



Bures Neighbourhood Plan 2021 - 2037

**Joint
Strategic Environmental Assessment
and
Habitat Regulation Assessment
Determination Notice**

November 2024

Table of Contents

	Page
Overview	2
Part A - Strategic Environmental Assessment Determination	4
1. Introduction	4
2. Legislative background	4
3. Criteria for determining likely significant effects	4
4. Assessment	5
5. SEA Screening Conclusion	5
6. SEA Determination	6
Part B – Habitats Regulation Assessment Determination	7
1. Introduction	7
2. Legislative background	7
3. Assessment	8
4. HRA Screening Conclusion	8
5. HRA Determination	8
Appendix 1: Responses from Statutory Consultees	9
Response from Environment Agency	9
Response from Historic England	12
Response from Natural England	13

BURES NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN 2021 - 2037

Strategic Environmental Assessment & Habitat Regulation Assessment Screening Determination Notices (November 2024)

Overview

Babergh District Council (Babergh DC) and Braintree District Council (Braintree DC) are working together to support the parishes of Bures St Mary and Bures Hamlet who, with assistance from Collective Community Planning (CCP), are preparing a neighbourhood plan - the Bures Neighbourhood Plan [or Bures NP].

As part of this preparation there is a requirement that the plan is screened to assess its environmental impact. Screening of the Regulation 14 pre-submission draft Bures NP was carried out by CCP on behalf of the Steering Group, with the assessment being shared with Babergh DC and Braintree DC. Acting on behalf of the two local authorities, Babergh DC then consulted the relevant statutory bodies on the screening assessment prior to issuing this joint Determination Notice.

This notice, which is divided into two parts, therefore determines whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and or an Appropriate Assessment in relation to Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) matters are required for the Bures NP. Part A addresses SEA. Part B addresses HRA.

This notice refers to:

- the Bures NP Preliminary SEA / HRA Screening Assessment prepared by Collective Community Planning on behalf of the two parish councils. A copy of this can found on the respective district council Bures NP webpages:

<https://www.babergh.gov.uk/w/bures-neighbourhood-plan>

<https://www.braintree.gov.uk/planning-building-control/neighbourhood-planning/14>

- and the consultation responses from the statutory bodies reproduced in Appendix 1.

The Bures NP contains a detailed vision, which feeds into four area wide objectives:

The distinctly special qualities of our **beautiful village**, nestled as it is in the **historic and natural setting** of the **River Stour**, will be valued, protected and enhanced.

The qualities highly valued by Bures residents including its **strong identity, community spirit** and **kindness and diversity** will be sustained.

We will embrace **green technical innovation** to address and protect against the impact of climate change whilst **valuing the heritage of the village and protecting its historic buildings and natural boundaries**.

Bures will continue to be a **working village** with **real vitality**.

Our village will remain **well connected** with the world beyond and will provide safe streets and improved walking and cycling routes.

This vision then translates through eighteen specific objectives into twenty-four (24) policies and thirteen (13) community actions. These are grouped under the following chapter headings: Our Landscape; Our Natural Environment, Biodiversity and Wildlife; Community; Recreational Areas; Meeting the Bures Housing Need; Historic Environment; and Getting Around and Sustainable Transport.

Paragraph 12 of the draft plan explains why the two communities felt that this document was needed:

“Neighbourhood Plans give local communities direct power to guide and shape the future of their village. Bures is a proactive community, always looking to see how the relationship between people and place can function in the most enjoyable and satisfying way to make Bures a great place to live. The aim of this plan is to ensure that local needs are met and that the valued characteristics of the village can be maintained and protected for future generations.”

Of note, the Bures NP does not allocate land for development.

Part A - Strategic Environmental Assessment Determination

1. Introduction

One of the basic conditions that all neighbourhood plans will be tested against by the independent examiner is whether the making of that Plan is compatible with European Union obligations, as incorporated into UK law. Whether a neighbourhood plan requires a SEA and the level of detail needed will depend on what is proposed in the draft Neighbourhood Plan and the characteristics of the local area.

2. Legislative Background

European Union Directive 2001/42/EC (the SEA Directive), transposed into UK law through the SEA Regulations, requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be undertaken for certain types of plans or programmes that would have a significant environmental effect. The Environmental Assessment of Plans & Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations) require that this is determined by a screening process, which should use a specified set of criteria (set out in Schedule 1 of the Regulations). The results of this process must be set out in a SEA Screening Statement, which must be publicly available.

In accordance with Regulation 9 of the SEA Regulations 2004 the Bures NP Steering Group; through Collective Community Planning, asked Babergh DC and Braintree DC (the responsible local authorities) to determine whether an environmental report on their pre-submission draft neighbourhood plan was required due to significant environmental effects. In making this determination, all concerned have had regard to Schedule 1 of the Regulations.

In line with the advice contained within the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance, the Plan's potential scope has been assessed against the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the 2004 Environmental Assessment Regulations. As mentioned already, the two parish councils commissioned CCP to prepare a screening assessment to assess whether SEA would be required.

SEA can be required in some limited situations where a sustainability appraisal is not needed. Neighbourhood Planning is one of these situations. Sustainability Appraisals (SAs) may incorporate the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations, which implement the requirements of the 'Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.

A Sustainability Appraisal ensures that potential environmental effects are given full consideration alongside social and economic issues, and it is good practice to do one to understand how a plan is to deliver sustainable development. However, NPPF Planning Practice Guidance states that there is no legal requirement for a neighbourhood plan to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal as set out in Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It is down to the qualifying body to demonstrate whether the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects. This is the purpose of the Preliminary Screening Assessment.

3. Criteria for determining likely significance of effects

The criteria are set out in the following table:

1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to:
 - a) the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources,
 - b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy
 - c) (the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development,
 - d) environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme,
 - e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection).
2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to:
 - a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects,
 - b) the cumulative nature of the effects,
 - c) the trans-boundary nature of the effects,
 - d) the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents),
 - e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected),
 - f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:
 - i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage,
 - ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values,
 - iii) intensive land-use,
 - g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

[Source: Schedule 1 of Environmental Assessment of Plans & Programmes Regulations 2004]

4. Assessment

The neighbourhood plan vision and a brief summary of its policies are set out in the Overview. A full assessment of the likely effects of the Plan are set out in the relevant Preliminary Screening Assessment.

5. SEA Screening Conclusion

The CCP Preliminary SEA Screening Assessment notes that:

“The Bures NP will set out a vision and non-strategic planning policies to shape development in Bures up to 2037. The plan does not allocate sites for development but does to contain policies that protect locally important assets (green spaces, heritage, important views) and promotes environmental improvement. Such mitigating policies will compliment those set out in the local plans.”

It concludes that the Bures NP “...does not have the potential to have significant environmental impacts, and that [a full] SEA is not required.”

Consultation on the Preliminary SEA Screening Assessment was carried out with the Environment Agency (EA), Historic England (HE), and Natural England (NE). Written responses were received from all three bodies and reproduced in Appendix 1.

- The EA response provides general advice on matters that fall under their remit. It does not specifically say that they disagreed with the findings of the Preliminary Screening Assessment.
- HE have concluded that, on the basis of the information supplied, and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.
- NE have concluded that, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely.

6. SEA Determination

In the light of the Preliminary SEA Screening Assessment prepared by CCP and having considered the responses to this from the three statutory consultees, both Babergh District Council and Braintree District Council have determined that the Bures Neighbourhood Plan 2021 - 2037 **does not require** a Strategic Environmental Assessment in accordance with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Part B – Habitats Regulations Determination

1. Introduction

It is a requirement of European Law that a plan or project is subject to an assessment to determine whether it is likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of any 'European Site', in terms of impacting on the site's conservation objectives.

Submitted neighbourhood plans need to be accompanied by a statement to explain how the proposed Plan meets the 'basic conditions' set out in Schedule 4B of the 1990 Town and Country Planning Act. These include a requirement to demonstrate how the Plan is compatible with EU obligations, which includes the need to undertake a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). This is one of the matters that will be tested at the independent examination.

The assessment itself and the level of detail needed will depend on what is proposed in the draft Neighbourhood Plan and the potential impacts on Habitats Sites designated for their nature conservation interest.

This notice therefore determines whether a HRA under the UK Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, which enacts the Habitats Directive¹, is required for the Bures NP.

2. Legislative Background

One of the basic conditions that neighbourhood plans must meet is that:

"The making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017"

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 include regulations on the assessment of plans (including neighbourhood plans) and projects on a Habitats Site (European Site or a European offshore marine site). The first stage is to screen the plan to see whether it is likely to have a significant effect on any Habitats sites. If the plan is 'screened-in' because likely significant effects cannot be ruled out, the next stage is for an Appropriate Assessment to be carried out considering the impact on the Habitats site's conservation objectives. Consent for the Plan can only be given if it is 'screened-out' at the first stage, or the Appropriate Assessment concludes the integrity of the Habitats site will not be adversely affected.

Case law is also relevant. CCPs Preliminary Screening Assessment draws attention to the Waddenzee case in which the European Court of Justice ruled on the interpretation of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (translated into Reg.102 in the Habitats Regulations), stating that: *"An effect should be considered 'likely', "if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that it will have a significant effect on the site" (paragraph 44). An effect should be considered 'significant', "if it undermines the conservation objectives" (paragraph 48). Where a plan or project has an effect on a site "but is not likely to undermine its conservation objectives, it cannot be considered likely to have a significant effect on the site concerned" (paragraph 47)."* CCP also mention the 'People Over Wind & Peter Sweetman v Collie Teoranta' judgement which ruled that it is not permissible to take account of measures intended to reduce or avoid any harmful effects of a plan or project on a

¹ Directive 92/43/EEC 'on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora': <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:31992L0043>.

European Site at the screening stage. Any mitigation measures can now only be considered at the appropriate assessment stage.

3. Assessment

In determining whether a proposed development plan or programme is likely to have significant effects, Babergh DC and Braintree DC must incorporate the 'precautionary principle' into their decision. This means that if there is uncertainty as to whether the plan or programme would cause significant effects on a Habitats Site, the full Appropriate Assessment would be required.

The neighbourhood plan vision, and a summary of its policies are set out in the Overview. A full assessment of the likely effects of the Plan are set out in the Preliminary HRA Screening Assessment. This assessment sets out that it has been prepared in accordance with the relevant CJEU judgements.

The Preliminary HRA Screening Assessment demonstrated that there are no designated European wildlife sites within the parishes of Bures St Mary and Bures Hamlet (the neighbourhood plan area) but it did identify the sites listed below as being within 20 kilometres of the neighbourhood plan area.

- Abberton Reservoir Special Protection Area and Ramsar site
- Stour and Orwell Estuaries Special Protection Area and Ramsar site
- Colne Estuary Mid Essex Coast Phase 2 Special Protection Area and Ramsar site

4. HRA Screening Conclusion

The Preliminary HRA Screening Assessment concludes that:

*“ ... no significant effects are likely to occur with regards to the integrity of European Wildlife Sites within 20km. As such a full HRA and Appropriate Assessment is not required at this point and is **screened out**.”*

Consultation on the Preliminary HRA Screening Assessment was carried out with the Environment Agency (EA) and Natural England (NE). Their responses are set out in Appendix 1.

- The EA response provides general advice on matters that fall under their remit. It does not specifically say that they disagreed with the findings of the Preliminary Screening Assessment.
- NE have concluded, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that significant effects on Habitats sites, either alone or in combination, are unlikely.

5. HRA Determination

In light of the Preliminary HRA Screening Assessment prepared by CCP, and having considered the responses to this from the statutory consultees, both Babergh District Council and Braintree District Council have determined that the Bures Neighbourhood Plan 2021 - 2037 can be '**screened out**' from further assessment under the Habitats Regulations 2017 and that an Appropriate Assessment is not required.

Appendix 1



Paul Bryant
Babergh District Council
Endeavour House
Russell Road
Ipswich
Suffolk IP1 2BX

Our ref: AE/2024/129788/01-L01
Your ref: SEA/HRA
Date: 25 September 2024

Dear Paul

SEA / HRA SCREENING REPORT

BURES ST MARY (IN BABERGH) AND BURES HAMLET (IN BRAINTREE)

Thank you for consulting us on the pre-submission plan for the Bures St Mary and Bures Hamlet Neighbourhood Plan.

For the purposes of neighbourhood planning, we have assessed those authorities who have “up to date” local plans (plans adopted within the previous 5 years) as being of lower risk, and those authorities who have older plans (adopted more than 5 years ago) as being at greater risk. We aim to reduce flood risk and protect and enhance the water environment, and with consideration to the key environmental constraints within our remit, we have then tailored our approach to reviewing each neighbourhood plan accordingly.

A key principle of the planning system is to promote sustainable development. Sustainable development meets our needs for housing, employment and recreation while protecting the environment. It ensures that the right development, is built in the right place at the right time. To assist in the preparation of any document towards achieving sustainable development we have identified the key environmental issues within our remit that are relevant to this area and provide guidance on any actions you need to undertake. We also provide hyperlinks to where you can obtain further information and advice to help support your neighbourhood plan.

Environmental Constraints

We have identified that the Neighbourhood Plan Area will be affected by the following environmental constraints:

Flood Risk

Based on a review of environmental constraints for which we are a statutory consultee, we find that there are areas of fluvial flood risk and watercourses within the neighbourhood plan area along the River Stour.

On the basis that future development is steered away from the sensitive aspects of the environment highlighted, we do not consider there to be potential significant environmental effects relating to these environmental constraints. Nevertheless, we recommend the inclusion of relevant policies to cover the management of flood risk. Allocation of any sites and any windfall development delivered through the Plan period should follow the sequential approach. [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (NPPF) paragraph 167 sets this out.

Water Resources

Being in one of the driest areas of the country, our environment has come under significant pressure from potable water demand. New developments should make a significant contribution towards reducing water demand and mitigate against the risk of deterioration to our rivers, groundwater and habitats from groundwater abstraction. We recommend you check the capacity of available water supplies with the water company, in line with the emerging 2024 Water Resources Management Plan which is due to be published in 2023. The Local Planning Authorities Water Cycle Study and Local Plan may indicate constraints in water supply and provide recommendations for phasing of development to tie in with new alternative strategic supplies.

New development should as a minimum meet the highest levels of water efficiency standards, as per the policies in the adopted Local Plan. In most cases development will be expected to achieve 110 litres per person per day as set out in the Building Regulations &c. (Amendment) Regulations 2015. However, a higher standard of water efficiency (e.g. 85 l/p/d) should be considered, looking at all options including rainwater harvesting and greywater systems. Using the water efficiency calculator in Part G of the Building Regulations enables you to calculate the devices and fittings required to ensure a home is built to the right specifications to meet the 110 l/p/d requirement. We recommend all new non-residential development of 1000sqm gross floor area or more should meet the BREEAM 'excellent' standards for water consumption.

Developments that require their own abstraction where it will exceed 20 cubic metres per day from a surface water source (river, stream) or from underground strata (via borehole or well) will require an abstraction licence under the terms of the Water Resources Act 1991. There is no guarantee that a licence will be granted as this is dependent on available water resources and existing protected rights. The relevant abstraction licencing strategy for your area provides information on water availability and licencing policy at Abstraction licencing strategies (CAMS process) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk).

Water quality

We note that the Bures Water Recycling Centre operated by Anglian Water Services has capacity to treat foul water from fewer than 250 additional homes equivalent. Any applicant wishing to develop land in this catchment should liaise with the Anglian Water to ensure that sufficient capacity to treat new foul water flows will be available at the time of development.

Contaminated Land

For land that may have been affected by contamination as a result of its previous use or that of the surrounding land, sufficient information should be provided with any planning application to satisfy the requirements of the NPPF for dealing with land contamination. This should take the form of a Preliminary Risk Assessment (including a desk study, conceptual model and initial assessment of risk), and provide assurance that the risk to the water environment is fully understood and can be addressed through appropriate measures. This is because Bures Neighbourhood Plan Area is a source protection zone 2 and 3 as well as on a principal Aquifer. For any planning application the prior use should be checked to ensure there is no risk of contamination.

Source Protection Zones

Your plan includes areas which are located on Source Protection Zones 2 and 3. These should be considered within your plan if growth or development is proposed here. The relevance of the designation and the potential implication upon development proposals should be considered with reference to our Groundwater Protection guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/groundwater-protection>

Biodiversity Net Gain

We encourage you to seek ways in which your neighbourhood plan can improve the local environment. Identifying sites for the delivery of [Biodiversity Net Gain](#) could lead to habitat improvements in your area. Biodiversity Net Gain is a system that delivers habitat improvements on any local sites including [Local Wildlife Sites](#) to ensure that there is no loss of habitats from new development. Identifying areas that could benefit from management for conservation within your area could enable habitat to be created closer to development sites in your plan area, providing local ecological enhancement.

Informatives

We encourage you to seek ways in which your neighbourhood plan can improve the local environment. For your information, together with Natural England, Historic England and Forestry Commission, we have published joint guidance on neighbourhood planning, which sets out sources of environmental information and ideas on incorporating the environment into plans.

This is available at: [How to consider the environment in Neighbourhood plans - Locality Neighbourhood Planning](#)

We trust this advice is useful.

Yours sincerely

Mr Andrew Thornton | Planning Advisor
Team e-mail: Planning.EastAnglia@environment-agency.gov.uk

By e-mail dated 30 August 2024

Bures Neighbourhood Plan - SEA Screening Opinion



Historic England

Dear Paul

Thank you for inviting Historic England to comment on this consultation. As the Government's adviser on the historic environment Historic England is keen to ensure that the protection of the historic environment is fully taken into account at all stages and levels of the local planning process. Therefore we welcome this opportunity to review the Screening Report for this plan. For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine its advice to the question, "Is it (the Bures Neighbourhood Plan) likely to have a significant effect on the historic environment?". Our comments are based on the information supplied with the Screening Opinion.

The Screening Report indicates that the Council considers that the plan will not have any significant effects on the historic environment. We note that the plan does not propose to allocate any sites for development.

On the basis of the information supplied, and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], Historic England concurs with the Council that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

The views of the other two statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for an SEA is made.

I should be pleased if you can send a copy of the determination as required by REG 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

We should like to stress that this opinion is based on the information provided by you with your correspondence. To avoid any doubt, this does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on later stages of the SEA process and, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the plan) where we consider that, despite the SEA, these would have an adverse effect upon the environment.

Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of the relevant local authorities are closely involved throughout the preparation of the plan and its assessment. They are best placed to advise on; local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the Historic Environment Record (HER), how the allocation, policy or proposal can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of heritage assets.

Please do contact me, either via email or the number below, if you have any queries.

Kind regards,

Ross McGivern (he/him)
Historic Places Adviser
East of England Region | Partnerships Team
Historic England | Brooklands | 24 Brooklands Avenue | Cambridge | CB2 8BU

Date: 26 September 2024
Our ref: 485699
Your ref: Bures Neighbourhood Plan

Mr Paul Bryant
Babergh & Mid Suffolk District Councils

BY EMAIL ONLY

communityplanning@baberghmidsuffolk.gov.uk



Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ
T 0300 060 3900

Dear Mr Bryant

Bures Neighbourhood Plan - SEA & HRA Screening Report Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 20 August 2024.

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

Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

It is Natural England's advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that:

- **significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely; and,**
- **significant effects on Habitats sites¹, either alone or in combination, are unlikely.**

The proposed neighbourhood plan is unlikely to significantly affect any Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection areas (SPA), Ramsar wetland or sites in the process of becoming SACs or SPAs ('candidate SACs', 'possible SACs', 'potential SPAs') or a Ramsar wetland. The plan area is unlikely to have a significant effect on a National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Heritage Coast, and is unlikely to impact upon the purposes for which these areas are designated or defined.

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 is contained within the [Planning Practice Guidance](#). This identifies three triggers that may require the production of an SEA:

- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan
- the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require an SEA. Further information is included in Natural England's [standing advice](#) on protected species.

Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant an SEA. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission [standing advice](#).

We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a SEA is necessary.

Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If a SEA is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

Please send any new consultations, or further information on this consultation to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Sally Wintle
Consultations Team

1 Habitats sites are those referred to in the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (Annex 2 - glossary) as “any site which would be included within the definition at regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 for the purpose of those regulations, including candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and any relevant Marine Sites”.