
Habitats
Regulations
Assessment
Screening Report
for the 2015
AONB
Management Plan
Review

**Solway Coast
AONB Joint
Advisory
Committee**

Craggatak Consulting
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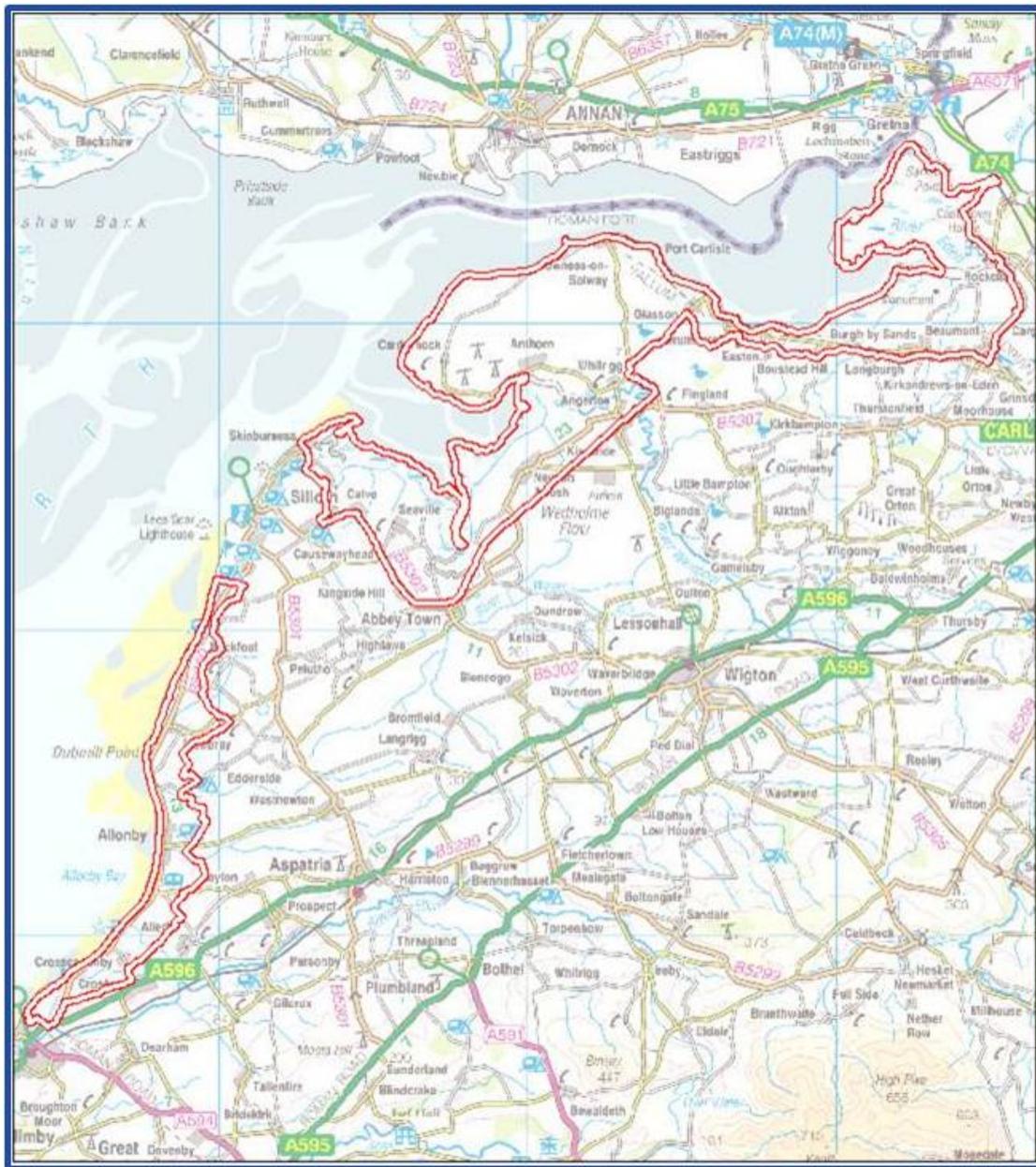
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Acknowledgements

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Map of the Solway Coast AONB

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1. Background

- 1.1. This is the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report prepared for the draft Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan Review.

The European Habitats Directive

- 1.2. HRAs are required under the UK Habitats Regulations¹. Under the European Habitats Directive, the Solway Coast AONB Joint Advisory Committee is required to undertake a HRA of the draft management plan to determine whether its policies and actions are likely to have a significant adverse effect on any internationally recognised sites of nature conservation interest (also known as 'Natura 2000' or European sites). These sites include Special Protection Areas (SPAs), designated under the Birds Directive²; and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), designated under the Habitats Directive³. Sites designated under the Ramsar⁴ wetlands convention are also included in HRAs, as specified in Natural England guidance⁵. If there are significant adverse effects then there is an examination of alternative policies or avoidance and mitigation measures. The intent is to prevent the plan from detrimentally influencing any European site's conservation objectives.
- 1.3. Article 2 of the Habitats Directive requires the maintenance or restoration of habitats and species of European Community interest, at a favourable conservation status. Articles 3 - 9 provide the legislative means to protect habitats and species of Community interest. In particular, Article 6 (3) of the Directive states:

"Any plan or project not directly connected with, or necessary to, the management of the [European] site, but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives".

Habitats Regulations Assessment Stages

- 1.4. It is the accepted practice to adopt a stage-by-stage approach for an Article 6 Assessment. There are four stages:
- **Stage One: Screening** - To identify the likely impacts on a European site of a project or plan, either alone or in combination with other projects or plans, and consider whether these impacts are likely to be significant;
 - **Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment** (where there are likely to be significant impacts) - To consider the impact on the integrity of the European site of the project or plan, either alone or 'in combination' with other projects or plans, with respect to the structure, function and conservation objectives of the site. Additionally, where there are adverse impacts, to assess the potential mitigation of those impacts;

¹ The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. Statutory Instrument No. 490 as amended by the 2012 amendment regulations (Statutory Instrument No. 1927).

² Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (the codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended).

³ Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora

⁴ Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International importance, especially waterfowl habitat (1971) www.ramsar.org

⁵ Natural England 2009. Final Draft Guidance: The Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents.

- **Stage Three: Assessment of alternative solutions** - To examine alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the European site;
 - **Stage Four: Assessment where no alternative solutions exist** (where adverse impacts remain) - To assess compensatory measures where, in the light of an assessment of imperative reasons of overriding public interest, it is deemed that the project or plan should proceed.
- 1.5. Each stage determines whether a further stage in the process is required. If, for example, the conclusions at the end of Stage One are that there will be no significant impacts on the European site, there is no requirement to proceed further.

Solway Coast AONB

- 1.6. Designation of the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was in 1964. The designated area lies along 59km of the Cumbrian shore of the Solway Firth, between Maryport and Rockcliffe. It is split into two separate sections, as the town of Silloth is excluded. Covering an area of 115 sq km, this is a low, open and windswept AONB with wide views across to the hills of Galloway.
- 1.7. Physically part of the Solway Plain, the coast's characteristic feature is its continuous 7.6m raised beach. Silting along the estuary has left extensive marine deposits and the open foreshore strip now either consists of marine terrace with low, scrub-covered sandstone cliffs or undulating dunes. The falling tides expose wide sand stretches, intertidal mud flats and, higher upstream, salt marsh and peat moss, in a landscape with a sense of remoteness that is the essence of its value and character.
- 1.8. With varied habitats and rich feeding grounds, the estuary is of outstanding wildlife importance. Consequently, some 40% of the AONB's land area is protected as European Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA) and RAMSAR site. Glasson Moss National Nature Reserve is part of the largest undamaged area of lowland raised mire in Britain.
- 1.9. The area has a rich historical and cultural heritage associated with its position on the Scottish border. Items of historical interest include Hadrian's Wall, a World Heritage Site, which extended as far as Bowness-on-Solway. Historical features from other periods include an Elizabethan sea dyke and saltpans, and the remains of the redundant Carlisle Canal and railway line.
- 1.10. This is a traditional agricultural area remote from large towns. Inshore fishing includes shrimping and cockles. The local village farming, by rotational cropping and grazing, has evolved from the traditional Cumbrian pattern with its 'statemen' communities of farmers. Small, hedged fields are still a dominant feature in the landscape.
- 1.11. Tourism is an important, though relatively undeveloped, supplement to the local economy, concentrated in caravan sites at the small resorts of Silloth and Allonby. The AONB is a popular day trip destination for touring motorists from Carlisle, the West Cumbrian coast towns and Tyneside, and the shore road bears heavy peak season traffic. The Cumbria Cycle Way passes through the AONB and the regional footpath, the Cumbria Coastal Way, follows the foreshore and continues to Port Carlisle. The Hadrian's Wall Path National Trail runs through the north of the AONB.

Management Plan Review

- 1.12. Section 82 of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000 establishes the primary purpose of AONB designation as the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty. Section 85 of the CRoW Act places a duty on all public bodies to ‘have regard’ to the ‘purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the area of outstanding natural beauty’. Under Section 89, the ‘relevant local authorities’ must prepare and publish a management plan for each AONB. The management plan is a statutory document and presents an agreed agenda for the AONB, setting out objectives and policies for the local authorities, statutory agencies and people who live and work in the area. The plan does not dictate actions within the designated area and does not control agriculture, business or economic development activities but seeks to manage change positively.
- 1.13. There are three relevant local authorities for the Solway Coast AONB. They are Cumbria County Council, Allerdale Borough Council and Carlisle City Council. These councils have established a joint advisory committee under the Local Government Act 1972, section 102 (4) to manage their obligations for the AONB. Representatives of the three local authorities and a variety of public, private and voluntary sector bodies make up the Joint Advisory Committee.
- 1.14. The current AONB Management Plan is for the 2010-15 period. CRoW requires a formal review of each management plan at intervals of not more than five years. The Partnership is now preparing the next 2015-2020 management plan. Following consultation with local communities, public bodies and agencies with an interest in the area, the management plan will present the special qualities and features of the AONB and determines what actions are required to ensure their conservation and enhancement. **Table 1** shows a summary of the Management Plan Review process.

Table 1: The five parts of a Management Plan Review

	Review Process	Plan Outputs	SEA / SA	HRA
The Twelve Principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity	Part 1: State of the Protected Landscape			
	Review of management plan Assessing change & evidence base Review links to other plans, policies & programmes	Review Special Qualities The Vision Ecosystem Services Evidence – State of the Protected Landscape	Stage A Scoping SEA Consultation with Environmental Bodies	Identification of: Sites of European importance. Other plans & programmes, Key environmental issues
	Part 2: Strategy for the Protected Landscape			
	Revise & update the management plan	Protected Landscape Management Plan Strategy	Stage B Assessment	Screening the Plan's effects
	Part 3: Reporting			
	Production of the draft management plan	Protected Landscape Management	Stage C Environmental	Prepare Screening Report



Craggatak Consulting for Natural Resources Wales 2014

2. HRA programme and methodology

Introduction

2.1. The approach for carrying out the HRA of the AONB Management Plan Review is based on current best practice and the following guidance:

- The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012. Statutory Instrument No. 1927.
- European Commission (2001). Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites
- Tyldesley, D. (2009), 'The Habitats Regulations Assessment of Local Development Documents. Final Draft Guidance' by David Tyldesley and Associates for Natural England, January 2009.
- Tyldesley, D. (2012), 'Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans: Guidance for Plan-Making Bodies in Scotland', by David Tyldesley and Associates for Scottish Natural Heritage, August 2012.
- Tyldesley, D. (2012), 'Final Draft Guidance for Plan Making Authorities in Wales: The Appraisal of Plans under the Habitats Regulations' by David Tyldesley and Associates for Countryside Council for Wales, September 2012.

2.2. A summary of the approach and method applied to the management plan is set out in **Table 2** below:

Stages / Tasks	Description	Habitats Directive
1 Likely Significant Effects or 'Screening'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i Analyse the European site(s) and the reasons for designation, and the underlying trends affecting it (them) ii Assess whether the policies and associated actions either alone or in combination with other plans are able to have a significant impact on the site(s). 	<i>Article 6(3)</i>
Where a significant impact is likely:		

2	Appropriate Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i ii iii iv v 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analyse the policy, including key components and how the actions would be implemented in practice Analyse other plans and projects that could contribute to 'in combination' effects Analyse how the policies and actions in combination with other plans and projects will 'interact' with implementation Where applicable, propose and assess mitigation measures for addressing adverse effects Prepare an Appropriate Assessment Report for consultation with CCW and key stakeholders 	
3	Assessment of Alternative Solutions	-	Reassess alternatives if effective mitigation proves impossible and develop / select a different alternative that does not harm site integrity.	
4	Assessment where no alternative solutions remain and where adverse impacts remain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i ii 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At this stage actions which, even with mitigation, still have an adverse effect on the site(s) integrity should be dropped. Assess whether an action can be passed justified by 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest'. Permitted on the grounds of human health, public safety or primary beneficial consequences for the environment. 	<i>Article 6(4)</i>

Step one – Pre-Screening

- 2.3. Gather information on the location of the Solway Coast AONB and the scope and intent of its draft management plan. This includes the location, conservation objectives and qualifying feature(s) for each European site complete with the key factors influencing that condition; and the objectives of other plans and schemes in the area that may work in combination with the management plan to affect a European site.

Step two – Screening for a likely significant effect

- 2.4. Categorise each element of the plan as to its likely effects on each interest feature of each European site identified as subject to assessment in the evidence base. This includes all of the reasons for the designation / classification or listing of the site (in the case of SAC, including primary and non-primary reasons for designation). There are four categories of potential effects as follows:

Category A:	elements of the plan that would have <u>no negative effect</u> ⁶ on a European site at all;
Category B:	elements of the plan that could have an effect but the likelihood is there would be <u>no significant negative effect</u> on a European site either alone or in combination with other elements of the same plan, or other plans or projects;
Category C:	elements of the plan that could or would be <u>likely to have a significant effect alone</u> and will require the plan to be subject to an appropriate assessment before the plan

⁶ 'Negative' effects in the context of this and all the following lists are effects that would be likely to undermine the conservation objectives of a European site. (Tyldesley, D., 2012 *Welsh guidance footnote 24*)

may be adopted;

Category D: elements of the plan that would be likely to have a significant effect in combination with other elements of the same plan, or other plans or projects and will require the plan to be subject to an appropriate assessment before the plan may be adopted;

After Tyldesley, D. CCW 2012

- 2.5. The European Court of Justice has ruled that only effects that could undermine the conservation objectives of a European site are likely to have significant effects. Therefore, the initial task is to identify those policies and actions that have no negative effects (Category A). There are likely to be five types of policies and actions in the plan that could have no negative effects at all on any European site (either alone or in combination with other policies, plans or projects). They include the general statements of policy that the EC has indicated could not have a significant effect on a site. The five types are as follows:

- A1** Options / policies that will not themselves lead to development e.g. because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria for development; or they are not a land use planning policy.
- A2** Options / policies intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity.
- A3** Options / policies intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment, where enhancement measures will not be likely to have any negative effect on a European site.
- A4** Options / policies that positively steer development away from European sites and associated sensitive areas.
- A5** General policy statements or policies only expressing general intentions or political aspirations.

After Tyldesley, D. CCW 2012

- 2.6. There are three tasks in Step Two:

Task 1 – Compile a schedule listing all the policies and actions of the management plan. Check each element for the likelihood of it leading to a significant effect on a European site.

All elements placed in Category A are set aside, as they could have no ecological impact on any European site.

Those elements identified as having a potential negative impact upon any European site were re-checked 'in combination' with other elements of the management plan. Where other elements clearly mitigated any potential negative impacts, they are set aside.

Task 2 – Assess the remaining elements of the plan for each European site (both alone and in combination) to identify any elements that could have an effect but would not be likely to have a significant (negative) effect on a European site because the effects are trivial or '*de minimis*', even if combined with other effects (Category B). The identification of such elements follows the precautionary principle. If there is any doubt about an ecological impact then the element remains in the assessment process.

All elements placed in Category B are set aside, as they could have no ecological impact on any European site.

Task 3 - Any remaining elements are likely to have a significant effect alone (Category C) or in combination (Category D).

Move to Step Three

Step Three – Appropriate Assessment

- 2.7. Once identified as Category C or D, the recommendation is to remove the policy or action from the plan, or otherwise modify the plan, to avoid the likelihood of significant effects (all modifications pass through the assessment steps).
- 2.8. Where modification is not possible, the plan must be the subject of a full appropriate assessment.

Consultation and re-appraisal

- 2.9. The draft management plan and Habitats Regulations Screening Report (together with the Strategic Environmental Assessment) are the subject of consultation with the statutory agencies and principle stakeholders. As well as the formal consultation with the statutory agencies, there is regular informal support from Natural England and Scottish Natural Heritage throughout the process.
- 2.10. Amendments to the management plan may occur in the light of the Screening Report and Strategic Environmental Assessment findings and / or the advice received from the statutory agencies. The plan making authority should remove potentially harmful policies and proposals and explicitly include measures to ensure that no development flowing from the plan will have an adverse effect on the integrity of a European site. The plan making authority must consult and reach agreement with Natural England and Scottish Natural Heritage before concluding that a plan would have no adverse effect on the integrity of a European site. If the plan making authority amends the management plan, then there is a reappraisal of the impacts upon the integrity of any European sites under the Habitat Regulations using the methodology set out above.

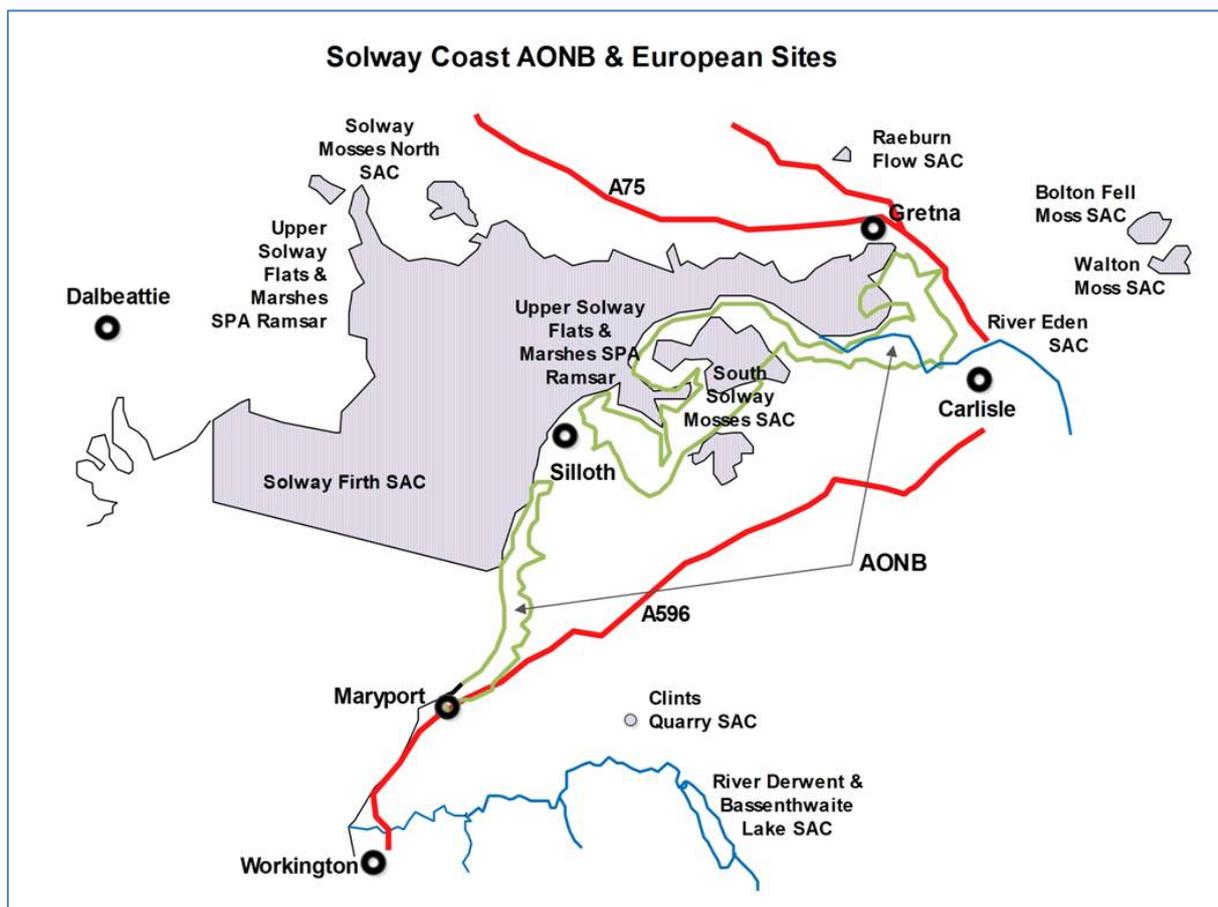
3. European sites potentially affected

List of Relevant European sites

- 3.1. The guidance recommends considering all European sites within a 10-15km buffer of the AONB boundary. There are ten European sites in this area:
 - Bolton Fell Moss SAC
 - Clints Quarry SAC
 - Raeburn Flow SAC
 - River Derwent (and Bassenthwaite Lake) SAC
 - River Eden and Tributaries SAC
 - Solway Firth SAC
 - Solway Mosses North SAC
 - South Solway Mosses SAC
 - Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA and Ramsar site
 - Walton Moss SAC

Figure 2 shows their locations.

Figure 2: General location of the European sites



- 3.2. Scottish Natural Heritage has confirmed that there are very unlikely to be interactions between the management of the AONB and the land-based Solway Mosses North and Raeburn Flow (both are SACs designated solely for bog habitat qualifying features). These two sites, therefore, are not considered further (J Warren 21/01/14).
- 3.3. Natural England suggest that Bolton Fell (13 km from AONB boundary), Clints Quarry (8 km), the River Derwent (6 km) / Bassenthwaite Lake (14.5 km) and Walton Moss (14 km) are not likely to be affected by the management plan (B Donato 07/02/14). As a precaution, these sites were the subject of a pre-screening exercise based on the material in **Appendices 1 and 2**.
- 3.4. Bolton Fell is a commercial peat-extraction site. A small but significant part of this site supports mire vegetation in near-favourable condition. Remedial measures, including restoration of the bog's hydrology, will enable the re-growth of peat-forming vegetation and the recovery of the site to favourable condition status. There are no interactions with the Solway Coast AONB and this site is not considered further.
- 3.5. Clints Quarry is an abandoned quarry. Its great crested newt population has developed since quarrying ceased in the 1980s. The site has been relatively undisturbed since. Water levels in the ponds are largely dependent on rainfall. There are no interactions with the Solway Coast AONB and this site is not considered further.
- 3.6. The River Derwent is to the south of the AONB but there may be connectivity through migratory fish (e.g. salmon). However, the River Eden receives the same species and it flows through a part of the AONB. Any mitigation found necessary for the River Eden will also

protect the River Derwent. For this reason, the River Derwent SAC is not considered in the detailed screening.

- 3.7. Walton Moss is a largely intact raised bog of roughly rectangular shape, with an arm of mossland protruding westwards from the south-west corner. Some peat cutting has taken place in the southeast and south-west of the moss, lowering the surface by about 1.5 m. Most of the mire expanse remains very wet and drainage is restricted to the edges. A hydrological monitoring regime is in preparation to inform remedial measures and enclosure tackles grazing on site, as do Countryside Stewardship agreements. There are no interactions with the Solway Coast AONB and this site is not considered further.
- 3.8. The remaining sites are all adjacent (or partly in) the AONB. Therefore, the AONB Management Plan may have the potential to affect four European sites. The summary map in **Figure 2** shows their general location and **Table 3** lists those used in this assessment.

Table 3: Relevant European sites

Special Areas of Conservation		Special Protection Areas
Solway Firth	<i>joint</i>	Upper Solway Flats & Marshes (also Ramsar)
South Solway Mosses		
River Eden		

- 3.9. Descriptions of each European site considered are set out in **Appendix 1**. The qualifying features, conservation objectives and vulnerabilities for each site are set out in a schedule, as stated by Natural England and Scottish Natural Heritage.

4. Potential adverse effects of the management plan

AONB Management Plan

- 4.1. In order to achieve the vision of the management plan, there is a cascade of 4 themes, 17 Topics, 40 Objectives and 205 Actions. The Vision, Themes and Topics are listed below:

Vision Statement

The Solway Coast AONB through active conservation and enhancement is an exemplar of well- planned and implemented sustainable development. The wild and remote parts of the coastline are protected and enhanced to include open marshes, wetlands and dune areas. Traditional boundaries form a complex mosaic throughout the farming hinterland, reinforcing historic field patterns and supporting a sustainable farming economy. The area’s wildlife is abundant and habitats have been managed to reflect changes in climate and the wild nature of the area. Marine protected areas across the Solway Firth support a balanced estuarine ecosystem. The natural beauty and abundant wildlife found throughout the area have established the Solway as the best eco destination in the north of Cumbria.

People living in and visiting the Solway understand, enjoy and help protect the area through a network of trails supported by good information. People move around through a matrix of quiet lanes and routes by foot and on bikes. Traditional farmsteads and villages are complemented by new eco efficient buildings. Together they support a range of sustainable businesses that draw on and complement the special resources available in the area. Local services and high quality IT infrastructure support a vibrant community. Small-scale renewables that complement the area’s special qualities are found throughout the area and the peatlands and mudflats provide a natural active carbon sink.

Theme	Topics
Conserving and enhancing natural beauty	Landscape Farming Saltmarsh Sand Dunes Lowland Raised Mires-Mosses Biodiversity and Geodiversity Water Environment Historic Environment (and Culture) Development and Planning
Understanding and Enjoyment	Access and Recreation Tourism
Social and Economic Well-being	Employment and Business Services Transport
Engagement	Awareness and Communication Community Involvement Climate Change

The full objective and action cascade is in **Appendix 2**.

- 4.2. Within the Vision and objective cascade, there is a strong presumption towards the conservation and enhancement of the AONB's natural environment. Its biodiversity and habitats are a part of the list of special qualities. The cascade is internally compatible and consistent with environmental and sustainable objectives, as demonstrated by a separate Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Identifying potential adverse effects of management plan policies

- 4.3. To understand whether the management plan may affect the European sites listed above it is necessary to identify those factors that will adversely affect the sites. Through Natural England and Scottish Natural Heritage, data is available for each European site on the conservation objectives and definitions of favourable condition for the designated features of interest. The Joint Nature Conservation Committee presents a statement on the pressures and vulnerabilities that threaten their integrity. From this data, the pressures are set out in **Appendix 1** and are summarised in **Table 4**.

Table 4: Pressures on the integrity of European sites

Natural environment	Coastal squeeze (estuary) Invasive species Introduction of predators Significant loss or fragmentation of habitats Acid deposition Water quality and quantity Changes to hydrology
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	Sedimentation
	Barriers to migration (river species)
Recreation disturbance	Walking
	Dog walking
	Horse riding
	Mountain biking
	Off-track activities such as orienteering
	Car parking
	Trampling of the vegetation and soil compaction by walkers
	Kite and drone flying
Resource management	Overfishing
	Loss of traditional saltmarsh / merse grazing
	Agricultural improvements / drainage
	Sheep-dipping
	Overgrazing
	Uncontrolled fires
	Airborne pollutants and nutrient run-off
	Drainage resulting in the removal of groundwater
	Eutrophication (agricultural operations)
	Extraction of peat
	Sediment loading
	Non-agricultural nutrient loading
	Faecal bacteria loading
Development	Flood defence works
	Coastal erosion works
	Sewage outfall
	Storm water outlets
	Drainage
	Industrial and built development
	Renewable energy generation
	Oil and gas exploration

- 4.4. The factors listed in the European Site schedules frame the testing of the policies and actions within the AONB Management Plan when assessing their effect upon the each site.

Results of the preliminary screening appraisal

- 4.5. Task 1 was to compile a schedule listing all the actions of the management plan and check each element for the likelihood of it leading to a significant effect on a European site (**Appendix 3**). The initial task was to identify those actions that have no negative effects (Category A). The preliminary screening appraisal found twenty actions in **Appendix 2** that have the potential for negative impacts presented in **Table 4**. The shortlist is set out in **Table 5**.
- 4.6. The assessment applies the precautionary principle. An element is screened when it has the potential for one or more of the impacts, even if it falls under an element that does not have that impact. Where there are no potential ecological impacts, there is an assumption that the action will not have an impact on a European site.

Table 5: Actions with a potential to impact a European site's integrity

Objective	Action
1: To ensure that the distinctive character and qualities of the Solway Coast AONB landscape and seascape are understood, conserved, enhanced and restored.	1.10 Promote renewable energy sources that are complementary to AONB character
	1.12 Continue to underground overhead wires with Electricity North West and identify new areas for the next 15 years
6: To ensure that organisations responsible for the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the dunes deliver appropriate actions and that the dunes are enjoyed sensitively by all users.	6.7 Promote use of Hadrian's Cycleway whilst ensuring any changes or development is in line with the landscape management of the AONB and dune management
15: To ensure the effective conservation and management of the Solway Coast AONB historic environment, including historic buildings, archaeological sites, heritage landscapes and heritage fisheries.	15.3 Continue to promote awareness of the surviving historic landscape both the built features and associated landscapes through improved access, rights of way network including long distance paths and cycleways
	15.4 Work with agencies (ECOSAL) to conserve and maintain the Crosscanonby Saltpans and others in the AONB
	15.7 Improve and identify the location and the documentation of historic sites that are at threat from loss through inappropriate management and secure sympathetic land management at these sites
	15.10 Promote Haaf Net Fishing as a sustainable and traditional method of sea fishing for salmonids
20: To maintain, improve and promote access and quiet recreational opportunities in a sustainable way for a diverse group of people.	20.2 Encourage the promotion of all forms of access via leaflets, interpretation panels, social media, web based information to increase the awareness of the vast opportunities of Access for All in the AONB
22: To ensure the tourism industry is environmentally and economically sustainable, based on, and actively supports, the special qualities of the Solway Coast AONB and brings benefits to the community and has a consistent recognisable brand.	22.6 Through partnership working, promote the peatlands as an important destination for wildlife and a unique habitat.
23: To ensure an increase in heritage management, tourism, hospitality and outdoor education to help secure the future of the area.	23.1 Continue to work with English Heritage, Holme Cultram Abbey, custodians of Hadrian's Wall, Tullie House and other heritage organisations to promote sustainable management of heritage assets in the AONB
29: To ensure maximisation of opportunities for the AONB's designation, special qualities and management to drive and support rural economic growth	29.1 Involvement in projects which encourage further development of nature and culture based attractions, including Campfield Barn, Holme Cultram, Senhouse Museum, Tullie House Museum
	29.3 Promote seasonal activities, such as bird watching, walking and cycling and promotion of nature/culture based activities/packages in the AONB
	29.4 Engage with Cumbria Local Economic Partnerships to develop new opportunities to

	facilitate growth linked to the natural environment
33: To ensure opportunities are taken to promote walking, cycling and public transport and enhance schemes where possible to provide an alternative to private car use.	33.1 Promote walking and cycling through AONB Partnership guides and publications and ensure that user infrastructure provision ensures the Coast Path and Hadrian's Wall Trail and Cycleway are effectively supported
	35.4 Develop and promote walking and cycling loops that integrate with public transport
	35.7 To further extend the Hadrian's Cycleway off-road section between Allonby and Maryport, north of Allonby towards Silloth
35: To enable communities to get involved in the custodianship of the AONB through engaging with the management and support of key assets.	35.12 Continue to promote walking, cycling, wildlife watching and other healthy recreational activities through the AONB website, leaflets, social media and electronic media
36: To support local communities in moving towards sustainable low carbon living.	36.2 Promote, where appropriate small scale renewable energy schemes to help contribute to energy reduction targets
38: To ensure carbon emissions within the AONB are reduced by reducing energy consumption, applying energy conserving measures, encouraging more sustainable patterns of development, and utilising renewable energy generation technologies that are of an appropriate type and scale for their siting.	38.1 Promote renewable energy sources that are complementary to the AONB character (same action as 1.10)
	36.4 Promote appropriate forms of renewable energy, reducing car use and using public transport where possible, and purchasing locally sourced food and services

- 4.7. Task 2 is to assess the twenty actions against each European site (both alone and in combination) to identify any elements that could have an effect but would not be likely to have a significant (negative) effect on a European site because the effects are trivial or '*de minimis*' (Category B). The assessment considers the impact upon the conservation objectives and every qualifying feature for the European sites, as detailed in Appendix 1. This analysis is set out in **Appendix 4**. (In Appendix 4, the Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA and Ramsar sites are assessed in combination as they are very similar. The assessment takes account both sets of qualifying features in the table).
- 4.8. The initial finding is that the Management Plan is not likely to have an adverse effect on the integrity of the European sites alone or in combination with other plans or projects. However, the wording of some objectives and actions is at times ambiguous. Terms such as 'appropriate action', 'inappropriate management', 'sympathetic management' and 'sustainable' are not defined, nor are they related to the protection of any of the European sites. The Management Plan would support the intent of the Habitat Regulations more firmly with the addition of a few qualifying terms attached to those objectives (marked in orange in Appendix 4) that are uncertain when read alone, or with the strengthening of Objective 1 to be explicit about ensuring the integrity of all European sites. Thought should be given to qualifying those actions that promote land drainage, renewable energy and wider public access with a requirement to preserve the European qualifying features.

Outcome of consultation

- 4.9. There was formal consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage and Natural England in during November and December 2014. Both confirmed the selection of the appropriate European sites and were happy with the structure of the report. Scottish Natural Heritage agreed with the analysis and agreed with the conclusion of the report that an Appropriate Assessment is not required for the AONB Management Plan. Natural England were broadly happy with the draft HRA, in particular in terms of the structure of the HRA narrative but asked for some further analysis of the screening of risk. The analysis in the draft was based on the strategic objectives. Natural England suggested that the analysis should be based on the identified actions.
- 4.10. In response, the assessment was represented with an analysis of the 220 actions. This did find that 22 actions had the potential to affect an European site but that there would be no significant adverse effects. The HRA was resubmitted to the agencies. Scottish Natural Heritage indicated that they had no further comments to add, their original conclusion stands. Natural England have indicated they they were content with the redrafted assessment but no formal response was given.
- 4.11. Following consultation responses on the text of the Management Plan, the AONB Partnership made some changes to the objectives and actions, reducing the objectives from 42 to 40 and the actions from 220 to 205. These changes were not in response to the HRA. The new cascade was then subject to an assessment.
- 4.12. There was a consultation with Natural England. On the 17th July 2015, Natural England agreed that significant effects are unlikely to occur, either alone or in combination. This conclusion is drawn having regard for the measures built into the proposal, specifically the requirement for separate HRA assessments to be carried out prior to the implementation of some actions.
- 4.13. In accepting the conclusion of no 'Likely Significant Effect', Natural England also notes that the screening assessment identifies a number of policies and actions where clearer wording would clarify the relationship with the European sites but that these recommendations are not adopted. In future management plans, it suggests that there should be clearer wording from the outset to avoid confusion. Natural England also considers that many of the policies and actions identified will enhance the nature conservation interests of the European sites.

5. Other relevant plans

Introduction

- 5.1. The Habitats Regulations state that when considering whether a specific plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a European site, this should consider possible 'in-combination' effects with other plans or projects.
- 5.2. Part of the management plan screening process is to identify the plans, programmes and projects that could have 'in-combination' effects. These plans, programmes and projects have not been assessed in any detail at this stage as in-combination effects will only be assessed where it is identified in Stage 2 of the HRA process that the management plan objectives and actions are likely to have significant adverse effects. If the plan is not likely to have an impact on a site there is no potential for any 'in-combination' effect. A series of other plans and

projects have been identified to test for possible in-combination effects. These are outlined in **Appendix 5**.

6. Conclusions

6.1. Results of Initial Screening:

- That no policy areas would have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site.
- There is no requirement to undertake an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitat Regulations.

6.2. Results of second Screening:

- That no policy areas would have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site.
- There is no requirement to undertake an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitat Regulations.

6.3. Results of Final Screening:

- That no policy areas would have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site.
- There is no requirement to undertake an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitat Regulations.

Next steps:

- 6.4. There is no requirement to undertake an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitat Regulations and the management plan can be prepared for adoption.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Location and description of the European sites

SITES SUBJECTED TO FULL SCREENING

River Eden

The Eden flows over both calcareous limestone and sandstone, giving a diversity of ecological conditions, ranging from oligotrophic to mesotrophic. This river has 184 recorded plant species, more than any other river in the UK. Throughout the length of the River Eden, stands of alder *Alnus glutinosa* and willow *Salix* spp. occur associated with backwaters and seasonally flooded channels. Ullswater, in the catchment of the River Eden, is the second largest of the Cumbrian lakes. It is chosen as an example of a relatively deep lake with both oligotrophic and mesotrophic elements in its fauna and flora. The lake flows into the River Eamont, one of the major tributaries of the River Eden.

Site details

Country	England
Unitary Authority	Cumbria
Centroid	NY462237
Latitude	54.60527778
Longitude	-2.832777778
SAC EU code	UK0012643
Status	Designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Area (ha)	2463.23
General site character	
Tidal rivers, Estuaries, Mud flats, Sand flats, Lagoons (including saltwork basins) (1%) Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water) (93.4%) Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (3%) Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (2.6%)	
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES (October, 2014)	
Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats • The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely • The populations of qualifying species, and, • The distribution of qualifying species within the site. 	
Vulnerability	
The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. This is being addressed by a number of measures, including a conservation strategy with actions to address river quality issues, and a partnership approach to funding habitat improvements. The	

water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Again, actions have been identified for getting improvements in water quality and they will be carried forward in the periodic reviews of water company expenditure and reviews of consents under the Habitats Regulations. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site, and are currently under investigation. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition. It is hoped to address this through management agreements or Woodland Grant Schemes with individual owners.
Key qualifying feature⁷
Primary Habitat
Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea
Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation
Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae)
Qualifying feature
n/a
Primary species
White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i>
Qualifying species
n/a

Solway Firth SAC

The Solway is a large, complex estuary on the west coast of Britain. It is one of the least-industrialised and most natural large estuaries in Europe. Tidal streams in the estuary are moderately strong and levels of wave energy can be high. There is considerable seasonal fluctuation in water temperature, owing to the shallow nature of the estuary. The Solway is an unusually dynamic estuarine system, with mobile channels and banks. The sediment habitats present are separated by six main river channels, which are continually changing their patterns of erosion and accretion. The Solway Firth has been little affected by enclosure, with the result that it demonstrates unusually large areas of upper marsh and transitions to freshwater grassland communities.

Site details

Country	England/Scotland
Unitary Authority	Cumbria; Dumfries and Galloway
Centroid*	NY144648
Latitude	54.97083333

⁷ When undertaking an appropriate assessment of impacts at a site, **all** features of European importance (both primary and non-primary) need to be considered.

Longitude	-3.336666667
SAC EU code	UK0013025
Status	Designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Area (ha)	43636.72
General site character	
Tidal rivers, Estuaries, Mud flats, Sand flats, Lagoons (including saltwork basins) (90%) Salt marshes, Salt pastures, Salt steppes (10%) Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (2.6%)	
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES (June, 2014)	
Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats • The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of • qualifying species rely • The populations of qualifying species, and, • The distribution of qualifying species within the site. 	
Vulnerability	
This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. A management strategy to consider and co-ordinate these activities is being produced by the Solway Firth Partnership. This will set out the means by which it is proposed to secure the sustainable use of the estuary.	
Key qualifying feature	
Primary Habitat	
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	
Estuaries	
Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	
Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	
Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>)	
Qualifying feature	
Reefs	
Perennial vegetation of stony banks	
"Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes")"	
Primary species	
Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>	
Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	
Qualifying species	
n/a	

South Solway Mosses SAC

This is a complex of estuarine raised bogs to the south of the Solway, and is comprised of Wedholme Flow, Bowness Common, Drumburgh Moss and Glasson Moss. At 759 ha, Bowness Common is one of the largest Active raised bogs remaining in the UK. Although affected by past drainage and peat cutting, much of these sites support typical bog vegetation. Wedholme Flow contains the largest area of almost-intact active raised bog in England, but also some degraded raised bog in which peat cutting has recently ceased. The central part of Glasson Moss displays some of the most diverse raised bog vegetation in the UK today, with bog-moss species including abundant *Sphagnum pulchrum* as well as *S. fuscum*.

Site details

Country	England
Unitary Authority	Cumbria
Centroid*	NY203597
Latitude	54.92583333
Longitude	-3.243333333
SAC EU code	UK0030310
Status	Designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Area (ha)	1962.36
General site character	
Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (100%)	
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES (June, 2014)	
Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and, • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely 	
Vulnerability	
The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Management problems including those arising from drainage systems are being addressed through Site Management Statements, management agreements, acquisition, and through implementation of a National Nature Reserve Management Plan in part of the area, including a major programme of installation of drains to raise water levels. This is proving effective in re-establishing mire conditions. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	
Key qualifying feature	
Primary Habitat	
Active raised bogs	
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	
Qualifying feature	
n/a	
Primary species	

n/a
Qualifying species
n/a

Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA

The Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA lies on the west coast on the border between England and Scotland. The flats and marshes of the Upper Solway form one of the largest continuous areas of intertidal habitat in Britain. The geomorphology and vegetation of the estuarine saltmarshes or merses are of international importance, with broad transitions to mature 'upper-marsh' being particularly well represented. The complete estuarine complex is of importance for wintering wildfowl (ducks, geese and swans) and waders, and is a vital link in a chain of west coast UK estuaries used by migrating waterbirds. The SPA supports virtually all of the Svalbard population of Barnacle Goose (*Branta leucopsis*) over the winter.

Site Details

Country	England/Scotland
Unitary Authority	Cumbria; Dumfries and Galloway
Centroid*	
Latitude	54 54 20 N
Longitude	03 25 27 W
SAC EU code	UK0013025
Status	Designated Special Protection Area (SPA)
Area (ha)	43636.73
General site character	
Tidal rivers, Estuaries, Mud flats, Sand flats, Lagoons (including saltwork basins) (90%) Salt marshes, Salt pastures, Salt steppes (10%)	
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES (June, 2014)	
Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features • The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features • The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely • The population of each of the qualifying features, and, • The distribution of the qualifying features within the site. 	
Vulnerability	
A management strategy for the site has been produced by the Solway Firth Partnership. The strategy addresses threats to the SPA interest on the site and sets out the means by which it is proposed to secure the sustainable use of the Firth. There has been relatively little land claim compared with most other estuaries in the UK but some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities	

to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.
Key qualifying feature
Primary Habitat
n/a
Qualifying feature
n/a
Primary species
Cygnus cygnus; Whooper swan (Non-breeding) Branta leucopsis; Barnacle goose (Non-breeding) Pluvialis apricaria; European golden plover (Non-breeding) Limosa lapponica; Bar-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)
Qualifying species
Anas acuta: Pintail Anas clypeata: Shoveler Anas crecca: Teal Anser brachyrhynchus; Pink-footed goose (Non-breeding) Arenaria interpres; Ruddy turnstone (Non-breeding) Aythya marila: Scaup Bucephala clangula: Goldeneye Calidris alba; Sanderling (Non-breeding) Calidris alpina alpina: Dunlin Calidris canutus; Red knot (Non-breeding) Haematopus ostralegus; Eurasian oystercatcher (Non-breeding) Numenius arquata; Eurasian curlew (Non-breeding) Pluvialis squatarola: Grey Plover Tadorna tadorna; Common shelduck (Non-breeding) Tringa totanus; Common redshank (Non-breeding)
An internationally important assemblage of birds - aggregation of wintering waterfowl [133440 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 01/11/1998)] including: <i>Cygnus cygnus</i> , <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i> , <i>Branta leucopsis</i> , <i>Tadorna tadorna</i> , <i>Anas crecca</i> , <i>Anas acuta</i> , <i>Anas clypeata</i> , <i>Aythya marila</i> , <i>Bucephala clangula</i> , <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> , <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i> , <i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> , <i>Calidris canutus</i> , <i>Calidris alba</i> , <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i> , <i>Limosa lapponica</i> , <i>Numenius arquata</i> , <i>Tringa totanus</i> , <i>Arenaria interpres</i> .
NOTE: The primary and qualifying features listed are as shown on the JNCC Natura 2000 data form (2001), as advised by Natural England in December 2014. They do not match the list published by Natural England in June 2014.

Upper Solway Flats and Marshes Ramsar

The flats and marshes of the Upper Solway Firth form one of the largest continuous areas of intertidal habitat in Britain. The complete estuarine complex is a site of national and international importance for wintering wildfowl and wading birds and is a vital link in a chain of west coast estuaries used by migrating birds. The site is also noted for its populations of breeding birds, natterjack toad *Bufo calamita* and invertebrates. The geomorphology and vegetation of the estuarine saltmarshes or merses is also of international importance with broad transitions to mature 'upper-marsh' being particularly well represented. A number of rare plant species and geological exposures also occur within the site.

Site Details

Country	England/Scotland
Unitary Authority	Cumbria; Dumfries and Galloway
Centroid*	
Latitude	54 54 20 N
Longitude	03 25 27 W
Ramsar code	UK11079
Status	Designated Ramsar Site November 1992
Area (ha)	43636.73

General ecological features

The most extensive areas of saltmarsh in the Solway are Rockcliffe and Burgh marshes towards the head of the estuary, the Caerlaverock and Kirkconnell Merse on the Scottish side and the marshes of Moricambe Bay in England. The saltmarsh vegetation reflects the age, substrate type and management of the marshes and shows a well-represented sequence of communities from the shore moving inland.

The seaward edge is usually typified by pioneer species, notably *Puccinellia maritima* and some *Salicornia europaea*. Other pioneering plants include *Glaux maritima*. Above this, there is a transition to a grassy saltmarsh dominated by *Festuca rubra*, *Armeria maritima* and *Juncus gerardii*. In places, *Agrostis stolonifera*, *Plantago maritima*, *Triglochin maritima*, *Oenanthe lachenalii* and various sedges are prominent in this central marsh zone. A number of other salt-tolerant plants such as *Glaux maritima* and *Limonium vulgare* are more local in their distribution.

Towards the landward edge of the marshes, the proportion of halophytes gradually decreases leaving a sward dominated by *Agrostis* and *Festuca* grasses with species such as *Leontodon autumnalis*, *Juncus effusus*, *Holcus lanatus* and *Trifolium repens*. Brackish water areas to the inland edge of the marshes support some extensive stands of *Phragmites australis* or pools with aquatic plants such as *Catabrosa aquatica* and *Butomus umbellatus*.

In other areas, there are transitions to species-rich freshwater fen, in which *Filipendula ulmaria* and *Iris pseudacorus* are typical components, or to wind-pruned cliff-side oak woodland. In places there is development of scrub to the inland margins of the marshes; this mostly comprises of *Ulex europaeus*, often with *Ononis repens*, *O. spinosa* and *Rosa pimpinellifolia*.

The shingle and sand dune areas of Grune Point and Preston Merse support a typical range of plant species including *Eryngium maritimum*, *Geranium sanguineum* and *Coicya monensis* ssp. *monensis*.

The intertidal muds and sands support large numbers of invertebrates, vitally important for the wading birds of the estuary. The main species present include *Hediste diversicolor*, *Arenicola marina*, various bivalves such as *Macoma balthica*, snails e.g. *Hydrobia ulvae*, and the amphipod *Corophium volutator*. There are mussel scars in places.

Conservation Measures

Site/ Area of Special Scientific Interest
National Nature Reserve
Special Protection Area
Land owned by a non-governmental organisation for nature conservation
Management agreement
Site management statement/plan implemented
Area of Outstanding National Beauty
Special Area of Conservation

Vulnerability

See SPA Table

Ramsar criterion

Criterion 2

Supports over 10% of the British population of natterjack toad *Bufo calamita*

Criterion 5: Assemblages of international importance
Species with peak counts in winter: 135720 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1998/99-2002/2003)
Criterion 6: Species/populations occurring at levels of international importance, qualifying Species / populations (as identified at designation)
<p>Species with peak counts in spring/autumn: Eurasian oystercatcher , <i>Haematopus ostralegus ostralegus</i></p> <p>Species with peak counts in winter: Whooper swan , <i>Cygnus cygnus</i>, Pink-footed goose , <i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>, Barnacle goose , <i>Branta leucopsis</i>, Northern pintail , <i>Anas acuta</i> Greater scaup , <i>Aythya marila marila</i> Red knot , <i>Calidris canutus islandica</i>, Bar-tailed godwit , <i>Limosa lapponica lapponica</i>, Eurasian curlew , <i>Numenius arquata arquata</i> Common redshank , <i>Tringa totanus totanus</i>,</p>
Species / populations identified subsequent to designation for possible future consideration under criterion 6.
<p>Species regularly supported during the breeding season: Lesser black-backed gull , <i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i>, Herring gull , <i>Larus argentatus argentatus</i>,</p> <p>Species with peak counts in spring/autumn: Ringed plover , <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>,</p> <p>Species with peak counts in winter: Dunlin , <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i></p>

SITES SUBJECT TO PRE-SCREENING

Bolton Fell Moss

Bolton Fell is situated on a relatively flat interfluvium between tributaries of the River Irthing and Lyne, 8 km west of Brampton at 110 m above sea level. The peat deposits on the site range up to nearly 11 metres in depth on the western side and overlie Carboniferous sandstones and mudstones.

Site Details

Country	England
Unitary Authority	Cumbria County Council
Centroid*	NY490688
Latitude	55.01138889
Longitude	-2.798055556
SAC EU code	UK0030362
Status	Site of Community Importance (SCI)
Area (ha)	374.74
General site character	Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (100%)

CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES (June, 2014)
Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and • The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely
Vulnerability
A small but significant part of this site supports mire vegetation in near-favourable condition, but to date the majority of the site has been subject to commercial peat-extraction under an existing planning permission. Measures are now in hand to acquire this permission and determine a cessation of the peat extraction. Remedial measures, including restoration of the bog's hydrology, will be developed and put in place following cessation of the extraction to enable the regrowth of peat-forming vegetation and the recovery of the site to favourable condition status.
Key qualifying feature
Primary Habitat
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration
Qualifying feature
n/a
Primary species
n/a
Qualifying species
n/a

Clints Quarry

This disused quarry in north-west England contains several pools that support a large great crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) population that has shown evidence of recruitment in recent years. Terrestrial habitat associated with the breeding areas is quarry spoil, early successional vegetation and surrounding pasture.

Site Details

Country	England
Unitary Authority	Cumbria
Centroid*	NY161357
Latitude	54.70916667
Longitude	-3.302222222
SAC EU code	UK0030035
Status	Designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Area (ha)	12.03
General site character	
Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water) (20%)	
Other land (including Towns, Villages, Roads, Waste places, Mines, Industrial sites) (80%)	
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES (June, 2014)	
Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site	

contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of the habitats of qualifying species • The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species • The supporting processes on which the habitats of qualifying species rely • The populations of qualifying species, and, • The distribution of qualifying species within the site.
Vulnerability
The great crested newt population at Clints Quarry has developed since quarrying ceased in the 1980s. The site has been relatively undisturbed since. Water levels in the ponds are largely dependent on rainfall, which has been low in recent years.
Key qualifying feature
Primary Habitat
n/a
Qualifying feature
n/a
Primary species
<i>Triturus cristatus</i> ; Great crested newt
Qualifying species
n/a

River Derwent and Bassenthwaite Lake

Bassenthwaite Lake in the Lake District, north-west England, is an example of a mesotrophic waterbody (Type 5), an unusual type in mountain areas. It is a large lake with an extensive catchment area and consequently is subject to rapid through-flow of water and moderate nutrient status.

Site details

Country	England
Unitary Authority	Cumbria
Centroid*	NY262207
Latitude	54.57638889
Longitude	-3.142222222
SAC EU code	UK0030032
Status	Designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Area (ha)	1832.96
General site character	Inland water bodies (Standing water, Running water) (96%) Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (3%) Broad-leaved deciduous woodland (1%)
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES (June, 2014)	
	Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats • The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species • The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely • The populations of qualifying species, and, • The distribution of qualifying species within the site.
Vulnerability
<p>The wildlife of the River Derwent system is dependent upon the maintenance of high water quality, particularly its naturally low level of nutrients. There are problems with sewage, acidification (from rainfall) and pollution with synthetic pyrethroid sheep dips (leading to losses of insect life, the food of the Annex II fish species). Flow regimes and sedimentation patterns in the rivers are important, not least in providing suitable spawning grounds for fish. These are affected by flood defence works and abstraction for water supplies. The management of the land in the catchment is also important. Much of the land is heavily drained for agriculture or forestry, which results in increased run-off. As many of the surrounding hills are ecologically overgrazed, soil erosion can cause high sediment loads in the streams and river entering the lakes. Sediment and nutrients from such sources, as well as possibly point sources, have affected plant communities in the lakes. Phosphorous stripping is being undertaken on part of the site, although it is expected that full recovery may take a decade or more.</p> <p>The above issues are all recognised in the joint English Nature/Environment Agency Conservation Strategy for the river system, and all licensed activities which may be contributing to such problems will be addressed through the review process under the Habitats Regulations</p>
Key qualifying feature
Primary Habitat
Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> ; Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels
Qualifying feature
Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation; Rivers with floating vegetation often dominated by water-crowfoot
Primary species
<p><i>Euphydryas (Eurodryas, Hypodryas) aurinia</i>; Marsh fritillary butterfly</p> <p><i>Petromyzon marinus</i>; Sea lamprey</p> <p><i>Lampetra planeri</i>; Brook lamprey</p> <p><i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>; River lamprey</p> <p><i>Salmo salar</i>; Atlantic salmon</p> <p><i>Lutra lutra</i>; Otter</p> <p><i>Luronium natans</i>; Floating water-plantain</p>
Qualifying species
n/a

Walton Moss

A largely intact raised bog of roughly rectangular shape, with an arm of mossland protruding westwards from the south-west corner. The peat spills over from the main basin, forming blanket mire, and as such, it is classified as an intermediate bog. Some peat cutting has taken place in the southeast and south-west of the moss, lowering the surface by about 1.5 m. Most of the mire expanse remains very wet and drainage is restricted to the edges. Sphagnum bog with lawns, hollows and mounds is present across the central mire expanse, which occupies most of the site.

Site details

Country	England
Unitary Authority	Cumbria
Centroid*	NY504665
Latitude	54.99055556
Longitude	-2.775
SAC EU code	UK0030093
Status	Designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Area (ha)	285.89
General site character	
Bogs, Marshes, Water fringed vegetation, Fens (99%) Humid grassland, Mesophile grassland (1%)	
CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES (June, 2014)	
Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats • The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and • The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely 	
Vulnerability	
Significant portions of this site support mire vegetation in near-favourable condition. Walton Moss includes land managed as a National Nature Reserve. Remedial measures will be necessary to enable its recovery to favourable conservation status from damage caused by previous land-drainage operations and inappropriate grazing regimes. A hydrological monitoring regime is in preparation to inform remedial measures and grazing on the site has been tackled by enclosure and by Countryside Stewardship agreements.	
Key qualifying feature	
Primary Habitat	
Active raised bogs	
Qualifying feature	
Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration	
Primary species	
n/a	
Qualifying species	
n/a	

Appendix 2: Solway Coast AONB Management Plan policy cascade

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
<p>Conserving and enhancing natural beauty</p>	<p>Landscape</p>	<p>1: To ensure that the distinctive character and qualities of the Solway Coast AONB landscape and seascape are understood, conserved, enhanced and restored.</p>	<p>1.1 Ensure that land management decisions are appropriate⁸, e.g. through Agri-environment (AE) schemes, reinforce landscape character including the mosaic of sand dunes, lowland mosses, salt marshes and agricultural land</p> <p>1.2 Support and facilitate the conservation of characteristic landscape features such as in-field barns, hedgerows, drystone hedge- kests, gatestoops and ponds through development management and environmental land management schemes</p> <p>1.3 Develop landscape character area conservation guidelines for use by developers, AE advisors, etc.</p> <p>1.4 Identify 'Indicators of Landscape Change' and establish a monitoring Scheme</p> <p>1.5 Support the conservation of drystone hedge kests, North Cumberland Style Hedgelaying through training schemes and sandstone gate stoops by replacement projects</p> <p>1.6 Monitor and act on tree and plant diseases, notably Chalara and Phytopthera, and other non- native invasive species which may have a significant impact on the landscape with Cumbria INNS strategy</p> <p>1.7 Continue to wet up areas of farmland and lowland raised mires through water management schemes</p> <p>1.8 Develop guidance on management of rural roads, highway improvement schemes, signage and street/outdoor furniture appropriate to the AONB landscape</p> <p>1.9 Reducing the carbon footprint by achieving reductions in greenhouse gas emissions will help to reduce the degree and impact of climate change. This can be achieved through increasing energy efficiency, e.g. using appropriate forms of</p>

⁸ The yellow highlight indicates where the AONB Partnership has modified the text since the last assessment. A few items are deleted.

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>renewable energy, peatland restoration, reducing car use and using public transport, purchasing locally sourced food and services.</p> <p>1.10 Promote renewable energy sources that are complementary to AONB character</p> <p>1.11 With AONB partnerships encourage and target the uptake of Agri-environment schemes within the AONB, with an emphasis on land management options that reinforce landscape character and support key attributes</p> <p>1.12 Continue to underground overhead wires with Electricity North West and identify new areas for the next 15 years</p> <p>1.13 Ensure that proposals for National Grid’s new power infrastructure seek to minimise impacts on the setting and views from the AONB through continued engagement of the Stakeholder Reference Group</p> <p>1.14 Ensure that wind energy applications that affect the AONB or its setting are required to demonstrate that the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments have used the best available data and information and taken full account of the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework regarding AONBs. Seek to ensure that visualisation work that supports such applications is submitted in accordance with the requirements of relevant good practice</p> <p>1.15 Adopt the Cumulative Landscape & Visual Impact of Vertical Infrastructure – Assessment & Guidelines</p> <p>1.16 Use the Solway Coast AONB Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment 2010, to comment on planning decisions to make informed decisions and responses regarding development.</p> <p>1.17 Promote the importance of good soil management for carbon storage and water quality, ensuring that this resource protection is given priority within environmental land management schemes</p> <p>1.18 Review and update the AONB Landscape and Seascape</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			Character Assessment 1.19 Develop and deliver a programme of landscape monitoring linked to management plan indicators
	Farming	2: To ensure that sustainable farming practices become the primary means by which the distinctive farmland landscapes and qualities of much of the AONB are maintained	2.1 Ensure that agriculture continues to contribute positively to conservation of the AONB's special qualities by providing bespoke advice and hands on support to farmers and land managers to promote and encourage uptake of environment and land management grant schemes 2.2 Continue to wet up areas of farmland and lowland raised mires through water management and to deliver sympathetic management of key assets 2.3 Promote the importance of good soil management for carbon storage and water quality, ensuring that this resource protection is given priority within environmental land management schemes 2.4 Support farm diversification schemes where appropriate through AE schemes, RDP, LEP and development planning
		3: To ensure that the skills required to care for the landscape and its special qualities are appreciated and increased, with opportunities to acquire and develop such skills made available to all.	3.1 Support the conservation of drystone hedge kests and North Cumberland Style Hedgelaying through training schemes, and sandstone gate stoops by replacement projects, which raise local awareness.
		4: To ensure rural land management, which conserves and enhances natural resources, including biodiversity, landscape character and the historic environment-and which aids public enjoyment of the AONB and is economically sustainable.	4.1 Support the conservation of characteristic landscape features such as in-field barns, hedgerows, drystone hedge-kests, gatestoops and ponds through development management and environmental land management schemes 4.2 Monitor and act on tree and plant diseases, notably Chalara and Phytopthera, and other non- native invasive species which may have a significant impact on the landscape in conjunction with Cumbria INNS strategy 4.3 Use AE schemes to support populations of farmland birds on land under arable management 4.4 Support NAAONB and other bodies' lobbying for CAP reform which benefits farming and wildlife

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
	Saltmarsh	5: To ensure the effective conservation and management of the saltmarsh habitat for its unique character, specialist species and role regulating coastal processes.	5.1 Ensure that saltmarsh management continues to contribute positively to conservation of the AONB's special qualities by providing bespoke advice and hands on support to farmers and land managers to promote and encourage uptake of environment and land management grant schemes 5.2 Retain grazing systems that provide conditions for key species and allow natural development of the marshes 5.3 Ensure sustainable management of natural resources and, whilst raising awareness of disturbance to breeding birds 5.4 Conserve the Inner Firth Intertidal Flats for nature conservation for SPA/SAC status and restore areas of reclaimed farm land to marshes where possible 5.5 Monitor changes in sea –level and coastal erosion to determine any trends or patterns and if possible to manage the process
	Sand Dunes	6: To ensure that organisations responsible for the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the dunes deliver appropriate actions and that the dunes are enjoyed sensitively by all users.	6.1 Encourage integrated designation management to help ensure the objectives of differing designations do not conflict with objectives for the Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SSSI, Solway Firth SAC/ SSSI and Silloth Dunes and Mawbray Bank SSSI 6.2 Work with Parish Councils and landowners to close informal car parks on the dunes but maintain main car parks 6.3 Continue to work with Allerdale Borough Council and other landowners to manage the dunes for key species (Natterjack Toad) and allow natural development through AE schemes 6.4 Promote the positive development of England Coast Path whilst ensuring any changes or development is in line with the landscape management of the AONB and dune management 6.5 Monitor access to the dunes by mussel fisheries and discourage travellers from settling along dune areas to prevent further erosion 6.6 Implement relevant fishery orders to effectively manage shellfishing activity from the sand dunes and ensure potential impacts on the AONB are minimised.

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>6.7 Promote use of Hadrian's Cycleway whilst ensuring any changes or development is in line with the landscape management of the AONB and dune management</p> <p>6.8 Deliver appropriate land management related adaptation and mitigation actions identified in the Shoreline Management Plan2</p> <p>6.9 Provide a work force using the Solway Coast Community Volunteers and other groups to help with basic management of the dunes, invasive weed removal, gorse and scrub removal.</p> <p>6.10 Provide clear and adequate information and signage for users of the dunes to respect the delicate nature of the dune system and its wildlife, and behave accordingly.</p> <p>6.11 Continue to work in partnership with Electricity North West in undergrounding more 11kv overhead lines to improve visual amenity</p> <p>6.12 Work with landowners maintain favourable condition of the Grune dune system, and where feasible seek to restore grazing management on the Silloth-Allonby dune system</p>
	Lowland Raised Mires-Mosses	7: To ensure continued creation, restoration and enhancement of new and restored raised mire habitat.	<p>7.1 Support research into peatland hydrology, vegetation cover, grazing, biodiversity, carbon storage and the historic environment. Use research findings to guide peatland management</p> <p>7.2 Continue the restoration and re-wetting of the peatlands and associated farmland, to reduce carbon loss and rebuild organic content of soils</p> <p>7.3 Continue to manage the lowland wetlands and pasture that delivers benefits from biodiversity and sustainable farm business, in particular measures that support key species such as breeding waders</p> <p>7.4 Work with Planning Authorities to control inappropriate developments such as wind turbines that affect the skylines along the open views from the peatlands</p> <p>7.5 Continue to restore lowland raised bogs by restoring appropriate hydrology for their biological value, historic value</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>and as a climate regulator by both securing the storage of carbon in peat and by enabling sequestration of Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere</p> <p>7.6 Continue the restoration of site hydrology involving removal of recently established woodland and scrub and continue to block drains on the moss surface</p> <p>7.7 Increase visitor awareness of the role the mosses play through continued appropriate access development (boardwalk), interpretation, Campfield Barn Visitor Centre provision, viewing platforms, school visits, visitor activities and other social media information</p> <p>7.8 Continue to use AE schemes to incentivise appropriate management and partnership working.</p>
	<p>Biodiversity and Geodiversity</p>	<p>8: To ensure the conservation, enhancement, expansion and enhanced connectivity of habitats, creating resilient ecological networks across the Solway coast AONB and beyond with a focus on 2020 priorities.</p>	<p>8.1 Ensure that 95% of the AONB's SSSIs are in favourable or recovering condition by 2020 and take appropriate action to bring those SSSIs that are currently in recovering condition into favourable condition, so that at least 50% of SSSIs are in favourable condition by 2020</p> <p>8.2 Carry out condition monitoring of the AONB's Local Wildlife Sites and aim to deliver positive management on all sites by 2020 by providing bespoke advice and support, negotiating management agreements and securing environmental land management or other grants</p> <p>8.3 Carry out research into habitat connectivity that is applicable to the intimate scale of the AONB landscape</p> <p>8.4 Develop a more conservation friendly management of roadside vegetation to enhance the wildlife and landscape value of verges and highway margins and link to B-lines proposals and government pollinator strategy</p> <p>8.5 Retain, improve and expand areas of priority habitats, including lowland raised bog, coastal sand dune, saltmarsh and other areas within and around the AONB</p> <p>8.6 Demonstrate improvements in the AONB Partnership's ecosystem approach to landscape management through use of</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>criteria based check lists</p> <p>8.7 Develop an AONB Biodiversity 2020 Local Delivery Plan</p> <p>8.8 Ensure that any plans, projects and actions take into account the conservation objectives of, and where possible seek to enhance, European designated sites within and adjacent to the area</p> <p>8.9 Carry out regular condition monitoring of the AONB's SSSIs</p> <p>8.10 Retain, improve and expand priority freshwater wetland habitats including wet grassland, wet woodland (lagg), peatlands and reedbed within and around the AONB, in particular the programme of lowland peatland and wetland restoration</p> <p>8.11 Conserve and enhance priority coastal habitats including saltmarsh, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, maritime cliffs and slopes, vegetated shingle, coastal sand dunes and mudflats</p> <p>8.12 Promote connectivity by providing linkages, corridors and stepping stones in the landscape</p> <p>8.13 Support research into peatland hydrology, vegetation cover, grazing, biodiversity, carbon storage and the historic environment. Use research findings to guide peatland management</p> <p>8.14 Develop new opportunities to enhance, restore and connect priority habitats</p> <p>8.15 Support the continued work of biological records centres</p> <p>8.16 Implement conservation grazing on appropriate sites to manage areas of saltmarsh, sand dunes and other areas of herb-rich pasture by supporting appropriate conservation grazing initiatives</p> <p>8.17 Maintain favourable conditions of habitats and heritage sites and habitat networks to make ecological systems as robust as possible to climate change, using policy drivers such as the Natural Environment White Paper.</p> <p>8.18 Develop and deliver an enhanced programme of</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>monitoring where the need is identified</p> <p>8.19 Develop and deliver an Initiative to provide connectivity of pollination habitat Actions to achieve this</p> <p>8.20 Develop and support conservation and research initiatives with a focus on NERC section 41 priority species</p> <p>8.21 Develop and deliver new funded programme of wetland management at target sites to conserve the Marsh Fritillary butterfly and associated species</p> <p>8.23 Develop a list of species characteristic to the AONB to include internationally, nationally and locally important species and relevant management actions to benefit them, taking note of sensitive areas e.g. high tide roosts and natterjack ponds</p> <p>8.24 Support and implement appropriate Species Recovery Programmes, following good practice guidance for species release and (re)introduction</p> <p>8.25 Secure sustainable fisheries and shell fisheries management for the benefit of coastal species and habitats</p>
		<p>9 : To protect the establishment and spread of invasive non-native species (INNS) and plant diseases, and where appropriate eradicate populations</p>	<p>9.1 Co-ordinate an invasive and non-native species assessment, both marine and on land, and establish a rapid follow-on programme to act on the findings</p> <p>9.2 Develop programmes of activity to encourage eradication of Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and other INNS within the AONB as part of wider initiatives</p> <p>9.3 Establish a rapid response plan and programme of activity to report, monitor and raise awareness of biosecurity and INNS within the AONB, also working with Solway Firth Partnership for the marine species</p> <p>9.4 Protect and monitor tree health with a focus on <i>Chalara</i> and <i>Phytophthora</i> through implementation of tree surveys and disease action plans, and monitor health and diseases for amphibians and reptiles</p> <p>9.5 Contribute to monitor grey squirrel control in accordance with recognised red squirrel conservation strategy and guidance</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>from the Red Squirrels Northern England Partnership</p> <p>9.6 Continue to raise awareness of invasive non -native species of animals and plants and increase vigilance to prevent establishment of invasives where possible, through leaflets and ongoing volunteer activity</p>
		10: To ensure conservation and understanding of geodiversity and its importance in the landscape and biodiversity of the AONB.	<p>10.1 Carry out condition monitoring of geological SSSIs in the AONB to ensure they are in favourable condition</p> <p>10.2 Ensure that no features of interest are lost to development or unsympathetic land management including RIGGS</p>
		11: To ensure the conservation and protection of Marine Protected Areas and coastal dunes and marshes.	<p>11.1 Conserve and enhance priority coastal habitats including saltmarsh, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, maritime cliffs and slopes, vegetated shingle, coastal sand dunes and mudflats</p> <p>11.2 Raise awareness of the risks of trampling and disturbance on Honeycomb Reefs in the proposed Allonby Bay Marine Protected Area</p>
	Water Environment	12: To ensure freshwater courses are appropriately managed and their quality enhanced	<p>12.1 Implement Catchment Management Plans for the area's main rivers, linked to Solway Tweed River Basin Management Plan and the AONB Management Plan (actions include achieving good water body status, reducing bankside erosion, reducing run-off into rivers, improving watercourse management and favouring natural solutions over engineered)</p> <p>12.2 Expand and improve programme of water quality monitoring in and around the AONB under the requirements of the WFD enabling appropriate measures to be defined and delivered to meet WFD targets</p> <p>12.3 Deliver improved standards of water quality for all river catchments that feed into the Solway Firth ensuring that the Solway Tweed River Basin Management Plan reflect the importance of the estuary and its designated wildlife sites</p> <p>12.4 Develop new opportunities to tackle issues of point source pollution from the outflow of effluent from septic tanks, also agricultural point-sources and diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural activity and other forms of nitrogen enrichment</p> <p>12.5 Implement the Catchment Sensitive Farming initiative</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
		<p>13: To secure sustainable land management that regulates flooding</p>	<p>within the AONB, in the Wampool and Waver Priority Catchments</p> <p>13.1 Secure sympathetic management of the diverse array of high quality wetlands both inside and outside designated sites, including lowland raised bogs, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh</p> <p>13.2 Engage with prospective Internal Drainage Board (IDB) to influence its aspirations and ensure best practise watercourse management is promoted and implemented by an IDB.</p> <p>13.3 Expand priority freshwater wetland habitats including wet grassland, peatlands and reedbed within and around the AONB, in particular the programme of lowland peatland and wetland restoration that meets quality thresholds.</p> <p>13.4 Work to secure sustainable floodplain management in the AONB and its catchment to regulate downstream flooding, including increasing the capacity of the floodplain to regulate flows and store water</p>
		<p>14: To make a significant contribution to the delivery of the Water Framework Directive by improving water quality and water body status in and around the AONB and Coast.</p>	<p>14.1 Investigate and resolve with United Utilities, bathing water quality issues at Allonby Bay North</p>
	<p>Historic Environment (and Culture)</p>	<p>15: To ensure the effective conservation and management of the Solway Coast AONB historic environment, including historic buildings, archaeological sites, heritage landscapes and heritage fisheries.</p>	<p>15.1 Conserve and enhance the important sites and features linked to cultural heritage and surrounding cultural landscape with particular reference to Hadrian's Wall, Hadrian's Wall buffer World Heritage Sites and the historic Holme Cultram Abbey</p> <p>15.2 Promote increased awareness of the Roman and Cistercian Solway through improved interpretation and archaeology research (SWP)</p> <p>15.3 Continue to promote awareness of the surviving historic landscape both the built features and associated landscapes through improved access, rights of way network including long distance paths and cycleways</p> <p>15.4 Work with agencies (ECOSAL) to conserve and maintain the Crosscanonby Salt pans and others in the AONB</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>15.5 through training schemes protect and restore traditional buildings and develop the skills to restore them using traditional techniques, including cobbles, clay dabbin and local sandstone</p> <p>15.6 Through training and competitions protect and restore field boundary features such as North Cumberland Style hedgelaying and dry stone hedge kest building, ditching and gatestooop replacement projects</p> <p>15.7 Improve and identify the location and the documentation of historic sites that are at threat from loss through inappropriate management and secure sympathetic land management at these sites</p> <p>15.8 Provide an improved visitor experience of, understanding of, and enjoyment of the AONB's natural and historic heritage and engage the local community in its future management through events celebrating its traditional management</p> <p>15.9 Continue to improve interpretation of historic sites through both on site information and the use of web base resources and mobile technologies</p> <p>15.10 Promote Haaf Fishing as a sustainable and traditional method of sea fishing for salmonids</p> <p>15.11 Work with the custodians of Hadrian's Wall Heritage Site to monitor and preserve the Buffer Zone and Wall itself</p>
		<p>16: To ensure an increase in professional and public knowledge and understanding of the AONB's historic environment.</p>	<p>16.1 Work with Development Planners to maintain local vernacular styles in new developments and to ensure the layout of new developments reflect local settlement structure</p> <p>16.2 Establish projects which empower local people to record and celebrate what's special to them about their local historic environment</p> <p>16.3 Arrange workshops and other events primarily aimed at local landowners, farmers and land managers to raise awareness of the historic environment and good practice in its management, based initially on Cistercian Monastery sites in the AONB</p>
	<p>Development and</p>	<p>17: To ensure the special qualities of the AONB and</p>	<p>17.1 Establish robust detailed policies in local plans and</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
	<p>Planning</p>	<p>its setting are fully respected in all Local Plan (National Plans) documents and decision making processes have regard to the Statutory Management Plan</p>	<p>neighbourhood development plans which support the purpose of AONB designation. Such policy should - reflect the national importance of AONBs and prioritise the conservation of tranquillity, wildness and remoteness, local distinctiveness and landscape quality and character. It should also protect the AONB from the adverse effects of development in its setting. Produce a dedicated DPD for any aspect development in the AONB</p> <p>17.2 Support the development of parish, community and neighbourhood plans to include a strong focus on the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage of the Solway Coast AONB</p> <p>17.3 Continue to comment on all planning and development proposals which may have a significant impact on the purpose of AONB designation or which may provide opportunities for enhancement, and comment on emerging policy in any draft local plan consultation or review</p> <p>17.4 Work with other partners to resolve potentially conflicting management needs of coast, ecology and archaeology, particularly at the Roman Cemetery at Beckfoot and Crosscanonby Saltpans</p>
		<p>18: To ensure that development in the AONB and its setting, is of a nature, scale, location and design so that it meets community need without compromising the special qualities of the Solway Coast AONB.</p>	<p>18.1 Ensure robust detailed policies in local plans and neighbourhood development plans support the purpose of the AONB designation, and reflect the national importance of AONBs, to conserve local distinctiveness and landscape quality and character</p> <p>18.2 Support the development of parish, community and neighbourhood plans to include a focus on the natural and cultural heritage of the Solway Coast AONB</p> <p>18.3 Comment on all development proposals which may have a significant impact on the purpose of AONB designation or which might provide opportunities for enhancement, and comment on emerging policy in any draft local plan consultation or review</p> <p>18.4 Support the retention of local services to support community life</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>18.5 the AONB partnership about new road management and improvement schemes in the AONB</p> <p>18.6 Influence any proposals to minimise/negate any negative impacts with the Solway Energy Gateway Scheme for a Solway Barrage</p>
Understanding and Enjoyment	Access and Recreation	<p>19: To ensure that a wide range of opportunities exist for all to gain physical access with sound infrastructure, and information about the AONB to understand its special qualities</p>	<p>19.1 Work with Cumbria County Council Rangers to maintain and improve the rights of way network, with the assistance of volunteer activity</p> <p>19.2 Continue to work with Natural England and Local Authorities to develop and deliver safe and well informed coastal access</p> <p>19.3 Deliver the England Coast Path within the AONB, working with owners and partner organisations to plan and implement an extended route which does not have significant detrimental impacts on key historic, geological and biodiversity assets</p> <p>19.4 Encourage safe access for all to the lowland peat bogs through provision of boardwalks and up to date information at Campfield Marsh Visitor Centre</p>
		<p>20: To maintain, improve and promote access and quiet recreational opportunities in a sustainable way for a diverse group of people.</p>	<p>20.1 In collaboration with other lead organisations, provide walkers and cyclists on the Hadrian's Wall walking and cycling routes local information</p> <p>20.2 Encourage the promotion of all forms of access via leaflets, interpretation panels, social media, web based information to increase the awareness of the vast opportunities of Access for All in the AONB</p> <p>20.3 Encourage and promote access via public transport where possible and by engaging local transport firms to provide more regular rural services</p>
		<p>21: To encourage and promote understanding, well informed access and enjoyment of the coast and AONB</p>	<p>21.1 Promote with other agencies and partners the Countryside Code for considerate countryside behaviour, and information about any restrictions to access on sensitive wildlife sites at certain times to avoid disturbance to wildlife or breeding animals.</p> <p>21.2 Encourage dog owners to control their dogs closely and</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>effectively (particularly on the intertidal zone, saltmarsh and farmland) and clean up after their dogs, by providing signage and raising awareness of the effects of disturbance of wildlife and farm animals</p> <p>21.3 Promote coastal safety by ensuring effective signage is in place particularly around Allonby Bay</p> <p>21.4 Encourage coordinated activity to tackle wildlife crime</p> <p>21.5 Encourage appropriate use of bridleways and the network of quiet roads and lanes by cyclists</p> <p>21.6 Identify the need to develop a unified strategy towards the provision of information and signage so that there is no duplication or wasted resources or proliferations of signage</p>
	<p>Tourism</p>	<p>22: To ensure the developing tourism industry and associated economy is environmentally sustainable, based on, and actively supports, the special qualities of the Solway Coast AONB and brings benefits to the community and has a consistent recognisable brand</p>	<p>22.1 With other destination management organisations develop a single destination management plan for the AONB with a consistent and recognisable brand</p> <p>22.2 Work alongside local businesses to improve their environmental and ‘green’ credentials and visitor payback schemes</p> <p>22.3 Promote locally produced food and other products to reinforce local distinctiveness and add value to the local economy</p> <p>22.4 Work with Cumbria Tourism and the Local enterprise Partnership to implement a sustainable visitor strategy for the AONB</p> <p>22.5 Continue to work with Cumbria ACT, other partnerships and local businesses to improve working relationships between communities in the AONB and promote tourism opportunities</p> <p>22.6 Through partnership working promote the peatlands as an important destination for wildlife and a unique habitat.</p> <p>22.7 Establish events programmes for residents, day visitors or tourists celebrating aspects of community or cultural heritage</p> <p>22.8 Seek ways to obtain added value from users of the national trails that pass through the AONB</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			22.9 Use the 'Walk Unlimited' website or similar sites including the AONB website, to provide information on national trails and to promote local businesses that offer services to visitors
		23: To ensure an increase in heritage management, tourism, hospitality and outdoor education to help secure the future of the area.	23.1 Continue to work with English Heritage, Holme Cultram Abbey, custodians of Hadrian's Wall, Tullie House and other heritage organisations to promote sustainable management of heritage assets in the AONB 23.2 To provide outdoor education through the Solway Wetlands Partnership project and its legacy of partnerships to promote the special qualities of the AONB
		24: To monitor and manage recreational pressure to avoid harmful impacts on the special qualities of the AONB.	24.1 Market and promote the AONB and its special qualities and accessibility on an upgraded AONB website, including pre-arrival marketing, also monitoring uptake of enquiries 24.2 Through the promotion of public transport, reduce the number of other vehicles using the limited parking facilities on the coast within the AONB 24.3 Promote alternative means of transport within the AONB such as cycle hire, tramper hire, with looped access routes promoted in leaflet production 24.4 Improve the infrastructure of parking areas for visitors through further provision of bins, furniture, surfacing and interpretation panels highlighting the special qualities of the area
Social and Economic Well-being	Employment and Business	25: To ensure that access to securing of funding such as AE, will support sustainable farming practices and support implementation of identified measures that support the conservation of natural beauty	25.1 Promote locally produced food and other products to help reinforce local distinctiveness and support local product development 25.2 Through the NAAONB's influence, including Natural Environment White Paper Initiatives, ensure that investment is targeted at supporting land managers 25.3 Provide bespoke advice and practical support to encourage landowners and managers to apply for grants through the environmental land management scheme and other rural development schemes 25.4 Through grants and advice, support farm diversification

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			which increases economic sustainability and helps to conserve and enhance the natural environment including sensitive renovation of traditional barns
		26: To ensure opportunities are there to access training and employment and build skills base in sectors related to the purpose of designation such as land management and sustainable tourism	<p>26.1 Deliver and host an annual programme of land management and rural skills training and events including North Cumberland Style Hedgelaying and dry stone kist facing, to landowners, contractors and those working in the countryside of the AONB</p> <p>26.2 Continue to work with Cumbria ACT, other partnerships and local businesses to improve working relationships between communities in the AONB and promote tourism opportunities</p> <p>26.3 Work with Coastal communities Schemes (and FLAG) where possible to promote coastal businesses and sustainable tourism</p> <p>26.4 Work with partners and organisations to deliver high-speed broadband to support tourism and farm businesses and improve their outputs ensuring the sensitive siting of necessary infrastructure</p>
		27: To ensure planning for housing is both appropriate to the needs of communities and has regard to the AONB character.	<p>27.1 Promote best practise in design and influence local authorities to provide suitable housing developments which do not have an adverse impact on tranquillity or on traditional village structure</p> <p>27.2 Continue to respond to property development applications from the Local Authorities within the AONB. Also to respond to large scale developments outside the AONB boundary, such as wind turbines, that could have a significant impact and adverse effects on the AONB landscape</p> <p>27.3 Engage with local communities in their Neighbourhood Plans with regards to the special quality of the AONB</p> <p>27.4 Establish robust detailed policies in local plans and neighbourhood development plans which support the purpose of AONB designation. Such policy should - reflect the national importance of AONBs and prioritise the conservation of tranquillity, wildness and remoteness, local distinctiveness and</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			landscape quality and character. It should also protect the AONB from the adverse effects of development in its setting
		28: Across the sectors to develop an economy based on the valuing of, and support of, the key attributes of the AONB with a consistent brand that makes the link to the landscape.	28.1 Work with businesses and organisations such as Cumbria Tourism, Cumbria ACT, NFU, to facilitate projects that support sustainable growth in the AONB whilst valuing the key attributes of the landscape 28.2 Provide clear, accurate and positive messages about the special qualities of the Solway Coast AONB that can be used in marketing literature
		29: To ensure maximisation of opportunities for the AONB's designation, special qualities and management to drive and support rural economic growth	29.1 Involvement in projects which encourage further development of nature and culture based attractions, including Campfield Barn, Holme Cultram, Senhouse Museum, Tullie House Museum 29.2 Support Green Business networks and others on economic and environmental benefits of greening business 29.3 Promote seasonal activities, such as bird watching, walking and cycling and promotion of nature/culture based activities/packages in the AONB to extend the visitor season from the traditional summer window by supporting niche markets 29.4 Engage with Cumbria Local Economic Partnerships to develop new opportunities to facilitate growth linked to the natural environment
	Services	30: To ensure the current level of local services and access to those services by all is maintained and enhanced where possible to support sustainable communities.	30.1 Promote local services, businesses and products in all AONB communications including the AONB website and publications delivered in and around the AONB 30.2 Support local businesses and services which contribute to the AONB objectives through project funding or other sources of external funding 30.3 Work with the Local Authorities and Cumbria County Council to retain and promote local services 30.4 Provide training, through the AONB Partnership, for developing skills around services linked to its special quality,

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>such as tourism, traditional skills and environmental skills</p> <p>30.5 Use the NAAONB network to identify information share case studies to learn more from other AONBs</p> <p>30.6 Support the retention and expansion of local services to support community life. Apply the AONB Partnership's Sustainable Development Fund (where budgets allow) and other funds to suitable projects</p>
		31: To encourage infrastructure improvements to achieve superfast broadband and mobile phone coverage for the whole of the AONB without a significant adverse impact.	<p>31.1. Support positive action to achieve the roll-out of superfast broadband, ensuring the sensitive siting of necessary infrastructure</p> <p>31.2 Support positive action to improve mobile phone signal within the AONB, ensuring the sensitive siting of necessary infrastructure</p> <p>31.3 Work with partners and organisations to deliver high-speed broadband to support tourism and all businesses and services and improve their outputs ensuring the sensitive siting of necessary infrastructure</p>
	Transport	32: To ensure the special qualities of the AONB are respected in the planning, design, provision and management of all types of transport and associated infrastructure.	<p>32.1 Consult the AONB Partnership about new road management and improvement schemes in the AONB and link to the next round of Local Transport Plans</p> <p>32.2 Encourage the Local Highway Authority through the SMP process to identify a long-term solution to storm damage on the coastal B5300 road</p> <p>32.3 Through partnership working with the Highways Department, introduce lorry routing schemes away from the B5300 and other quiet roads.</p> <p>32.4 With Highways authorities develop and undertake audits of excessive cluttering of transport signage and that any signage should be in keeping with the special qualities of the AONB, including traditional finger posts.</p> <p>32.5 Facilitate roll out of 20mph speed limits within villages while ensuring signage is appropriate to its setting</p> <p>32.56 Engage with Highways Departments, Local authorities and Parish councils on road infrastructure improvements and</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
		<p>33: To ensure opportunities are taken to promote walking, cycling and public transport and enhance schemes where possible to provide an alternative to private car use.</p>	<p>signage within the AONB</p> <p>32.7 Consult the AONB Partnership about management and maintenance of Rural Roads and new improvement schemes in the AONB</p> <p>33.1 Promote walking and cycling through AONB Partnership guides and publications and ensure that user infrastructure provision ensures the Coast Path and Hadrian's Wall Trail and Cycleway are effectively supported</p> <p>33.2 Engage with Sustrans in initiatives under Local Transport Plans to stimulate better use of public transport and cycling events. Integrate with hub sites, such as The Wave in Maryport, as a centre for electric cycle hire and point for integration of public transport network</p> <p>33.3 Work with partner organisations to enable more buses to be run over the weekend period from Carlisle to Bowness on Solway, enhancing Hadrian's Wall walkers ability to travel more frequently</p> <p>33.4 Develop and promote walking and cycling loops that integrate with public transport</p> <p>33.5 Work with Local Councils to promote opportunities in the AONB at key public transport 'get on points'.</p> <p>33.6 Link events and activities to available local transport wherever possible, e.g., volunteer events and workdays</p> <p>33.7 To further extend the Hadrian's Cycleway off-road section between Allonby and Maryport, north of Allonby towards Silloth</p>
Engagement	Awareness and Communication	34: To ensure fostering a community interest and culture linked to the AONB's strong sense of place	<p>34.1 To research, monitor, analyse and address data gaps by developing data sharing protocols with key partners and improve GIS capability in the AONB team.</p> <p>34.2 To be involved in the BARS2 process of wildlife data gathering</p> <p>34.3 Maintain a high quality AONB website as the key information resource for visitors, local residents, partner organisations and other relevant audiences, ensuring it is accessible, customer focussed, well designed and regularly</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>updated, and has interesting and stimulating content</p> <p>34.4 Continue to pursue highway signage with the AONB England's Solway Coast logos beyond the AONB boundary</p> <p>34.5 Continue to produce interpretative leaflets, booklets, AONB Coaster and 2 monthly newsletters to inform the wider public of the special qualities of the AONB, including material produced by the wider partnership</p> <p>34.6 Promote the importance of Holme Cultram Abbey, peatlands, and other unique areas of the AONB through activities with schools and groups within and outside the AONB</p> <p>34.7 Maintain an active social media presence and promote events, activities and stories through the media</p> <p>34.8 Deliver talks and presentations as needed on the special qualities and works of the AONB Partnership and establish events programmes for visitors and residents to celebrate community or cultural heritage</p>
	Community Involvement	35: To enable local communities to become involved in the custodianship of the AONB through engaging with management and support of key assets	<p>35.1 Build the capacity of community-based projects linked to natural and cultural heritage through grant aid and in kind support</p> <p>35.2 Establish oral history projects focusing on peatland and farming history</p> <p>35.3 Develop and support projects which give communities, networks and individuals opportunity to express what their 'place' means to them e.g. through the Solway Wetlands Landscape Partnership</p> <p>35.4 Develop a successor to the Archaeology programme carries out in the Solway Wetlands Landscape Partnership</p> <p>35.5 Develop new opportunities for people to participate in survey, monitoring and hands-on conservation activities for the natural and historic environment</p> <p>35.6 Develop a Junior or Youth Rangers programme to engage involve young people in new ways, and optimise opportunities from linking with the Europarc Federation network. Seek funding to maintain a schools programme</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
			<p>35.7 Develop opportunities to promote volunteering as part of corporate social responsibility programmes</p> <p>35.8 Continue to run events and workdays for the Solway Coast Community Volunteer Group and other partners, including beach litter picks and land management on reserves and SSSI's in the AONB</p> <p>35.9 Seek opportunities to extend stewardship of natural environment to new areas</p> <p>35.10 Continue to promote volunteering in the AONB through partnerships and seek best practise for volunteers and activities carried out in the conservation of the area</p> <p>35.11 Actively engage with communities within the AONB to help identify local issues and develop solutions, whilst conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the local natural and built environment</p> <p>35.12 Continue to promote walking, cycling, wildlife watching and other healthy recreational activities through the AONB website, leaflets, social media and electronic media</p>
		<p>36: To support local communities in moving towards sustainable low carbon living.</p>	<p>36.1 Promote alternative forms of transport such as walking, cycling , and public transport where available, as a means of moving about in the AONB</p> <p>36.2 Promote, where appropriate small scale renewable energy schemes to help contribute to energy reduction targets</p> <p>36.3 Promote energy and water efficiency measures in any new development within the AONB</p> <p>36.4 Promote reduction of car use and using public transport where possible, and purchasing locally sourced food and services</p>
		<p>37: To ensure less waste is produced through waste minimisation and recycling of waste materials generated by communities.</p>	<p>37.1 Encourage recycling schemes in AONB villages and continue with beach litter picks with local communities and volunteers</p>
	<p>Climate Change</p>	<p>38: To ensure carbon emissions within the AONB are reduced by reducing energy consumption, applying</p>	<p>38.1 promote renewable energy sources that are complementary to the AONB character</p>

Theme	Topic	Objectives	Actions
		energy conserving measures, encouraging more sustainable patterns of development, and utilising renewable energy generation technologies that are of an appropriate type and scale for their siting	<p>38.2 Continue to work with planning authorities on matters relating to housing development, wind turbine development and possible Solway Barrage</p> <p>38.3 Promote energy and water efficiency measures in any new development within the AONB</p> <p>38.4 Continue to restore lowland raised bogs by restoring appropriate hydrology for their biological value, historic value and as a climate regulator by both securing the storage of carbon in peat and by enabling sequestration of Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere</p>
		39: To ensure land is managed sustainably in accordance with best practice to minimise erosion and water pollution and maximise resilience to drought services.	<p>39.1 Continue to work with partners and volunteers to deliver on-going habitat enhancement and stability</p> <p>39.2 Implement Catchment Management Plans for the area's main rivers, linked to River Basin Management Plans and the AONB Management Plan (actions include achieving good water body status, reducing bankside erosion, reducing run-off into rivers, improving watercourse management and favouring natural solutions over engineered)</p>
		40: To work with SMP2 policy in managing coastal change and securing adaptive management of coastal habitats.	<p>40.1 work with partners to address coastal squeeze as part of the delivery of SMP2 and also embrace adapting to coastal change along the Outer coast.</p> <p>40.2 Work with partners to secure coastal management regimes that mitigate impacts, eg through agri-environment schemes to allow saltmarsh accretion and land level rise to offset sea level rise</p> <p>40.3 Work with partners to manage access to the coastal zone so that fragile 'barrier' habitats are not damaged comprising their coastal protection function</p> <p>40.4 Work with partners to reduce the need for unsustainable infrastructure in the coastal zone</p> <p>40.5 Raise awareness of the inevitability of coastal change through partnership literature and media articles</p>

Appendix 3: Solway Coast AONB Management Plan HRA First Sieve

Guidance on Habitats Regulations Appraisal of plans – Classifying No Negative Effect	
A1	Options / policies that will not themselves lead to development e.g. because they relate to design or other qualitative criteria for development, or they are not a land use planning policy.
A2	Options / policies intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity
A3	Options / policies intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment, where enhancement measures will not be likely to have any negative effect on a European Site
A4	Options / policies that positively steer development away from European sites and associated sensitive areas
A5	General policy statements or policies which only express general intentions or political aspirations.

Objective	Action	Category A?	Next stage?	Comment
1: To ensure that the distinctive character and qualities of the Solway Coast AONB landscape and seascape are understood, conserved, enhanced and restored.	1.1 Ensure that land management decisions are appropriate, e.g. through Agri-environment (AE) schemes, reinforce landscape character including the mosaic of sand dunes, lowland mosses, salt marshes and agricultural land	A2		
	1.2 Support and facilitate the conservation of characteristic landscape features such as in-field barns, hedgerows, drystone hedge- kests, gatestoops and ponds through development management and environmental land management schemes	A3		
	1.3 Develop landscape character area conservation guidelines for use by developers, AE advisors, etc.	A1		
	1.4 Identify 'Indicators of Landscape Change' and establish a monitoring Scheme	A1		

	1.5 Support the conservation of drystone hedge kests, North Cumberland Style Hedgelaying through training schemes and sandstone gate stoops by replacement projects	A3		
	1.6 Monitor and act on tree and plant diseases, notably Chalara and Phytopthera, and other non-native invasive species which may have a significant impact on the landscape with Cumbria INNS strategy	A2		
	1.7 Continue to wet up areas of farmland and lowland raised mires through water management schemes	A3		
	1.8 Develop guidance on management of rural roads, highway improvement schemes, signage and street/outdoor furniture appropriate to the AONB landscape	A1		
	1.9 Reducing the carbon footprint by achieving reductions in greenhouse gas emissions will help to reduce the degree and impact of climate change. This can be achieved through increasing energy efficiency, eg, using appropriate forms of renewable energy, peatland restoration, reducing car use and using public transport, purchasing locally sourced food and services.	A5		
	1. 10 Promote renewable energy sources that are complementary to AONB character		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity though the special qualities of the AONB include wildlife and natural heritage
	1.11 With AONB partnerships encourage and target the uptake of Agri-environment schemes within the AONB, with an emphasis on land management options that reinforce landscape character and support key attributes	A5		
	1.12 Continue to underground overhead wires with		YES	Without mitigation, could harm

	Electricity North West and identify new areas for the next 15 years			biodiversity through disturbance
	1.13 Ensure that proposals for National Grid's new power infrastructure seek to minimise impacts on the setting and views from the AONB through continued engagement of the Stakeholder Reference Group	A5	NO	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity through disturbance. Works will be carried out by the National Grid and its programmes are subject to HRA.
	1.14 Ensure that wind energy applications that affect the AONB or its setting are required to demonstrate that the Landscape and Visual Impact Assessments have used the best available data and information and taken full account of the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework regarding AONBs. Seek to ensure that visualisation work that supports such applications is submitted in accordance with the requirements of relevant good practice	A5		
	1.15 Adopt the Cumulative Landscape & Visual Impact of Vertical Infrastructure – Assessment & Guidelines	A1		
	1.16 Use the Solway Coast AONB Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment 2010, to comment on planning decisions to make informed decisions and responses regarding development.	A5		
	1.17 Promote the importance of good soil management for carbon storage and water quality, ensuring that this resource protection is given priority within environmental land management schemes	A2		
	1.18 Review and update the AONB Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment	A5		
	1.19 Develop and deliver a programme of landscape monitoring linked to management plan indicators	A1		

2: To ensure that sustainable farming practices become the primary means by which the distinctive farmland landscapes and qualities of much of the AONB are maintained	2.1 Ensure that agriculture continues to contribute positively to conservation of the AONB's special qualities by providing bespoke advice and hands on support to farmers and land managers to promote and encourage uptake of environment and land management grant schemes	A3		
	2.2 Continue to wet up areas of farmland and lowland raised mires through water management and to deliver sympathetic management of key assets	A3		
	2.3 Promote the importance of good soil management for carbon storage and water quality, ensuring that this resource protection is given priority within environmental land management schemes	A2		
	2.4 Support farm diversification schemes where appropriate through AE schemes, RDP, LEP and development planning	A5		
3: To ensure that the skills required to care for the landscape and its special qualities are appreciated and increased, with opportunities to acquire and develop such skills made available to all.	3.1 Support the conservation of drystone hedge kests, North Cumberland Style Hedgelaying through training schemes and competitions, and sandstone gate stoops by replacement projects- which raise local awareness.	A3		
4: To ensure rural land management, which conserves and enhances natural resources, including biodiversity, landscape character and the historic environment-and which aids public enjoyment of the AONB and is economically sustainable.	4.1 Support the conservation of characteristic landscape features such as in-field barns, hedgerows, drystone hedge-kests, gatestoops and ponds through development management and environmental land management schemes	A3		
	4.2 Monitor and act on tree and plant diseases, notably Chalara and Phytopthera, and other non-native invasive species which may have a significant impact on the landscape in conjunction with Cumbria INNS strategy	A2		
	4.3 Use Agri-environment schemes to support	A2		

	farming systems that maintain and enhance populations of priority farmland birds on arable land			
	4.4 Support NAAONB and other bodies' lobbying for CAP reform which benefits farming and wildlife	A5		
5: To ensure the effective conservation and management of the saltmarsh habitat for its unique character, specialist species and role regulating coastal processes.	5.1 Ensure that saltmarsh management continues to contribute positively to conservation of the AONB's special qualities by providing bespoke advice and hands on support to farmers and land managers to promote and encourage uptake of environment and land management grant schemes	A3		
	5.2 Retain grazing systems that provide conditions for key species and allow natural development of the marshes	A2		
	5.3 Ensure sustainable management of natural resources and, whilst raising awareness of disturbance to breeding birds	A4		
	5.4 Conserve the Inner Firth Intertidal Flats for nature conservation for SPA/SAC status and restore areas of reclaimed farm land to marshes where possible	A3		
	5.5 Monitor changes in sea –level and coastal erosion to determine any trends or patterns and if possible to manage the process	A5		
6: To ensure that organisations responsible for the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the dunes deliver appropriate actions and that the dunes are enjoyed sensitively by all users.	6.1 Encourage integrated designation management to help ensure the objectives of differing designations do not conflict with objectives for the Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SSSI, Solway Firth SAC/ SSSI and Silloth Dunes and Mawbray Bank SSSI	A5		
	6.2 Work with Parish Councils and landowners to close informal car parks on the dunes but maintain main car parks	A5		

	6.3 Continue to work with Allerdale Borough Council and other landowners to manage the dunes for key species (Natterjack Toad) and allow natural development through AE schemes	A2		
	6.4 Promote the positive development of England Coast Path whilst ensuring any changes or development is in line with the landscape management of the AONB and dune management	A4	NO	Development of England Coast Path is a matter for Natural England and will be subject to HRA. Does not specify what management is appropriate for a European site. Dune management may be for biodiversity, not stated. Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling.
	6.5 Monitor access to the dunes by mussel fisheries and discourage travellers from settling along dune areas to prevent further erosion	A5		
	6.6 Implement relevant fishery orders to effectively manage shellfishing activity from the sand dunes and ensure potential impacts on the AONB are minimised.	A2		
	6.7 Promote use of Hadrian's Cycleway whilst ensuring any changes or development is in line with the landscape management of the AONB and dune management		YES	Does not specify what management is appropriate for a European site. Dune management may be for biodiversity, not stated. Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling.
	6.8 Deliver appropriate land management related adaptation and mitigation actions identified in the Shoreline Management Plan2	A5	NO	The Shoreline Management Plan2 is subject to HRA
	6.9 Provide a work force using the Solway Coast Community Volunteers and other groups to help with basic management of the dunes, invasive weed removal, gorse and scrub removal.	A2		

	6.10 Provide clear and adequate information and signage for users of the dunes to respect the delicate nature of the dune system and its wildlife, and behave accordingly.	A4		
	6.11 Continue to work in partnership with Electricity North West in undergrounding more 11kv overhead lines to improve visual amenity	A5	NO	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance. Works will be carried out by Electricity North West and its programmes are subject to HRA
	6.12 Work with landowners maintain favourable condition of the Grune dune system, and where feasible seek to restore grazing management on the Silloth-Allonby dune system	A2		
7: To ensure continued creation, restoration and enhancement of new and restored raised mire habitat.	7.1 Support research into peatland hydrology, vegetation cover, grazing, biodiversity, carbon storage and the historic environment. Use research findings to guide peatland management	A3		
	7.2 Continue the restoration and re-wetting of the peatlands and associated farmland, to reduce carbon loss and rebuild organic content of soils	A2		
	7.3 Continue to manage the lowland wetlands and pasture that delivers benefits from biodiversity and sustainable farm business, in particular measures that support key species such as breeding waders	A2		
	7.4 Work with Planning Authorities to control inappropriate developments such as wind turbines that affect the skylines along the open views from the peatlands	A5		
	7.5 Continue to restore lowland raised bogs by restoring appropriate hydrology for their biological value, historic value and as a climate regulator by both securing the storage of carbon in peat and by enabling sequestration of Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere	A2		

	7.6 continue the restoration of site hydrology involving removal of recently established woodland and scrub and continue to block drains on the moss surface	A2		
	7.7 Increase visitor awareness of the role the mosses play through continued appropriate access development (boardwalk), interpretation, Campfield Barn Visitor Centre provision, viewing platforms, school visits, visitor activities and other social media information	A5		
	7.8 Continue to use AE schemes to incentivise appropriate management and partnership working	A3		
8: To ensure the conservation, enhancement, expansion and enhanced connectivity of habitats, creating resilient ecological networks across the Solway coast AONB and beyond with a focus on 2020 priorities.	8.1 Ensure that 95% of the AONB's SSSIs are in favourable or recovering condition by 2020 and take appropriate action to bring those SSSIs that are currently in recovering condition into favourable condition, so that at least 50% of SSSIs are in favourable condition by 2020	A2		
	8.2 Carry out condition monitoring of the AONB's Local Wildlife Sites and aim to deliver positive management on all sites by 2020 by providing bespoke advice and support, negotiating management agreements and securing environmental land management or other grants	A3		
	8.3 Carry out research into habitat connectivity that is applicable to the intimate scale of the AONB landscape	A2		
	8.4 Develop a more conservation friendly management of vegetation to enhance the wildlife and landscape value of verges and highway margins and link to B-lines proposals and government pollinator strategy	A3		
	8.5 Retain, improve and expand areas of priority habitats, including lowland raised bog, coastal sand	A2		

	dune, saltmarsh and other areas within and around the AONB			
	8.6 Demonstrate improvements in the AONB Partnership's ecosystem approach to landscape management through use of criteria based check lists	A1		
	8.7 Develop an AONB Biodiversity 2020 Local Delivery Plan	A1		
	8.8 Ensure that any plans, projects and actions take into account the conservation objectives of, and where possible seek to enhance, European designated sites within and adjacent to the area	A5		
	8.9 Carry out regular condition monitoring of the AONB's SSSIs	A2		
	8.10 Retain, improve and expand priority freshwater wetland habitats including wet grassland, wet woodland (lagg), peatlands and reedbed within and around the AONB, in particular the programme of lowland peatland and wetland restoration	A2		
	8.11 Conserve and enhance priority coastal habitats including saltmarsh, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, maritime cliffs and slopes, vegetated shingle, coastal sand dunes and mudflats	A3		
	8.12 Promote connectivity by providing linkages, corridors and stepping stones in the landscape	A2		
	8.13 Support research into peatland hydrology, vegetation cover, grazing, biodiversity, carbon storage and the historic environment. Use research findings to guide peatland management	A1		
	8.14 Develop new opportunities to enhance, restore and connect priority habitats	A3		
	8.15 Support the continued work of biological	A5		

	records centres			
	8.16 Implement conservation grazing on appropriate sites to manage areas of saltmarsh, sand dunes and other areas of herb-rich pasture by supporting appropriate conservation grazing initiatives	A2		
	8.17 Maintain favourable conditions of habitats and heritage sites and habitat networks to make ecological systems as robust as possible to climate change, using policy drivers such as the Natural Environment White Paper.	A2		
	8.18 Develop and deliver an enhanced programme of monitoring where the need is identified	A5		
	8.19 Develop and deliver an initiative to provide connectivity of pollination habitat Actions to achieve this	A2		Drafted oddly but the intent seems clear
	8.20 Develop and support conservation and research initiatives with a focus on NERC section 41 priority species	A5		
	8.21 Develop and deliver new funded programme of wetland management at target sites to conserve the Marsh Fritillary butterfly and associated species	A2		
	8.22 Continue species introductions for specialist species to facilitate recolonization of the Marsh Fritillary Butterfly	A2		Assume working with the support of Natural England
	8.23 Develop a list of species characteristic to the AONB to include internationally, nationally and locally important species and relevant management actions to benefit them, taking note of sensitive areas e.g. high tide roosts and natterjack ponds	A5		
	8.24 Support and implement appropriate Species Recovery Programmes, following good practice guidance for species release and (re)introduction	A2		

	8.25 Secure sustainable fisheries and shell fisheries management for the benefit of coastal species and habitats	A5		
9 : To protect the establishment and spread of invasive non-native species (INNS) and plant diseases, and where appropriate eradicate populations	9.1 Co-ordinate an invasive and non-native species assessment, both marine and on land, and establish a rapid follow-on programme to act on the findings	A2		
	9.2 Develop programmes of activity to encourage eradication of Himalayan Balsam, Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and other INNS within the AONB as part of wider initiatives	A2		
	9.3 Establish a rapid response plan and programme of activity to report, monitor and raise awareness of biosecurity and INNS within the AONB, also working with Solway Firth Partnership for the marine species	A1		
	9.4 Protect and monitor tree health with a focus on <i>Chalara</i> and <i>Phytophthora</i> through implementation of tree surveys and disease action plans, and monitor health and diseases for amphibians and reptiles	A1		
	9.5 Contribute to monitor grey squirrel control in accordance with recognised red squirrel conservation strategy and guidance from the Red Squirrels Northern England Partnership	A1		
	9.6 Continue to raise awareness of invasive non - native species of animals and plants and increase vigilance to prevent establishment of invasives where possible, through leaflets and ongoing volunteer activity	A5		
10: To ensure conservation and understanding of geodiversity and its importance in the landscape and biodiversity of the AONB	10.1 Carry out condition monitoring of geological SSSIs in the AONB to ensure they are in favourable condition	A2		
	10.2 Ensure that no features of interest are lost to development or unsympathetic land management including RIGGS	A1		

11: To ensure the conservation and protection of Marine Protected Areas and coastal dunes and marshes	11.1 Conserve and enhance priority coastal habitats including saltmarsh, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, maritime cliffs and slopes, vegetated shingle, coastal sand dunes and mudflats	A3		
	11.2 Raise awareness of the risks of trampling and disturbance on Honeycomb Reefs in the proposed Allonby Bay Marine Protected Area	A4		
12: To ensure freshwater courses are appropriately managed and their quality enhanced	12.1 Implement Catchment Management Plans for the area's main rivers, linked to Solway Tweed River Basin Basin Management Plan and the AONB Management Plan (actions include achieving good water body status, reducing bankside erosion, reducing run-off into rivers, improving watercourse management and favouring natural solutions over engineered)	A3	NO	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. River Catchment Management Plans and River Basin Management Plans are the responsibility of the Environment Agency and subject to HRA
	12.2 Expand and improve programme of water quality monitoring in and around the AONB under the requirements of the WFD enabling appropriate measures to be defined and delivered to meet WFD targets	A1		
	12.3 Deliver improved standards of water quality for all river catchments that feed into the Solway Firth ensuring that the Solway Tweed River Basin Management Plan reflect the importance of the estuary and its designated wildlife sites	A3	NO	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. River Basin Management Plans are the responsibility of the Environment agency and subject to HRA
	12.4 Develop new opportunities to tackle issues of point source pollution from the outflow of effluent from septic tanks, also agricultural point-sources and diffuse groundwater pollution due to agricultural activity and other forms of nitrogen enrichment	A2		
	12.5 Implement the Catchment Sensitive Farming	A5		

	initiative within the AONB, in the Wampool and Waver Priority Catchments			
13: To secure sustainable land management that regulates flooding	13.1 Secure sympathetic management of the diverse array of high quality wetlands both inside and outside designated sites, including lowland raised bogs, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	A5		
	13.2 Engage with prospective Internal Drainage Board (IDB) to influence its aspirations and ensure best practise watercourse management is promoted and implemented by an IDB	A5		
	13.3 Expand priority freshwater wetland habitats including wet grassland, peatlands and reedbed within and around the AONB, in particular the programme of lowland peatland and wetland restoration that meets quality thresholds.	A2		
	13.4 Work to secure sustainable floodplain management in the AONB and its catchment to regulate downstream flooding, including increasing the capacity of the floodplain to regulate flows and store water	A3		
14: To make a significant contribution to the delivery of the Water Framework Directive by improving water quality and water body status in and around the AONB and Coast.	14.1 Investigate and resolve with United Utilities, bathing water quality issues at Allonby Bay North	A2	NO	United Utilities work programmes will be subject to HRA
15: To ensure the effective conservation and management of the Solway Coast AONB historic environment, including historic buildings, archaeological sites, heritage landscapes and heritage fisheries.	15.1 Conserve and enhance the important sites and features linked to cultural heritage and surrounding cultural landscape with particular reference to Hadrian's Wall, Hadrian's Wall buffer World Heritage Sites and the historic Holme Cultram Abbey	A3		
	15.2 Promote increased awareness of the Roman and Cistercian Solway through improved interpretation and archaeology research (SWP)	A1		

15.3 Continue to promote awareness of the surviving historic landscape both the built features and associated landscapes through improved access, rights of way network including long distance paths and cycleways		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. Does not specify what access forms are appropriate for a European site
15.4 Work with agencies (ECOSAL) to conserve and maintain the Crosscanonby Saltpans and others in the AONB		YES	Without safeguards, activities could easily result in negative effects on European sites
15.5 through training schemes protect and restore traditional buildings and develop the skills to restore them using traditional techniques, including cobbles, clay dabbin and local sandstone	A3		
15.6 Through training and competitions protect and restore field boundary features such as North Cumberland Style hedgelaying and dry stone hedge kest building, ditching and gatestoop replacement projects	A3		
15.7 Improve and identify the location and the documentation of historic sites that are at threat from loss through inappropriate management and secure sympathetic land management at these sites		YES	Does not specify what management is appropriate to protect any European site
15.8 Provide an improved visitor experience of, understanding of, and enjoyment of the AONB's natural and historic heritage and engage the local community in its future management through events celebrating its traditional management	A1		
15.9 Continue to improve interpretation of historic sites through both on site information and the use of web base resources and mobile technologies	A1		
15.10 Promote Haaf Fishing as a sustainable and traditional method of sea fishing for salmonids		YES	Does not acknowledge the link between fishery activity and the designated site interest
15.11 Work with the custodians of Hadrian's Wall Heritage Site to monitor and preserve the Buffer	A3		

	Zone and Wall itself			
16: To ensure an increase in professional and public knowledge and understanding of the AONB's historic environment.	16.1 Work with Development Planners to maintain local vernacular styles in new developments and to ensure the layout of new developments reflect local settlement structure	A1		
	16.2 Establish projects which empower local people to record and celebrate what's special to them about their local historic environment	A1		
	16.3 Arrange workshops and other events primarily aimed at local landowners, farmers and land managers to raise awareness of the historic environment and good practice in its management, based initially on Cistercian Monastery sites in the AONB	A1		
17: To ensure the special qualities of the AONB and its setting are fully respected in all Local Plan (National Plans) documents and decision-making processes have regard to the Statutory Management Plan.	17.1 Establish robust detailed policies in local plans and neighbourhood development plans which support the purpose of AONB designation. Such policy should - reflect the national importance of AONBs and prioritise the conservation of tranquillity, wildness and remoteness, local distinctiveness and landscape quality and character. It should also protect the AONB from the adverse effects of development in its setting. Produce a dedicated DPD for any aspect development in the AONB	A1		
	17.2 Support the development of parish, community and neighbourhood plans to include a strong focus on the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage of the Solway Coast AONB	A5		
	17.3 Continue to comment on all planning and development proposals which may have a significant impact on the purpose of AONB designation or which may provide opportunities for enhancement, and comment on emerging policy in any draft local plan consultation or review	A1		

	17.4 Work with other partners to resolve potentially conflicting management needs of coast, ecology and archaeology, particularly at the Roman Cemetery at Beckfoot and Crosscanonby Saltpans	A5		
18: To ensure that development in the AONB and its setting, is of a nature, scale, location and design so that it meets community need without compromising the special qualities of the Solway Coast AONB.	18.1 Ensure robust detailed policies in local plans and neighbourhood development plans support the purpose of the AONB designation, and reflect the national importance of AONBs, to conserve local distinctiveness and landscape quality and character	A5		
	18.2 Support the development of parish, community and neighbourhood plans to include a focus on the natural and cultural heritage of the Solway Coast AONB	A5		
	18.3 Comment on all development proposals which may have a significant impact on the purpose of AONB designation or which might provide opportunities for enhancement, and comment on emerging policy in any draft local plan consultation or review	A1		
	18.4 Support the retention of local services to support community life	A5		
	18.5 Consult the AONB partnership about new road management and improvement schemes in the AONB	A5		
	18.6 Influence any proposals to minimise/negate any negative impacts with the Solway Energy Gateway Scheme for a Solway Barrage	A5		
19: To ensure that a wide range of opportunities exist for all to gain physical access with sound infrastructure, and information about the AONB to understand its special qualities	19.1 Work with Cumbria County Council Rangers to maintain and improve the rights of way network, with the assistance of volunteer activity	A1		
	19.2 Continue to work with Natural England and Local Authorities to develop and deliver safe and well informed coastal access	A1	NO	Does not specify what access is appropriate for a European site. However, such sites are the responsibility of Natural England who is

				the identified lead.
	19.3 Deliver the England Coast Path within the AONB, working with owners and partner organisations to plan and implement an extended route which does not have significant detrimental impacts on key historic, geological and biodiversity assets	A4	NO	Development of England Coast Path is a matter for Natural England and will be subject to HRA.
	19.4 Encourage safe access for all to the lowland peat bogs through provision of boardwalks and up to date information at Campfield Marsh Visitor Centre	A2		
20: To maintain, improve and promote access and quiet recreational opportunities in a sustainable way for a diverse group of people	20.1 In collaboration with other lead organisations, provide walkers and cyclists on the Hadrian's Wall walking and cycling routes local information	A5		
	20.2 Encourage the promotion of all forms of access via leaflets, interpretation panels, social media, web based information to increase the awareness of the vast opportunities of Access for All in the AONB		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. Does not specify what access forms are appropriate for a European site
	20.3 Encourage and promote access via public transport where possible and by engaging local transport firms to provide more regular rural services	A1		
21: To encourage and promote understanding, well informed access and enjoyment of the coast and AONB	21.1 Promote with other agencies and partners the Countryside Code for considerate countryside behaviour, and information about any restrictions to access on sensitive wildlife sites at certain times to avoid disturbance to wildlife or breeding animals.	A4		
	21.2 Encourage dog owners to control their dogs closely and effectively (particularly on the intertidal zone, saltmarsh and farmland) and clean up after their dogs, by providing signage and raising awareness of the effects of disturbance of wildlife and farm animals	A2		

	21.3 Promote coastal safety by ensuring effective signage is in place particularly around Allonby Bay	A1		
	21.4 Encourage coordinated activity to tackle wildlife crime	A5		
	21.5 Encourage appropriate use of bridleways and the network of quiet roads and lanes by cyclists	A5		
	21.6 Identify the need to develop a unified strategy towards the provision of information and signage so that there is no duplication or wasted resources or proliferations of signage	A5		
22: To ensure the developing tourism industry and associated economy is environmentally sustainable, based on, and actively supports, the special qualities of the Solway Coast AONB and brings benefits to the community and has a consistent recognisable brand	22.1 With other destination management organisations develop a single destination management plan for the AONB with a consistent and recognisable brand	A5		
	22.2 Work alongside local businesses to improve their environmental and 'green' credentials and visitor payback schemes	A1		
	22.3 Promote locally produced food and other products to reinforce local distinctiveness and add value to the local economy	A1		
	22.4 Work with Cumbria Tourism and the Local Enterprise Partnership to implement a sustainable visitor strategy for the AONB	A5		
	22.5 Continue to work with Cumbria ACT, other partnerships and local businesses to improve working relationships between communities in the AONB and promote tourism opportunities	A5		
	22.6 Through partnership working promote the peatlands as an important destination for wildlife and a unique habitat.		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity. Does not specify what access forms are appropriate for a European site

	22.7 Establish events programmes for residents, day visitors or tourists celebrating aspects of community or cultural heritage	A1		
	22.8 Seek ways to obtain added value from users of the national trails that pass through the AONB	A5		
	22.9 Use the 'Walk Unlimited' website or similar sites including the AONB website, to provide information on national trails and to promote local businesses that offer services to visitors	A1		
23: To ensure an increase in heritage management, tourism, hospitality and outdoor education to help secure the future of the area	23.1 Continue to work with English Heritage, Holme Cultram Abbey, custodians of Hadrian's Wall, Tullie House and other heritage organisations to promote sustainable management of heritage assets in the AONB		YES	Without safeguards, activities could easily result in negative effects on European sites
	23.2 To provide outdoor education through the Solway Wetlands Partnership project and its legacy of partnerships to promote the special qualities of the AONB	A1		
24: To monitor and manage recreational pressure to avoid harmful impacts on the special qualities of the AONB.	24.1 Market and promote the AONB and its special qualities and accessibility on an upgraded AONB website, including pre-arrival marketing, also monitoring uptake of enquiries	A1		
	24.2 Through the promotion of public transport, reduce the number of other vehicles using the limited parking facilities on the coast within the AONB	A1		
	24.3 Promote alternative means of transport within the AONB such as cycle hire, tramper hire, with looped access routes promoted in leaflet production	A1		
	24.4 Improve the infrastructure of parking areas for visitors through further provision of bins, furniture, surfacing and interpretation panels highlighting the	A1		

	special qualities of the area			
25: To ensure that access to securing of funding such as AE, will support sustainable farming practices and support implementation of identified measures that support the conservation of natural beauty	25.1 Promote locally produced food and other products to help reinforce local distinctiveness and support local product development	A1		
	25.2 Through the NAAONB's influence, including Natural Environment White Paper Initiatives, ensure that investment is targeted at supporting land managers	A5		
	25.3 Provide bespoke advice and practical support to encourage landowners and managers to apply for grants through the environmental land management scheme and other rural development schemes	A3		
	25.4 Through grants and advice, support farm diversification which increases economic sustainability and helps to conserve and enhance the natural environment including sensitive renovation of traditional barns	A3		
26: To ensure opportunities are there to access training and employment and build skills base in sectors related to the purpose of designation such as land management and sustainable tourism	26.1 Deliver and host an annual programme of land management and rural skills training and events including North Cumberland Style Hedgelaying and dry stone kest facing, to landowners, contractors and those working in the countryside of the AONB	A1		
	26.2 Continue to work with Cumbria ACT, other partnerships and local businesses to improve working relationships between communities in the AONB and promote tourism opportunities	A5		
	26.3 Work with Coastal communities Schemes (and FLAG) where possible to promote coastal businesses and sustainable tourism	A5		
	26.4 Work with partners and organisations to deliver high-speed broadband to support tourism and farm businesses and improve their outputs ensuring the	A5	NO	Broadband infrastructure will be the responsibility of a third party and subject to HRA

	sensitive siting of necessary infrastructure			
27: To ensure planning for housing is both appropriate to the needs of communities and has regard to the AONB character.	27.1 Promote best practise in design and influence local authorities to provide suitable housing developments which do not have an adverse impact on tranquillity or on traditional village structure	A1		
	27.2 Continue to respond to property development applications from the Local Authorities within the AONB. Also to respond to large scale developments outside the AONB boundary, such as wind turbines, that could have a significant impact and adverse effects on the AONB landscape	A5		
	27.3 Engage with local communities in their Neighbourhood Plans with regards to the special quality of the AONB	A5		
	27.4 Establish robust detailed policies in local plans and neighbourhood development plans which support the purpose of AONB designation. Such policy should - reflect the national importance of AONBs and prioritise the conservation of tranquillity, wildness and remoteness, local distinctiveness and landscape quality and character. It should also protect the AONB from the adverse effects of development in its setting	A1		
28: Across the sectors to develop an economy based on the valuing of, and support of, the key attributes of the AONB with a consistent brand that makes the link to the landscape.	28.1 Work with businesses and organisations such as Cumbria Tourism , Cumbria ACT, NFU, to facilitate projects that support sustainable growth in the AONB whilst valuing the key attributes of the landscape	A5		
	28.2 Provide clear, accurate and positive messages about the special qualities of the Solway Coast AONB that can be used in marketing literature	A5		

29: To ensure maximisation of opportunities for the AONB's designation, special qualities and management to drive and support rural economic growth	29.1 Involvement in projects which encourage further development of nature and culture based attractions, including Campfield Barn, Holme Cultram, Senhouse Museum, Tullie House Museum		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. Does not specify what access forms are appropriate for a European site
	29.2 Support Green Business networks and others on economic and environmental benefits of greening business	A1		
	29.3 Promote seasonal activities, such as bird watching, walking and cycling and promotion of nature/culture based activities/packages in the AONB to extend the visitor season from the traditional summer window by supporting niche markets		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. Does not specify what access forms are appropriate for a European site
	29.4 Engage with Cumbria Local Economic Partnerships to develop new opportunities to facilitate growth linked to the natural environment		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity
30: To ensure the current level of local services and access to those services by all is maintained and enhanced where possible to support sustainable communities	30.1 Promote local services, businesses and products in all AONB communications including the AONB website and publications delivered in and around the AONB	A1		
	30.2 Support local businesses and services which contribute to the AONB objectives through project funding or other sources of external funding	A5		
	30.3 Work with the Local Authorities and Cumbria County Council to retain and promote local services	A5		
	30.4 Provide training, through the AONB Partnership, for developing skills around services linked to its special quality, such as tourism, traditional skills and environmental skills	A1		
	30.5 Use the NAAONB network to identify information share case studies to learn more from other AONBs	A5		

	30.6 Support the retention and expansion of local services to support community life. Apply the AONB Partnership’s Sustainable Development Fund (where budgets allow) and other funds to suitable projects	A5		
31: To encourage infrastructure improvements to achieve superfast broadband and mobile phone coverage for the whole of the AONB without a significant adverse impact	31.1.Support positive action to achieve the roll-out of superfast broadband, ensuring the sensitive siting of necessary infrastructure	A5	NO	Broadband infrastructure will be the responsibility of a third party and subject to HRA
	31.2 Support positive action to improve mobile phone signal within the AONB, ensuring the sensitive siting of necessary infrastructure	A5	NO	Telecommunication infrastructure will be the responsibility of a third party and subject to HRA
	31.3 Work with partners and organisations to deliver high-speed broadband to support tourism and all businesses and services and improve their outputs ensuring the sensitive siting of necessary infrastructure	A5	NO	Broadband infrastructure will be the responsibility of a third party and subject to HRA
32: To ensure the special qualities of the AONB are respected in the planning, design, provision and management of all types of transport and associated infrastructure.	32.1 Consult the AONB Partnership about new road management and improvement schemes in the AONB and link to the next round of Local Transport Plans	A5		
	32.2 Encourage the Local Highway Authority through the SMP process to identify a long-term solution to storm damage on the coastal B5300 road	A5	NO	Aspirational but does not specify measures to protect European sites. The Shoreline Management Plan and Highway Authority work programmes are both subject to HRA.
	32.3 Through partnership working with the Highways Department, introduce lorry routing schemes away from the B5300 and other quiet roads.	A1		
	32.4 With Highways authorities develop and undertake audits of excessive cluttering of transport signage and that any signage should be in keeping with the special qualities of the AONB, including traditional finger posts.	A3		

	32.5 Facilitate roll out of 20mph speed limits within villages while ensuring signage is appropriate to its setting	A1		
	32.6 Engage with Highways Departments, Local authorities and Parish councils on road infrastructure improvements and signage within the AONB	A5		
33: To ensure opportunities are taken to promote walking, cycling and public transport and enhance schemes where possible to provide an alternative to private car use	33.1 Promote walking and cycling through AONB Partnership guides and publications and ensure that user infrastructure provision ensures the Coast Path and Hadrian's Wall Trail and Cycleway are effectively supported		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. Does not specify what access forms are appropriate for a European site
	33.2 Engage with Sustrans in initiatives under Local Transport Plans to stimulate better use of public transport and cycling events. Integrate with hub sites, such as The Wave in Maryport, as a centre for electric cycle hire and point for integration of public transport network	A1		
	33.3 Work with partner organisations to enable more buses to be run over the weekend period from Carlisle to Bowness on Solway, enhancing Hadrian's Wall walkers ability to travel more frequently	A1		
	33.4 Develop and promote walking and cycling loops that integrate with public transport		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. Does not specify what access forms are appropriate for a European site
	33.5 Work with Local Councils to promote opportunities in the AONB at key public transport 'get on points'.	A5		
	33.6 Link events and activities to available local transport wherever possible, e.g., volunteer events and workdays	A1		

	33.7 To further extend the Hadrian's Cycleway off-road section between Allonby and Maryport, north of Allonby towards Silloth		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. Does not specify what access forms are appropriate for a European site
34: To ensure fostering a community interest and culture linked to the AONB's strong sense of place	34.1 To research, monitor, analyse and address data gaps by developing data sharing protocols with key partners and improve GIS capability in the AONB team.	A1		
	34.2 To be involved in the BARS2 process of wildlife data gathering	A2		
	34.3 Maintain a high quality AONB website as the key information resource for visitors, local residents, partner organisations and other relevant audiences, ensuring it is accessible, customer focussed, well designed and regularly updated, and has interesting and stimulating content	A1		
	34.4 Continue to pursue highway signage with the AONB England's Solway Coast logos beyond the AONB boundary	A5		
	34.5 Continue to produce interpretative leaflets, booklets, AONB Coaster and 2 monthly newsletters to inform the wider public of the special qualities of the AONB, including material produced by the wider partnership	A3		
	34.6 Promote the importance of Holme Cultram Abbey, peatlands, and other unique areas of the AONB through activities with schools and groups within and outside the AONB	A3		
	34.7 Maintain an active social media presence and promote events, activities and stories through the media	A5		

	34.8 Deliver talks and presentations as needed on the special qualities and works of the AONB Partnership and establish events programmes for visitors and residents to celebrate community or cultural heritage	A1		
35: To enable local communities to become involved in the custodianship of the AONB through engaging with management and support of key assets	35.1 Build the capacity of community-based projects linked to natural and cultural heritage through grant aid and in kind support	A3		
	35.2 Establish oral history projects focusing on peatland and farming history	A1		
	35.3 Develop and support projects which give communities, networks and individuals opportunity to express what their 'place' means to them e.g. through the Solway Wetlands Landscape Partnership	A1		
	35.4 Develop a successor to the Archaeology programme carries out in the Solway Wetlands Landscape Partnership	A5		
	35.5 Develop new opportunities for people to participate in survey, monitoring and hands-on conservation activities for the natural and historic environment	A3		
	35.6 Develop a Junior or Youth Rangers programme to engage involve young people in new ways, and optimise opportunities from linking with the Europarc Federation network. Seek funding to maintain a schools programme	A1		
	35.7 Develop opportunities to promote volunteering as part of corporate social responsibility programmes	A5		
	35.8 Continue to run events and workdays for the Solway Coast Community Volunteer Group and other partners, including beach litter picks and land management on reserves and SSSI's in the AONB	A3		

	35.9 Seek opportunities to extend stewardship of natural environment to new areas	A5		
	35.10 Continue to promote volunteering in the AONB through partnerships and seek best practise for volunteers and activities carried out in the conservation of the area	A3		
	35.11 Actively engage with communities within the AONB to help identify local issues and develop solutions, whilst conserving and enhancing the special qualities of the local natural and built environment	A3		
	35.12 Continue to promote walking, cycling, wildlife watching and other healthy recreational activities through the AONB website, leaflets, social media and electronic media		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. Does not specify what access forms are appropriate for a European site
36: To support local communities in moving towards sustainable low carbon living	36.1 Promote alternative forms of transport such as walking, cycling , and public transport where available, as a means of moving about in the AONB	A1		
	36.2 Promote, where appropriate small scale renewable energy schemes to help contribute to energy reduction targets		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling
	36.3 Promote energy and water efficiency measures in any new development within the AONB	A5		
	36.4 Promote reduction of car use and using public transport where possible, and purchasing locally sourced food and services		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling
37: To ensure less waste is produced through waste minimisation and recycling of waste materials generated by Communities	37.1 Encourage recycling schemes in AONB villages and continue with beach litter picks with local communities and volunteers	A3		
38: To ensure carbon emissions within the AONB are reduced by reducing energy consumption, applying energy conserving	38.1 promote renewable energy sources that are complementary to the AONB character		YES	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling

measures, encouraging more sustainable patterns of development, and utilising renewable energy generation technologies that are of an appropriate type and scale for their siting	38.2 Continue to work with planning authorities on matters relating to housing development, wind turbine development and possible Solway Barrage	A5	NO	Development permissions are a matter for the planning authorities and their plans are subject to HRA
	38.3 Promote energy and water efficiency measures in any new development within the AONB	A5	NO	Development permissions are a matter for the planning authorities and their plans are subject to HRA
	38.4 Continue to restore lowland raised bogs by restoring appropriate hydrology for their biological value, historic value and as a climate regulator by both securing the storage of carbon in peat and by enabling sequestration of Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere	A3		
39: To ensure land is managed sustainably in accordance with best practice to minimise erosion and water pollution and maximise resilience to drought services	39.1 Continue to work with partners and volunteers to deliver on-going habitat enhancement and stability	A2		
	39.2 Implement Catchment Management Plans for the area's main rivers, linked to River Basin Management Plans and the AONB Management Plan (actions include achieving good water body status, reducing bankside erosion, reducing run-off into rivers, improving watercourse management and favouring natural solutions over engineered)	A3	NO	Without mitigation, could harm biodiversity - may lead to disturbance and trampling. River Catchment Management Plans and River Basin Management Plans are the responsibility of the Environment Agency and subject to HRA
40: To work with SMP2 policy in managing coastal change and securing adaptive management of coastal habitats	40.1 work with partners to address coastal squeeze as part of the delivery of SMP2 and also embrace adapting to coastal change along the Outer coast.	A2		
	40.2 Work with partners to secure coastal management regimes that mitigate impacts, eg through agri-environment schemes to allow saltmarsh accretion and land level rise to offset sea level rise	A3		
	40.3 Work with partners to manage access to the coastal zone so that fragile 'barrier' habitats are not damaged comprising their coastal protection function	A4		

	40.4 Work with partners to reduce the need for unsustainable infrastructure in the coastal zone	A3		
	40.5 Raise awareness of the inevitability of coastal change through partnership literature and media articles	A5		

Appendix 4: Action matrix to test for any likely significant effects

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
AONB Objective	1: To ensure that the distinctive character and qualities of the Solway Coast AONB landscape and seascape are understood, conserved, enhanced and restored.				
AONB Action	1.10 Promote renewable energy sources that are complementary to AONB character (same as 38.1)				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Developments in the Solway Firth may interrupt migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds by salmon and lamprey	None	The intent of the AONB Action is to promote solar panels and small-scale wind turbines. Hydroelectric generation could hinder fish migration but such development is very unlikely in that part of the SAC that lies within the AONB. The Action cascades from on Objective that conserves and enhances the special qualities of the AONB, which include the wildlife and wetland habitats. The effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Developments in the Solway Firth may interrupt migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds by salmon and lamprey	None	The intent of the AONB Action is to promote solar panels and small-scale wind turbines within the AONB. The Action cascades from on Objective that conserves and enhances the special qualities of the AONB, which include the wildlife and wetland habitats. The effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Any renewable energy schemes promoted by the AONB Action are unlikely to have an effect on roosts and feeding grounds.	None	The intent of the AONB Action is to promote solar panels and small-scale wind turbines. The Action cascades from on Objective that conserves and enhances the special qualities of the AONB, which include the wildlife and wetland habitats. There is unlikely to be development within the SPA. The effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO
AONB Objective	1: To ensure that the distinctive character and qualities of the Solway Coast AONB landscape and seascape are understood, conserved, enhanced and restored.				
AONB Action	1.12 Continue to underground overhead wires with Electricity North West and identify new areas for the next 15 years				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Temporary disturbance	None	Only a small part of the SAC lies within the AONB. There are very few cables in the feature and the AONB Objective is to conserve and enhance the special qualities and distinctive features. The effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary	Unlikely to have an effect	None	Only a small part of the SAC lies within the AONB. There are no cables in the feature and the AONB Objective is to conserve and enhance the special qualities and distinctive features. The effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	species.				
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Temporary disturbance and drainage	None	There are very few cables in the feature and the AONB Objective is to conserve and enhance the special qualities and distinctive features. The effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Unlikely to have an effect	None	Only a small part of the SPA lies within the AONB. There are no cables in the feature and the AONB Objective is to conserve and enhance the special qualities and distinctive features. The effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO
AONB Objective	6: To ensure that organisations responsible for the conservation and enhancement of the natural beauty of the dunes deliver appropriate actions and that the dunes are enjoyed sensitively by all users.				
AONB Action	6.7 Promote use of Hadrian's Cycleway whilst ensuring any changes or development is in line with the landscape management of the AONB and dune management				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication.	Unlikely to have an effect	None	The SAC is not designated for dune habitats. A part of the cycle way must pass through the SAC but the effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.				
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Unlikely to have an effect	None	A part of the cycle way may pass through the SAC but the AONB Objective is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the dunes. The effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Unlikely to have an effect	None	The SAC is not designated for dune habitats. A part of the cycle way may pass through the SAC but the effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	May affect roosts and feeding grounds.	None	A part of the cycle way may pass through the SPA but the AONB Objective is to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the dunes. There are plans in place to ensure recreational activities avoid roosts and feeding grounds. The effects are ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO
AONB Objective	15: To ensure the effective conservation and management of the Solway Coast AONB historic environment, including historic buildings, archaeological sites, heritage landscapes and heritage fisheries.				

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
AONB Action	15.3 Continue to promote awareness of the surviving historic landscape both the built features and associated landscapes through improved access, rights of way network including long distance paths and cycleways				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Unlikely to have an effect	None	Some long distance paths may pass through the SAC but these will not add to the vulnerabilities.	NO
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Protection of historic sites from coastal erosion	None	Improved access to historic sites is not likely to require coastal defence works. Any effects are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '.	NO
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by	Protection of historic sites from coastal erosion	None	Improved access to historic sites is not likely to require coastal defence works. Any effects are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '.	NO

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.				
AONB Objective	15: To ensure the effective conservation and management of the Solway Coast AONB historic environment, including historic buildings, archaeological sites, heritage landscapes and heritage fisheries.				
AONB Action	15.4 Work with agencies (ECOSAL) to conserve and maintain the Crosscanonby Saltpans and others in the AONB				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Unlikely to have an effect	None	The Saltpans are outside the SAC and do not affect migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds	NO
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Coastal erosion works	None	The saltpans are on the coastline and there are plans to protect them from coastal erosion. As such, this could have an impact on the SAC but the sites are few and small. Any effects are likely to be 'de minimis'. AONB Objective15 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected.	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled	Unlikely to have an effect	None	The Saltpans are outside the SAC and do not affect drainage	NO

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.				
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Unlikely to have an effect	None	The Saltpans are outside the SPA and do not affect roosts and feeding areas	NO
AONB Objective	15: To ensure the effective conservation and management of the Solway Coast AONB historic environment, including historic buildings, archaeological sites, heritage landscapes and heritage fisheries.				
AONB Action	15.7 Improve and identify the location and the documentation of historic sites that are at threat from loss through inappropriate management and secure sympathetic land management at these sites				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Riverbanks and drainage channels can be disturbed. Water pollution can arise from development or poor land management. Alder and ash may be felled and cleared.	None	The AONB Action does not define ‘.. inappropriate management ..’ or ‘.. sympathetic land management..’. Any effects are likely to be ‘ <i>de minimis</i> ’. AONB Objective15 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected.	NO – advise rewording
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial	Flood defence works Coastal erosion works Inappropriate grazing	None	The AONB Action does not define ‘.. inappropriate management ..’ or ‘.. sympathetic land management..’. Any effects are likely to be ‘ <i>de minimis</i> ’. AONB Objective15 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.			be protected.	
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Inappropriate drainage	None	The AONB Action does not define ‘.. inappropriate management ..’ or ‘.. sympathetic land management..’. Any effects are likely to be ‘ <i>de minimis</i> ’. AONB Objective15 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected.	NO – advise rewording
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Flood defence works Coastal erosion works Disturbance to roosts and feeding areas	None	The AONB Action does not define ‘.. inappropriate management ..’ or ‘.. sympathetic land management..’. Any effects are likely to be ‘ <i>de minimis</i> ’. AONB Objective15 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected.	NO – advise rewording
AONB Objective	15: To ensure the effective conservation and management of the Solway Coast AONB historic environment, including historic buildings, archaeological sites, heritage landscapes and heritage fisheries.				
AONB Action	15.10 Promote Haaf Net Fishing as a sustainable and traditional method of sea fishing for salmonids				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a	Over-fishing in the Solway Firth may interrupt migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds by salmon and lamprey	None	Fishing is by licence and this is regulated by the Environment Agency. Their programmes are subject to HRA. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ‘ <i>de minimis</i> ’. AONB Objective15 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected.	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.				
Solway Firth SAC	<p>This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development.</p> <p>Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.</p>	Over-fishing in the Solway Firth may interrupt migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds by salmon and lamprey	None	<p>Fishing is by licence and this is regulated by the Environment Agency. Their programmes are subject to HRA. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'.</p> <p>AONB Objective15 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected.</p>	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Over-fishing in the Solway Firth may interrupt migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds by salmon and lamprey	None	<p>Fishing is by licence and this is regulated by the Environment Agency. Their programmes are subject to HRA. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'.</p> <p>AONB Objective15 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected.</p>	NO – advise rewording
AONB Objective	20: To maintain, improve and promote access and quiet recreational opportunities in a sustainable way for a diverse group of people.				

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
AONB Action	20.2 Encourage the promotion of all forms of access via leaflets, interpretation panels, social media, web based information to increase the awareness of the vast opportunities of Access for All in the AONB				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Very limited, will not affect drainage. The habitats may be subject to erosion and disturbance by recreational use but this is not listed as a vulnerability.	None	Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'. In AONB Objective 22, the term 'sustainable way' is not defined. Objective 20 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected.	NO – consider rewording
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to	Disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	None	AONB Objective 20 seeks to promote quiet and sustainable recreation; the term 'sustainable way' is not defined. Objective 20 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
(combined)	overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.			site will be protected. Action 20.2 could be modified to not only increase awareness of opportunities, but also an understanding of the fragility of the natural resource and the need for its protection. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	
AONB Objective	22: To ensure the tourism industry is environmentally and economically sustainable, based on, and actively supports, the special qualities of the Solway Coast AONB and brings benefits to the community and has a consistent recognisable brand.				
AONB Action	22.6 Through partnership working, promote the peatlands as an important destination for wildlife and a unique habitat.				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Risk of fire, trampling and disturbance	None	Objective 22 does not define ‘..environmentally and economically sustainable..’ and Action 22.6 do not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected.	NO – advise rewording
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
AONB Objective	23: To ensure an increase in heritage management, tourism, hospitality and outdoor education to help secure the future of the area.				
AONB Action	23.1 Continue to work with English Heritage, Holme Cultram Abbey, custodians of Hadrian’s Wall, Tullie House and other heritage organisations to promote sustainable management of heritage assets in the AONB				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Riverbanks and drainage channels can be disturbed. Water pollution can arise from development or poor land management. Alder and ash may be felled and cleared.	None	AONB Objective 23 makes no reference to the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 23.1 seeks to promote sustainable management but this is not defined. Objective 23 and Action 23.1 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ‘ <i>de minimis</i> ’	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Coastal erosion works	None	AONB Objective 23 makes no reference to the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 23.1 seeks to promote sustainable management but this is not defined. Objective 23 and Action 23.1 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Inappropriate drainage Trampling	None	AONB Objective 23 makes no reference to the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 23.1 seeks to promote sustainable management but this is not defined. Objective 23 and Action 23.1 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Coastal erosion works Disturbance to roosts and feeding areas	None	AONB Objective 23 makes no reference to the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 23.1 seeks to promote sustainable management but this is not defined. Objective 23 and Action 23.1 could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
AONB Objective	29: To ensure maximisation of opportunities for the AONB's designation, special qualities and management to drive and support rural economic growth				
AONB Action	29.1 Involvement in projects which encourage further development of nature and culture based attractions, including Campfield Barn, Holme Cultram, Senhouse Museum, Tullie House Museum				

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Riverbanks and drainage channels can be disturbed. Water pollution can arise from development or poor land management. Alder and ash may be felled and cleared.	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Coastal erosion works	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Inappropriate drainage Trampling	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by	Coastal erosion works Disturbance to roosts and feeding areas	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.			features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'	
AONB Objective	29: To ensure maximisation of opportunities for the AONB's designation, special qualities and management to drive and support rural economic growth				
AONB Action	29.3 Promote seasonal activities, such as bird watching, walking and cycling and promotion of nature/culture based activities/packages in the AONB				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Riverbanks and drainage channels can be disturbed. Alder and ash may be felled and cleared.	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.3 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'	NO – advise rewording
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Coastal erosion works	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.3 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled	Inappropriate drainage Trampling	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.3 does not refer to the need	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.			to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'	
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Coastal erosion works Disturbance to roosts and feeding areas	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.3 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'	NO – advise rewording
AONB Objective	29: To ensure maximisation of opportunities for the AONB's designation, special qualities and management to drive and support rural economic growth				
AONB Action	29.4 Engage with Cumbria Local Economic Partnerships to develop new opportunities to facilitate growth linked to the natural environment				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Riverbanks and drainage channels can be disturbed. Water pollution can arise from development or poor land management. Alder and ash may be felled and cleared.	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.4 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Coastal erosion works	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.4 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Inappropriate drainage Trampling	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 31.4 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Coastal erosion works Disturbance to roosts and feeding areas	None	AONB Objective 29 makes no reference to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. It seeks to achieve economic development. Action 29.4 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
AONB Objective	33: To ensure opportunities are taken to promote walking, cycling and public transport and enhance schemes where possible to provide an alternative to private car use.				
AONB Action	33.1 Promote walking and cycling through AONB Partnership guides and publications and ensure that user infrastructure provision				

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
ensures the Coast Path and Hadrian's Wall Trail and Cycleway are effectively supported					
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Riverbanks and drainage channels can be disturbed. Alder and ash may be felled and cleared.	None	AONB Objective 33 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 33.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Coastal erosion works	None	AONB Objective 33 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 33.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Inappropriate drainage Trampling	None	AONB Objective 33 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 33.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in	Coastal erosion works Disturbance to roosts and feeding areas	None	AONB Objective 33 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 33.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.			the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	
AONB Objective	33: To ensure opportunities are taken to promote walking, cycling and public transport and enhance schemes where possible to provide an alternative to private car use.				
AONB Action	33.4 Develop and promote walking and cycling loops that integrate with public transport				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Riverbanks and drainage channels can be disturbed. Alder and ash may be felled and cleared.	None	AONB Objective 33 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 33.4 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Coastal erosion works	None	AONB Objective 33 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 33.4 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has	Inappropriate drainage Trampling	None	AONB Objective 33 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 33.4 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.			any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Coastal erosion works Disturbance to roosts and feeding areas	None	AONB Objective 33 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 33.4 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
AONB Objective	33: To ensure opportunities are taken to promote walking, cycling and public transport and enhance schemes where possible to provide an alternative to private car use.				
AONB Action	33.7 To further extend the Hadrian's Cycleway off-road section between Allonby and Maryport, north of Allonby towards Silloth				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development.	Coastal erosion works	None	AONB Objective 33 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 33.7 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.				
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
AONB Objective	35: To enable communities to get involved in the custodianship of the AONB through engaging with the management and support of key assets.				
AONB Action	35.12 Continue to promote walking, cycling, wildlife watching and other healthy recreational activities through the AONB website, leaflets, social media and electronic media				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication.	Riverbanks and drainage channels can be disturbed. Alder and ash may be felled and cleared.	None	AONB Objective 35 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 35.12 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.				
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Coastal erosion works	None	AONB Objective 35 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 35.12 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Inappropriate drainage Trampling	None	AONB Objective 35 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 35.12 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Coastal erosion works Disturbance to roosts and feeding areas	None	AONB Objective 35 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 35.12 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
AONB Objective	36: To support local communities in moving towards sustainable low carbon living.				

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
AONB Action	36.2 Promote, where appropriate small scale renewable energy schemes to help contribute to energy reduction targets				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Unlikely to have an effect but may be issues associated with water quality if hydroelectric power generation is promoted.	None	The Action is to promote small-scale renewable energy schemes 'where appropriate'. The criteria for defining appropriate are not set. AONB Objective 36 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 36.2 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Unlikely to have an effect but may be issues if wind or tidal power generation is promoted.	None	The Action is to promote small-scale renewable energy schemes 'where appropriate'. The criteria for defining appropriate are not set. AONB Objective 36 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 36.2 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in	Unlikely to have an effect but may be issues if wind or tidal power generation is promoted.	None	The Action is to promote small-scale renewable energy schemes 'where appropriate'. The criteria for defining appropriate are not set. AONB Objective 36 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 36.2 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.			to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'	
AONB Objective	38: To ensure carbon emissions within the AONB are reduced by reducing energy consumption, applying energy conserving measures, encouraging more sustainable patterns of development, and utilising renewable energy generation technologies that are of an appropriate type and scale for their siting.				
AONB Action	38.1 Promote renewable energy sources that are complementary to the AONB character (repeat of 1.10)				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Developments in the Solway Firth may interrupt migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds by salmon and lamprey	None	The intent of the AONB Action is to promote solar panels and small-scale wind turbines. Hydroelectric generation could hinder fish migration but such development is very unlikely in that part of the SAC that lies within the AONB. AONB Objective 39 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 39.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'	NO – advise rewording
Solway Firth SAC	This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development. Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.	Developments in the Solway Firth may interrupt migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds by salmon and lamprey	None	The intent of the AONB Action is to promote solar panels and small-scale wind turbines. Hydroelectric generation could hinder fish migration but such development is very unlikely in that part of the SAC that lies within the AONB. AONB Objective 39 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 39.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be 'de minimis'	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
	fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.				
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Any renewable energy schemes promoted by the AONB Action are unlikely to have an effect on roosts and feeding grounds.	None	The intent of the AONB Action is to promote solar panels and small-scale wind turbines. Hydroelectric generation could hinder fish migration but such development is very unlikely in that part of the SAC that lies within the AONB. AONB Objective 39 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 39.1 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
AONB Objective	36: To ensure carbon emissions within the AONB are reduced by reducing energy consumption, applying energy conserving measures, encouraging more sustainable patterns of development, and utilising renewable energy generation technologies that are of an appropriate type and scale for their siting.				
AONB Action	36.2 Promote appropriate forms of renewable energy, reducing car use and using public transport where possible, and purchasing locally sourced food and services				
River Eden SAC	The maintenance of breeding and nursery areas for the species on this site depends on the habitat quality of streams and their margins. Many of the streams within the site suffer from overgrazing of riverbanks and nutrient run-off. The water-crowfoot communities as well as the species are sensitive to water quality, particularly eutrophication. Practices associated with sheep-dipping pose a potential threat at this site. Much of the alluvial forest cover is fragmented and/or in poor condition.	Developments in the Solway Firth may interrupt migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds by salmon and lamprey	None	The intent of the AONB Action is to promote solar panels and small-scale wind turbines. Hydroelectric generation could hinder fish migration but such development is very unlikely in that part of the SAC that lies within the AONB. AONB Objective 36 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 36.2 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording

EU site name	Vulnerabilities	Likely effects	Likely significant effects	comments	Need for an appropriate assessment
Solway Firth SAC	<p>This large site is subject to a number of activities. These include flood defence and coastal erosion work, fishing and shellfisheries (including a cockle fishery which is currently closed to allow stocks to recover), saltmarsh / merse grazing, oil and gas exploration (outwith the site), and industrial development.</p> <p>Note: The Solway Firth provides migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds in a number of rivers, including the Eden, which is designated as a SAC for the primary species.</p>	Developments in the Solway Firth may interrupt migratory passage to and from spawning and nursery grounds by salmon and lamprey	None	The intent of the AONB Action is to promote solar panels and small-scale wind turbines. Hydroelectric generation could hinder fish migration but such development is very unlikely in that part of the SAC that lies within the AONB. AONB Objective 36 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 36.2 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording
South Solway Mosses SAC	The site has been modified in the past by extensive drainage associated with agricultural reclamation and/or peat extraction. Additionally, parts of the site have suffered from uncontrolled fires. Part of the peat body at Wedholme Flow has been subject to peat extraction, though this has now ceased.	Unlikely to have an effect	None		NO
Upper Solway Flats and Marshes SPA / Ramsar (combined)	Some established and new flood defence and coastal erosion works may exacerbate erosion elsewhere within the site. The cockle fishery has been closed for a number of years due to overexploitation and the other commercial, traditional and shell fisheries are regulated by Government to ensure that they are carried out in a sustainable way and that their impact on bird feeding areas are not significant. Roosts and feeding areas are vulnerable to disturbance and the management strategy addresses the planning of recreational and development activities to avoid disturbance to roosts and feeding areas.	Any renewable energy schemes promoted by the AONB Action are unlikely to have an effect on roosts and feeding grounds.	None	The intent of the AONB Action is to promote solar panels and small-scale wind turbines. Hydroelectric generation could hinder fish migration but such development is very unlikely in that part of the SAC that lies within the AONB. AONB Objective 36 does not refer to conserving or enhancing the special qualities or features of the AONB. Action 36.2 does not refer to the need to protect or enhance natural resources. Both could be modified to make clear that the qualifying features of any European site will be protected. Any effects of the AONB Action are likely to be ' <i>de minimis</i> '	NO – advise rewording

Appendix 5: Other plans and policies

Other plans and policies that may trigger in-combination effects	
Description or purpose of document	Potential in-combination effects
NATIONAL	
The Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 (Defra amended 2009) http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/rdpe/what-is-rdpe/programme/	
The Rural Development Programme for England aims to improve competitiveness in the agriculture and forestry sector; safeguard and enhance the rural environment; foster competitive and sustainable rural businesses and thriving rural communities.	
Safeguarding our Soils - A Strategy for England (Defra 2009) http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/pb13297-soil-strategy-090910.pdf	
By 2030, to manage all England's soils sustainably and tackle degradation threats successfully. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revised CAP cross-compliance Soil Protection Review • A review of the need for future options under Environmental Stewardship to improve soil protection • A new goal to significantly reduce the rate of loss of stored soil carbon by 2020 • A commitment to developing a new framework for action for peat protection, including on horticultural peat use post 2010 • Reviewing thresholds for pollutants entering soil through recycling materials to land • Publishing a new code of practice for soil use on construction sites and a new toolkit for planners in 2010 on how to take account of soil functions through the planning system • Reviewing the effectiveness of the existing planning policy to protect important soils and whether there is a need to update it • Publishing new best practice guidance on decision making for contaminated land 	
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (Defra 2011) www.defra.gov.uk/publications/2011/08/19/pb13583-biodiversity-strategy-2020/	
The mission is "to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people." The Strategy defines detailed outcomes for habitats and ecosystems on land, marine habitats and ecosystems, for species and for people. The priorities for action are: a more integrated large-scale approach to conservation on land and at sea putting people at the heart of biodiversity policy reducing environmental pressures improving our knowledge	
Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon – Making Sustainable Local Transport Happen (DfT 2011) www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm79/7996/7996.pdf	

<p>The Local Transport White Paper sets out the Government's vision for a sustainable local transport system that supports the economy and reduces carbon emissions. It explains how the Government is placing localism at the heart of the transport agenda, taking measures to empower local authorities when it comes to tackling these issues in their areas.</p> <p>The Government commitments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • providing funding for Bikeability cycle training, to allow as many children as possible to undertake high quality on-road cycle training; • improving end-to-end journeys by enabling most public transport journeys to be undertaken with a smart ticket by December 2014; • reviewing the way in which investment decisions are made to ensure that the carbon implications are fully recognised; • setting out in a road safety strategy, by spring 2011, how to ensure that Britain's roads are among the world's safest; • reviewing traffic signs policy so as to provide more freedom for local authorities to reduce the number of signs they put up and to develop innovative traffic management solutions. 	
<p>Understanding the risks, empowering communities, building resilience: National flood and coastal erosion risk management strategy for England, Environment Agency (2011) http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/research/policy/130073.aspx</p>	
<p>This fulfils a requirement in the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, which gave the Environment Agency a 'strategic overview' of flood and coastal erosion risk management and in turn takes forward a recommendation from Sir Michael Pitt's inquiry into the 2007 floods.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • manage the risk of flooding and coastal erosion to people and their property. • help householders, businesses and communities better understand and erosion risks they face. • respond better to flood incidents and during recovery, and to coastal erosion. • move the focus from national government-funded activities towards a new approach that gives more power to local people, either at an individual, community or local authority level. Local innovations and solutions will be encouraged, too. • invest in actions that benefit communities who face the greatest risk, but who are least able to afford to help themselves. • put sustainability at the heart of the actions we take, so that we work with nature and benefit the environment, people and the economy. 	
<p>Strategic Framework for Tourism in England 2010 – 2020 (Visit England 2011) www.visitengland.org/strategicframework/</p>	
<p>To maximise tourism's contribution to the economy, employment and quality of life in England</p> <p>The Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase England's share of global visitor markets • To offer visitors compelling destinations of distinction • To champion a successful, thriving tourism industry • To facilitate greater engagement between the visitor and the experience <p>A series of Action Plans support the Strategy. Those for 'Rural Tourism' and 'Wise Growth' are most relevant to the AONB.</p>	
<p>The National Heritage Protection Plan (2011 – 2015) (English Heritage 2012) www.english-heritage.org.uk/content/publications/publicationsNew/nhpp-plan-framework/nhpp-plan-framework.pdf</p>	

<p>The plan is a framework for heritage protection built around a clear set of priorities that resulted from widespread public consultation. To deliver the shared objectives by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encouraging communities and individuals to take more responsibility for the management of their local historic environment; • encouraging closer working between English Heritage, its partners and the wider public; • focusing resources to address the most threatened parts of the historic environment. 	
<p>UK Bioenergy Strategy (DECC 2012) www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/meeting_energy/bioenergy/strategy/strategy.aspx</p>	
<p>The strategy sets out the Coalition Government's approach to securing the benefits of bioenergy in support of meeting carbon emission targets.</p> <p>Sets out four principles for Bioenergy:</p> <p>Policies that support bioenergy should deliver genuine carbon reductions that help meet UK carbon emissions objectives to 2050 and beyond.</p> <p>Support for bioenergy should make a cost effective contribution to UK carbon emission objectives in the context of overall energy goals.</p> <p>Support for bioenergy should aim to maximise the overall benefits and minimise costs (quantifiable and non-quantifiable) across the economy.</p> <p>At regular time intervals and when policies promote significant additional demand for bioenergy policy makers should assess and respond to the impacts of this increased deployment on other areas, such as food security and biodiversity.</p>	
<p>Creating a sporting habit for life, A new youth sport strategy (DCMS 2012) www.culture.gov.uk/publications/8761.aspx</p>	
<p>Seeks a consistent increase in the proportion of people regularly playing sport. Emphasis is mainly on built sports facilities, with little mention of the role that the countryside can play.</p>	
<p>Healthy lives, healthy people: Improving outcomes and supporting transparency (DH 2012) www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_132358</p>	
<p>A public health outcomes framework for England, 2013-2016. Through associated legislation, many public health responsibilities are transferred from the NHS to local authorities.</p> <p>The framework is focused on the two high-level outcomes:</p> <p>Increased healthy life expectancy.</p> <p>Reduced differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy between communities.</p> <p>Four objectives contribute to the outcomes:</p> <p>Improvements against wider factors that affect health and wellbeing, and health inequalities</p> <p>People are helped to live healthy lifestyles, make healthy choices and reduce health inequalities</p> <p>The population's health is protected from major incidents and other threats, while reducing health inequalities</p> <p>Reduced numbers of people living with preventable ill health and people dying prematurely, while reducing the gap between communities</p>	
<p>Cleaner coasts healthier seas, Working for a better marine environment, Our strategy for 2005-2011 Environment Agency 2005 http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Research/strategy_1210087.pdf</p>	

<p>The Agency will create cleaner coasts and healthier seas by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting sustainable development; Integrating management between land and sea; Providing efficient regulation of our coasts and coastal waters; Ensuring that we all value our coastal and marine environment. 	
<p>LOCAL</p>	
<p>Cumbria Rights of Way Improvement Plan Cumbria County Council (2007) http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/544/932/39248145828.pdf</p>	
<p>The Cumbria Countryside Access Strategy is the policy document behind ROWIP and includes 3 aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Provide, develop and promote access opportunities for all in an open and welcoming countryside ii) Encourage people to explore and enjoy the countryside whilst conserving its landscape, ecology, historic environment and culture iii) Improve quality of life, promote health and help tackle climate change by encouraging people to walk, cycle and take public transport and other sustainable travel options. <p>There are 5 sections to the Cumbria ROWIP: it assesses the existing access resource, its quality and the opportunities it offers, describes the policy framework and looks at integrating access with wider agendas such as health and the local economy. The needs of and opportunities for different user groups are identified and Statements for action are listed.</p>	
<p>Cumbria's Economic Ambition Cumbria County Council's Role in Delivering a Thriving Economy, Cumbria County Council http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/538/755/1929/6478/4133311542.pdf</p>	
<p>Tourism and Rural Economy:</p> <p>Ensure that Cumbria Tourism is able to effectively provide support to the industry and optimise its contribution to economic growth across the whole of the County.</p> <p>Facilitate investment to improve and sustain a high quality public realm, improve access to jobs and services and enable the County to develop its offer as a world-class visitor destination.</p> <p>Facilitate the delivery of superfast broadband to over 90% of Cumbria, and through encouraging innovation, improve the productivity and competitiveness of SMEs.</p> <p>Continue to secure the use of externally funded rural programmes to support the rural economy to optimise growth.</p> <p>Identify how the Council can work with partners to enable the Agriculture and Forestry sectors to maximise their contribution to the economy.</p>	
<p>A Draft Local Geodiversity Action Plan for Cumbria, Cumbria RIGS, 2008 http://www.cumbria.gov.uk/elibrary/Content/Internet/538/755/1929/1982/39730152435.pdf</p>	
<p>Key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carry out a geodiversity audit of Cumbria Develop a continuous strategic approach to partnership and involvement in the LGAP Disseminate geodiversity information Raise awareness of the geodiversity of the region Monitor and update the Cumbria LGAP Establish a sustainable conservation and management programme to ensure the long term protection of the geodiversity of Cumbria 	
<p>Solway, Border and Eden Local Action Group Local Development Strategy (2014–2020) Cumbria County Council (2014)</p>	

<p>The primary objectives of this plan are:</p> <p>Objective 1: To encourage significant and sustainable economic growth and increased employment, with the full engagement of local people, through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investing in the establishment and growth of small and micro enterprises, farm diversifications and social enterprises • Increasing competitiveness and sustainability of the farming, forestry and food sectors • Supporting initiatives which add value to farm and woodland products <p>Objective 2: To address rural issues within the Solway, Border and Eden area and build stronger, more resilient rural communities, through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving access to services for remote rural communities • Supporting cohesive and sustainable rural communities through the development of strong local networks • Investing in community-led and voluntary sector initiatives which will deliver innovative approaches to service delivery at a local level <p>Objective 3: To promote tourism that enhances, conserves and celebrates the distinctive nature of the environment, landscape, heritage and culture of the Solway, Border and Eden area, through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting sustainable tourism initiatives which develop a distinctive sense of place which is joined up and accessible • Developing small scale infrastructure and activities that widen the appeal of the area, the quality of the visitor offer and support related business development <p>Promoting energy efficiency, sustainable use of energy, and increasing the capacity for renewable energy (cross cutting objective)</p>	
<p>Allerdale Local Plan (Part 1) Pre-Submission Draft Allerdale Borough Council May 2013 http://www.allerdale.gov.uk/downloads/Allerdale_Local_Plan_-_Pre-Submission_Draft_-_May_2013.pdf</p>	
<p>S19 Renewable Energy and Low Carbon Technologies Within Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and its buffer zone, and the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty only small scale renewable energy schemes, which preserve the special qualities of these designations and accord with the aims and objectives of their management plans will be acceptable.</p> <p>S34 Development in the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty</p> <p>All development within the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty must conserve and/or enhance the distinctive landscape character, quality and heritage of the area and actively seek to minimise environmental harm caused by the development.</p> <p>When considering proposals for development within the AONB, the Council will ensure that development is in accordance with the aims and objectives of the Solway Coast AONB Management Plan.</p> <p>Proposals both within or adjoining the AONB will be expected to have regard to the Solway Coast AONB Landscape and Seascape Character Assessment and ensure;</p> <p>a) The scale, siting or design of proposed development is appropriate to the landscape setting;</p> <p>b) Existing landscape features are incorporated in a way which preserves or enhances the character of the area and mitigates the effects of development.</p> <p>Planning permission for major developments within the AONB will be considered in accordance with national policy and will be resisted except where exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated.</p>	
<p>A Strategy for Tourism 2005-2015, Allerdale Borough Council, August 2005 http://www.allerdale.gov.uk/leisure-and-culture/tourism-and-travel/tourism-strategy.aspx</p>	

<p>Aim 1 – To provide a friendly and welcoming first impression for visitors</p> <p>Aim 2 – To develop a high quality tourism experience for the benefit and enjoyment of both visitors and residents</p> <p>Aim 3 – To support the growth of tourism in Allerdale by working together to increase marketing impact</p>	
<p>St Bees Head to River Sark Shoreline Management Plan by Bullen Consultants Limited for Allerdale Borough Council</p> <p>http://www.allerdale.gov.uk/environment-and-waste/shoreline-management-plan/our-smp-report.aspx</p>	
<p>Specific Management Objectives:</p> <p>Acceptable Coastal Defence Risk - The Strategic Coastal Defences Policy should reduce the risks from coastal erosion or sea flooding to acceptable levels thereby; protect human life, protect property and allay undue anxiety arising from such risks.</p> <p>Agriculture - To address agricultural concerns relevant to Coastal Defence Policy Options.</p> <p>Archaeology - To evaluate sites of archaeological importance and, where appropriate, adopt policies to prevent or minimise any adverse impacts e.g. the Salt Pans at Crosscanonby.</p> <p>Economic Concerns - To address implications for the local, regional and national economy.</p> <p>Infrastructure - To avoid any adverse effect on infrastructure, e.g. roads, car parks, railways, ports and harbours, slipways etc.</p> <p>Land Drainage/Water Quality - To address land drainage and water quality concerns that are relevant to the Coastal Defence Policy Options.</p> <p>Landscape - To sustain and where possible enhance the coastal landscape.</p> <p>Natural Environment - To adopt a Strategic Coastal Defence Policy which aims to sustain and where possible enhance the physical and biological environments, within and adjacent to this Management Unit in line with relevant national and/or international legislation and planning guidance, consistent with the objectives of Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Special Scientific Interest etc.</p> <p>Recreation and Amenity - To retain and where possible, enhance areas and accesses important for recreation and amenity, e.g. the Cumbria Coastal Path, golf courses etc.</p>	
<p>Carlisle District Local Plan 2001-2016 Written Statement Carlisle City Council, September 2008</p> <p>http://www.cartogold.co.uk/carlislelocalplan/text/00_contents.html</p>	
<p>POLICY DP9 Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty</p> <p>Within the North Pennines and Solway Coast Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and their settings, permission will not be given for development that would harm the special characteristics and landscape quality of the areas. Development proposals must conserve or enhance the natural beauty of the areas, including scenic qualities, landform, ecology, geology, cultural interests, and the historic environment, so that these qualities can be enjoyed by present and future generations.</p> <p>Major development of a national scale will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated to be in the public interest. Development required to meet local infrastructure needs which cannot be located anywhere else will be permitted provided it is sited to minimise environmental impact and meet high standards of design.</p>	