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# Yorkshire Green Energy Enablement (GREEN) Project

**Volume 5**

**Document 5.3.8A ES Chapter 8 Appendix 8A - Scoping of  
Assessment Summary**

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## Version history

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Date	Version	Status	Description/changes
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# 8A. Scoping of Assessment - Summary

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# Appendix 5.3.8A

## Scoping of Assessment - Summary

- 1.1.1 This appendix provides the rationale for the scope of the assessment and comprises two tables. **Table 8A.1** describes and justifies the level of importance assigned to the ecological features identified during the data gathering exercise carried out to inform this assessment. **Table 8A.2** determines and justifies whether those ecological features require further assessment as they have either sufficient legal protection for a breach in legislation to occur or are of sufficient importance that a significant effect may occur as a result of the Project.
- 1.1.2 Within **Table 8A.1**, consideration is given to both the importance of ecological features based on legislation and policy and importance with regard to the Project (see **Chapter 8 Biodiversity, Volume 5, Document 5.2.8 - Section 8.7**). The justification provided for the decision to scope in or out each ecological feature is based on information on its status both with regard to the Project, and the local, county, regional, national or international context, where available.

**Table 8A.1 - Importance of ecological features**

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
Lower Derwent Valley Special Protection Area (SPA)	International	International	The site lies within the 20km area of search for European Sites with mobile bird features and is therefore of International importance with regards to the Project.	N
Lower Derwent Valley Ramsar Site	International	International	The site lies within the 20km area of search for European Sites with mobile bird features and is therefore of International importance with regards to the Project.	N

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) located within 2km of the Order Limits: Madbanks and Ledsham Banks SSSI Sherburn Willows SSSI Fairburn and Newton Ings SSSI Clifton Ings and Rawcliffe Meadows SSSI Stutton Ings SSSI	National	National	These SSSIs support a range of species and habitats. As a precautionary measure all are considered to be of National importance with regards to the Project.	N
SSSIs with ornithological interest features located between 2km and 10km from the Order Limits <sup>1</sup> : Heslington Tillmire SSSI River Derwent SSSI Derwent Ings SSSI Melbourne and Thornton Ings SSSI	National	National	These SSSIs support a range of species and habitats but have been included in a wider area of search in view of their mobile ornithological interest features. As a precautionary measure all are considered to be of National importance with regards to the Project.	N
All non-statutory biodiversity sites within 2km of the Order Limits (Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs), Sites of	County	County	These sites support a range of species and habitats. As a precautionary measure all are	N

<sup>1</sup> SSSIs with ornithological interest located closer than 2km to the Order Limits are included in the ‘SSSIs located within 2km of the Order Limits’ in view of their additional non-ornithological interest features.



<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
Ecological Interest (SEIs), Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs), candidate Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (cSINCs) and deleted SINCs) and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT) and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) reserves as noted in Appendix 8.C Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Report			considered to be of County <sup>2</sup> importance in with regards to the Project.	
Broadleaved semi-natural woodland	National	County	Small parcels of broadleaved semi-natural woodland are scattered throughout the Order Limits. As a precaution, all broadleaved semi-natural woodland is considered to qualify as lowland mixed deciduous woodland Habitats of Principal Importance (HPI) and is therefore of County importance with regards to the Project.	N
Plantation woodland - traditional orchards	National	County	Two parcels of HPI traditional orchard were recorded during the desk study within the Order Limits. However, there was no evidence of	N

<sup>2</sup> Deleted SINCs are included on a precautionary basis as although they no longer qualify against the SINC selection guidelines following the most recent botanical survey and assessment process, they may still have value for wildlife, and it may be possible to enhance deleted SINCs with appropriate management to return the site condition to a level which meets the SINC qualifying criteria (as stated by North & East Yorkshire Ecological Data Centre, data search 08 July 2021).

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
			either being present during the extended Phase 1 habitat survey/review of recent aerial imagery with recorded habitat now dominated by amenity/poor semi-improved grassland and tall ruderal. As a precautionary measure due to HPI status of traditional orchard habitat and limited access at one parcel, traditional orchards are all considered to be of County importance with regards to the Project.	
Plantation woodland - mixed	Local	Local	Parcels of mixed plantation woodland are scattered throughout the Order Limits. This habitat is common and widespread and is therefore of Local importance with regards to the Project.	Y
Plantation woodland - broadleaved	Local	Local	Parcels of broadleaved plantation woodland are scattered throughout the Order Limits. This habitat is common and widespread and is therefore of Local importance with regards to the Project.	Y
Plantation woodland - coniferous	Local	Local	Small parcels of coniferous plantation woodland are scattered throughout the Order Limits. This habitat is common and widespread and is therefore of Local importance with regards to the Project.	Y
Ancient and semi-ancient woodland/ Ancient replanted woodland and veteran trees	National	National	A small portion (approximately 0.04ha) of ancient woodland (Huddleston Old Wood) lies within the Order Limits, with additional ancient woodland adjacent to the Order Limits. Ancient woodland/veteran trees are considered	N

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
			irreplaceable habitats and are therefore of National importance with regards to the Project.	
Semi-improved grassland – neutral	County	Local	Aside from grassland within SINCs (which is assessed as part of the SINCs), a small number of parcels of moderately diverse neutral semi-improved grassland are scattered throughout the Order Limits. This habitat is considered common and widespread and is therefore of Local importance with regards to the Project.	Y
Marshy grassland	National	Negligible	Marshy grassland includes purple moor grass and rush pastures HPI. However, marshy grassland (not HPI) is present only within Overton Borrow Pit SINC and is assessed separately as part of the SINC. As it is absent from the rest of the land within the Order Limits it is therefore of Negligible importance with regards to the Project.	Y
Hedgerows	National	County	Hedgerows are common throughout land within the Order Limits with a mix of species-rich and species-poor hedgerows, intact and defunct hedgerows, and hedgerows with trees, all with varying levels of management. All native hedgerows over 20m in length, both species-rich and species-poor, are defined as HPI. As a precautionary measure it is therefore assumed that all hedgerows within the Order Limits would qualify as HPI and are of County importance with regards to the Project.	N

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
Standing water (ponds and wet ditches)	National	County	Numerous ponds and wet ditches holding standing water are present throughout the Order Limits. As a precautionary measure it is assumed that all ponds within the Order Limits would qualify as HPI and that standing water is of County importance with regards to the Project.	N
Running water (rivers, streams and ditches)	National	County	Aside from the River Ouse (which is assessed separately as the River Ouse candidate SINC), several watercourses bisect the area within the Order Limits including tributaries of the River Ouse, the River Wharfe and Cock Beck, along with a number of ditches with running water. None of the rivers within the Order Limits are classed as HPI. However, although only short stretches of most watercourses are present within the Order Limits (relative to their entire lengths), given their value as connective habitat between up and downstream reaches, running water is considered to be of County importance with regards to the Project.	N
Common and widespread habitats: Amenity grassland, improved grassland, poor semi-improved grassland, tall ruderal, arable, dry ditch, ephemeral/short perennial, introduced	Local to negligible	Local to negligible	These habitats are scattered across land within the Order Limits. These habitats are common and widespread and are therefore of Local to negligible importance with regards to the Project	Y

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
shrub, scattered trees, scrub (dense and scattered), buildings, hardstanding, bare ground, fences				
Lowland fen	National	Negligible	The desk study identified a small parcel of lowland fen HPI within the Order Limits at Overton Borrow Pits SINC, however it was found to be degraded during survey and is considered separately as part of the SINC. As it is absent from the rest of the land within the Order Limits it is therefore of Negligible importance with regards to the Project.	Y
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	National	County	The desk study identified coastal and floodplain grazing marsh HPI at two locations within the Order Limits. One location was found to be arable during the extended Phase 1 habitat survey. The other location comprised a partially mowed field located within flood zone 3 of the River Wharfe floodplain Environment Agency flood map <sup>3</sup> ; historic aerial imagery shows livestock present on the land <sup>4</sup> . As a precautionary measure it is therefore assumed that the habitat would qualify as HPI and is of County importance with regards to the Project.	N

<sup>3</sup> Environment Agency (2022). Get flood risk information for planning in England (online). Available at: <https://flood-map-for-planning.service.gov.uk/> (Accessed 13 July 2022)

<sup>4</sup> Google (2022). Google Earth (online). (Accessed on 13 July 2022).

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
Arable field margins	National	County	The extended Phase 1 habitat survey identified the majority of arable margins are unlikely to qualify as HPI due to being narrow and species-poor, although there are a small number of wider margins that are likely to qualify. As a precautionary measure it is therefore assumed that the habitat is of County importance with regards to the Project.	N
Open mosaic habitats on previously developed land (draft)	National	Negligible	The desk study identified open mosaic habitats on previously developed land (draft) HPI approximately 18m south-east of the Order Limits at Jackdaw Quarry. As it is absent from the rest of the land within the Order Limits it is therefore of Negligible importance with regards to the Project.	Y
Lowland calcareous grassland	National	Negligible	The desk study identified lowland calcareous grassland HPI within the Study Area. However, it was not recorded within the Order Limits during the extended Phase 1 habitat survey and is therefore of Negligible importance with regards to the Project.	Y
Wood pasture and parkland	National	Negligible	The desk study identified wood pasture and parkland HPI within the Study Area. However, it was not recorded within the Order Limits during the extended Phase 1 habitat survey and is therefore of Negligible importance with regards to the Project.	Y

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
Dormice	National	Negligible	Dormice have been scoped out of the assessment due to the location of the Project being outside their known geographical range, lack of suitable connective habitat to the nearest known populations and lack of desk study records within the Study Area.	Y
Bats	International	County	In total, at least eight species of bat were confirmed within the survey area during all surveys: common pipistrelle, soprano pipistrelle, <i>Myotis</i> species, noctule, Leisler’s bat, brown long-eared, serotine and Nathusius pipistrelle. No bat roosts have been recorded within the Order Limits and survey results suggest the bat assemblage recorded is typical of the county. The dominant habitat type throughout the Order Limits is arable land which are of low value in terms of the foraging and commuting opportunities. Results indicate treelines, hedgerows and ditches which bound arable fields provide foraging and commuting opportunities for bats within this arable landscape although only a low number of these features recorded higher levels of activity indicating a greater value to local bat populations. As a precautionary measure it is therefore assumed that the bat assemblage is	N

Ecological Feature	Importance – Legislation and Policy	Importance – Project	Justification	Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)
			of County importance <sup>5</sup> with regards to the Project.	
Great crested newt	International	County	One hundred and thirty-seven ponds and 38 ditches within 250m of the Order Limits are potentially suitable for great crested newts. As a District Level Licencing (DLL) approach to great crested newts has been confirmed for the Project, detailed surveys for great crested newts are not required to inform the assessment. However, as the majority of ponds identified within 250m of the Order Limits fall within the amber zone <sup>6</sup> for Natural England’s DLL scheme, as a precautionary measure it is therefore assumed that great crested newts are of County importance with regards to the Project.	N
Otter	International	Local	Evidence of otter has been recorded within the Order Limits at numerous locations indicating use of the network of watercourses and ditches which bisect the Order Limits for foraging, commuting and resting. In recent years otters have become more widespread and common and habitat within the Order Limits is likely to form a relatively small part of individual otter	N

<sup>5</sup> The value of bat commuting, and foraging areas has been informed by Wray et al (2010). Valuing Bats in Ecological Impact Assessment, IEEM In Practice v.70, p 23-25. (Online) Available at: [REDACTED] (Accessed October 2022).

<sup>6</sup> Natural England define ‘amber zones’ within the DLL scheme as those areas which contain suitable habitat and great crested newts are likely to be present (pers. comm. Alex Jackson (Natural England) and Jo Mosley (Wood) 28 July 2021).



<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
			home ranges. Therefore, otter is of local importance with regards to the Project.	
Water vole	National	Local	No conclusive evidence of water vole has been recorded within the Order Limits. Further to this, mink (a key predator of water vole) is known to be present within the locale and the desk study returned only three records of water vole within 2km of the Order Limits, with the closest being over 0.5km away. However, although it is considered unlikely that water vole are present within the Order Limits, this is a mobile species which can repopulate temporarily unoccupied watercourses/ditches and there is potential for small remnant populations to remain undetected in ditches within the Order Limits to which access has not been possible. As a precautionary measure, it is therefore assumed that water vole are of Local importance with regards to the Project.	N
Reptiles	National	Local	Suitable reptile habitat within the Order Limits is limited to arable field margins, hedgerows, grassland, dense scrub and a network of ditches. The desk study returned one reptile record (grass snake) within 2km of (but outwith) the Order Limits. As a precautionary measure, it is therefore assumed that reptiles are of Local importance with regards to the Project.	N
Badger	National	Local	Four well-used setts and two potential setts are present within the Order Limits, with a further	N

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
			three setts on the Order Limits boundary. Badgers are common and widespread, and are therefore of local importance with regards to the Project.	
White-clawed crayfish	National	Negligible	Although one record of white-clawed crayfish was obtained in the Study Area, this is approximately 1.47km outside the Order Limits and from a tributary of the River Wharfe which is dominated by signal crayfish within and upstream of the Order Limits.	Y
Species of Principal Importance (SPI) and other conservation-notable species – mammals	National	Local	These species are widespread and numerous, although there have been large declines in the national population. Records of brown hare, harvest mouse and hedgehog are present in the Study Area (but outside the Order Limits), while a number of brown hare have been recorded within the Order Limits during the extended Phase 1 habitat surveys. It is therefore assumed that SPI and other conservation-notable mammals are of Local importance with regards to the Project.	N
SPI and other conservation-notable species – amphibians	National	Local	These species are widespread and numerous, although there have been large declines in the national population. Records of common toad are present in the Study Area, while a dead common toad was recorded within the Order Limits during the extended Phase 1 habitat surveys. It is therefore assumed that SPI and	N

Ecological Feature	Importance – Legislation and Policy	Importance – Project	Justification	Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)
			other conservation-notable amphibians are of Local importance with regards to the Project.	
SPI and other protected or conservation-notable species – fish	International to Local	County	Records of three fish SPI (brown/sea trout, sea lamprey, and European eel), a further two protected species (barbel ( <i>Barbus barbus</i> ) and grayling ( <i>Thymallus thymallus</i> )) and one conservation-notable species (bullhead ( <i>Cottus gobio</i> )) are present within the Study Area. In addition, the River Ouse candidate SINC designation also includes Atlantic salmon and river lamprey (both SPI). In view of the potential role that the short stretches of watercourses within the Order Limits may play in providing connectivity between upstream and downstream habitats for fish populations (in particular connectivity to upstream spawning habitat for some species), as a precautionary measure, it is therefore assumed that SPI and other protected or conservation-notable fish are of County importance with regards to the Project.	N
SPI and other conservation-notable species – invertebrates	International to Local	National to Local	Records of nine species of terrestrial invertebrates and two species of aquatic invertebrates are present within the Study Area, though only tansy beetle which is an SPI has been recorded within the Order Limits. Riparian habitat adjacent to the River Ouse containing the tansy plant is one of only two known locations in the UK to support the tansy beetle. As a precautionary measure, it is therefore	N

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Importance – Legislation and Policy</b>	<b>Importance – Project</b>	<b>Justification</b>	<b>Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)</b>
			<p>assumed that tansy beetle is of National importance with regards to the Project.</p> <p>In view of the lack of records, dominance of arable habitat and limited connectivity, and small size of suitable habitat patches within the Order Limits, as a precautionary measure other invertebrate species are considered to be of Local importance with regards to the Project.</p>	
SPI and other protected/ conservation-notable species – plants	International to Local	Local	<p>Records of 32 protected and other conservation-notable plant species are present within the Study Area, though none within the Order Limits. Occasional bluebell, cowslip and crosswort (all SPI) have been recorded during the extended Phase 1 habitat survey.</p> <p>In view of the lack of a lack of records, dominance of arable habitat, and small size of suitable habitat patches within the Order Limits, as a precautionary measure, conservation-notable plant species are considered to be of Local importance with regards to the Project.</p>	N
Breeding birds (non-Schedule 1 species)	National	County	<p>A range of species including those that qualify as SPI and those listed on the Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) red and amber lists have been recorded. As a precautionary measure all are considered to be of County importance with regards to the Project.</p>	N
Breeding Birds (Schedule 1 species)	National	National	<p>A number of species listed under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) have been historically recorded in the</p>	N

Ecological Feature	Importance – Legislation and Policy	Importance – Project	Justification	Scoped out of Assessment (Y/N)
			area of search and due to their legal protection are considered to be of National importance with regards to the Project.	
Wintering & Passage birds	National	County	A range of species including those that qualify as SPI and those listed on the Birds of Conservation Concern (BoCC) red and amber lists have been recorded.  As a precautionary measure all are considered to be of County importance with regards to the Project.	N
Invasive non-native plant species (INNS)	National	N/A	It is illegal to cause the spread of invasive non-native species in the wild in accordance with the Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981 as amended). The risk of spreading non-native invasive plant species across and beyond the Order Limits from construction or operational activities associated with the Project will be controlled via the implementation of embedded environmental measures ( <b>2 – Standard best practice</b> ; and <b>10 – Management if INNS</b> ).	Y

1.1.3 For those ecological features that remain scoped in following the process as described in **Table 8A.1**, the following are provided in **Table 8A.2**: description of the potential environmental change and associated effect; a description of the Zone of Influence (Zol) for each ecological feature; justification of the decision to scope in or out each ecological feature based on the likely scale of the potential effect taking into account embedded environmental measures (see **Table 8.11, Chapter 8: Biodiversity, Volume 5, Document 5.2.8**) that mitigate the effect and relevant information on the feature’s status within the local, county, regional, national or international context where that is available. For the purpose of this assessment all habitats of County or greater importance and all species of Local or greater importance are scoped into the assessment, along with any additional species which are legally protected.

**Table 8A.2 – Scoping of ecological features of sufficient importance and those receiving legal protection**

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Environmental Change<sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect</b>	<b>Zone of Influence<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>Scoped Out (Y/N)</b>	<b>Justification</b>
Lower Derwent Valley SPA	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	Surveys in February and March 2021 indicated that two species which are also qualifying features of Lower Derwent Valley SPA, wintering golden plover (single flock of 29) and teal (single bird recorded in flight), were recorded within the Order Limits to the north-west of York, approximately 15km to the north-west of the SPA. However, it is unlikely that these individuals originated from the SPA given that there is no published evidence that indicates the distance between the SPA and the Order Limits is within that home range distance associated with typical daily commuting distances for these species. This is further supported by the presence of a major urban area (York) which these species would be unlikely to regularly and preferentially cross whilst suitable habitats are available within the SPA and its functionally linked land. It is therefore

<sup>7</sup> Consideration of increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels is not relevant for any habitats and therefore has not been included as an environmental change for any habitats listed in **Table 8A.2**.

<sup>8</sup> The approach to determining the Zol for each for each environmental change with respect to each ecological feature is described in **Section 8.7, Chapter 8: Biodiversity, Volume 5, Document 5.2.8**.

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				considered that there is no connectivity between the SPA and land within the Order Limits, and as such land within the Order Limits does not represent functionally linked land (FLL). Therefore, land within the Order Limits is considered to be of negligible importance for the qualifying features of the SPA and no pathways exist for any potential significant effects on the SPA.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/ operational works	Y	Justification is as for permanent or temporary land take/land use change
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance and/or displacement)	Up to 500m from the construction works for sensitive species	Y	Justification is as for permanent or temporary land take/land use change
Lower Derwent Valley Ramsar Site	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	<p>Surveys in February and March 2021 indicated that a single species which is also a qualifying feature of the Ramsar Site, (wintering teal, a single bird recorded in flight), had been recorded within the Order Limits to the north-west of York, approximately 15km to the north-west of the Ramsar Site.</p> <p>It is unlikely that this individual originates from the Ramsar Site</p>

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				<p>given that there is no published evidence that indicates the distance between the Ramsar Site and the Order Limits is within that home range distance associated with typical daily commuting distances for this species and it would be unlikely to travel across such a distance whilst suitable habitats are available within the Ramsar Site and any functionally linked land.</p> <p>It is considered that there is no connectivity between the Ramsar Site and land within the Order Limits and as such land within the Order Limits does not represent any functionally linked habitat to the Ramsar Site.</p> <p>Therefore, land within the Order Limits is considered to be of negligible importance for the qualifying criterion features of the Lower Derwent Valley Ramsar Site and no pathways exist for any potential significant effects on the Ramsar Site.</p>
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works.	Y	Justification is as for permanent or temporary land take/land use change



<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Environmental Change<sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect</b>	<b>Zone of Influence<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>Scoped Out (Y/N)</b>	<b>Justification</b>
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance and/or displacement)	Up to 500m from the construction works for sensitive species	Y	Justification is as for permanent or temporary land take/land use change
SSSIs located within 2km of the Order Limits: Sherburn Willows SSSI Madbanks and Ledsham Banks SSSI Fairburn and Newton Ings SSSI Stutton Ings SSSI	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	<p>None of these SSSIs are located within the Zol (the closest being Sherburn Willows SSSI located approximately 650m south-east). Therefore, there is no pathway for a significant effect on sedentary cited features.</p> <p>The Zol falls outside the range of mobile cited features associated with these SSSIs and/or no sightings of any cited features were recorded during survey work and/or no suitable foraging habitat falls within the Zol, and there is no pathway for a significant effect.</p>
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	<p>None of these SSSIs are located within the Zol. Therefore, there is no pathway for a significant effect on sedentary cited features.</p> <p>The Zol falls outside the range of mobile cited features associated with these SSSIs and/or no sightings of any cited features were recorded during survey work and/or no suitable foraging habitat falls within</p>

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				the Zol, and there is no pathway for a significant effect.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	Up to 500m from the construction works for sensitive species	Y	None of these SSSIs are located within the Zol. The Zol falls outside the range of mobile cited features associated with these SSSIs and/or no sightings of any cited features were recorded during survey work and/or no suitable foraging habitat falls within the Zol, and there is no pathway for a significant effect.
SSSIs with ornithological interest features located between 2km and 10km of the Order Limits: Heslington Tillmire SSSI River Derwent SSSI Derwent Ings SSSI Melbourne and Thornton Ings SSSI	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	Bird species that are also cited features may occasionally use land within the Zol (which may be temporarily lost/degraded) for foraging. However, this land is not considered to be functionally linked to the SSSI and embedded environmental measures <sup>9</sup> (2 – <b>Standard best practice</b> ; 3 – <b>Minimise land take and micro-site</b> ; 5 - <b>Sensitive vegetation removal</b> ; 6 – <b>maintaining habitat connectivity</b> ; 8 – <b>Sensitive tree management for electrical safety clearance</b> ; 9 – <b>Protection of retained habitats</b> ; and 11 - <b>Habitat reinstatement</b> )

<sup>9</sup> Embedded environmental measures correspond to the numbered measures in **Table 8.11, Chapter 8: Biodiversity, Volume 5, Document 5.2.8.**

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				would minimise any effects; as such there is no pathway for any significant effect on the SSSIs and their interest features.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	Bird species that are also cited features (as listed in <b>Table 2.2, Appendix 8B, Chapter 8: Biodiversity, Volume 5, Document 5.2.8B</b> ) may occasionally use land within the Zol (which may be temporarily lost/degraded) for foraging. However, this land is not considered to be functionally linked to the SSSI and embedded environmental measures ( <b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; 5 - Sensitive vegetation removal; 6 – maintaining habitat connectivity; 8 – Sensitive tree management for electrical safety clearance; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; and 11 - Habitat reinstatement</b> ) would minimise any effects; as such there is no pathway for significant effect on the SSSIs or their interest features.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels	Up to 500m from the construction works for sensitive species	Y	Bird species that are also cited features (as listed in <b>Table 2.2, Appendix 8B, Chapter 8:</b>

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
	(resulting in disturbance/displacement)			<b>Biodiversity, Volume 5, Document 5.2.8B)</b> may occasionally use land within the Zol (which may be temporarily lost/degraded) for foraging. However, this land is not considered to be functionally linked to the SSSI and embedded environmental measures ( <b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; and 14 – Sensitive lighting design</b> ) would minimise any effects; as such there is no pathway for significant effect on the SSSIs or their interest features.
Overton Borrowpits SINC; Field nr Healaugh Manor Farm deleted SINC; Disused Quarry, Newthorpe deleted SINC	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Features are within the Zol
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Features are within the Zol
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	Up to 500m from the construction works for sensitive species	Y	Cited features for all sites include solely vegetation communities, and no faunal species that could be affected by the environmental change.

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Environmental Change<sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect</b>	<b>Zone of Influence<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>Scoped Out (Y/N)</b>	<b>Justification</b>
River Ouse candidate SINC	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	Up to 500m from the construction works for sensitive species	N	Disturbance/displacement effects are scoped in as a precaution due to the potential for sensitive faunal species to be affected by the environmental change.
All other non-statutory biodiversity sites within 2km of the Order Limits (LWSs, SEIs, SINCS, cSINCS, deleted SINCS) and YWT and RSPB reserves as noted in <b>Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Report, Volume 5, Document 5.3.8B</b>	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	None of these sites are located within the Zol or include mobile species that could be significantly affected by the environmental change. Therefore, there is no pathway for a significant effect on these sites.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	None of these sites are located within the Zol or include mobile species that could be significantly affected by the environmental

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				change. Therefore, there is no pathway for a significant effect on these sites.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	Up to 500m from the construction works for sensitive species	Y	<p>Common pipistrelle and brown long-eared bats utilise bat boxes within Moorlands YWT which is located ~440m south-west from the Order Limits. The only proposed works within the 500m ZoI entail minor siding of trees along an existing access road for which embedded environmental measures (<b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; and 14 – Sensitive lighting design</b>) would reduce the extent of any effects. The ZoI for this environmental change specifically relating to bats (as an individual feature) is up to 100m (see <b>Bats</b> below). Therefore, there is no pathway for a significant effect on bats at this site.</p> <p>None of the other sites are located within the ZoI or include mobile species that could be significantly affected by the environmental change. Therefore, there is no pathway for a significant effect on these sites.</p>

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Environmental Change<sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect</b>	<b>Zone of Influence<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>Scoped Out (Y/N)</b>	<b>Justification</b>
Broadleaved semi-natural woodland	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Habitat is not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.
Plantation woodland – traditional orchards	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	Feature is not within the Zol. Therefore, there is no pathway for a significant effect on this habitat.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	Feature is not within the Zol. Therefore, there is no pathway for a significant effect on this habitat.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Habitat is not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.
Ancient and semi ancient woodland/ Ancient	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or	Approximately 15x the diameter of the trunk or 2m beyond the canopy	N	Feature is within the Zol

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Environmental Change<sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect</b>	<b>Zone of Influence<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>Scoped Out (Y/N)</b>	<b>Justification</b>
replanted woodland and veteran trees	degradation and/or loss of fauna)	(whichever is the greater) from the construction/operational works		
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	The Project will only impact a small corner of Huddleston Old Wood which would not result in fragmentation.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Habitat is not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.
Hedgerows	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Habitat is not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.
Standing water (ponds and wet ditches)	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol



<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Environmental Change<sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect</b>	<b>Zone of Influence<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>Scoped Out (Y/N)</b>	<b>Justification</b>
	degradation and/or loss of fauna)			
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Habitat is not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.
Running water (river, streams and ditches)	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Habitat is not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.
Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol

<b>Ecological Feature</b>	<b>Environmental Change<sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect</b>	<b>Zone of Influence<sup>8</sup></b>	<b>Scoped Out (Y/N)</b>	<b>Justification</b>
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Habitat is not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.
Arable field margins	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Habitat is not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.
Bats (all species)	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Up to ~4km from the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol.

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	Up to ~100m from the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol.
Great crested newt	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Up to ~250m from the construction/operational works	N	Great crested newt may use suitable habitat present within the Order Limits for commuting, foraging, refuging, hibernating and breeding. Targeted great crested newt surveys have not been undertaken due District Level Licensing with respect to this species being embedded ( <b>2 – Standard best practice</b> ; and <b>16 – Protected species licences</b> ) into the Project design. However, great crested newt remain scoped into the assessment process in line with Natural England advice <sup>10</sup> .
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Up to ~250m from the construction/operational works	N	Great crested newt may use suitable habitat present within the Order Limits for commuting, foraging, refuging, hibernating and breeding. Targeted great crested newt surveys have not been undertaken due

<sup>10</sup> Natural England and DEFRA (2022). Great crested newts: district level licensing schemes for developers and ecologists (online). Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/great-crested-newts-district-level-licensing-schemes-for-developers> (Accessed 02 September 2022).

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				District Level Licensing with respect to this species being embedded ( <b>2 – Standard best practice</b> ; and <b>16 – Protected species licences</b> ) into the Project design. However, great crested newt remain scoped into the assessment process in line with Natural England advice.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Great crested newt are not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.
Otter	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Up to ~200m from the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	Up to ~200m from the construction/operational works	N	Feature is within the Zol.
Water vole	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or	Within the construction/operational works	N	No conclusive evidence of water vole has been recorded within the Order Limits. However, although it is considered unlikely that water vole

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
	degradation and/or loss of fauna)			are present within the Order Limits, this is a mobile species which can repopulate temporarily unoccupied watercourses/ditches and there is potential for small remnant populations to remain undetected in ditches within the Order Limits to which access has not been possible. Therefore, they are scoped in on a precautionary basis in view of their importance and due to their legal protection.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Up to ~500m upstream and downstream from the construction/operational works within a watercourse	N	No conclusive evidence of water vole has been recorded within the Order Limits. However, although it is considered unlikely that water vole are present within the Order Limits, this is a mobile species which can repopulate temporarily unoccupied watercourses/ditches and there is potential for small remnant populations to remain undetected in ditches within the Order Limits to which access has not been possible. Therefore, they are scoped in on a precautionary basis in view of their importance and due to their legal protection.

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	Minimum of ~5m from the construction/operational works	N	No conclusive evidence of water vole has been recorded within the Order Limits. However, although it is considered unlikely that water vole are present within the Order Limits, this is a mobile species which can repopulate temporarily unoccupied watercourses/ditches and there is potential for small remnant populations to remain undetected in ditches within the Order Limits to which access has not been possible. Therefore, they are scoped in on a precautionary basis in view of their importance and due to their legal protection.
Reptiles	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Based on desk study records and results of the extended Phase 1 habitat survey, reptiles may be present in low numbers in the limited areas of suitable habitat present within the Order Limits. Although embedded environmental Measures (2 – <b>Standard best practice</b> ; 3 – <b>Minimise land take and micro-site</b> ; 5 – <b>Sensitive vegetation removal</b> ; 6 – <b>Maintaining habitat connectivity</b> ; 9 – <b>Protection of retained habitats</b> ; 11 – <b>Habitat reinstatement</b> ; and 12

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				– <b>Sensitive access and enabling works</b> ) would minimise the potential for effects on reptiles, they are scoped in on a precautionary basis due to their importance and legal protection.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Up to ~50m from the construction/operational works	N	Based on desk study records and results of the extended Phase 1 habitat survey, reptiles may be present in low numbers in the limited areas of suitable habitat present within the Order Limits. Although embedded environmental measures ( <b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; 5 – Sensitive vegetation removal; 6 – Maintaining habitat connectivity; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; 11 – Habitat reinstatement; and 12 – Sensitive access and enabling works</b> ) would minimise the potential for effects on reptiles, they are scoped in on a precautionary basis due to their importance and legal protection.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Reptiles are not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
Badger	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	~30m from the construction/operational works	N	Feature is present within the Zol.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	~30m from the construction/operational works	N	Feature is present within the Zol.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	Up to ~30m from the construction/operational works	N	Feature is present within the Zol.
SPI and other protected or conservation-notable species – fish	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Based on desk study records and results of the extended Phase 1 habitat survey, fish species may use suitable watercourses present within the Order Limits. Although embedded environmental measures ( <b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; 6 – Maintaining habitat connectivity; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; 12 – Sensitive access and enabling works; and 13 – Protection of aquatic features</b> ) would minimise the potential for effects on fish, they are scoped in on a precautionary basis due to their importance.



Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Based on desk study records and results of the extended Phase 1 habitat survey, fish species may use suitable watercourses present within the Order Limits. Although embedded environmental measures ( <b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; 6 – Maintaining habitat connectivity; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; 12 – Sensitive access and enabling works; and 13 – Protection of aquatic features</b> ) would minimise the potential for effects on fish, they are scoped in on a precautionary basis due to their importance.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Based on desk study records and results of the extended Phase 1 habitat survey, fish species may use suitable watercourses present within the Order Limits. Although embedded environmental measures would minimise the potential for effects on fish, they are scoped in on a precautionary basis due to their importance.
SPI and other conservation-notable species – invertebrates	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	Feature is present within the ZOI based on desk study results. SPI tansy beetle has been recorded on

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
	degradation and/or loss of fauna)			<p>its food plant (tansy) adjacent to the River Ouse (one of only two known UK locations). Although embedded environmental measures (<b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; 6 – Maintaining habitat connectivity; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; 11 – Habitat reinstatement; and 13 – Protection of aquatic features</b>) would minimise the potential for effects on tansy beetle, it is scoped in on a precautionary basis due to its importance.</p> <p>In view of the limited availability of suitable habitat for important assemblages of other SPI or conservation-notable invertebrates, they are scoped out of further assessment.</p>
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	N	<p>Feature is present within the Zol based on desk study results. SPI tansy beetle has been recorded on its food plant (tansy) adjacent to the River Ouse (one of only two known UK locations). Although embedded environmental measures (<b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site;</b></p>

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				<p><b>6 – Maintaining habitat connectivity; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; 11 – Habitat reinstatement; and 13 – Protection of aquatic features</b>) would minimise the potential for effects on tansy beetle, it is scoped in on a precautionary basis due to its importance.</p> <p>In view of the limited availability of suitable habitat for important assemblages of other SPI or conservation-notable invertebrates, they are scoped out of further assessment.</p>
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	<p>Tansy beetle is not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.</p> <p>In view of the limited availability of suitable habitat for important assemblages of other SPI or conservation-notable invertebrates, they are scoped out of further assessment.</p>
SPI and other protected/conservation-notable species – plants	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	In view of the absence of records of SPI and protected/conservation-notable plants within the Order Limits, dominance of arable habitat and limited connectivity and small size of suitable habitat patches,

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				important areas of SPI and protected/conservation-notable plants are unlikely to be present. Furthermore, as embedded environmental measures ( <b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; 11 – Habitat reinstatement; and 13 – Protection of aquatic features</b> ) would minimise the potential for any effects they are scoped out of further assessment.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	In view of the absence of records of SPI and protected/conservation-notable plants within the Order Limits, dominance of arable habitat and limited connectivity and small size of suitable habitat patches, important areas of SPI and protected/conservation-notable plants are unlikely to be present. Furthermore, as embedded environmental measures ( <b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; 11 – Habitat reinstatement; and 13 – Protection of aquatic features</b> ) would minimise the potential for any

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				effects they are scoped out of further assessment.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)	N/A	Y	Plants are not sensitive to significant disturbance from this environmental change.
Breeding Birds (non-Schedule 1 species)	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change and fragmentation of habitats resulting in potential habitat loss or degradation, potential loss/damage to nests, kill/injure nesting birds, and/or affect distribution	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	As embedded environmental measures ( <b>2 – standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; 5 - Sensitive vegetation removal; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; and 15 – Construction traffic speed limits</b> ) would negate the potential for any effects on or breach of legislation relating to non-Schedule 1 breeding birds, they are scoped out of further assessment.
Schedule 1 breeding birds	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in loss of or damage to nests, or kill/injure nesting birds)	Within the footprint of the construction/operational works	Y	As embedded environmental measures ( <b>2 – standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; 5 - Sensitive vegetation removal; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; 12 – Sensitive access and enabling works; 14 – sensitive lighting design; and 15 – Construction traffic speed limits</b> ) would negate the potential for any effects on or breach of legislation

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				relating to Schedule 1 breeding birds, they are scoped out of further assessment with regards to permanent or temporary land take/land use change.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	N/A	Y	Schedule 1 breeding birds are not legally protected from habitat fragmentation.
	Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance)	Up to 500m from the construction works for legally protected sensitive species	N	<p>The following Schedule 1 species were recorded exhibiting breeding behaviour during the surveys in 2022: barn owl, hobby, kingfisher, peregrine falcon and red kite, within their respective Zols (e.g. 500m for peregrine, 300m for hobby and red kite, 100m for barn owl and kingfisher).</p> <p>Although embedded environmental measures (<b>1 – Pre-construction update surveys; 2 – standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; 5 - Sensitive vegetation removal; 12 – Sensitive access and enabling works; 14 – sensitive lighting design; and 15 – Construction traffic speed limits</b>) would minimise the potential for effects on breeding Schedule 1 species, they are scoped in on a</p>

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				precautionary basis and due to their legal protection from disturbance.
Wintering birds	Permanent or temporary land take/land use change (resulting in habitat loss or degradation and/or loss of fauna)	Within the Order Limits only.	Y	No significant or important aggregations of wintering bird species were recorded during winter transects between February-March 2021 and as embedded environmental measures (2 – <b>Standard best practice</b> ; 3 – <b>Minimise land take and micro-site</b> ; 5 - <b>Sensitive vegetation removal</b> ; 6 – <b>maintaining habitat connectivity</b> ; 8 – <b>Sensitive tree management for electrical safety clearance</b> ; 9 – <b>Protection of retained habitats</b> ; and 11 - <b>Habitat reinstatement</b> ) would minimise the potential for any effects they are scoped out of further assessment.
	Fragmentation of habitats (resulting in a reduction in connectivity)	Within the Order Limits only.	Y	No significant or important aggregations of wintering bird species were recorded during winter transects between February-March 2021 and as embedded environmental measures (2 – <b>Standard best practice</b> ; 3 – <b>Minimise land take and micro-site</b> ; 5 - <b>Sensitive vegetation removal</b> ; 6 – <b>maintaining habitat connectivity</b> ; 8 – <b>Sensitive tree management for</b>

Ecological Feature	Environmental Change <sup>7</sup> and Potential Effect	Zone of Influence <sup>8</sup>	Scoped Out (Y/N)	Justification
				<p><b>electrical safety clearance; 9 – Protection of retained habitats; and 11 - Habitat reinstatement</b>) would minimise the potential for any effects they are scoped out of further assessment.</p>
	<p>Increased noise, vibration, light and movement levels (resulting in disturbance/displacement)</p>	<p>Up to 500m from the construction works, species dependent</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>No significant or important aggregations of wintering bird species were recorded during winter transects between February-March 2021 and as embedded environmental measures (<b>2 – Standard best practice; 3 – Minimise land take and micro-site; and 14 – Sensitive lighting design</b>) would minimise the potential for any effects they are scoped out of further assessment.</p>



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