

HABITAT REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT OF THE **MANCHESTER LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY**



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1 Introduction

- 1.1 Article 6(3) of the European Habitats Directive dealing with the conservation of European protected sites states that:

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

- 1.2 The Manchester Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (the Plan) is considered to be a Local Development Document (a 'Plan') that falls under Part IV, 85A-(2) of the 2007 Habitats Regulations Amendments and therefore is required to be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment (to be taken at least through the screening stage (Stage 1)).
- 1.3 European protected sites (the 'Natura 2000 Network') are of exceptional importance for the conservation of important species and natural habitats within the European Union. The purpose of Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) of land use plans is to ensure that protection of the integrity of European protected sites is an integral part of the planning process at a regional and local level. The network of European protected sites comprises Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Ramsar sites. Government guidance advises that potential SPAs (pSPA), candidate SACs (cSAC) and potential Ramsar (pRamsar) sites are also included in HRAs.
- 1.4 Habitats Regulation Assessments can be seen as having a number of discrete stages -
- Stage 1 - Screening
 - Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment
 - Stage 3 – Assessment of Alternatives
 - Stage 4 – Assessment where no alternatives are available
- 1.5 This document comprises Stage 1 of the Habitats Regulation Assessment process and contributes to the fulfilment of Manchester Council's statutory duty as regards Article 6(3). That is, it is an Opinion on, and an Assessment of, whether or not the implementation of the Manchester Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (hereafter referred to as 'the Plan'), may have a significant effect on the special interest of any European designated protected sites. It is also an Opinion on, and an Assessment of, whether any of the identified effects (if any) can be avoided or mitigated or whether any of the actions proposed in the Plan or the Plan text need to be amended.
- 1.6 It is noted that the Plan being assessed has not (yet) been examined in public and further Assessments may be required if the Plan develops further. There is no statutory guidance on what stage of Plan production to best prepare an HRA but Natural England recommends that HRA begins at an early stage and if necessary continues through all the stages of plan production. As Best Practice for the preparation of HRA's develops the methodology undertaken for this HRA may develop.
- 1.7 The Greater Manchester Ecology Unit (GMEU), as the specialist ecological adviser to Manchester City Council, has prepared this Screening Opinion. Natural England and the JNCC were consulted for information on the conservation objectives and favourable condition tables for the European Sites concerned (the information is summarised below). GMEU ecologists, who are familiar with the European sites concerned and their special interest, reviewed the ecological information for the site. The key vulnerabilities and sensitivities of the European sites concerned are well understood by GMEU allowing for

an informed assessment of the possible effects of the Plan, and any specific aims, objectives and policies contained in the Plan on the special interests of European sites.

2 Brief description of the Plan

2.1 The Plan being assessed is the Manchester Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

2.2 For the purposes of this Assessment the Plan is not complete; further iterations may arise following consultation and review. An Opinion is being sought at this stage of Plan development to ensure that the requirements to meet terms of the Regulations regarding Habitats Regulation Assessment can be properly planned for and addressed.

The overall Objectives of the Plan are to –

- Reduce the likelihood, severity and consequences of flooding from Ordinary Watercourses, from Groundwater, and from Surface Water Runoff.
- Seek opportunities to improve water quality and biodiversity through flood risk management activities.

These overarching objectives will be achieved by a range of actions, from different stakeholders and at different spatial levels which together will involve:

- Developing effective Communication protocols across the Partnership to:
 - Ensure stakeholders are aware of their legal roles and responsibilities for flood risk management,
 - Warn communities of potential risk and engage with them in terms of managing risk and improving resilience,
 - Investigate floods that occur,
 - Coordinate responses to flood events,
 - Plan and coordinate investment,
 - Share information around the Partnership,
 - Enable flood incidents, or problems with flood defences or drainage infrastructure to be reported.
- Improving knowledge of drainage infrastructure within or affecting the city to identify priorities, help inform interventions, and thereby effectively manage risk.
- Developing an appropriate policy framework for local flood risk management to inform and direct the work of the Council as LLFA and other stakeholders, including a basis for prioritising interventions, and an up-to-date evidence base.
- Cooperating to maximise funding from all available sources to enable appropriate flood risk management interventions to be progressed, such as flood defence / drainage infrastructure capacity works at priority locations;
- Monitoring and maintaining flood defence / drainage infrastructure, including responsive maintenance to address problems as they arise;
- Engaging with the planning process to ensure flood risk is appropriately considered in new developments / landscaping.

The majority of the actions and objectives of the Strategy will not in themselves involve any direct development works or land-take. However they will inform and lead to the prioritisation of development measures to alleviate flood risk and they will serve to identify any potential risk of flooding impacts on protected nature conservation sites, including European Protected Sites. This will make possible the proper consideration of European

sites in the development of any detailed plans and the implementation of measures to better protect European Sites from flooding impacts. The majority of actions in the Strategy could therefore have a potentially beneficial interest on the special qualifying features of any relevant European Sites.

Where the locations of Strategic Flood Risk Projects are known and described in the Plan these projects are only at investigation and/or concept phase of development and no details are available to be assessed. This stage of project development allows for the proper consideration of the impact on any scheme on the special interest of European sites. The Plan does include as an overriding objective the requirement to improve biodiversity where possible.

3 Identification of European designated sites that could be affected by the Plan

- 3.1 This Assessment has first screened European protected sites in the North West of England to decide which of these sites are likely to be affected by implementation of the Plan. When assessing the impact of a Plan on European protected sites it is important to consider the impact on sites not only within the administrative area covered by the Plan but also those which fall outside the Plan boundary, as these could still potentially be affected by the Plan.
- 3.2 As a useful starting point, the Assessment has considered the suite of European sites assessed within the North West Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) Habitat Regulations Assessment. These sites are listed in Appendix 1. Although it is recognised that the RSS has now been abolished, the completed HRA of the RSS remains relevant in the Assessment of impacts on North West European sites. It is a useful starting point to ensure that *all* European sites considered to have the potential to be affected by development within the entire north-west Region can be initially considered for assessment (screened).

3.3 The Screening Criteria

In carrying out this screening process the Assessment has considered the main possible **sources** of effects on the European sites arising from the Plan, possible **pathways** to the European sites and the effects on possible sensitive **receptors** in the European sites. Only if there is an identifiable source, a pathway and a receptor is there likely to be a significant effect.

Possible sources and pathways for effects arising from development in the identified Sites and used in the screening of European sites are considered to be:

- Water (water pollution and hydrology)
- Air (air pollution)
- Direct land-take
- Habitat/Species Disturbance
- Increased recreational pressure

Guidance from the Environment Agency (EA) concerning distances at which significant effects on European sites are caused by water or air pollution have been taken into account during the screening of European sites in the North West. The EA has set recommended buffer zones for certain types of operation (in particular, waste treatment operations) that are in part applicable to other types of operation. Outside of these buffer zones significant effects on European sites arising from water and air pollution are considered unlikely to arise. The largest (most cautious) buffer zone considered by the EA is 15km; that is, most operations with the potential to cause direct water and/or air pollution impacts located further than 15km from the boundary of a European site are considered very unlikely to have a significant effect on the special interest of that site.

No European sites are within the boundary of Manchester and only one (the Rochdale Canal) is within 15km of the City boundary.

Although the guidance concerning buffer zones has been taken into account when screening European protected sites in this particular assessment, in the case of a Plan affecting the development of an entire metropolitan area, the 15km buffer zone should be regarded as important but not as definitive – for example, this buffer zone may not be sufficient when assessing certain very large-scale developments or secondary impacts.

In particular, applying the 15km buffer may not be appropriate for this Plan where there are unlikely to be any direct impacts on any European sites, but more likely that possible impacts may be caused by **diffuse air or water pollution** that may arise from significant development planned for within Manchester, or where there are secondary **recreational** pressures on more distant protected sites arising from increased regional and sub-regional populations. It is also possible that increased **water use** may affect distant protected sites, since water supplies to Manchester are sourced in part from areas including European sites and ultimately water drained from Manchester flows into the Mersey Estuary European Site. These factors are therefore described and considered in more detail below.

3.3.1 Diffuse Air Pollution

The main types of air pollutants likely to have an adverse effect on an ecologically important site are:

- Oxides of Nitrogen (NO_x)
- Ammonia (NH₃)
- Dust
- Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂)
- Low level Ozone (O₃)

(Scott Wilson Ltd 2007)

Of these NO_x and SO₃ are the most likely airborne pollutants to arise as a result of development controlled or prioritised by a Plan process (mainly through increased traffic). The greatest damage caused by these pollutants occurs close to where they are emitted (within 250 m) but an individual source of pollution may add to the general background levels, as pollutants are dispersed by prevailing winds. The main sources of these pollutants are road traffic and industrial processes.

It should be mentioned here that in the past large scale coal burning in Greater Manchester probably affected moorland now within the South Pennine Moors SAC, in the north and east of Manchester, because the prevailing winds are from the South West, carrying pollution towards the moors. However, it is now considered that the most likely source of increased air pollution arising from the operation of any City-wide Plan will be increased road traffic, **which is not a source considered likely to occur through the implementation of a flood risk management strategy.**

3.3.2 Diffuse Water Pollution

Effects on distant European sites can occur through increases in water pollution caused by nutrient enrichment and/or industrial processes. Where proposed developments within Manchester are considered likely to result in this type of diffuse pollution arising and affecting a European site, these have been screened into this Assessment.

Of the sites considered under Appendix 1, diffuse water pollution arising from flood alleviation schemes could conceivably have an effect on the Rochdale Canal SAC, because part of the Canal (although not that part designated as a European site) passes through Manchester.

However the Rochdale Canal does pass through other urban areas outside of Manchester. Also, the water flow through the Canal is controlled by a series of locks that in places serve to slow and/or divert water flow, and this results in sedimentation occurring along the Canal, reducing the potential for diffuse spread of certain pollutants throughout the Canal. Such flow as there is in the Canal is directed towards the City and away from the part of the Canal with special nature conservation interest. It is therefore considered very unlikely that diffuse water pollution arising from the implementation of local flood risk alleviation measures in Manchester would affect the special interest of the Rochdale Canal. Other strategies and plans, in particular the requirements of the EU Water Frameworks Directive and the associated River Basin Management Plans, will require measures to be taken to ensure a reduction in pollution levels in the Canal. There will therefore be controls in place additional to controls described in the Plan itself to avoid any significant effects arising from this source during the implementation of the flood risk management plan.

It is noted that ultimately all flood water in Manchester will flow into the Manchester Ship Canal and then into the Mersey Estuary. Parts of the Estuary are designated as European protected Sites. It is conceivable that diffuse water pollution arising from the implementation of local flood alleviation schemes in Manchester could reach the Estuary. However the following factors are relevant –

- The Estuary receives drainage from a large area of North West England. Attributing any rise in pollution in the Estuary from a particular local flood risk action in Manchester would be effectively impossible.
- Water flow through the Ship Canal is controlled in a series of locks that serve to slow water flow and cause sedimentation before this sediment reaches the Estuary.

3.3.3 Recreational Pressure

It is possible that development within Manchester could cause increased recreational pressure on the Rochdale Canal SAC.

Given the scope and aims and objectives of the Plan being assessed it is considered very unlikely that this type of impact will arise as a result of the implementation of a local flood risk management measure.

3.3.4 Water Supply

Manchester obtains its water supply from supplies that serve much of Greater Manchester. It is therefore very difficult to assess the impact on any remote European protected sites of any increase in water demand caused by development in Manchester alone. For this reason reliance has been placed on the results of the Appropriate Assessment of the RSS and distant European sites supplying water to the GM sub-region have been screened out of the Assessment of this Plan.

It is impossible to envisage the implementation of a flood risk management plan requiring increased water abstraction from within distant European sites. This is counter-intuitive.

- 3.3.5** The detailed results of the site screening process are found in Appendices 1 and 2 of this document. Appendix 1 shows the likely effects of the possible pathway and sources, outlined above, of future development in Manchester on European Sites. Appendix 2 summarises the results of this screening process. The outcomes of the site screening process are given below.

3.4 Summary Results of Screening of Sites

From the screening process detailed in Appendix 1 and 2, and taking a (very) precautionary approach based on distance from the City boundary, the following European designated site has been identified as having some potential to be affected by the implementation of a local flood risk management strategy for Manchester -

- **Rochdale Canal Special Area of Conservation**

There follows a description of the special nature conservation interests of the above site.

4 The Nature Conservation Interest of the Rochdale Canal SAC

The following information is derived from information available on-line from Natural England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee and from information held by GMEU.

4.1 The Rochdale Canal

4.1.1 Description of the Rochdale Canal SAC

The Rochdale Canal extends approximately 20 km from Littleborough to Failsworth, passing through urban and industrialised parts of Rochdale, Oldham and Manchester and the intervening areas of agricultural land (mostly pasture). Only part of the Canal is within the City of Manchester and this part is not designated for its nature conservation value. Water supplied to the Rochdale Canal in part arises from the Pennines. This water is acidic and relatively low in nutrients, while water from other sources is mostly high in nutrients. The aquatic flora of the canal is thus indicative of a mesotrophic water quality (i.e. is moderately nutrient-rich) although there is evidence of some local enrichment.

4.1.2 Primary reason for designation of the Rochdale Canal as a European protected site

The Rochdale Canal supports a significant population of **floating water-plantain** *Luronium natans* in a botanically diverse waterplant community which also holds a wide range of pondweeds *Potamogeton* spp. The canal has predominantly mesotrophic water. This population of *Luronium* is representative of the formerly more widespread canal populations of north-west England, although the Rochdale Canal supports unusually dense populations of the plant.

The conservation objective for the European interest of the SAC is to maintain, in favourable condition, the habitats for the population of Floating water-plantain (*Luronium natans*). Maintenance implies restoration if the feature is not currently in favourable condition

4.1.3 Floating water-plantain; description and ecological characteristics

Floating water-plantain *Luronium natans* occurs in a range of freshwater situations, including nutrient-poor lakes in the uplands (mainly referable to 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or of the *Isoëto-Nanojuncetea*) and slowly-flowing lowland rivers, pools, ditches and canals that are moderately nutrient-rich.

Luronium natans occurs as two forms: in shallow water with floating oval leaves, and in deep water with submerged rosettes of narrow leaves. The plant thrives best in open situations with a moderate degree of disturbance, where the growth of emergent vegetation is held in check. Populations fluctuate greatly in size, often increasing when water levels drop to expose the bottom of the water body. Populations fluctuate from year to year, and at many sites records of *L. natans* have been infrequent, suggesting that

only small populations occur, in some cases possibly as transitory colonists of the habitat. Populations tend to be more stable at natural sites than artificial ones, but approximately half of recent (post-1980) records are from canals and similar artificial habitats. Its habitat in rivers has been greatly reduced by channel-straightening, dredging and pollution, especially in lowland situations.

4.1.4 Operations that may damage the special interest of the canal include operations and activities that affect the growth and survival of *Lurionium natans*. These have been identified as:-

- Dredging of the canal
- Draining of the canal
- Pollution of the canal
- Shading of the canal
- Increased boat traffic using the canal, increasing both water turbidity and disturbance of substrates
- Use of herbicides in or adjacent to the canal
- Introduction or spread of alien invasive species to the Canal
- Species disturbance

4.1.5 When assessing the possible impacts of a Plan on the Rochdale Canal SAC, the potential of the Plan to cause any or all of the above listed damaging operations has to be considered when reaching a decision as to whether the plan needs to undergo a full Appropriate Assessment. A recent High Court judgment (The Queen on the application of Hart District Council v The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, Luckmore Ltd, Barratt Homes Ltd case 2008) has confirmed that avoidance and mitigation measures which form part of a Plan should be taken into account in the screening of projects for the likelihood of a significant effect (Stage 1). However, the purpose of compensatory measures is different and these should not be taken into account in assessing whether the proposal is likely to have significant effects on a European site.

4.1.6 The precautionary principle must be applied when making such an assessment. If it is found that any development could result in a damaging operation then the proposal is likely to have a significant effect on the European site and should be subject to full Appropriate Assessment (Stages 2-4).

5 Screening Opinions

5.1 Many of the stated Objectives of the Plan itself relate to the need for better information about flood risks, better communication about flood risks and better planning and coordination of flood risk alleviation schemes. The implementation of these objectives will greatly reduce any risks of harm to European protected sites that may arise from future flood management schemes.

5.2 Possible Impacts of the Plan on the Rochdale Canal SAC – Screening Opinion

Of the potentially damaging operations described in section 4.1.4 of this report schemes to reduce flood risk within Manchester may have the potential to cause –

- **dredging,**
- **direct disturbance,**
- **drainage and/or**
- **pollution**

This is because the Canal runs through part of Manchester including heavily populated areas and flood alleviation projects could take place adjacent to or near to the Canal, including ‘up-stream’ of Manchester and within the SAC. For example measures could be taken to improve Canal banks to reduce the probability of Canal breach and these could include drainage of the Canal to facilitate such works.

It is also feasible that proposals could come forward to use the Canal itself for flood water storage or directly for flood alleviation, for example by dredging the Canal to provide improved water storage, reducing flood risk in Manchester.

Pollution has been discussed above and this potential harm has been discounted.

It is not possible at this stage to assess particular schemes that may come forward as a result of the implementation of the Plan and that could potentially lead to dredging and/or drainage of the Canal. What is possible at this stage is to ensure that the special interest of the Canal is properly considered in any schemes that may result from the operation of the Plan.

I would therefore recommend that the Plan recognises that any flood risk alleviation proposals that involve the Rochdale Canal will need to be subject to Assessment regarding impacts on the nature conservation interest of the Canal. Section 5.7 of the Plan would seem to me to be an appropriate place to incorporate this.

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

- 6.1 The Habitats Regulation Assessment must consider the likely significant effect of the Plan in relation to other proposals and plans current or planned within the relevant administrative area, other administrative authorities and prepared by other statutory organisations (e.g. Environment Agency, United Utilities) and in combination with the identified effects of those Plans.
- 6.2 It can be considered that this will fall into two categories: those effects associated with regional strategic plans and proposals and those related to more localised 'in-combination' effects, either with adjacent Authorities or geographically localised plans from other statutory agencies.
- 6.3 The North West Regional Spatial Strategy has considered the 'in-combination' effects of the Region's Projects and Plans at a strategic level (Entec January 2007) and therefore such regionally strategic plans are not considered further in this Assessment. Although the RSS can now be regarded as revoked the evidence base used to support the preparation of the RSS remains material.
- 6.4 As regards the emerging Core Strategies and other Development Plan Documents and Flood Risk Management Strategies of neighbouring Greater Manchester authorities, those ready for initial Assessment have been screened by GMEU. These are listed and the results presented in Appendix 3.
- 6.5 This Assessment will be updated and amended as necessary as further Plans come forward for Assessment in order to take into account possible 'in-combination' effects arising, particularly within Manchester.

7 Conclusions and Recommendations

- 7.1 Screening of European protected sites has established that the following site has limited potential to be affected by the implementation of the Manchester Local Flood Risk Management Strategy -
 - Rochdale Canal Special Area of Conservation
- 7.2 Following further screening of the special qualifying features of interest of the Canal, consideration of potentially harmful operations on these features arising from the operation of the Plan and consideration of safeguards contained within the Plan **it has been concluded that a minor amendment to the Plan will provide sufficient safeguard to ensure that the implementation of the Manchester Local Flood Risk Management Strategy will not have any significant impact on the special interest of the European Protected Site.**
- 7.3 No 'in combination' effects are considered likely to occur.
- 7.4 To make the Plan more robust It is **recommended** that the wording of the Plan should be amended to make clear the need to **avoid** any harmful impacts of flood risk alleviation schemes on European sites.

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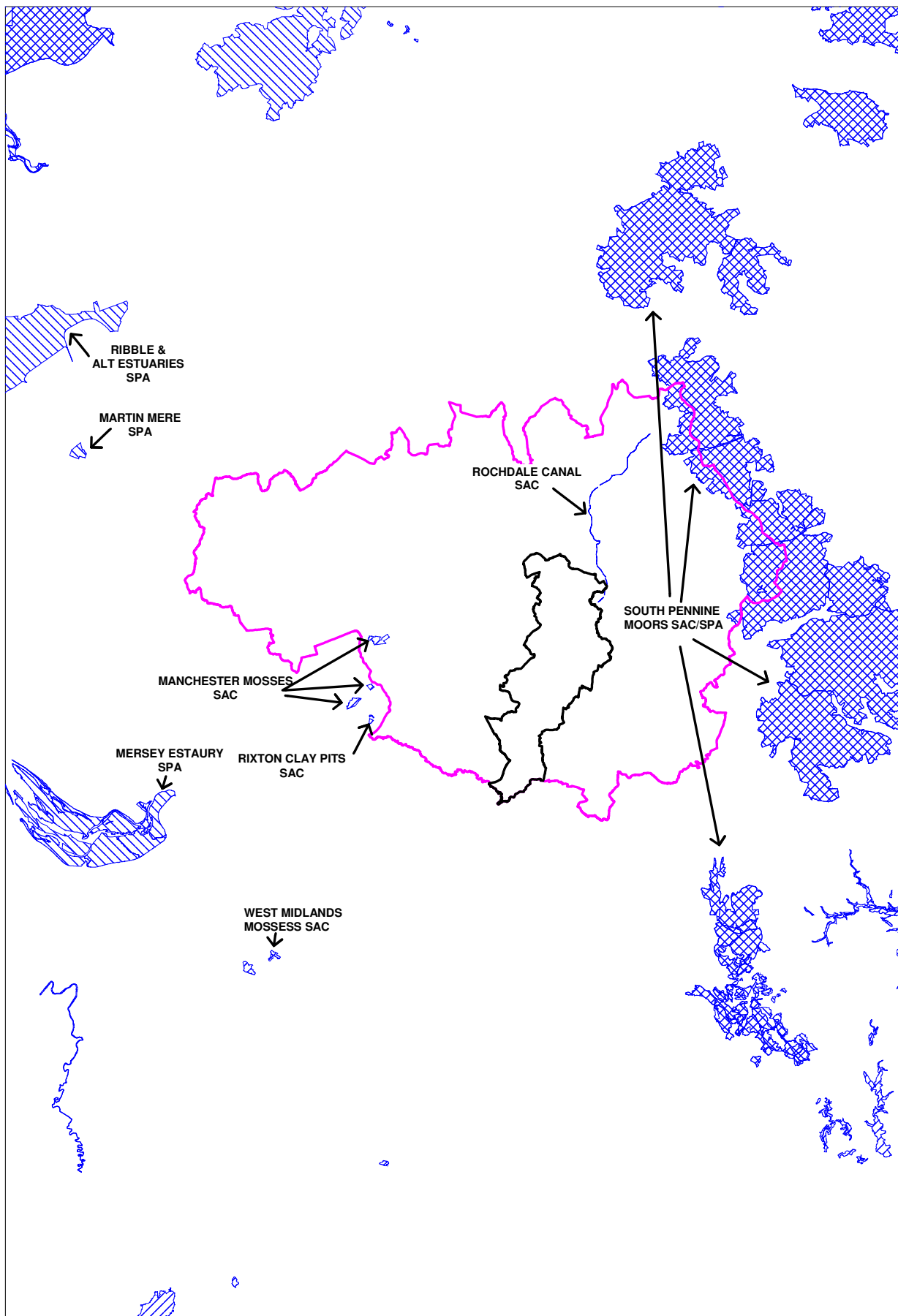
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Figure 1 – Map Showing Location of European Sites within Greater Manchester and in Close Proximity to the County (edged pink) and Manchester (edged black)



APPENDIX 1: European designated sites within the North West Region and possible effects from development within Manchester.
Those highlighted in red have been ‘screened in’ to this Assessment

Site Name	Designation	Type of Effect	Likely Effects
Asby Complex	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC.
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species in SAC are generally restricted to habitat types that do not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Border Mires, Kielder – Butterburn	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direction disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Borrowdale Woodland Complex	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester

		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Bowland Fells	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – identified species are highly unlikely to utilise habitats within Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Calf Hill & Cragg Woods	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester

Clints Quarry	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None - Species population too distant to be affected by any development with Greater Manchester and species dispersion known to be less than 2km.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Cumbrian Marsh Fritillary Site	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None - Species found in Cumbria is distinct national population, with adults being sedentary. Species not known to occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Dee Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None

		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Drigg Coast	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester. Manchester rivers do not discharge into Drigg Estuary
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats in SAC are restricted to habitat types that do not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Duddon Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester

Duddon Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Esthwaite Water	Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Irthinghead Mires	Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None

		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Lake District High Fells	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats or species
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Leighton Moss	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA and Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Liverpool Bay	pSPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Manchester

		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – no information available as to species site selected for but type of species present highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester (based on knowledge of Greater Manchester bird populations)
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Manchester Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	Potential drainage effects
		Air Pollution	Potential effects from airborne pollutants
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	Potential for habitats to be effected by hydrological impacts and pollution
		Increased recreational Pressure	Potential effects due to increased population
Martin Mere	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester

		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Mersey Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - Strategic impacts of increased development in Manchester on the water quality in the SPA/Ramsar Site are considered under the HRA for RSS, where figures for employment land and residential development are set.
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be significantly effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Mersey Narrows & Wirral Foreshore	pSPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	Site classification details unavailable but there are unlikely to be any hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	Site classification details unavailable but there are unlikely to be any atmospheric pathways between SPA and land within Manchester
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – no information available as to species site selected for but type of species present highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester (based on knowledge of Greater Manchester bird populations).
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester

Midland Meres & Mosses – Phase 1 & Phase 2	2 x Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Moor House – Upper Teasdale	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Morecambe Bay	SAC/Ramsar /SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Manchester. Manchester rivers do not discharge into Morecambe Bay
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None

		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats in SAC/SPA/Ramsar Site are restricted to habitat types that do not occur in Greater Manchester. Dispersion of Great Crested Newts is known to be less than 2km. Bird species unlikely to be effected by habitat changes within Manchester.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Morecambe Bay Pavements	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Habitats and species in SAC are generally restricted to habitat types that do not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Naddle Forest	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
North Pennine Dales Meadows	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).

		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species. Habitats in SAC are generally restricted to habitat types that do not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
North Pennine Moors	SAC/SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC/SPA and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC/SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species. Species unlikely to be effected by changes to habitats in Manchester.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Oak Mere	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant from for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.

		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – Any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Ribble & Alt Estuaries	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
River Dee & Bala Lake	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).

		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
River Derwent & Bassenthwaite Lake	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None – no water borne pollution pathways to SAC from Greater Manchester. Strategic impacts of increased development in Manchester on the water levels in the SAC are considered under the HRA for RSS, where figures for employment land and residential development are set.
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
River Eden	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester

River Ehen	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None - No hydrological connections and main species (fresh water pearl mussel) does not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
River Kent	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Rixton Clay Pits	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	Possible - site lies within 800m of Manchester
		Air Pollution	Unlikely – air pollution not identified as potentially damaging operation on interest of SAC
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	Possible - site lies within 800m of Manchester

		Increased recreational Pressure	Possible - site lies within 800m of Manchester
Rochdale Canal	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	Possible – parts of the European site are within 15km of Manchester
		Air Pollution	Possible – parts of the European site are within 15km of Manchester
		Direct land take	Possible – parts of the European site are within 15km of Manchester
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	Possible – parts of the European site are within 15km of Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	Possible – parts of the European site are within 15 km of Manchester
Rostherne Mere	Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between Ramsar site and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching Ramsar site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – habitats and species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Roudsea Wood & Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None

		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Sefton Coast	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species. Habitat types do not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Solway Firth	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
South Pennine Moors	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None – site is too distant
		Air Pollution	None – site is too distant

		Direct land take	None – site is too distant
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – site is too distant
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant
South Pennine Moors Phase 2	SPA	Water Quality/Hydrology	None – site is too distant
		Air Pollution	None – site is too distant
		Direct land take	None – site is too distant
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – site is too distant
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant
South Solway Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Subberthwaite, Blawith & Torver Low	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester

Commons		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Tarn Moss	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Tyne & Nent	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats. Habitat not found in Greater Manchester

		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Ullswater Oakwoods	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Upper Solway Flats & Marshes	SPA/Ramsar	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SPA/Ramsar Site and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SPA/Ramsar Site (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – species identified highly unlikely to be effected by any habitat changes in Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Walton Moss	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester

		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Wast Water	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitat. Habitat does not occur in Greater Manchester
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
West Midlands Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.

		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Witherslack Mosses	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester
Yewbarrow Woods	SAC	Water Quality/Hydrology	None - No hydrological pathways between SAC and land within Manchester
		Air Pollution	None – No atmospheric pathways and any pollutants are likely to have dispersed prior to reaching SAC (see EA report).
		Direct land take	None
		Habitat/Species Disturbance	None – Site too distant for any direct or indirect disturbance to habitats and species.
		Increased recreational Pressure	None – site is too distant and numerous recreational facilities closer to Manchester

APPENDIX 2: Screening Summary of European designated sites within the North West Region and possible impacts from development within Manchester

Site Name	Designation	Screened in/out	Justification
Asby Complex	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Border Mires, Kielder – Butterburn	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Borrowdale Woodland Complex	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Bowland Fells	SPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Calf Hill & Cragg Woods	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Clints Quarry	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Cumbrian Marsh Fritillary Site	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Dee Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Drigg Coast	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Duddon Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA

Duddon Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Esthwaite Water	Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Irthinghead Mires	Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Lake District High Fells	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Leighton Moss	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Liverpool Bay	pSPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Manchester Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Martin Mere	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Mersey Estuary	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Mersey Narrows & Wirral Foreshore	pSPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Midland Meres & Mosses – Phase 1 & Phase 2	2 x Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Moor House – Upper	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or

Teasdale			pathways identified in RSS HRA
Morecambe Bay	SAC/Ramsar/SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Morecambe Bay Pavements	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Naddle Forest	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
North Pennine Dales Meadows	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
North Pennine Moors	SAC/SPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
Oak Mere	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Peak District Moors (South Pennine Moors Phase 1)	SPA	Out	Although within Greater Manchester the site is considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no known pathways exist between SPA and Manchester.
Ribble & Alt Estuaries	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
River Dee & Bala Lake	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
River Derwent & Bassenthwaite Lake	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and strategic impacts considered by RSS HRA
River Eden	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA

River Ehen	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
River Kent	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Rixton Clay Pits	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Rochdale Canal	SAC	In	Part close to Manchester CC boundary
Rostherne Mere	Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Roudsea Wood & Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Sefton Coast	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Solway Firth	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
South Pennine Moors	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
South Pennine Moors Phase 2	SPA	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
South Solway Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise
Subberthwaite, Blawith & Torver Low Commons	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Tarn Moss	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or

			pathways identified in RSS HRA
Tyne & Nent	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Ullswater Oakwoods	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Upper Solway Flats & Marshes	SPA/Ramsar	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Walton Moss	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Wast Water	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
West Midlands Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Witherslack Mosses	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA
Yewbarrow Woods	SAC	Out	Site considered too distant for significant effects to arise and no strategic impacts or pathways identified in RSS HRA

APPENDIX 3 – List of Other Plans and Projects Considered within the Assessment

Plans Assessed under the Terms of the Habitats Regulations by GMEU

District	Plan	Outcome of Assessment
Rochdale MBC	SPD 'Energy and New Development'	No effect on European Sites
Rochdale MBC	SPD provision of Recreational Open Space in New Housing Developments	
Rochdale MBC	SPD Development of East Central Rochdale	
Rochdale MBC	SPD Biodiversity and Development	
Rochdale MBC	SPD Affordable Housing	
Rochdale MBC	LDF Core Strategy (Adopted)	Potential effect on Rochdale Canal SAC
Manchester CC	SPD Providing for Housing Choice	No effect on European Sites
Manchester CC	LDF Core Strategy (Adopted)	Potential Effect on Rochdale Canal SAC
Bolton MBC	LDF Core Strategy (Publication)	No effect on European Sites
Bolton MBC	Local Plan Land Allocations	
Trafford MBC	LDF Core Strategy LDF Core Strategy (Adopted)	Potential Effect on Manchester Mosses SAC
Bury MBC	LDF Core Strategy (Publication)	Potential effect on Rochdale Canal SAC

Oldham MBC	LDF Core Strategy (Adopted)	Potential Effects on Rochdale Canal SAC
Wigan MBC	LDF Core Strategy (Adopted)	Potential Effect on Manchester Mosses SAC
Salford CC	LDF Draft Core Strategy (Publication Draft) -withdrawn	Potential Effects on Manchester Mosses
Greater Manchester	Greater Manchester's Minerals Plan (Publication Report)	No effects on European sites identified

Plans Assessed under the Terms of the Habitats Regulations by other bodies

District	Plan	Outcome of Assessment
Stockport MBC	LDF Core Strategy	No effect on European Sites
Greater Manchester	Greater Manchester Waste Plan	States that "It can be concluded that the JWDPD has established a sufficient policy framework to mitigate its contribution to adverse effects on the integrity of European sites"
Warrington MBC	SPD – Managing the Housing Supply	No effect on European Sites
Warrington MBC	SPD – Affordable Housing	
Warrington MBC	SPD – Travel Plans	
Warrington MBC	SPD – Planning Obligations	

Warrington MBC	SPD – Landscape Design Guide for new development	
Warrington MBC	SPD – Open Space & Recreation Provision	
Warrington MBC	SPD – Bridge Street Area	
Warrington MBC	Core Strategy and Third Local Transport Plan	Concludes that “No significant adverse effects on the nature conservation interests of Manchester Mosses SAC are anticipated”.
St Helens MBC	LDF – Core Strategy Publication Draft	Concludes that “the Core Strategy when considered as a whole will not lead to significant adverse effects on Manchester Mosses SAC”.