.</p> <p>The proposed allocations at Grantham are a significant distance from the SPA and there will be no impact.</p> <p>This policy allocates land for employment use in Stamford. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the plan area suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Bourne. The SPA is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SPA.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Deepings. The SPA is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SPA.</p>	<p>This policy allocates sites at the four main towns.</p> <p>The proposed allocations at Grantham are a significant distance from the SAC and there will be no impact.</p> <p>This policy allocates land for employment use in Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Bourne. The SAC is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment and in Deepings. The SAC is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p>
E2	Employment Sites	<p>This policy allocates sites in Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Stamford. The SAC is not located near to Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p> <p>Baston Fen is also located some distance from Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p> <p>Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Deepings. Although surface water drainage is towards the SAC, policy criteria and incorporation of appropriate</p>	<p>This policy allocates sites in Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Stamford. The SAC is not located near to Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Bourne. The SAC is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p> <p>The SAC is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC</p>	<p>This policy allocates sites in Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings.</p> <p>This policy allocates land for employment use in Stamford. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the plan area suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Bourne. The SPA is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SPA.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in</p>	<p>This policy allocates sites in Stamford, Bourne and the Deepings.</p> <p>This policy allocates land for employment use in Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment land in Bourne. The SAC is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p> <p>This policy allocates employment and in Deepings. The SAC is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.</p>

Policy	Description	Baston Fen SAC	Grimsthorpe SAC	Rutland Water SPA	Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
		management systems will ensure that the policy		Deepings. The SPA is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SPA.	
E3	Expansion of Existing Businesses and Protection of Existing Employment sites	These are existing sites, mainly within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SAC.	These are existing sites, mainly within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SAC.	These are existing sites, mainly within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SPA.	These are existing sites, mainly within urban areas. There will be no impact on the SAC.
E4	Loss of Employment land and Buildings to non-employment generating uses	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.
E5	Rural Economy	This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes which will regenerate the rural economy. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.	This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes which will regenerate the rural economy. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.	This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes which will regenerate the rural economy. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SPAs.	This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes which will regenerate the rural economy. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.
E6	Other Employment	This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.	This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.	This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SPAs.	This policy supports rural diversification and other business schemes. Policy criteria would not permit development which would affect SACs.
E7	Visitor Economy	This policy permits tourism development but directs development that would permit large numbers of people to the towns and Larger Villages. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy permits tourism development but directs development that would permit large numbers of people to the towns and Larger Villages. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy permits tourism development but directs development that would permit large numbers of people to the towns and Larger Villages. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SPA.	This policy permits tourism development but directs development that would permit large numbers of people to the towns and Larger Villages. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.
ENV1	Landscape Character	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SPA.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.
ENV2	Protecting Biodiversity and Geodiversity	This policy seeks to protect SACs.	This policy seeks to protect SACs.	This policy seeks to protect SPAs.	This policy seeks to protect SACs.
ENV3	Pollution Control	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SPA.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.
ENV4	Reducing The Risk Of Flooding	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SPA.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.
ENV5	The Historic Environment	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SPA.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.
ENV6	Protecting and Enhancing Grantham Canal	This policy relates to redevelopment of the Canal Basin which will serve as a multi-functional green corridor linking the Town Centre to the countryside. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to redevelopment of the Canal Basin which will serve as a multi-functional green corridor linking the Town Centre to the countryside. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to redevelopment of the Canal Basin which will serve as a multi-functional green corridor linking the Town Centre to the countryside. This policy will not impact on the SPA.	This policy relates to redevelopment of the Canal Basin which will serve as a multi-functional green corridor linking the Town Centre to the countryside. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
DE1	Promoting Good Quality Design	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SPA.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.
SB1	Sustainable Building	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SPA.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.
RE1	Renewable Energy Generation	The policy permits renewable energy development in accordance with all other plan policies. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	The policy permits renewable energy development in accordance with all other plan policies. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	The policy permits renewable energy development in accordance with all other plan policies. This policy will not impact on the SPA.	The policy permits renewable energy development in accordance with all other plan policies. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
OS1	Open Space	This policy sets out standards to be applied to open space provision as a result of development. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy sets out standards to be applied to open space provision as a result of development. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy sets out standards to be applied to open space provision as a result of development. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. This policy will not impact on the SPA.	This policy sets out standards to be applied to open space provision as a result of development. Development will be in accordance with the Spatial Strategy. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
GR1	Protecting and Enhancing the Setting of Belton House and Park	This policy sets out framework for protecting and enhancing the settings of Belton House and Park. This will have no impact on the SAC.	This policy sets out framework for protecting and enhancing the settings of Belton House and Park. This will have no impact on the SAC.	This policy sets out framework for protecting and enhancing the settings of Belton House and Park. This will have no impact on the SPA.	This policy sets out framework for protecting and enhancing the settings of Belton House and Park. This will have no impact on the SAC.

Policy	Description	Baston Fen SAC	Grimsthorpe SAC	Rutland Water SPA	Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
GR2	Sustainable Transport In Grantham	This policy encourages the creation of a sustainable, modern transport network across Grantham. It promotes development located in areas which are accessible by means other than the use of private car including public transport, cycling and walking. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Grantham. This policy approach will have no impact on the Baston Fen Sac.	This policy promotes sustainable transport networks other than the use of private car. Grimsthorpe SAC is located in the countryside, some distance from Grantham. This policy will have no spatial impact on Grimsthorpe SAC.	This policy promotes sustainable transport networks other than the use of private car. This policy will have no spatial impact on Rutland Water SPA. The SPA is not sited within the District and is some distance from Grantham.	This policy promotes sustainable transport networks other than the use of private car. This policy will have no impact on the Barnack Hills and Holes SAC.
GR3	Grantham Town Centre Policy	This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. This will be not impact on the Baston Fen SAC. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	There will be no impact on the Rutland Water SPA.	There will be no impact on the SAC.
GR4	Grantham Allocations	This policy relates to housing development at Grantham. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Grantham. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Grantham. This policy will not impact on the SPA.	This policy relates to housing development at Grantham. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
GR5	Grantham Barracks Reserve Allocation	This policy relates to housing development at Grantham. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Grantham. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Grantham. This policy will not impact on the SPA.	This policy relates to housing development at Grantham. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
STM1	Stamford Allocations	This policy allocates land for housing in Stamford. The SAC is not located near to Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy allocates land for housing in Stamford. The SAC is not located near to Stamford. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy allocates land for housing in Stamford. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the Region suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.	Developing additional housing in Stamford, which is approximately 4km away from Barnack Hills and Holes SAC, may potentially lead to increased recreational pressure on the site. However, it is a relatively small site, which is unlikely to attract visitors from afar and is directly adjacent to the settlement of Barnack. Visitor pressure from dog walkers and others who live adjacent to site is likely to be much more significant.
STM2	Stamford Town Centre Policy	This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. This will be not impact on the Baston Fen SAC. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	There will be no impact on the Rutland Water SPA.	There will be no impact on the SAC.
BRN1	Bourne Allocations	This policy allocates land in Bourne. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy allocates land in Bourne. The SAC is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy allocates land in Bourne. The SPA is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SPA.	This policy allocates land in Bourne. The SAC is not located near to Bourne. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.
BRN2	Bourne Town Centre Policy	This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. This will be not impact on the Baston Fen SAC. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	There will be no impact on the Rutland Water SPA.	There will be no impact on the SAC.
DEP1	The Deepings Allocations	This policy allocates housing land in Deepings. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Deepings. Although surface water drainage is towards the SAC, policy criteria and incorporation of appropriate management systems will ensure that the policy will not have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy allocates housing land in Deepings. The SAC is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy allocates land for housing in Deepings. Water Resource Management Plans produced for the Region suggest that planned levels of development can be accommodated. The policy will not, therefore, have a significant impact upon the SPA.	This policy allocates housing land in Deepings. The SAC is not located near to Deepings. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.

Policy	Description	Baston Fen SAC	Grimsthorpe SAC	Rutland Water SPA	Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
DEP2	Market Deeping Town Centre Policy	This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. This will be not impact on the Baston Fen SAC. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy provides the overarching framework for new retail and town centre developments including the re-use of vacant buildings. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	There will be no impact on the Rutland Water SPA.	There will be no impact on the SAC.
LV – H1	Ancaster Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Ancaster. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Ancaster. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Ancaster. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Ancaster. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Ancaster. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV - H2	Baston Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Baston. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from the proposed allocation at the village of Baston. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Baston. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Baston. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Baston. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV – H3	Barrowby Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Barrowby. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Barrowby. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Barrowby. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Barrowby. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Barrowby. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV – H4	Billingborough Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Billingborough. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Billingborough. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Billingborough. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Billingborough. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Billingborough. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV – H5	Colsterworth Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Colsterworth. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Colsterworth. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Colsterworth. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Colsterworth. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Colsterworth. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV – H6	Corby Glen Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Corby Glen. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Corby Glen. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Corby Glen. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Corby Glen. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Corby Glen. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV – H7	Great Gonerby Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Great Gonerby. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Great Gonerby. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Great Gonerby. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Great Gonerby. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Great Gonerby. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV – H8	Langtoft Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Langtoft. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Langtoft. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Langtoft. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Langtoft. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Langtoft. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV – H9	Long Bennington Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Long Bennington. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Long Bennington. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Long Bennington. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Long Bennington. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Long Bennington. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV – H10	Long Bennington Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Long Bennington. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Long Bennington. The	This policy relates to housing development at Long Bennington. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Long Bennington. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Long Bennington. This policy will not impact on the SAC.

Policy	Description	Baston Fen SAC	Grimsthorpe SAC	Rutland Water SPA	Barnack Hills and Holes SAC
		policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.			
LV – H11	Morton Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Morton. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Morton. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Morton. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Morton. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Morton. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV – H12	South Witham Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in South Witham. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from South Witham. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at South Witham. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at South Witham. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at South Witham. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
LV – H13	Thurlby Residential Allocation	This policy allocates land in Thurlby. Baston Fen SAC is located in open countryside some distance from Thurlby. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Thurlby. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Thurlby. This policy will not impact on the SAC.	This policy relates to housing development at Thurlby. This policy will not impact on the SAC.
ID1	Infrastructure for Growth	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SPA.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.
ID2	Transport and Strategic Transport Infrastructure	This policy seeks to locate development in sustainable locations. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy seeks to locate development in sustainable locations. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.	This policy seeks to locate development in sustainable locations. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SPA.	This policy seeks to locate development in sustainable locations. The policy will not, therefore, have significant impact upon the SAC.
ID3	Broadband and Communications Infrastructure	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SPA.	This is not a spatial policy therefore there will be no impact upon the SAC.