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ROYAL BOROUGH OF WINDSOR AND MAIDENHEAD LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

23/10/2014

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Table of Contents

Abbreviations.....	5
1 Introduction and Purpose of this Report	6
2 The Habitats Regulations Assessment Process	8
3 Introduction to the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Local Flood Risk Management Strategy	11
4 Identifying the European Sites.....	16
5 Plans and programmes for consideration of in-combination effects	20
6 Screening	23
7 Conclusions	28
Figures	29

Abbreviations

CFMP	Catchment Flood Management Plan
EA	Environment Agency
FCS	Favourable Conservation Status
GIS	Geographic Information System
HRA	Habitat Regulations Assessment
IROPI	Imperative Reason of Overriding Public Interest
LFRMS	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
NE	Natural England
RBWM	Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RMA	Risk Management Authority
SAB	SuDS Approving Body
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
cSAC	Candidate Special Area of Conservation
SCI	Site of Community Importance
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
SPA	Special Protection Area
pSPA	Potential Special Protection Area
SuDS	Sustainable urban Drainage System
SWMP	Surface Water Management Plan

1 Introduction and Purpose of this Report

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Screening Report has been prepared by WSP UK Ltd on behalf of The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (hereafter referred to as 'the Borough' or RBWM) as part of the statutory Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the RBWM Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS).
- 1.1.2 It is intended that the strategy will reflect the principles, aims and objectives of the National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England. The strategy will address flooding from surface water, ground water and ordinary watercourses within the borough as a whole and also provide guidance on other sources of flooding such as from main rivers.

1.2 Purpose of this Report

- 1.2.1 This report is the first stage in the HRA process, commonly referred to as Screening. It identifies whether or not the RBWM LFRMS is likely to result in significant effects upon a European Site either alone or in-combination with other projects and plans, and subsequently whether or not an Appropriate Assessment will be required. If Appropriate Assessment is required this document will outline its proposed scope. Further details on the HRA stages are provided in Section 2.

1.3 Background to Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.3.1 Under Article 6 of the Habitats Directive, an assessment is required where a plan or project may give rise to significant effects upon a Natura 2000 site (also known as a 'European Site').
- 1.3.2 Natura 2000 is a network of areas designated to conserve natural habitats and species that are rare, endangered, vulnerable or endemic within the European Community. This includes Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), designated under the Habitats Directive for their habitats and/or species of European importance, and Special Protection Areas (SPA), classified under Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of Wild Birds (the codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended) for rare, vulnerable and regularly occurring migratory bird species and internationally important wetlands.
- 1.3.3 In addition, it is a matter of law that candidate SACs (cSAC) and Sites of Community Importance (SCI) are considered in this process; furthermore, it is Government policy that sites designated under the 1971 Ramsar Convention for their internationally important wetlands (Ramsar sites) and potential SPA (pSPA) are also considered.
- 1.3.4 The requirements of the Habitats Directive are transposed into UK law by means of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010¹ as amended.
- 1.3.5 Paragraph 3, Article 6 of the Habitats Directive states that:

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

¹ SI 2010/490

implications for the site and subject to paragraph 4 (see below), the competent national authority shall agree to the plan or project only having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public'.

1.3.6 Paragraph 4, Article 6 of the Habitats Directive states that:

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

1.3.7 The overarching aim of HRA is to determine, in view of a site's conservation objectives and qualifying interests, whether a plan, either in isolation and/or in combination with other plans, would have a significant adverse effect on a European site. If the Screening (the first stage of the process, see Section 3 for details) concludes that significant adverse effects are likely, then Appropriate Assessment must be undertaken to determine whether there will be adverse effects on a sites integrity.

1.4 Legislation and Guidance

1.4.1 This HRA screening report has drawn upon the following legislation and guidance:

- The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. In 2012, these Regulations were amended to transpose more clearly certain aspects of the Habitats Directive. No fundamental changes to the Regulations were made;
- European Commission, Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC;
- European Commission, Guidance document on Article 6(4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC;
- Technical Advice Note 5, Nature Conservation and Planning (2009); and,
- Draft Guidance For Plan Making Authorities In Wales - The Appraisal Of Plans Under The Habitats Directive, David Tyldesley Associates (November 2009, revised April 2010 and September 2012).

2 The Habitats Regulations Assessment Process

2.1 Stages in HRA

2.1.1 This section provides an outline of the stages involved in HRA and the specific methods that have been used in preparing this report.

2.1.2 The requirements of the Habitats Directive comprise four distinct stages:

1. **Screening** is the process which initially identifies the likely impacts upon a European site of a project or plan, either alone or in-combination with other projects or plans, and considers whether these impacts may have a significant effect on the integrity of the site's qualifying habitats and/or species. It is important to note that the burden of evidence is to show, on the basis of objective information, that there will be no significant effect. If the effect may be significant, or is not known, that would trigger the need for an Appropriate Assessment. There is European Court of Justice case law to the effect that unless the likelihood of a significant effect can be ruled out on the basis of objective information, and adopting the precautionary principle, then an Appropriate Assessment must be made.
2. **Appropriate Assessment** is the detailed consideration of 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 site's conservation objectives and its structure and function. This is to determine whether or not there will be adverse effects on the integrity of the site. This stage also includes the development of mitigation measures to avoid or reduce any possible impacts.
3. **Assessment of alternative solutions** is the process which examines alternative ways of achieving the objectives of the project or plan that would avoid adverse impacts on the integrity of the European site, should avoidance or mitigation measures are unable to cancel out adverse effects.
4. **Assessment where no alternative solutions exist and where adverse impacts remain.** At Stage 4, an assessment is made with regard to whether or not the development is necessary for imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI). If it is, this stage also involves detailed assessment of the compensatory measures needed to protect and maintain the overall coherence of the Natura 2000 network.

2.1.3 The Draft guidance produced by David Tyldesley Associates prescribes a series outlined above. This is reproduced in Figure 2-1 below. This Screening Report corresponds with the first four stages in the flow-chart, pertaining to 'Assess Likely Significant Effects'.

2.1.4 Those stages relating to assessing Likely Significant Effects are outlined in the following sections of this report:

- **Section 4** – Identifying the European sites: This section of the report corresponds with Stages 1 and 2 of Figure 2-1.
- **Section 5** – Identifying the other projects and plans for assessment of potential in-combination effects. This section of the report supports Stage 4 of Figure 2-1.
- **Section 6** - Screening the LFRMS: This section of the report corresponds with Stages 3 and 4 of Figure 2-1.
- **Section 7** – Conclusions: This section of the report provides a conclusion on the Assessment of Likely Significant effects of the LFRMS on the European sites and concludes on the potential for in combination effects of other projects and plans. This section makes recommendations for further HRA if required.

PROCEDURAL STAGE

METHODOLOGICAL STEPS

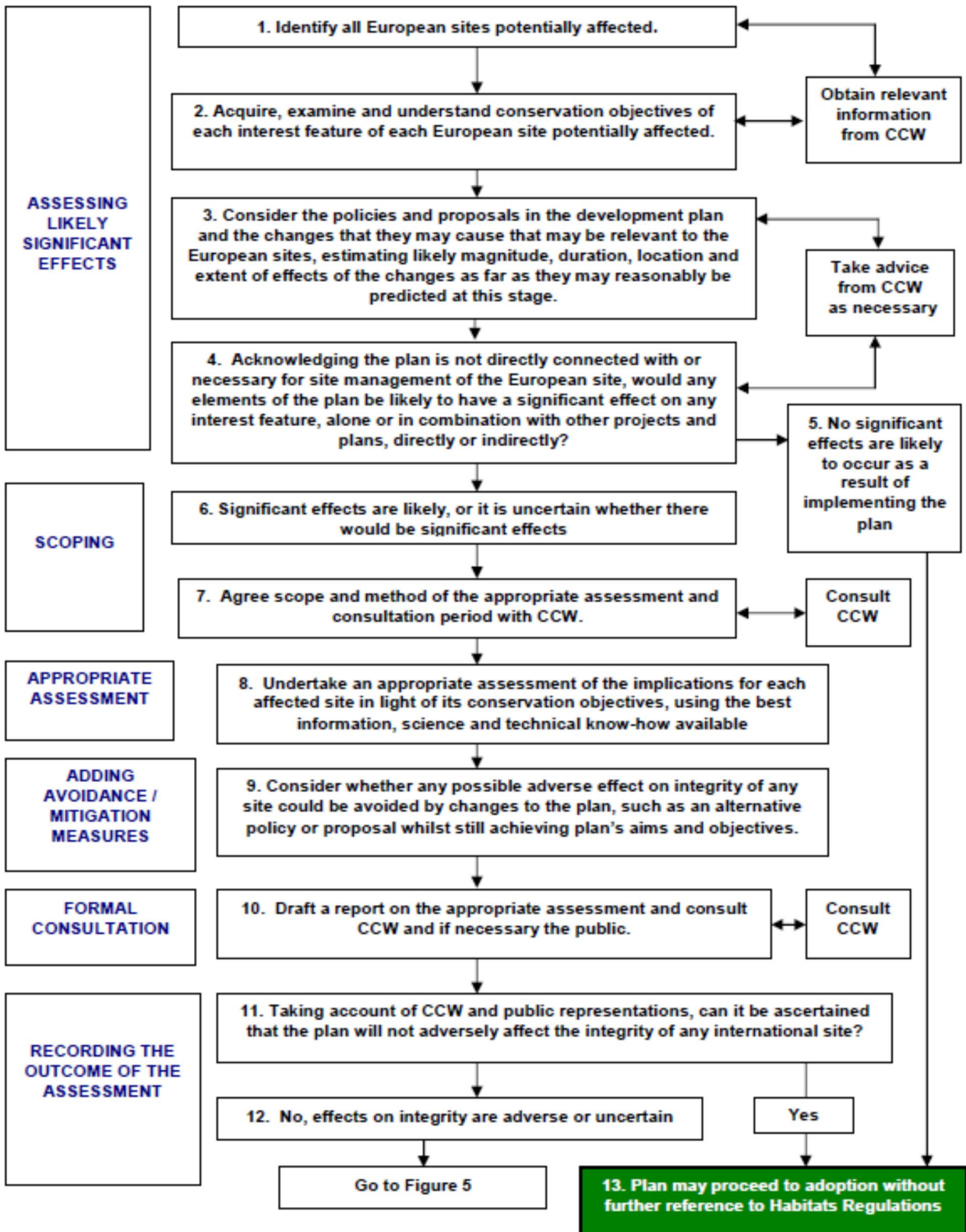


Figure 2-1 Application of Regulation 102 of the Habitats Regulations to Plans – David Tyldesley Associates 2009

2.2 In-Combination Effects

- 2.2.1 As outlined in Section 2.1, it is necessary for HRA to consider in-combination effects with other plans and projects. Plans under consideration may range from neighbouring authorities' planning documents down to sector specific strategic plans on such topics as flood risk.
- 2.2.2 It should be noted that in-combination effects only require consideration where the plan or project being assessed has an impact, whether significant or not. A conclusion of 'Zero Effects' negates the possibility of in-combination effects. Section 5.1.1 below provides details of the relevant plans.

2.3 Mitigation Measures

- 2.3.1 In preparing this report, consideration has been given to potential avoidance and mitigation measures which would serve to avoid adverse effects on the integrity of European sites, for example the provision of specific clauses within the strategy that may prevent effects occurring.

3 Introduction to the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

3.1 Background and purpose

- 3.1.1 Under the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (the Act), the Borough became a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) responsible for coordinating the management of local flood risk from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses in the borough.
- 3.1.2 As a LLFA the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead must the Act requires them to ‘*develop, maintain, apply and monitor*’ a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS). The strategy will focus on local flood risk resulting from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourse flooding, as well as assess the interaction with Main River flooding. The strategy will also explain how the borough will manage this flood risk, both now and in the future.
- 3.1.3 RBWM is located in the east of Berkshire, between Slough, Wokingham and Bracknell. The administrative area of the borough covers 19,844 hectares and has a population of approximately 144,600 with 60,901 dwellings (source: 2011 Census). The Royal Borough’s principal urban areas are the historic settlements of Windsor and Maidenhead, with a number of smaller settlements including Cookham, Ascot, Sunninghill, Sunningdale, Eton, Old Windsor, Horton, Datchet and Wraysbury. There are fifteen town and parish councils.
- 3.1.4 The topography across the borough varies between the lower lying floodplains of the River Thames along the eastern and northern boundary of the borough, with higher, steeper sided catchments to the west, north-west and south. The geology across the borough is varied and includes areas of river terrace deposits and alluvium, London Clay, chalk, Bagshot Beds and Reading Beds.
- 3.1.5 The River Thames is one of the borough’s most significant landscape features. The northern and eastern boundaries of the borough are delineated by the River Thames and many of the key population centres within the borough are situated along the length of the river. Significant flooding from the River Thames has affected the borough no less than ten times within the past 100 years, most recently in 2001/02, 2003 and 2013/14. Parts of the borough have also been affected by surface water flooding, the most notable recent event occurring on the 20th July 2007.

3.2 What will the RBWM Local Flood Risk Management Strategy contain?

3.2.1 Structure of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

- 3.2.2 At the stage of writing this report a draft of the LFRMS has been produced, although this is subject to development. It includes the following elements:
- **Introduction** –Provides an introduction and background to the borough’s LFRMS including a brief introduction to the flood risk issues in the borough and the scope of the strategy;
 - **Legislative and Policy Context** - Provides an overview of legislation, and national and regional policies relevant to the development of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy;
 - **Roles and Responsibilities** – This section outlines the overall structure of who is involved and in what capacity. Risk Management Authorities within the borough are also detailed;

- **Understanding Flood Risk in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead** – Provides information on historical flooding, and already adopted measures and schemes that are in the process of being delivered;
- **Managing the Likelihood and impact of Flooding** – This section sets out all the objectives and sub-objectives of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy;
- **Funding and Delivery** – Reviews the nature and availability of national and local funding for future schemes;
- **Action Plan** – Outlines the actions to be taken as part of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy; and
- **Review and Development of the Strategy** – Provides an overall review of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy in terms of a number of legislative measures and nationally significant measures.

3.2.3 Objectives of the strategy and key actions

3.2.4 The overarching objective of the LFRMS is to set out how flood risks will be reduced and managed in the borough. This is achieved through seven objectives, which are detailed in Table 3-1.

Table 3-1 Key objectives of Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Reference	Objective
1	Develop a clear understanding of flood risk within the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and increase public awareness
2	Establish and maintain effective partnerships with key organisations and local communities, to deliver a sustainable, cost effective approach to flood risk management, that reduces flood risk and delivers wider environmental and social economic benefits where possible
3	Ensure that land use planning and application decisions take full account of flood risk, avoiding development in inappropriate locations, minimising and preventing an increase in flood risk wherever possible
4	Develop plans to reduce existing flood risk taking account of people, communities and the environment
5	Ensure that emergency plans and responses to flood incidents are effective and that communities are prepared and resilient to flood risk
6	Identify national, regional and local funding mechanisms to deliver flood risk management solutions and schemes
7	Work in partnership with the Environment Agency, professional partners, other stakeholders and communities to deliver effective schemes to alleviate flood risk from the River Thames and other main river watercourses

3.2.5 To deliver the LFRMS objectives, the borough has identified measures and actions needed to achieve these objectives, as well as categorising the timescale for each action, as detailed below in Table 3-2. Each of the actions aims to be sustainable and centre on a risk-based proportionate approach that reflects the size and complexity of the flood risk.

Table 3-2 Summary of actions and measures for each objective outlined in the LFRMS

Objective	Sub-Objective	Action/Measure	Description and Benefits of Action/Measures	Timescale
1	A	Develop investigations policy and implement the policy when investigating flood events.	Build knowledge of areas vulnerable to flooding and sources of flooding in the borough allowing solutions to be developed and funding to be appropriately targeted	Short term
	B	Develop and maintain a live database of flood incidents in the borough.	Build knowledge of areas vulnerable to flooding and sources of flooding in the borough. It will provide ready access to data to support funding applications for schemes	Short term
	C	Develop flood incident database on GIS.	Build knowledge of areas vulnerable to flooding, sources of flooding, and possible interaction between sources of flooding in the borough	Short term
	D	Undertake catchment studies, or surface water management plans, in vulnerable catchments.	Build knowledge of areas vulnerable to flooding and local sources of flooding, allowing causes of flooding to be identified and solutions to be developed	Short term
2	A	Continue to work with the Environment Agency, Thames Water and other LLFAs engaged in the Berkshire 5 Strategic Flood Risk Management Partnership.	Allow Berkshire wide issues to be discussed and best practice to be shared	Short term
	B	Continue to engage with the Environment Agency, Thames Water and local communities via the Borough Flood Forum and Parish Flood Group	Allow the roles and responsibilities of the local Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) to be communicated, flood risk to be communicated, current flooding issues to be highlighted and discussed, and possible solutions to be discussed	Short term
	C	Develop a collaborative approach to flood risk management within the borough working with professional partners to identify potential flood alleviation schemes	Identify areas at risk of flooding, potential alleviation schemes, mitigation measures and potential funding mechanisms	Short term
	D	Publish roles and responsibilities of local RMAs on the borough website	To assist residents in identifying who to contact regarding flooding	Short term
3	A	Develop and apply robust spatial planning policy relating to flood risk from all sources, ensuring that the policy is current, and can easily be taken into account during the planning process	Ensure future development is appropriately located and that spatial planning decisions are easily defended	Short term
	B	Ensure that new strategic development sites consider flood risk on and off site and provide betterment wherever possible	Ensure future development is appropriately located and opportunities to reduce flood risk both on site and off site are identified and considered	Short term
	C	Undertake appropriate review and assessment of flood risk implications and drainage provisions of new development as part of the planning process	Ensure spatial planning decisions are based on sound advice	Short term

Objective	Sub-Objective	Action/Measure	Description and Benefits of Action/Measures	Timescale
	D	Develop a procedure to allow the efficient and effective implementation of the SAB and SuDS	Ensure compliance with the requirements of Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act (still to be implemented) and uptake of SuDS ensuring that appropriate provision is made for surface water drainage of new development	Short term
	E	Develop a guidance document for SuDS setting out local standards that will be required for SuDS within the borough in addition to the National Standards requirements	Provide sound and robust advice to developers and ensure that appropriate provision is made for surface water drainage of new development	Short to medium term
4	A	Develop and implement a procedure relating to the "designation" of third party assets	Reduce the risk of flooding resulting from alterations to third party assets	Short to medium term
	B	Produce a guidance note on Riparian owners' responsibilities for the maintenance of ordinary watercourses	Raise awareness of riparian ownership and landowners responsibilities relating to ordinary watercourses and reducing flood risk as a result of poor maintenance	Short term
	C	Review the borough's Land Drainage Enforcement policy and implement policy	Reduce flood risk as a result of poorly maintained ordinary watercourses	Short term
	D	Utilise data collected from flooding investigations and live database of flood incidents to identify areas at risk of flooding	Identify areas where further studies would be beneficial, and allowing potential maintenance works or alleviation schemes to be identified and prioritised	Short term
	E	Review and develop the prioritisation process against which borough funded flood risk management schemes are assessed	Ensure potentially limited funds are spent in areas where they will be of most benefit	Short to medium term
5	A	Review the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead Major Incident Plan on an annual basis and as further information on flood risk across the borough becomes available	Ensure plan remains current and effective, improving preparedness and response to flooding from all sources	Short term
	B	Work with the Environment Agency on the development and implementation of the River Thames Scheme Major Incident Plan	The River Thames Scheme Major Incident Plan will improve preparedness and response to flooding from the River Thames, between Datchet and Teddington, and includes investigation of the use of temporary flood defences	Short term
	C	Continue to oversee the Parish Council Flood Warden scheme	Raise community awareness of flood risk and assisting in the communication of flood alerts and flood warnings relating to fluvial flood events	Short term
	D	Work with and encourage communities to produce Community Resilience Plans that consider flooding emergencies	The production of Community Resilience Plans that consider flooding will assist in raising community awareness of flood risk from all sources and allow actions taken during a flood event to be planned, reducing the risk to persons, disruption and damage	Medium term

Objective	Sub-Objective	Action/Measure	Description and Benefits of Action/Measures	Timescale
6	A	Work with RMAs and community groups to identify possible sources of funding for flood risk management schemes	Maximise the chances of successful delivery of schemes	Medium term
	B	Work with RMAs and community groups to actively apply for government funding to implement flood risk management schemes	Maximise the chances of successful funding applications and delivery of schemes	Medium term
	C	Develop a timeline for funding opportunities and publicise this timeline to at risk communities that would benefit from possible flood risk management schemes	Ensure that sufficient time is available to identify possible funding mechanisms and possible sources of partnership funding, maximising the chances of successful funding applications and delivery of schemes	Medium term
	D	Use prioritisation process to produce a long list of flood risk management schemes in order of priority, potential funding mechanisms which can be used to deliver each scheme, and the need for and potential for partnership funding	Ensure a robust approach to the allocation of funding	Medium term
	E	Work with local communities to raise awareness of planned flood risk management schemes, the prioritisation process and the need for and benefits of partnership funding	Maximise the chances of successful funding applications and delivery of schemes	Long term
7	A	Actively participate in the River Thames Sponsors Board to explore possible means of achieving partnership funding	Maximising the chances of successful funding of the River Thames Scheme	Medium term
	B	Actively participate in the River Thames Programme Board to ensure the development and implementation of a scheme that effectively alleviates flood risk downstream of the confluence of the Thames and the Jubilee River	Maximising the chances of successful implementation of a scheme that effectively alleviates flood risk from the River Thames downstream of the confluence of the Thames and the Jubilee River	Long term
	C	Communicate progress on River Thames Scheme to affected communities via community engagement processes	Ensuring communities are kept informed of progress on the River Thames Scheme	Short to long term
	D	Where appropriate work in partnership with the Environment Agency, professional partners, other stakeholders and communities to explore possible means of achieving partnership funding and the development and implementation of effective fluvial flood alleviation schemes	Maximising the chances of successful implementation of effective fluvial flood alleviation schemes	Medium to long term

4 Identifying the European Sites

4.1 Approach to Identifying Sites

4.1.1 There are three European sites located within the borough, as detailed below in section 4.2 and Table 4-1. In addition, sites outside of the borough boundary may be relevant if they are connected via hydrological links or if mobile species from neighbouring sites have a significant functional link with areas within the borough, such as for foraging. European sites within 10 km are therefore deemed significant to the assessment and are detailed in section 4.3 and below. Figure 4-1 presents the geographic location of these sites.

4.1.2 In summary, the European sites outside the borough boundary that have been identified are those that are:

- Associated with ordinary watercourses that flow downstream of RBWM. This might include riverine sites or those dependent on the watercourses. Mobile species may therefore include migratory fish and otters;
- Are hydrologically linked, for example through groundwater or to ordinary watercourses in RBWM. This might include peat land or wetland sites which are hydrologically linked or to mobile bird species from other sites which may be dependent on such habitats within the borough;
- Downstream wetland sites; and
- Areas outside of the borough hydrogeologically linked by aquifers.

4.2 European Sites located within Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead area

4.2.1 The following European sites are located within, or partly within the borough boundary:

- South West London Waterbodies SPA and Ramsar
- Chilton Beechwoods SAC
- Windsor Forest and Great Park SAC

4.2.2 Summary information on these sites, why they have been designated and their potential to be affected by the actions within the LFRMS are set out in Table 4-1 below.

Table 4-1 Summary of European Sites located within the Borough

Designation Site	Designation Number	Principle Designation Features	Description	Potential Connectivity
SPA				
South West London Waterbodies (also Ramsar)	UK9012171	<p>The site is used regularly by 1% or more of the biogeographical populations of the following regularly occurring migratory species (other than those listed on Annex 1), in any season:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> (2.4 % NW Europe) ■ Shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> (2.1 % NW/Central Europe) 	<p>The South West London Waterbodies SPA comprises a series of embanked water supply reservoirs and former gravel pits that support a range of man-made and semi-natural open-water habitats.</p> <p>As the designation relates to two species of dabbling duck, the impact on site integrity of changes to flood water flow is</p>	<p>The SPA is located at the south eastern extent of the borough and on the existing flood plain. The Wraysbury and Hythe end Gravel Pits, and Wraysbury No.1 Gravel Pit are within the borough boundary, the other waterbodies are directly downstream of the borough. This SPA is in direct hydrological connectivity with</p>

Designation Site	Designation Number	Principle Designation Features	Description	Potential Connectivity
			not likely to be significant..	the borough.
SAC				
Chilterns Beechwood	UK0012724	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ <i>Asperulo-Fagetum</i> Beech Forests ■ Semi-natural dry grassland and scrubland 	Bisham Woods consists of beech high forest and represents a southern outlier of the Chiltern Beechwoods SAC. It is an extensive area of predominantly broad leaved woodland situated on a steep north-west facing slope overlooking the River Thames at Marlow. Hollowgill and Pullingshill Woods are located to the west of Bisham Woods, outside of the borough boundary.	Although the Bisham Woods part of the SAC is located close the River Thames and adjacent to a tributary, neither section of the SAC falls within a floodplain. Hydrological connectivity to the borough is therefore limited but cannot be ruled out due to its close proximity.
Windsor Forest & Great Park	UK0012586	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Old acidophilous oak woods with <i>Quercus robur</i> on sandy plains ■ Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with <i>Ilex</i> and sometimes also <i>Taxus</i> in the shrub layer (<i>Quercion roboripetraeae</i> or <i>Ilici-Fagenion</i>) ■ <i>Limoniscus violaceus</i> for which this is one of only three known outstanding localities in the United Kingdom. 	This SAC is an ancient Oak and Beech woodland and parkland. Management as wood pasture provides habitat for a number of extremely rare and specialised insects. The site is of importance for its range and diversity of saproxylic (dead wood) invertebrates, including many rare species (e.g. the violet click beetle) and has recently been recognised as having rich fungal assemblages.	There are no areas of floodplain within the boundary of the SAC. However, due to proximity to the floodplain and the minimal changes in elevation from the flood plain and the site, it is likely that there is hydrological connectivity with the local watercourses and ground water within the borough.

4.3 European Sites located outside Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead area

4.3.1 The following additional European sites are located within, or partly within the 10km of the borough boundary:

- Thames Basin Heaths SPA
- Burnham Beeches SAC
- Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC

4.3.2 With regards to the Thames Basin Heaths and Thursley, Ash Pirbright and Chobham, these SACs are made up of a number of smaller sites of a similarly important nature.

Summary information on these sites, why they have been designated and their potential to be affected by the actions within the LFRMS are set out in Table 4-2 below.

Table 4-2 Summary of European Sites located within 10km of the borough boundary

Designation Site	Designation Number	Principle Designation Features	Description	Distance from borough Boundary	Potential Connectivity
SPA					
Thames Basin Heaths	UK9012141	<p>During Breeding Season:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dartford Warbler <i>Sylvia undata</i> ■ Nightjar <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i> ■ Woodlark <i>Lullula arborea</i> 	<p>Thames Basin Heaths SPA is a composite site that is located across the counties of Surrey, Hampshire and Berkshire. Habitats of scrub, acidic woodland and conifer plantations dominate, within which area scattered areas of open heath and small areas of mire.</p> <p>The site integrity relates to heathland birds that do not directly rely on the location and nature of flood waters.</p>	0km	Chobham Common, one part of the SPA is directly adjacent to the borough and an area of fen, marsh and swamp, known as Long Arm is located in this area. However, this waterbody flows into the Chertsey Bourne that flows into the Thames downstream of the borough and can therefore be considered to have no hydrological connectivity with the borough
SAC					
Burnham Beeches	UK0030034	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with Ilex and sometimes also Taxus in the shrub layer (Quercion robori-petraeae or Ilici-Fagenion) 	<p>Burnham Beeches is an example of Atlantic acidophilous beech forests in central southern England. It is located to the north east of Maidenhead and is a discrete site</p>	3.3km	Burnham Beeches is hydrologically located upstream of Windsor to the north of Slough. Due to its location on higher ground and distance from the borough boundary there is not likely to be any hydrological connectivity between the SAC and the borough.
Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham	UK0012793	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> ■ European dry heaths ■ Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> 	<p>This SAC is also forms part of the Thames Basin Heaths SPA and is located to the south and southeast of the borough.</p>	0km	See comment within Thames Basin Heaths SPA above on Chobham Common. Other areas on the SAC are not likely to be hydrologically connected to the borough.

4.4 Impacts and Influences of the LFRMS

4.4.1 As described above (in Section 4.1), it was first important to identify the likely impacts and influences of the LFRMS. The Draft LFRMS was reviewed and, in conjunction with the parallel Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), the following potential impact types were identified that may have some effect on European sites and their qualifying species.

Table 4-3 Potential Impacts and Influences of the LFRMS relative to European Site integrity

Impacts and Influences of the LFRMS	Likely habitats and locations affected	Outcome for identified European Sites
<p>Effects on ordinary watercourses, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved maintenance of watercourses to maintain flow and prevent blockages, causing increase flow downstream - River channel naturalisation reducing flow - Flood alleviation schemes that hold flood water in different locations - Better implementation of SuDS to reduce direct flow into watercourses - WFD water quality schemes holding water at top of catchments 	<p>Aquatic habitats associated with and dependant on ordinary watercourses within and downstream of the borough. These could be located in both upland and lowland areas.</p> <p>Non aquatic habitats that are sensitive to changes in water levels may also be affected.</p>	<p>South West London Waterbodies SPA and Ramsar is located either within or adjacent to the River Thames functional flood plain at the boundary and beyond the downstream boundary of the borough. The implementation of the LFRMS has the potential to improve the water environment for the bird species that it has been designated for.</p> <p>Both Chilton Beechwoods SAC and Windsor Forest and Great Park SAC are located directly upstream of ordinary watercourses.</p> <p>Thames Basin Heaths SPA, Burnham Beeches SAC and Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC are located away from ordinary watercourses. Bird species that make up the designation do not directly rely on the location and nature of floodwaters.</p>
<p>Effects on surface water / sewer flooding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Long term water industry investment to reduce DG5 flooding - Improved maintenance of sewers to maintain flow and prevent blockages, causing increase flow downstream - Improved maintenance of highways to maintain flow and prevent blockages, causing increase flow downstream - Better implementation of SuDS to reduce direct flow into watercourses 	<p>Aquatic habitats associated with and dependant on ordinary watercourses within and downstream of the borough. These could be located in both upland and lowland areas.</p> <p>Non aquatic habitats that are sensitive to changes in water levels may also be affected.</p>	<p>South West London Waterbodies SPA and Ramsar is located either within or adjacent to the River Thames functional flood plain at the boundary and beyond the downstream boundary of the borough.</p> <p>Both Chilton Beechwoods SAC and Windsor Forest and Great Park SAC are located directly upstream of ordinary watercourses.</p> <p>Thames Basin Heaths SPA, Burnham Beeches SAC and Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC are located away from ordinary watercourses.</p>
<p>Effects on groundwater flooding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance of natural groundwater flow regime - Better implementation of SuDS may exacerbate groundwater flooding due to increased infiltration 	<p>Localised groundwater flooding is identified along the River Thames where there are highly permeable soils beneath the floodplain. Only habitats located near to the flood plain that are sensitive to changes in groundwater levels are likely to be affected.</p>	<p>South West London Waterbodies SPA and Ramsar is located either within or adjacent to the River Thames functional flood plain.</p> <p>Chilton Beechwoods SAC, Windsor Forest and Great Park SAC, Thames Basin Heaths SPA, Burnham Beeches SAC and Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC are located away from the River Thames floodplain.</p>
<p>Effects on the floodplain, through better maintenance of and alterations to flood defences on ordinary watercourses.</p>	<p>Aquatic habitats associated with and dependant on ordinary watercourses within and downstream of the borough. These could be located in both upland and lowland areas.</p> <p>Non aquatic habitats that are sensitive to changes in water levels may also be affected.</p>	<p>South West London Waterbodies SPA and Ramsar is located either within or adjacent to the River Thames functional flood plain at the boundary and beyond the downstream boundary of the borough.</p> <p>Both Chilton Beechwoods SAC and Windsor Forest and Great Park SAC are located directly upstream of existing floodplain.</p> <p>Thames Basin Heaths SPA, Burnham Beeches SAC and Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC are located away from any floodplain.</p>
<p>Effects on sea defences which are vulnerable to coastal erosion.</p>	<p>Coastal and estuarine habitats</p>	<p>The borough and the 10km buffer area does not include any coast or estuarine habitat</p>

5 Plans and programmes for consideration of in-combination effects

5.1.1 As outlined in Section 2.1, it is necessary for HRA to consider in-combination effects with other relevant plans and projects. Plans under consideration may range from neighbouring authorities' planning documents down to sector specific strategic plans on such topics as flood risk. A review has been undertaken of plans and projects with the potential for an in-combination effect with the LFRMS and these are listed in Table 5-1 below.

Table 5-1 Plans and Projects Considered for In-Combination Effects

Relevant Plan/Project	Overview
<p>The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Emerging Borough Local Plan ▪ Saved policies of the Local Plan, 2003 ▪ The Replacement Minerals Local Plan 2001 ▪ The Waste Local Plan for Berkshire 1998 	<p>Planning law requires that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), published in March 2012, sets out the Government's planning policies for England and must be taken into account in the preparation of the development plan. It is also a material consideration in planning decisions.</p> <p>The Borough Local Plan sets out a long term strategy for managing development and supporting infrastructure in the Borough up to 2029 /30. This includes approaches to delivering housing, and where land will be provided or safeguarded for business, shopping, leisure and community uses.</p>
<p>Wycombe District Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adopted Core Strategy, 2008 ▪ Buckinghamshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2004-2016 ▪ Buckinghamshire Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, 2012 ▪ Saved policies in the Local Plan, 2004 	<p>The Development Plan for Wycombe consists of the adopted Core Strategy and the emerging Local Plan, together with the saved policies of the 2004 adopted Local Plan and Minerals and Waste documents.</p>
<p>South Bucks District Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ South Bucks District Local Plan, 1999 ▪ Core Strategy, 2011 ▪ Joint Mineral and Waste Core Strategy, 2012 	<p>The Development Plan for South Bucks consists of the Local Plan, Core Strategy and Mineral and Waste Core Strategy.</p>
<p>Slough Borough Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Core Strategy, 2006-2026 ▪ Local Plan, 2004 ▪ Saved Policies in the Local Plan, 2004 ▪ The Replacement Minerals Local Plan 2001 ▪ The Waste Local Plan for Berkshire 1998 	<p>The Development Plan for Slough consists of the Local Plan and it's saved policies, the Core Strategy together with the Minerals and Waste documents.</p>
<p>Spelthorne</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Core Strategy and Policies Development Plan Document, 2009 	<p>The Development Plan for Spelthorne consists of the Core Strategy, Local Plan and Minerals and Waste documents.</p>

Relevant Plan/Project	Overview
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local Plan Saved Policies ▪ The Surrey Minerals Plan Core Strategy DPD, 2011 ▪ The Surrey Waste Plan, 2008 	
<p>Runnymede Borough Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local Plan, 2001 ▪ Emerging Local Plan, 2035 ▪ Joint Primary Aggregates DPD, 2011 	The Development Plan for Runnymede consists of the Local Plan and Emerging Local Plan.
<p>Surrey Heath Borough Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Core Strategy and Development Management Policies 2011-2028 ▪ Local Plan saved policies, 2000 ▪ Joint Primary Aggregates DPD, 2011 	The Development Plan for Surrey Heath consists of the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies and the Local Plan saved policies.
<p>Bracknell Forest Borough Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adopted Core Strategy, 2008 ▪ Saved policies from the Local Plan, 2002 ▪ Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Berkshire, 1995 with alterations adopted in May 2001 ▪ Waste Local Plan for Berkshire 1998 	The Development Plan for Bracknell comprises the Local Plan, made up of the Core Strategy, the Saved Policies of the Local Plan, the Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Berkshire and the Waste Local Plan for Berkshire.
<p>Wokingham Borough Council</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adopted Core Strategy, 2010 ▪ Adopted Local Plan, 2004, saved policies 	The Development Plan for Wokingham comprises the Adopted Core Strategy and the Adopted Local Plan saved policies.
<p>Royal Borough Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA), 2009. (Currently being updated)</p>	<p>The primary purpose of the SFRA is to determine the variation in flood risk across the Borough. Robust information on flood risk is essential to inform and support the Council's revised flooding policies in its emerging Local Development Framework (LDF). The SFRA provides an overview of all sources of flood risk throughout the Borough, and will inform the preparation of the Local Development Framework and gives essential information for the allocation of land for development. The SFRA also helps to inform future planning decisions, including those made on planning applications.</p> <p>A number of rivers run through The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead including the River Thames and its tributaries, and the River Colne. Flooding represents a risk to both property and life. It is essential therefore that planning decisions are informed, and take due consideration of the risk posed to, and by, future development by flooding.</p>
<p>Thames Basin Heaths Supplementary Planning</p>	The Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area is an international designation covering parts of Berkshire, Hampshire and Surrey. This SPD provides guidance on how the impact of new residential

Relevant Plan/Project	Overview
Document, 2010	developments on the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area may be mitigated against.
River Basin Management Plan Thames River Basin District, 2009	<p>This plan focuses on the protection, improvement and sustainable use of the water environment. Many organisations and individuals help to protect and improve the water environment for the benefit of people and wildlife. River basin management is the approach the Environment Agency is using to ensure combined efforts achieve the improvement needed in the Thames River Basin District.</p> <p>River basin management is a continuous process of planning and delivery. This plan has been prepared under the Water Framework Directive, which requires all countries throughout the European Union to manage the water environment to consistent standards.</p> <p>The plan describes the river basin district, and the pressures that the water environment faces. It shows what this means for the current state of the water environment, and what actions will be taken to address the pressures. It sets out what improvements are possible by 2015 and how the actions will make a difference to the local environment – the catchments, the estuaries and coasts, and the groundwater.</p>
Thames: Catchment Flood Management Plan, 2009	This plan assesses inland flood risk and considers all types of inland flooding, including rivers, ground water, surface water and tidal flooding. The aim is to establish flood risk management policies which will deliver sustainable flood risk management for the long term.

6 Screening

6.1 Context

- 6.1.1 The LFRMS outlines a number of measures that will be adopted to help reduce and manage flood risk in the borough. In most instances these aims are achieved through increased awareness, improved information (both for the public and the governing body) and ability to adapt to flooding events rather than physical changes to the borough's watercourses. There are, however, actions relating to planning permissions, implementation of SuDs and maintenance of ordinary watercourses that have the potential to impact on European Sites.
- 6.1.2 The European Sites included in the screening assessment are identified in Table 4-1 and Table 4-2, and the potential influences are identified in Table 4-3. The screening process has been split into two distinct stages, initial screening and detailed screening. The initial screening stage provides a high level screening 'matrix style' assessment to determine if the LFRMS could possibly lead to significant adverse effects on the European sites. The purpose of this is to eliminate those sites from the assessment which very clearly would not be affected by the strategy in order to focus on those sites where there was potential or uncertainty. The European sites that were identified to be potentially at risk due to potential development associated with the LFRMS were carried forward into a more detailed screening assessment.
- 6.1.3 The sections below outline the initial and detailed screening of the LFRMS for the borough.

6.2 Initial screening of the sub-objectives, local objectives and measures for delivery

- 6.2.1 The initial screening of the LFRMS is presented in Table 6-1 below. The thirty one sub-objectives were initially examined to determine their need for further detailed assessment. The notations below were used to indicate if further detailed assessment is required:
- ✓ Further detailed assessment is required to determine the nature of effects on the European site.
 - × No further assessment is required as no effects are predicted on the European site.

Table 6-1 Initial screening of LFRMS sub-objectives

Objective	Sub-Objectives	European Sites located within the borough			European Sites located within 10km of the borough		
		South West London Waterbodies SPA and Ramsar	Chilton Beechwoods SAC	Windsor Forest and Great Park SAC	Thames Basin Heaths SPA	Burnham Beeches SAC	Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC
1. Develop a clear understanding of flood risk within the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and increase public awareness	A	×	×	×	×	×	×
	B	×	×	×	×	×	×
	C	×	×	×	×	×	×
	D	×	×	×	×	×	×

Objective	Sub-Objectives	European Sites located within the borough			European Sites located within 10km of the borough		
		South West London Waterbodies SPA and Ramsar	Chilton Beechwoods SAC	Windsor Forest and Great Park SAC	Thames Basin Heaths SPA	Burnham Beeches SAC	Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC
2. Establish and maintain effective partnerships with key organisations and local communities, to deliver a sustainable, cost effective approach to flood risk management, that reduces flood risk and delivers wider environmental and social economic benefits where possible	A	x	x	x	x	x	x
	B	x	x	x	x	x	x
	C	x	x	x	x	x	x
	D	x	x	x	x	x	x
3. Ensure that land use planning and application decisions take full account of flood risk, avoiding development in inappropriate locations, minimising and preventing an increase in flood risk wherever possible	A	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
	B	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
	C	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
	D	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
	E	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
4. Develop plans to reduce existing flood risk taking account of people, communities and the environment	A	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
	B	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
	C	✓	✓	✓	x	x	x
	D	x	x	x	x	x	x
	E	x	x	x	x	x	x
5. Ensure that emergency plans and responses to flood incidents are effective and that communities are prepared and resilient to flood risk	A	x	x	x	x	x	x
	B	x	x	x	x	x	x
	C	x	x	x	x	x	x
	D	x	x	x	x	x	x
6. Identify national, regional and local funding mechanisms to deliver flood risk management solutions and schemes	A	x	x	x	x	x	x
	B	x	x	x	x	x	x
	C	x	x	x	x	x	x
	D	x	x	x	x	x	x
	E	x	x	x	x	x	x
7. Work in partnership with the Environment Agency, professional partners, other stakeholders and communities to alleviate flood risk from the River Thames and other main river watercourses	A	x	x	x	x	x	x
	B	x	x	x	x	x	x
	C	x	x	x	x	x	x
	D	x	x	x	x	x	x

- 6.2.2 The following objectives are screened out in all instances. It is considered that they will not cause a physical change to the environment and therefore the integrity of the European Sites will not be affected:
- Objective 1 measures and actions require data collection, knowledge development and improving awareness;
 - Objective 2 measures and actions require working in partnership, discussions at County level and communication;
 - Objective 4, sub objective D measures and actions involve the use of data to identify areas at risk of flooding;
 - Objective 4, sub objective E measures and actions commit the borough to develop a prioritisation process for distribution of funding;
 - Objective 5 measures and actions manage responses to flooding emergencies;
 - Objective 6 measures and actions seek opportunities for funding; and
 - Objective 7 measures and actions commit the borough to work in partnership on main river flood alleviation schemes and the communication of progress locally.
- 6.2.3 With regards to Thames Basin Heaths SPA, Burnham Beeches SAC and Thursley, Ash, Pirbright and Chobham SAC, no hydrological connectivity has been identified (see Table 4-2) and therefore no effects are predicted. As a consequence these sites have been screened out of the remainder of this assessment.

6.3 Detailed screening of the sub-objectives and measures for delivery

- 6.3.1 The detailed screening of the sub-objectives and measures for delivery is presented in Table 6-2 below and is based on the findings of the initial screening exercise.
- 6.3.2 The notations below were used to indicate if the policy should be taken forward to the Appropriate Assessment stage:
- ✓ Appropriate Assessment required
 - × No further assessment required

Table 6-2 Detailed screening of sub-objectives and delivery measures for all relevant European sites

Sub-Objective (inc. Measures for Delivery)	Development and Land Use Change Potential Effects	Avoidance and Mitigation Potential	In-combination Effects Potential	Appropriate Assessment Required? (x/✓)
Objective 3 - Ensure that land use planning and application decisions take full account of flood risk, avoiding development in inappropriate locations, minimising and preventing an increase in flood risk wherever possible				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Develop and apply robust spatial planning policy relating to flood risk from all sources, ensuring that the policy is current, and can easily be taken into account during the planning process ■ Ensure that new strategic development sites consider flood risk on and off site and provide betterment wherever possible ■ Undertake appropriate 	<p>This objective does include measures that have the potential to cause effect to the integrity of the European Sites identified as being hydrologically connected to the borough. However, the LFRMS is not the primary delivery mechanism for these measures. Both the SFRA that identifies suitable sites for</p>	<p>As the measures do not directly deliver development and land use change there is no requirement to introduce mitigation measures. These would be delivered through the planning process.</p>	<p>As the measures do not directly deliver development and land use change there are no in-combination effects predicted.</p>	<p>×</p>

Sub-Objective (inc. Measures for Delivery)	Development and Land Use Change Potential Effects	Avoidance and Mitigation Potential	In-combination Effects Potential	Appropriate Assessment Required? (x/✓)
<p>review and assessment of flood risk implications and drainage provisions of new development as part of the planning process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a procedure to allow the efficient and effective implementation of the SAB and SuDS ▪ Develop a guidance document for SuDS setting out local standards that will be required for SuDS within the borough in addition to the National Standards requirements. 	<p>development and individual planning applications will be subject to HRA and deliver the land use change.</p>			
Objective 4 - Develop plans to reduce existing flood risk taking account of people, communities and the environment				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop and implement a procedure relating to the "designation" of third party assets 	<p>This objective does include measures that have the potential to cause effect to the integrity of the European Sites identified as being hydrologically connected to the borough. However, the LFRMS is not the primary delivery mechanism for these measures. The outcome of this measure will be for the borough to be more efficient at carrying out S.21 of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 that requires the maintenance of a register of third party assets.</p>	<p>As the measures do not directly deliver development and land use change there is no requirement to introduce mitigation measures.</p>	<p>As the measures do not directly deliver development and land use change there are no in-combination effects predicted.</p>	<p>x</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Produce a guidance note on Riparian owners' responsibilities for the maintenance of ordinary watercourses 	<p>The introduction of a guidance/advice note may alter the use or operation of a number of existing or proposed privately owned watercourses and as such, depending on their location, could influence surrounding waterbodies. However as both Chilton Beechwoods SAC and Windsor Forest and Great Park SAC are located upstream of ordinary watercourses, they are unlikely to be affected. Although directly downstream, the South West London</p>	<p>As no impact has been identified for the SACs and SPAs no mitigation measures are necessary.</p>	<p>As no impact has been identified for the SACs and SPAs in-combination effects are not possible.</p>	<p>x</p>

Sub-Objective (inc. Measures for Delivery)	Development and Land Use Change Potential Effects	Avoidance and Mitigation Potential	In-combination Effects Potential	Appropriate Assessment Required? (x/✓)
	Waterbodies SPA and Ramsar is not likely to be affected as it is located adjacent to the River Thames main river that will have affect during a flood incident.			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the Borough's Land Drainage Enforcement policy and implement policy 	This objective does include measures that have the potential to cause effect to the integrity of the European Sites identified as being hydrologically connected to the borough. However, the LFRMS is not the primary delivery mechanism for these measures. The outcome of this measure will be to be more efficient at enforcing S.25 of Land Drainage Act 1991.	As the measures do not directly deliver development and land use change there is no requirement to introduce mitigation measures.	As the measures do not directly deliver development and land use change there are no in-combination effects predicted.	x

6.4 In-Combination Effects

- 6.4.1 The HRA needs to consider not only the sub-objectives and measures for delivery within the LFRMS that may lead to significant impacts upon European sites on their own but also those that may have a significant impact in-combination with other plans and projects. These may be spatial planning documents produced by the neighbouring authorities, major developments anticipated within the county or other flood risk management plans that cover the borough. Table 5-1 outlines relevant plans and projects that were considered in-combination with the LFRMS.
- 6.4.2 The information within Table 6-2 identifies that the LFRMS is not likely to result in any significant adverse effects upon the European sites identified. Furthermore, it has been determined that the LFRMS will have zero effects upon these sites (not merely no significant effects) and as such it would therefore not be possible to result in an in-combination effect with any other plans or projects.

6.5 Screening Summary / Recommendations

- 6.5.1 From undertaking the detailed screening of the sub-objectives and measures for delivery, as indicated in Table 6-2, none of the objectives and sub-objectives identified within the LFRMS will result in an effect upon any of the European designated sites.
- 6.5.2 Although there are six European Sites within the study area, only three of them were identified as potentially having hydrological connectivity. However, most of the objectives and sub-objectives detailed within the LFRMS are associated more with management and setting up of procedures within the borough rather than tangible activities on the ground within the borough. As such many of the objectives will not impact upon watercourses unless they occur within subsequent documents resulting from the LFRMS, for example planning applications or enforcement notices. As such the LFRMS will have no effect on European designated sites.

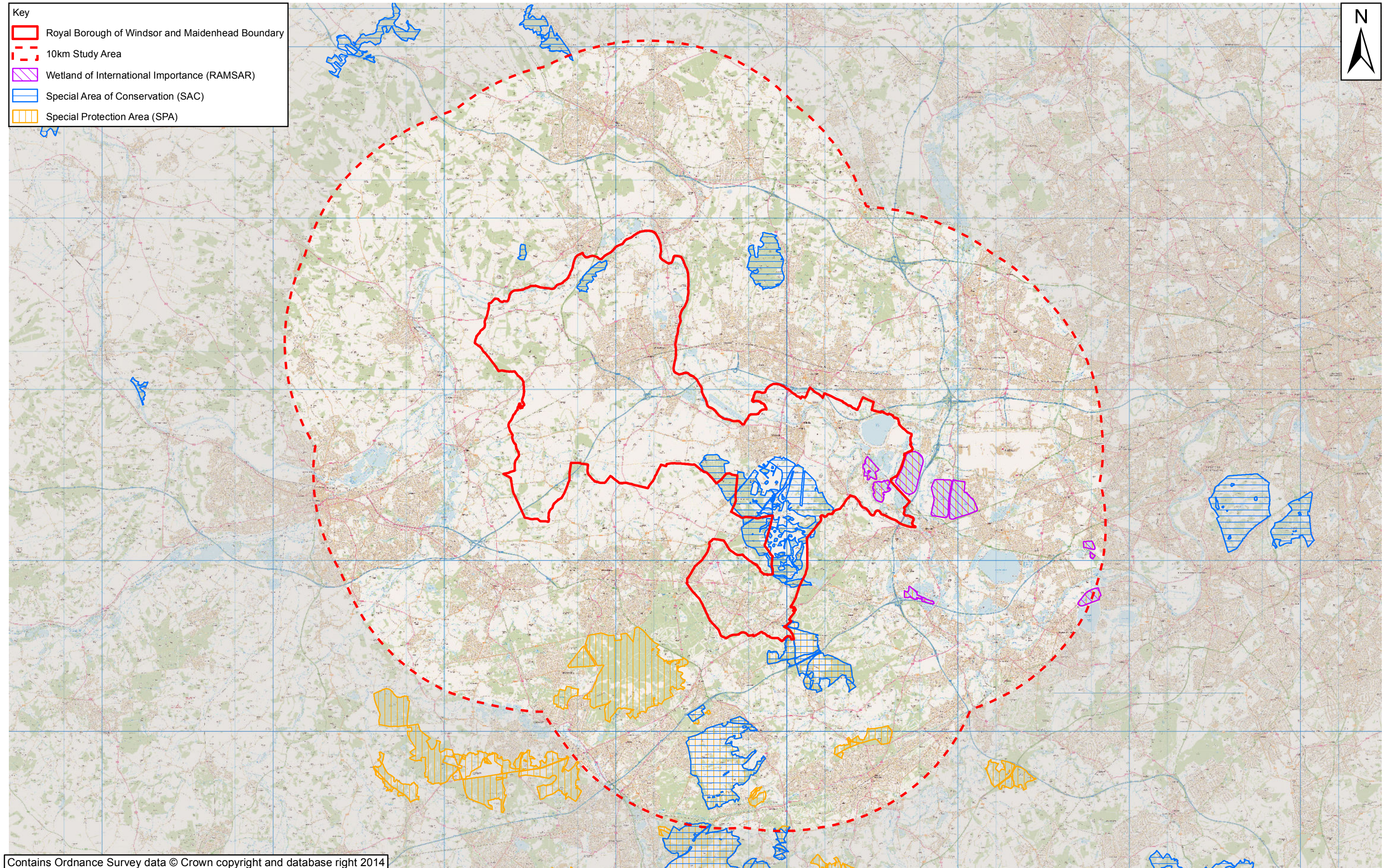
7 Conclusions

- 7.1.1 It has been concluded that the RBWM LFRMS is unlikely to have any significant effects on the European sites identified, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects.
- 7.1.2 In view of the findings of this HRA Screening Report it is not proposed to undertake Appropriate Assessment. Natural England's opinion and agreement or otherwise is sought with this conclusion.

Figures

Figure 4.1 – Habitats Directive Sites

Scale @ A3 : 185,000



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