



Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Opinion

Matterdale Neighbourhood
Plan

February 2015

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Introduction

- 1.1 This document sets out the Lake District National Park Authority's Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the draft Matterdale Neighbourhood Plan (the Plan).
- 1.2 The Plan has been produced by Matterdale Parish Council and clearly states what development the residents want to see in the parish, now and in the future. If adopted, the Plan will become part of the Development Plan for the Lake District National Park and will be part of the formal planning process referred to in the assessment of planning applications relating to Matterdale Parish.

Requirement for a Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.3 A neighbourhood plan must be compatible with European Union obligations, as incorporated into UK law, in order to be legally compliant. This follows the requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of development plans as set out in Regulation 61 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (the "Habitats Regulations").
- 1.4 The HRA refers to the assessment of the potential effects of a development plan on one or more European Sites. European Sites are defined in Regulation 8 and include:
 - Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are classified under the European Council Directive 'on the conservation of wild birds' (79/409/EEC 'Birds Directive'). They are strictly protected sites classified for rare and vulnerable birds (as listed on Annex I of the Directive), and for regularly occurring migratory species;
 - Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) are designated under the European Council Directive (92/43/EEC 'Habitats Directive') for the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora;
 - Sites which are being considered for designation as one of the above (referred to as pSPA or cSAC).
- 1.5 Ramsar sites are wetlands of international importance, listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention, 1971). It is Government policy to afford them the same protection as European Sites.

Habitats Regulations Assessment Process

- 1.6 The HRA is usually undertaken in stages (as described in **Table 1**) and should conclude whether or not a proposal or policy in a development plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site in question. This is judged in terms of the implications of the plan for a site's 'qualifying features' (i.e. those Annex I habitats, Annex II species, and Annex I bird populations for which it has been designated).

Table 1: Stages in Habitats Regulations Assessment

Stage	Task	Outcome
Stage 1: Screening	Description of the plan Identification of potential effects on European sites Assessing the effects on European sites	Where effects are unlikely, prepare a 'finding of no significant effect report'. Where effects judged likely, or lack of information to prove otherwise, proceed to Stage 2
Stage 2: Appropriate Assessment	Gather information (plan and European sites) Impact prediction Evaluation of impacts in view of conservation objectives Where impacts considered to affect qualifying features, identify alternative options Assess alternative options If no alternatives exist, define and evaluate mitigation measures where necessary	Appropriate assessment report describing the plan, European site baseline conditions, the adverse effects of the plan on the European site, how these effects will be avoided through, firstly, avoidance, and secondly, mitigation including the mechanisms and timescale for these mitigation measures. If effects remain after all alternatives and mitigation measures have been considered proceed to Stage 3.
Stage 3: Assessment where no alternatives exist and adverse impacts remain taking into account mitigation	Identify 'imperative reasons of overriding public interest' (IROPI) Identify potential compensatory measures	This stage should be avoided if at all possible. The test of IROPI and the requirements for compensation are extremely onerous

Scope of Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.7 HRA is based on a rigorous application of the precautionary principle and requires those undertaking the exercise to prove that the plan will not have an adverse effect on the site's integrity. Where uncertainty or doubt remains, an adverse impact should be assumed.
- 1.8 The ability to make conclusions on the likelihood of significant adverse effects on European sites is restricted due to the lack of detailed technical evidence at this stage. Firstly, there is no presumption that applications for development in Matterdale Parish will be granted permission. And secondly, planning applications within Matterdale Parish will be determined on a case by case basis, and if appropriate, will be accompanied by the necessary technical evidence required to assess the likelihood of significant adverse effects on European sites.
- 1.9 This report can be considered to be broadly coincident with Stage 1, which is specifically concerned with screening the policies of the plan, and assessing any likely significant effects that this may have on European Sites identified in this report.
- 1.10 It is a requirement of the Habitats Regulations to consult the appropriate nature conservation statutory body (i.e. Natural England). Consultation on the approach to this

HRA screening and the information on European sites considered was undertaken with these bodies in February 2015.

Report Structure

1.10 This report provides:

- the Habitat Regulations screening assessment describing the plan and key objective and policy,
- the identification of the potential effects on European sites,
- the assessment of the effects on European sites, and
- drawing satisfactory conclusions.

2 Description of the Plan

Context

- 2.1 In line with the provisions in the Localism Act 2011, Matterdale Parish Council is preparing a Neighbourhood Plan. This has given the community direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and shape the development and growth of their local area.
- 2.2 A neighbourhood plan attains the same legal status as the Local Plan once it has been agreed at a referendum and is made (brought into legal force) by the local planning authority. At this point it becomes part of the statutory development plan. The current relationship of the Neighbourhood Plan to other documents within the Local Plan is set out in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Profile of the Local Plan

Type of document	Title	Adopted	Being produced	Not started
Process	Local Development Scheme	✓		
	Statement of Community Involvement	✓		
	Annual Monitoring Report	Produced annually		
Development Plan Documents (DPDs)	Core Strategy	✓		
	Allocations of Land	✓		
	Minerals Safeguarding Areas	✓		
Supplementary Planning Documents	Ambleside Campus	✓		
	Landscape Character	✓		
	Housing Provision	✓		
	Planning Obligations			✓
	Wind Energy	✓		
	Site specific guides / development briefs			✓
Neighbourhood Plans	Coniston Neighbourhood Plan		✓	

- 2.3 The Lake District Core Strategy (Local Plan Part One) is the spatial planning strategy for the area up until 2025. The overall vision of the Core Strategy is that the Lake District National Park will be an inspirational example of sustainable development in action. It will be a place where its prosperous economy, world-class visitor experiences and vibrant communities come together to sustain the spectacular landscape, its wildlife and culture.
- 2.4 The vision of the Matterdale Neighbourhood Plan is to retain the distinctive character of Matterdale Parish as a sustainable community within a protected and valuable

landscape. The Plan will accomplish this by enhancing the existing planning policies within the 2010 Lake District Core Strategy / Local Plan with additional policies aimed at:

- Allowing limited but necessary new housing for local people
- Supporting the provision of affordable housing where possible
- Reinstating the existing non-nuclear pattern of development
- Supporting working people to live in the parish
- Supporting new micro businesses
- Protecting and enhancing the landscape and cultural heritage

The draft policies are set out in **Table 3**.

Table 3: Pre-submission Draft Neighbourhood Plan

Policy
<p>MNP1 – Housing Provision The Neighbourhood Plan will generally allow an average of 1 or 2 new dwellings per year within Matterdale Parish subject to the overall figure not being more than 25 dwellings up to 2030</p> <p>It is recognised however, that a higher figure may come forward and be permitted in the early years of the adoption of this policy as the latent demand for housing in Matterdale is met.</p>
<p>MNP2 – Local Needs Housing (Conversions, Reinstatements and Subdivisions) Local Needs Housing will be permitted where it meets any of the criteria in list A and all of the criteria in list B:</p> <p>List A</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The reinstatement of a former dwelling including ruins2. The conversion of existing agricultural traditional (pre 1947) buildings3. The reuse of redundant traditional (pre 1947) buildings4. The subdivision of existing dwellings <p>List B</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The proposal including any access tracks will not have a significant unacceptable impact on the landscape or visual amenity of the area2. All normal site planning requirements are met3. The renewable energy requirement of CS16 is increased to 50% provided, where necessary, through rebuilding/ redesign in energy efficient methods rather than preserving inefficient building techniques. This may involve demolition and rebuild <p>The design is of high quality and sensitive to the cultural and environmental context of the proposal and the size of the dwelling is a consequence of the design process</p>
<p>MNP3 – Local Needs Housing (New build) New build Local Needs Houses may be permitted only where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. an equivalent number of affordable Local Needs houses are delivered as part of the proposal. Provided the following criteria are met:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The sites for both the Local Needs and Affordable Local Needs dwellings are acceptable to the Parish Council• A financial appraisal of the proposal shows it is viable within the terms of 173 of NPPF providing a site value for the Local Needs dwelling of £150,000 and £20,000 for the Affordable Local needs dwelling (indexed linked) is used• All other site planning requirements are met <p>Or</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. The proposed dwelling meets all the following criteria:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limited to 125m²

- On the site of an existing building or forms an infill or rounding off of an existing group of buildings
- Is within close proximity to other housing

Or

3. Is within a 'cluster community' as defined within the LDNPA Core Strategy / Local Plan

MNP4 – Housing for Employees

Housing comprising hostel accommodation or 1 bedroom units will be permitted where the following criteria are met:

- It is necessary for the sustainability or expansion of an established service or tourist business, and;
- The occupation of the housing is restricted by those people employed in the relevant business, and;

All other site planning criteria are met

MNP5 – Housing on Farms

Family owned established Farm Enterprises or Rural Businesses may have an additional dwelling that can be used by family members, holiday letting or renting to local people or workers. Applications for an additional house must be accompanied by justification for at least one of these forms of occupation. In addition it will be subject to a section 106 agreement which specifically restricts the occupation of the dwelling to the flexible forms of occupation that the policy intends together with a provision that in the event that the property is not used as part of the farm or rural business enterprise it shall only be occupied as affordable housing.

In the case of farm enterprises operating from a tenant farm who need to manage a generational transition and build a property which they will own, the new dwelling need not be tied to the main farm holding but would become an agricultural workers dwelling after the tenancy has expired.

The siting and design of such new housing will need careful consideration to allow both the flexibility that policy intends and also to ensure that there is no unacceptable impact upon the visual or landscape amenity of the area. The reuse of an existing building or a plot near the existing farmyard may prove an acceptable site.

MNP6

The installation of dishes, masts, cabinets and associated equipment necessary for the delivery of a broadband services will be permitted where:

- It will assist in the delivery of a community or individually owned network, and

It will not cause a significant unacceptable impact on the landscape or visual amenity of the area or where in that case of a significant impact, the permission is strictly time limited to five years.

MNP7 – Micro business and live work support

In addition to the support given in CS02, development proposals, including new build, which support or result in facilities for micro businesses such as starter units, business hubs, or home office facilities, will be supported. The reuse of redundant traditional buildings for business use in association with a local needs housing development (as set out in MNP2) as a live-work proposal would be particularly supported.

MNP9 – Caravan Parks

No new caravan parks or further expansion of existing caravans (including replacing caravans with larger versions) will be permitted in Area B on Map 3 without significant increases in the screen planting and general landscaping which must be in place and established before new caravans may be occupied. These provisions will be secured through a s106 agreement in order to ensure that breaches in planning control can be enforced through injunction and without time limit.

The existing screen planting shown on plans A, B, C [etc] at the following caravan sites is protected for its amenity value and no development will be permitted which results in a reduction in its ability to screen the caravan sites.

List of caravan parks together with Inset plans...

New caravan parks within Area A on Map 3 will be permitted provided that sufficient screen planting and general landscaping is provided and that no unacceptable adverse impacts to neighbours' amenity, visual amenity, landscape character, or the road network will result.

The change of use from holiday use to permanent homes will not be permitted. The inclusion of new permanent homes within caravan parks will not be permitted.

MNP10 – Environment

The conservation and enhancement of the special qualities of the Lake District and the special qualities of Matterdale in particular will be respected in all development proposals.

MNP11 – Heritage

Development that has a detrimental effect on designated heritage assets (conservation areas, listed buildings and scheduled ancient monuments) will be refused.

MNP12 – Parish consultations

Pre-application discussions with the Parish Council may be helpful in overcoming any site specific issues. Where the Parish Council writes to the Park Authority citing this policy in support or in opposition to a particular proposal and citing material planning considerations, those matters should be given significant additional weight by the decision maker in any balancing exercise to be undertaken.

3 The identification of potential effects on European sites

3.1 When assessing the potential 'likely significant' effects the Plan may have on European Sites, it is important to not only consider the impact on European Sites within Matterdale Parish but also those sites that are adjacent to or in close proximity to the parish boundary. To reflect the risk of adverse impacts over longer distances, the Geographical Information System (GIS) analysis identifies those European sites which are within 2,500m of the Plan area. **(Figure 1)**

3.2 **Table 4** lists the relevant European Sites located within the Parish boundary and 2500m buffer, and provides a summary of baseline information on the interest features and sensitivities / vulnerabilities. This is based on data from the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC), and provides a list of qualifying features and a broad indication of the types of impact that each site is likely to be susceptible to. The principle vulnerabilities identified include:

- Water quality
- Water levels/flow
- Hydrological changes
- Increased recreational / development disturbance
- Inappropriate management

3.3 Impacts on European sites could occur singularly (e.g. from a single development) as well as in combination (e.g. the result of a series of developments in close proximity to a European site).

In-combination effects

3.4 Land use development in Matterdale Parish is covered by the Lake District National Park Core Strategy (Local Plan Part One). Its purpose is to manage the National Park, having particular regard to the special qualities whilst seeking to foster the social and economic wellbeing of local communities. Matterdale Parish adjoins Dacre Parish, Barton Parish, Martindale Parish and Patterdale Parish (in Eden) – development in these four parishes could act in combination with development in Matterdale Parish giving rise to adverse effects on the River Eden SAC (such as water quality and levels, increased visitor pressure and erosion).

Potential effects

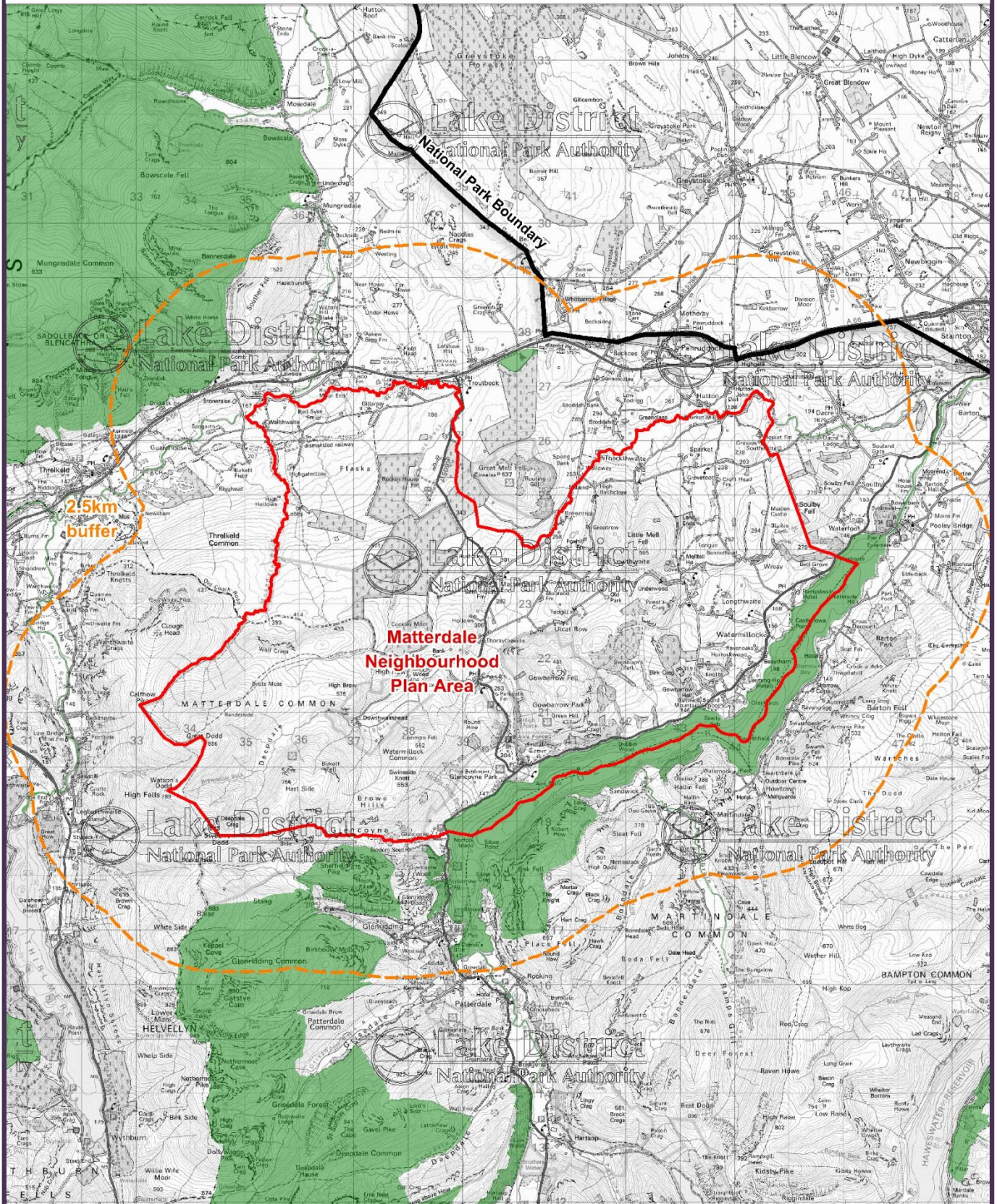
3.5 The draft policies support small scale development, particularly in relation to housing and employment. The types of impact that could arise as a result include:


- Disturbance to landscape and biodiversity
- Noise and dust
- Heavy transport through populated areas – local nuisance
- Consumption of energy and water – abstraction

And particularly on the identified European Site:

- Effects on local groundwater
- Reduced capacity of land to absorb water resulting in stress on river systems and engineered drainage systems
- biodiversity

Figure 1: European Sites



 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)



0 Km 1

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Table 4: Baseline condition – European sites

Site	Interest Features	Component SSSIs	Principal vulnerabilities/ sensitivities
River Eden SAC	<p>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> • Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation • Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (<i>Alno-Padion</i>, <i>Alnion incanae</i>, <i>Salicion albae</i>) <p>Annex II species that are a primary reason for selection of this site:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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> 	River Eden and Tributaries	<p>The River Eden SAC mainly comprises the river itself, the mesotrophic Ullswater lake, and associated wet woodlands. The lake has an extremely rich aquatic flora, including eight species of <i>Potamogeton</i>, and also supports one of the few populations of powan <i>Coregonus lavaretus</i> in the UK. The river flows over both calcareous limestone and sandstone, giving a diversity of ecological conditions ranging from oligotrophic to mesotrophic. Stands of alder and willow occur along the river's length, associated with backwaters and seasonally-flooded channels.</p> <p>The principal vulnerabilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water courses of plain to montane levels; Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nutrient enrichment and water quality (e.g. due to adjacent land management and sediment input); water level / flow decrease (e.g. due to abstraction). • Alluvial forests: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inappropriate management / grazing; localised hydrological changes; • White-clawed crayfish: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Crayfish plague; nutrient enrichment and water quality (e.g. due to adjacent land management and sediment input); water level / flow decrease (e.g. due to abstraction); increased recreational / development disturbance; inappropriate management (e.g. fish stocking). • Sea lamprey; Brook lamprey; River lamprey; Atlantic salmon; Bullhead: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - nutrient enrichment and water quality (e.g. due to adjacent land management and sediment input); water level / flow decrease (e.g. due to abstraction); increased recreational / development disturbance; inappropriate management (e.g. fish stocking); in-channel structures • Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water quality / quantity; loss of bankside habitats; increased recreational / development disturbance; inappropriate management (e.g. fish stocking).

<p>Lake District High Fells SAC</p>	<p>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i> • Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> • European dry heaths • Alpine and Boreal heaths • <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands • Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands • Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels • Blanket bogs • Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and <i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i>) • Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation • Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles <p>Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grassland, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in continental Europe) • Alkaline fens • Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation <p>Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slender green feather-moss <i>Drepanocladus</i> (<i>Hamatocaulis</i>) <i>verinicosus</i> 	<p>Pillar and Ennerdale Fells Ennerdale Skiddaw Group Shap Fells Birk Fell Helvellyn and Fairfield Armbboth Fells Scafell Pikes Wasdale Scree Honister Crag Buttermere Fells Force Crag Mine</p>	<p>The Lake District High Fells support a range of upland habitats, with different vulnerabilities and sensitivities. However, all of the habitats are sensitive to reductions in their extent (e.g. through direct encroachment or inhibition of natural processes (such as regeneration), and to changes in their ecological composition and characteristics (e.g. species, age profile or physical structure).</p> <p>Principal vulnerabilities for the Annex I habitats include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters and vegetation of the <i>Littorelletea uniflorae</i> and/or of the <i>Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes in local hydrology; inappropriate land management and eutrophication; changes in sediment inputs • Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes in local hydrology; inappropriate land management / grazing • European dry heaths: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inappropriate land management / grazing • Alpine and Boreal heaths: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inappropriate land management / grazing • <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inappropriate land management / grazing • Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inappropriate land management / grazing. • Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - changes in local hydrology; inappropriate land management / grazing; significant erosion associated with human impact. • Blanket bogs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - changes in local hydrology; inappropriate land management / grazing; significant erosion associated with human impact • Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (<i>Androsacetalia alpinae</i> and
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			<p><i>Galeopsietalia ladani</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inappropriate land management / grazing; human disturbance • Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - inappropriate land management / grazing; human disturbance • Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inappropriate woodland management; impacts on woodland fringes
Tarn Moss SAC	<p>Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition mires and quaking bogs 	Tarn Moss	<p>This site is a basin mire which has developed in a shallow, elongated hollow in acidic glacial drift. The mire communities are of special interest comprising areas of typical acid bog within a matrix of poor-fen. In comparison to other Cumbrian basin mires, Tarn Moss is remarkable in being almost entirely devoid of tree or scrub cover, as well as being little disturbed with no obvious signs of past peat-cutting. Principal vulnerabilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition mires and quaking bogs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Changes in local hydrology; inappropriate land management / grazing; significant erosion associated with human impact

4 Assessing the effects on European sites

- 4.1 The GIS analysis shows that the River Eden SAC is partly within the Plan area and partly within the buffer. And Tarn Moss SAC and Lake District High Fells SAC are within the 2500m buffer. Changes to local hydrology, inappropriate land management, water quality and quantity and human impact summarise the principle vulnerabilities associated with these sites.
- 4.2 The vision for the Plan is to retain the distinctive character of Matterdale Parish as a sustainable community within a protected and valuable landscape. To achieve this, the policies aim to allow **small scale** development to support those that live and work within the parish, together with the ongoing protection and enhancement of the landscape and cultural heritage. The key themes therefore are housing, employment, tourism and heritage and environment.
- 4.3 The draft plan does not seek to facilitate large scale development which would result in new transport infrastructure, damage and disturbance to the landscape and biodiversity, heavy transport and significant consumption of energy, particularly water.
- 4.4 The Plan does not have specific policies relating to the interactions between buildings and the natural environment, namely:
- Respect for natural systems and ecological processes, and
 - Building sustainably
- It does however; include a policy which expects the conservation and enhancement of the 'special qualities' of the Lake District National Park in all development proposals.
- 4.5 The Plan is considered to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan and specifically, it does not prevent Core Strategy (Local Plan Part One) Policy CS11: Sustainable development principles being applied. These principles enable communities to develop in a way that provides for their current needs, but protects the National Park's landscape, special qualities and resources for future generations.

Conclusion

- 4.6 In order to assess whether the draft Matterdale Plan will have effects on the integrity of European sites, we have based our decision on the assumption that planning applications will be approved. Taking all of the above factors into account, we are of the opinion that it is reasonable to conclude that the Plan is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the integrity, either alone or in combination with any other plan or project, on the European sites identified in this assessment. This is due primarily to the anticipated scale and type of development and its location.

Appendix 1 – Finding of no significant effects report

Name of project or plan	Matterdale Neighbourhood Plan – Pre-Submission draft
Name and location of European Site	River Eden SAC – partly within Plan area Tarn Moss SAC – within 2500m buffer of Plan area Lake District High Fells SAC – within 2500m buffer of Plan area
Description of the project or plan	The Plan has been produced by Matterdale Parish Council and clearly states what development the residents want to see in the parish, now and in the future. If adopted, the Plan will become part of the Development Plan for the Lake District National Park and will be part of the formal planning process referred to in the assessment of planning applications relating to Matterdale Parish. The vision of the Matterdale Neighbourhood Plan is to retain the distinctive character of Matterdale Parish as a sustainable community within a protected and valuable landscape.
Is the project or plan directly connected or necessary to the management of the site?	No
Are there other projects or plans that together with the project or plan being assessed could affect the site?	The Core Strategy (Local Plan Part One) shows how the Vision for the Lake District National Park will be delivered both strategically and spatially by 2025. It contains core policies, which are criteria or area based, that will guide development in the National Park. Policy CS05 sets out the approach for the East Distinctive Area – which Matterdale Parish sits, which explains the settlement hierarchy, the proportion of development anticipated and how issues will be addressed in the area. It does not allocate land or identify projects that will directly affect European Sites. It specifically sets out an approach to conserve and enhance the diverse patchwork of habitats especially water, moorland, woodland, gill and bog. No other projects or plans identified
Describe how the project of plan (alone or in combination) is likely to affect the European Sites	There will be no direct or indirect impact upon the habitats and species contained within the identified European Sites. There will not be significant disturbance to key habitats or species, there will be no habitat or species fragmentation and the overall integrity of the sites will not be affected as a consequence of the policies in the draft Neighbourhood Plan.
Who carried out the assessment?	Lake District National Park Authority September 2014

