Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Plan for Stafford Borough

Habitats Regulations Addendum to accompany the Main Modifications

January 2014

Introduction

The Plan for Stafford Borough is the new main planning policy document for Stafford Borough. When adopted, it will replace the Stafford Borough Local Plan 2001. As required by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, the Plan for Stafford Borough has been subject to screening and appropriate assessment to assess the Plan for potential negative impacts on European sites¹.

The Assessments concluded that the draft Plan would not have a significant effect on any sites of European importance if adequate mitigation is carried out to protect Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

This addendum to the Habitats Regulation Assessment of the Plan for Stafford Borough has been produced to support the Main Modifications to the Plan that are being proposed as a result of the Examination, see Appendix 1. The addendum does not repeat information contained in the original Assessments. Please refer back to the original reports for information on methodology and previous findings.

A copy of this assessment was sent to Natural England and a response was received that states "Natural England has reviewed the submitted addendum document and agrees with the conclusion that the main modifications to the Local Plan are not likely to have a significant effect on European Sites", see Appendix 2.

¹ www.staffordbc.gov.uk/live/Documents/Forward%20Planning/Examination%20Library%202013/A24-HABITAT-REGULATIONS-ASSESSMENT-FOR-PLAN-FOR-STAFFORD.pdf and www.staffordbc.gov.uk/live/Documents/Forward%20Planning/Examination%20Library%202013/A25-HABITAT-REGUALTIONS-ASSESSMENT-FOR-CANNOCK-CHASE-SAC.pdf

Development of the Plan for Stafford Borough

The Plan for Stafford Borough (Publication) was submitted to the Secretary of State in August 2013 for Examination; hearing sessions took place between 23rd October and 1st November 2013. The Council has prepared a schedule of proposed Main Modifications to the submitted Plan in response the Inspector's Recommendations for Further Main Modifications Report. These modifications are required to make the Plan sound and legally compliant.

In addition, the Council has published a number of Additional Modifications. These modifications are minor and do not go to the heart for soundness, but they have been considered in the context of the main modifications for completeness.

HRA Implications of Modifications

The proposed Main Modifications have been produced to address issues raised by the Inspector, or matters arising from representations through the Examination process.

The majority of the Main Modifications relate to the refinement of policy and supporting text wording to provide greater clarity or the updating of content where appropriate. These modifications do not influence the location, nature or scale of development, but instead add clarity, justification and additional details in respect of policies and proposals previously included and subject to assessment. However some Main Modifications may affect the location, nature or scale of development and could have impacts on European sites.

For each proposed Main Modification an assessment has been undertaken as to its potential to result in a significant effect on any of the identified European Sites in respect of the following impacts:

- Direct land take and habitat loss
- · Airborne pollution and particulates
- Water quality and waterborne pollutants
- Water quantity / hydrology
- Turbidity and sedimentation
- Disturbance
- Invasive species

The table showing the HRA assessment of each Main Modification contained in Appendix 1.

Conclusions

The proposed Main Modifications do not result in substantial changes to the strategy and the results of this assessment show that the modifications will not lead to any effects on local European sites.

Appendix 1

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
Chapter 3 P	olicy Influenc	es (Natio	nal and Local)	
MM1	Para 3.10	12	Delete the last sentence of the paragraph as follows: "Pending restoration of the housing market in North Staffordshire, substantial additional development in the north of Stafford Borough could harm the fragile market."	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
Chapter 5 –	Spatial Vision	n and Key	/ Objectives	
MM2	Para 5.1 – Spatial Vision	17	Add the following new criterion i under the section 'By 2031 Stafford Borough will have' to read as follows: 'delivered new development, where possible through the re-use of brownfield land and land not of high environmental value, in sustainable locations at Stafford, Stone and the Borough's selected villages;' Re-categorise all subsequent criteria.	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
ММЗ	Para 5.1 – Spatial Vision	17	Add an additional criterion under existing criterion m. to read as follows: 'provided new green infrastructure / biodiversity enhancement schemes' Re-categorise all subsequent criteria.	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM4	Para 5.1 – Spatial Vision	17	Add an additional criterion under existing criterion p. to read as follows: 'provided new green infrastructure / biodiversity enhancement schemes' Re-categorise all subsequent criteria.	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM5	Spatial Vision – criterion q	17	Amend wording of existing criterion q to read as follows: 'delivered a range of new housing at selected villages to provide for objectively assessed local needs' Re-categorise all subsequent criteria	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM6	Para 5.1 – Spatial Vision	17	Add an additional criterion under criterion q. to read as follows: 'avoided development in flood risk areas' Re-categorise all subsequent criteria	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM7	Para 5.2 - Key Objective 11	19	Amend the key objective 11 to read as follows: 'Deliver the Western Access Improvements Scheme to improve the transport network to the west of Stafford town centre, deliver the Northern Access Improvements scheme and implement the Phase 1 of the Eastern Distributor Road Eastern Access Improvements'	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
Chapter 6 -	Development	Strategy		
MM8	Para 6.24	27	Amend wording as follows water capacity are not significant constraints. However, major development at Stone could have implications for the North Staffordshire urban regeneration initiatives and therefore it will be necessary both to constrain the overall quantity of new development, and to phase it until after 2021 in order to provide the time and opportunity to deliver high quality developments on brownfield regeneration sites in the North Staffordshire conurbation first.	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM9	Spatial Principle 4	28	Amend % split as follows: Stafford 72% 70%	There are no additional concerns as a result of the slightly changed location of

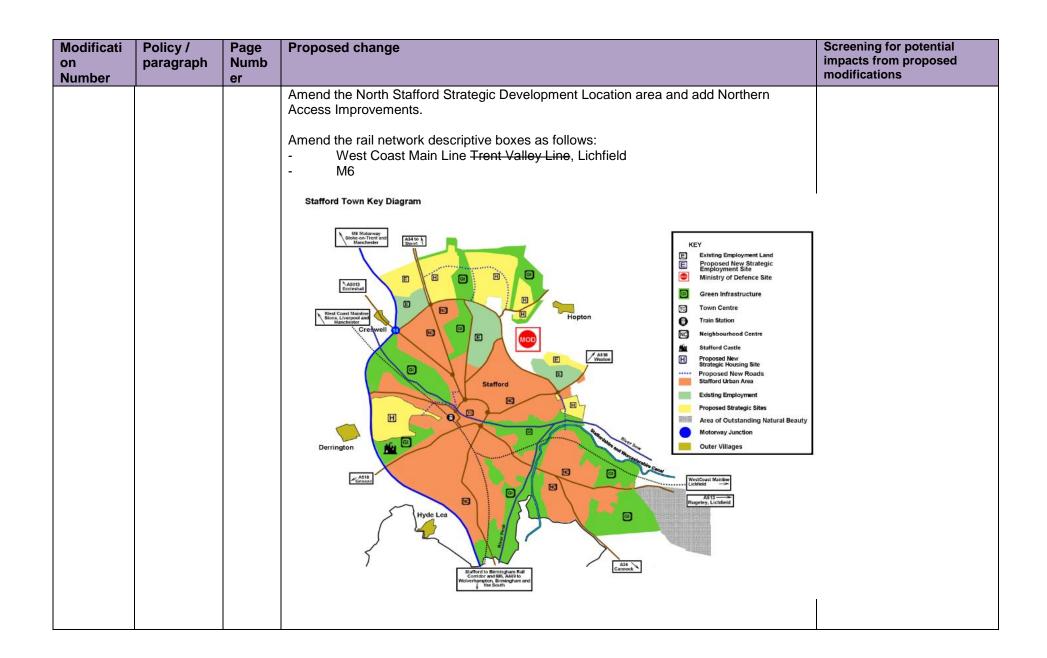
Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change		Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			Stone 8% 10%		the development in relation to any European sites.
MM10	Para 6.49	29	Delete existing para 6.49		The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM11	Para 6.54	30	Amend table as follows:		There are no additional concerns as a result of the
			Housing Provision	1.0.00	slightly changed location of the development in relation
			Housing Requirement for Stafford Borough	10,000	to any European sites.
			Housing Completions 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2013 31/3/2012	<u>731</u> 4 25	to any European sites.
			Potential Number of New Homes- Sustainable Settleme	ent Hierarchy	
			Stafford Town Total requirement	<u>7,000</u> <u>7,200</u>	
			Completions - <u>1/4/2011 to 31/3/2013</u> <u>31/3/2012</u>	<u>262</u> 119	
			Commitments at <u>31/03/2013</u> 31/3/2012 (discounted by 10%)	<u>1,505</u> 1,521	
			New Provision	<u>5,233</u> 5.560	
			Stone Town Total requirement	<u>1,000</u> 800	
			Completions - 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2013 31/3/2012	<u>109</u> 64	
			Commitments at <u>31/03/2013</u> <u>31/3/2012</u> (discounted by 10%)	<u>291</u> 267	
			New Provision	<u>600</u> 4 01	
			Key Service Villages Total requirement	1,200	
			Completions - 1/4/2011 to 31/3/2013 31/3/2012	<u>134</u> 99	
			Commitments at <u>31/03/2013</u> <u>31/3/2012</u> (discounted by 10%)	<u>529</u> 4 72	
			New Provision	537 629	
			Rest of Borough Area Other Borough Areas Total requirement	800	
			Completions - <u>1/4/2011 to 31/3/2013</u> <u>31/3/2012</u>	226 143	
			Commitments at 31/03/2013 31/3/2012 (discounted	<u>358</u> 360	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change		Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			by 10%) New Provision	<u>216</u> 297	
MM12	Para 6.63	33	Amend wording of the first sentence to read as follow 'A key element of the approach is that new Settlement the <u>Site Allocations Development Plan Document</u> of the settlements <u>listed in Spatial Principle SP3, was </u> Settlement Hierarchy.'	nt Boundaries will be established in Plan for Stafford Borough for each	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM13	Para 6.64	33	Amend wording of the paragraph to read as follows:: 'In the case of Stafford and Stone, settlement bounds' Local Plan document in order to identify the significate and employment in relation to the existing urban area. The location of settlement boundaries will be established Neighbourhood Planning process, or through a State Allocations Development Plan Doc. not forthcoming. Prior to the actual definition being at the criteria established in Spatial Principle 7 will be used individual development proposals.'	aries are established as part of this not development areas for housing as. For the Key Service Villages, shed for these settlements through ite-specific Allocations and Policies ument if Neighbourhood Plans are chieved through these processes,	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM14	Spatial Principle 7	33	Amend wording of second sentence: 'Development or activities of a scale and nature approf each settlement, where in the case of housing period the delivery of the proportions of development in SP3 and SP4, will be supported within the Settlement Amend wording of criterion ii to read as follows: 'ii) It is consistent with the objectives of Spatial Princing in supporting rural sustainability;'	roposals this is consistent with tended by Spatial Principles SP2, it Boundaries.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the changed approach to the control of development in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			Amend wording of third paragraph as follows: Settlement boundaries will be established in accordance with the following criteria. Prior to the establishment of the actual boundaries these principles will be used to assess the acceptability of individual proposals at the Key Service Villages Settlements.	
MM15 Chapter 7 -	Para 6.67 – new	34	Insert the following new paragraph to read as follows: 'In addition to the above, new development proposals should not lead to the sterilisation of significant mineral resources, or compromise the continued operation or expansion of any existing waste management facilities as defined in the Minerals and Waste Local Plans prepared by the Mineral and Waste Planning Authority. In due course the Policies Map will be updated with relevant Local Plan allocations and designations.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM16	Para 7.1	37	Amend wording of the introduction to the paragraph to read as follows: 'The Plan makes specific allocations for development within Settlement Boundaries. In this Plan, The following Area Section defines Strategic Development Locations for both housing and employment at Stafford and Stone. This includes associated infrastructure, services and facilities immediately adjacent to the existing built up area to allocate an appropriate number of new houses and employment areas in the right locations and amounts. Further details are set out in the relevant sections for Stafford town and Stone town.'	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM17	Policy Stafford 1	37	Amend wording of the first paragraph under the Housing section to read as follows: 'Continue to meet the housing requirements for Stafford Town by providing <u>a total of</u> 7,000 5,500 new <u>market and affordable</u> homes, including <u>as well as</u> additional provision for Ministry of Defence personnel.'	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM18	Policy Stafford 1	37	Amend the wording of criterion ii in the Housing section to read as follows: a. North of Stafford including highway and transport improvements through the Northern Access Improvements scheme b. West of Stafford linked to delivery of the Western Access Improvements Scheme from Martin Drive to Doxey Road c. East of Stafford linked to delivery of Phase 1 of the Eastern Access Improvements Teastern Distributor Road from Weston Road Peaconside to Baswich Lane road bridge at St Thomas' Lane'.	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM19	Policy Stafford 1	37	Delete v: v. Ensure sufficient provision to meet housing requirements for Ministry of Defence personnel of up to 400 new Service Family Accommodation units.	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM20	Policy Stafford 1	39	Amend the wording of criterion i in the Stafford Town Centre section: "Encouraging the development and expansion of the town centre to provide an increase of 14,000 34,000 square metres (net) of non-food (comparison) retailing and 3,400 2,000 square metres (net) of food (convenience) retailing and include improve the level and quality of the offer as well as establish new development opportunities"	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration of these figures in relation to any European sites.
MM21	Policy Stafford 1	39	Amend the wording of criteria vii. within the Stafford Town Centre section to read as follows: "B1 (a) office development should only be permitted on employment sites outside the town centres if it can be proved, through a sequential assessment, that proposed development cannot be located within the town centre or edge of centre sites." Delete the following text in criteria vii	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			'The use of employment sites for employment purposes other than B1 (b & c) excluding offices (B1a), B2 and B8 will not be permitted unless it can be proved that the proposed use cannot be located within Stafford town centre.'	
MM22	Policy Stafford 1	39	Amend the wording of criterion ii in the Infrastructure section to read as follows: 'Deliver the full Western Access Improvements Scheme, including the Western Access Route, between Martin Drive and A34 Foregate Street, the Northern Access Improvements scheme and the Eastern Access Improvements, from Beaconside to St Thomas' Lane.' Phase 1 of the Eastern Distributor Road from Weston Road / Beaconside to Baswich Lane road bridge at St Thomas'	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM23	Policy Stafford 1	40	Insert an additional criterion under the Environment section to read as follows: 'v. Ensuring that new development does not harm but enhances watercourses in the town'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM24	Para 7.4	41	Add the following new introductory sentence to the paragraph to read as follows: 'As set out previously in the Development Strategy section the total housing requirement for Stafford town is 7,000 new homes. This means, in addition to completions since the Plan period began, and current permissions, provision for 5,233 dwellings on new sites is required. Provision is also made for 350 new homes for Ministry of Defence (MOD) personnel, reflecting the needs identified by the MoD.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the text in relation to any European sites.
MM25	Stafford Town Key Diagram	42	Amendment to Eastern Access Improvements In the KEY section of the diagram delete the word 'existing' to read as follows: Green Infrastructure Insert the River Sow and River Penk in the Stafford Town Key Diagram.	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.



Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM26	Para 7.16	44	Amend the wording of the paragraph to read as follows: 'Based on current shopping patterns and the strong performance of existing facilities, there is a demonstrable need for further retail floorspace within the Borough. Having assessed the performance of each foodstore, the Town Centre Capacity Assessment study (January 2011), updated in May 2013 through the Stafford and Stone Town Centre Retail Capacity report identified that certain facilities are trading much better than expected, suggesting a need for greater competition and choice. Based on forecast increases in expenditure and current 'over-trading', there is a need for further retail floorspace within the Borough. Furthermore there remains capacity for new convenience goods floorspace in Stafford in the medium to long term, after taking into account recent retail developments. The study found that future capacity for comparison (non-food) goods will be met through existing permissions in the short term, predominantly through the consented Riverside redevelopment, but capacity is expected to increase in the longer term.' -an immediate convenience goods expenditure capacity within the Borough of £14.26m and forecast to rise to £33.95m by 2015, to £45.86m by 2021 and £56.68m by 2026' Delete rest of paragraph	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration of these figures and text in relation to any European sites.
MM27	Policy Stafford 2	46	Amend wording of the introductory paragraph to read as follows: "Within the area North of Stafford identified on the Policies Map a sustainable, well designed mixed use development will be delivered by 2031. Any application for development on a part or the whole of the-this area should-be must be preceded by, and consistent with, a master plan for the whole Strategic Development Location. the-master plan for the whole site should-be produced by all developers involved in the development of the site and agreed by the Council prior to applications being submitted. Any application for a component of the whole site must be accompanied by a specific master plan which shows the relationship of the application area to the wider Strategic Development Location. The design of the application should not prejudice the delivery or design of the wider Strategic Development Location. Which have been submitted and agreed by the Council. Development must deliver the following key requirements:"	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			Delete criterion xi. from the Design section as follows:	
			xi. Proposals must relate to the whole Strategic Development Location or, if less, do not	
			in any way prejudice implementation of the whole development.	
			Re-categorise remaining criterion.	
MM28	Para 7.28	49	Delete existing boundary map and replace with map below: Development North of Stafford	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
			Strategic Development Location Recognition of the Company of the Majority's Editory Result of Down Copyrist. License 3a 1000 12505 dated 2132.	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM29	Para 7.28	50	Delete existing concept plan and replace with plan below: Stafford North Concept Diagram	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
			Strategic Development - Housing Existing Utton Area Strategic Development - Employment Existing Employment Area New Green Infrastructure Existing Employment Area New Green Infrastructure Existing Employment Area New Green Infrastructure Existing Green Infrastructure Existing Orean Infrastructure Existing Employment Area Access Links Roads Roads Contract Orean Infrastructure Existing Orean Infrastructure Existing Employment Area Access Links Roads Roads Contract Orean Infrastructure Existing Orean Infrastructure Existing Employment Area Access Links Roads Roads Contract Orean Infrastructure Existing Employment Area Access Links Roads Roads Contract Orean Infrastructure Existing Employment Area Access Links Roads Roads	
MM30	Policy Stafford 3	51	Amend wording of the introductory paragraph to read as follows: "Within the area West of Stafford identified on the Policies Map a sustainable, well designed mixed use development will be delivered by 2031. Any application for development on a part or the whole of the the this area should be must be preceded by, and consistent with, a master plan for the whole Strategic Development Location. The master plan for the whole site should be produced by all developers involved in the development of the site and agreed by the Council prior to applications being	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			submitted. Any application for a component of the whole site must be accompanied by a specific master plan which shows the relationship of the application area to the wider Strategic Development Location. The design of the application should not prejudice the delivery or design of the wider Strategic Development Location. Which have been submitted and agreed by the Council. Development must deliver the following key requirements:"	
MM31	Policy Stafford 3	51	Delete criterion vi under the Design section vi. Proposals relate to the whole Strategic Development Location or if less do not in any way prejudice implementation of the whole development; Re-categorise existing criterion.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the deletion from the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM32	Policy Stafford 3	52	Amend the wording of criterion xvi under the Infrastructure section to read as follows: 'xvi. Link from Martin Drive spine road to Doxey Road with <u>potential</u> upgrade to railway bridge required for the development west of Stafford as part of the Stafford Western Access Improvements Scheme, together with new or enhanced bus routes as well as cycling & walking links to existing routes to the town centre and other key destinations;'	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications	
on	paragraph	paragraph Numb er	Numb er	Delete existing concept plan and replace with plan below: Stafford West Concept Diagram	impacts from proposed modifications The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
			Strategic Development - Housing Existing Union Area Rostagic Development - Housing Existing Union Area Rostagic Development - Minard Use Not Green Infrastructure Transitional Area Statisfor Coate Local Custine and New School Proposes thew Road Access Linis Roads Roads Roads Noticeway Rost Road Custine and New School Proposes thew Road Access Linis Roads Roads Roads Noticeway Rost Road Roads Noticeway Road Roads		

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM34	Policy Stafford 4	56	Amend wording of the introductory paragraph to read as follows: "Within the area East of Stafford identified on the Policies Map a sustainable, well designed mixed use development will be delivered by 2031. Any application for development on a part or the whole of the this area should be must be preceded by, and consistent with, a master plan for the whole Strategic Development Location. The master plan for the whole site should be produced by all developers involved in the development of the site and agreed by the Council prior to applications being submitted. Any application for a component of the whole site must be accompanied by a specific master plan which shows the relationship of the application area to the wider Strategic Development Location. The design of the application should not prejudice the delivery or design of the wider Strategic Development Location. Which have been submitted and agreed by the Council. Development must deliver the following key requirements:"	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM35	Policy Stafford 4	56	Delete criterion vi under the Design section vi. Proposals relate to the whole Strategic Development Location or if less do not in any way prejudice implementation of the whole development; Re-categorise existing criterion.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the deletion from the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM36	Policy Stafford 4	57	Delete the last section of criterion xiv to read as follows: 'It shall also identify construction access arrangements that do not disrupt existing residents; And improvements to transport capacity along the A518 Weston Road in the vicinity of the University roundabout and along the Tixall Road	There are no additional concerns as a result of the deletion from the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM37	Policy Stafford 4	57	Combine criteria xv & xvii with the following new criteria xv to read as follows: "The Eastern Access Improvements is a package of complementary sustainable transport measures and highway infrastructure to be funded through a combination of public funds and developer contributions. Developers in the East of Stafford will be required to provide a new link road between Beaconside and St. Thomas Lane, sustainable transport access, potential highway capacity	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.

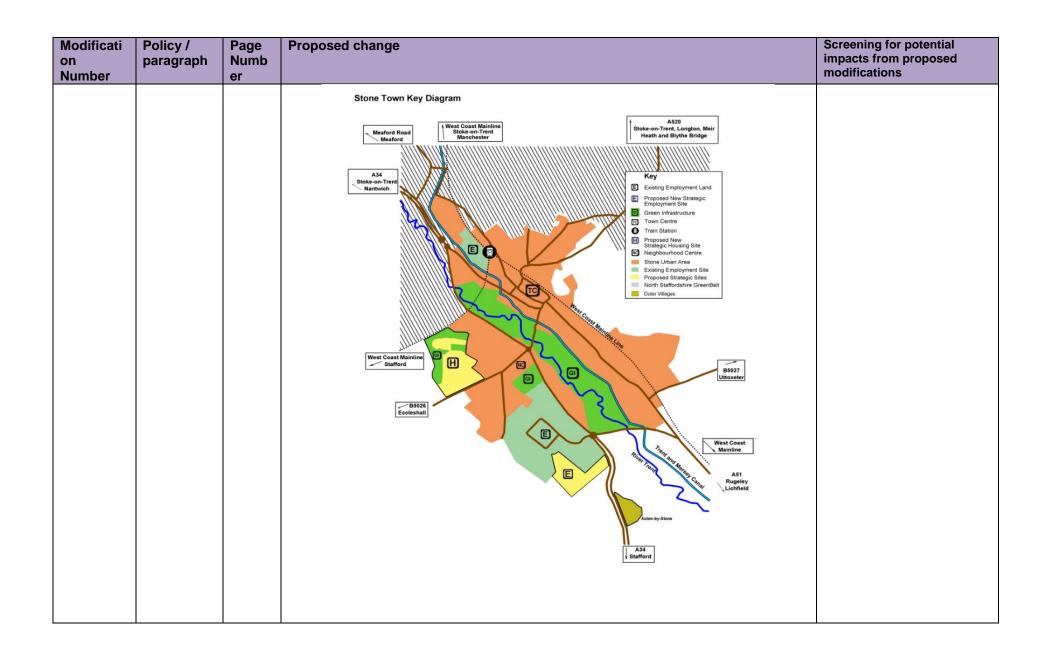
Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			improvements and traffic management measures along Beaconside and Weston Road. Public funds will contribute towards further sustainable transport measures including the Baswich Walking and Cycling route between Baswich Lane and Weston Road, bus service enhancements, including real time bus passenger information, and potential highway capacity improvements along Baswich Lane;" Re-categorise subsequent criteria as necessary.	
MM38	Paragraph 7.35	58	Amend the first bullet point to read as follows: 'The Eastern Access Improvements including transport improvements required along A513 Beaconside and A518 Weston Road roundabout, the Eastern Access Route from Beaconside to St Thomas' Lane together with principal access to the sites. including delivery of Phase 1 of the Eastern Access Improvement Scheme.' (Beaconside extension — Weston Road to Baswich Lane road bridge). This infrastructure is required to provide access routes to the main development areas.' Align second bullet point to match the others.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.
MM39	Para 7.36	60	Delete existing concept plan and replace with plan below:	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			Stafford East Concept Diagram	
			Clearly Christopher Insurancy Exactly Christopher Area Clearly Christop	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
Chapter 8 -	Stone			
MM40	Policy Stone 1	62	Amend wording as follows: Continue to meet the housing requirements for Stone Town by providing a total of 1,000 new market and affordable homes:	There are no additional concerns as a result of the addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM41	Policy Stone 1	62	Amend wording of Housing criterion ii as follows ii. Providing a range of development locations for new homes over the Plan period to 2031 including for affordable housing. This will include new housing development at the Strategic Development Location west of Stone identified on the Policies Map, to be delivered after 2021; Amend wording of Employment criterion ii as follows: ii. Providing opportunities for new enterprises and businesses by allocating new employment sites with good transport links, as well as support and facilities for new start-up businesses. The Strategic Development Location for a new employment site is south of Stone Business Park, identified on the Policies Proposals Map, to be delivered after 2021;	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration of the delivery dates in relation to any European sites.
MM42	Policy Stone 1	63	Amend wording of criterion a in the Stone Town Centre section to read as follows: 'a. Encouraging the development and expansion of the town centre to provide a vibrant place where people can meet, shop, eat and spend leisure time in a safe and pleasant environment; including provision of mixed use development at Westbridge Park	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM43	Policy Stone 1	63	Amend wording of criterion b in the Stone Town Centre section to read as follows: 'Provide for 1,700 1,400 square metres (net) of new convenience (food) retailing and 400 2,200 square metres (net) of new comparison (non-food) retailing at Stone town centre;'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the policy in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM44	Policy Stone 1	63	Within the Stone Town Centre section insert the following paragraph under the criteria list to read as follows: 'B1 (a) office development should only be permitted on employment sites outside the town centres if it can be proved, through a sequential assessment, that proposed development cannot be located within the town centre or edge of centre sites.' Delete the following paragraph The use of employment sites for employment purposes other than B1 (b & c) excluding offices (B1a), B2 and B8 will not be permitted unless it can be proved that the proposed use cannot be located within Stone town centre.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM45	Policy Stone 1 – Stone Town	63	Within the Stone Town Centre section add a new paragraph at the end of the section to read as follows: 'Within Stone town centre support will be given to bringing upper floors back into use, particularly for C3 residential purposes and B1 business uses. Proposals should provide safe access, not lead to any significant loss of ground floor retail space or street frontage and must not prejudice the amenity and conversion of adjoining properties or other floors in the same property.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM46	Policy Stone 1	64	Within the Environment section add the following new criteria as set out below: 'iv. Ensure that development does not damage the integrity of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC), nature conservation interests and Local Nature Reserves, as detailed in Policies N4 to N6.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM47	Stone Town Key Diagram	66	Amend boundary of Housing SDL to reflect larger area needed for better site design and inclusion of green infrastructure. In the KEY section of the diagram delete the word 'existing' to read as follows: Green Infrastructure Remove green infrastructure designation from part of Westbridge Park (to match Stone inset map) Amend Stone South Employment SDL Amend the rail network descriptive boxes as follows: West Coast Main Line Trent Valley Line, Lichfield Replace 'Longton' for Lontgon	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.



Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM48	Para 8.13	67	Amend the wording of the paragraph to read as follows: 'Based on current shopping patterns and the strong performance of existing facilities, there is a demonstrable need for further retail floorspace within the Borough. Having assessed the performance of each foodstore, the Town Centre Capacity Assessment study (January 2011), updated in May 2013 through the Stafford and Stone Town Centre Retail Capacity report, identified that certain facilities are trading much better than expected, suggesting a need for greater competition and choice. Based on forecast increases in expenditure and current 'over-trading', there is a need for further retail floorspace within the Borough. Furthermore there remains a quantitative and qualitative need for a medium sized foodstore in Stone in the immediate future, after taking into account recent retail developments. The study found that future capacity for comparison (non-food) goods could be absorbed in Stone town centre, based on the existing market share being retained.' is an immediate convenience goods expenditure capacity within the Borough of £14.26m, and forecast to rise to £33.95m by 2015, to £45.86m by 2021 and to £56.68m by 2026.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the text in relation to any European sites.
MM49	Policy Stone 2	68	Delete the rest of the paragraph. Amend wording of the introductory paragraph to read as follows: "Within the area West & South of Stone identified on the Policies Map a sustainable, well designed mixed use development will be delivered-between 2021 and 2031. Any application for development on a part or the whole of the this area should be must be preceded by, and consistent with, master plans for the sites within the Strategic Development Location. The master plans for the sites should be produced by all developers involved in the development of the sites and agreed by the Council prior to applications being submitted. Any application for a component of the whole site must be accompanied by a specific master plan which shows the relationship of the application area to the wider site as part of the Strategic Development Location. The design of the application should not prejudice the delivery or design of the wider site as part of the Strategic Development Location. Which have been submitted and agreed by the Council. Development must deliver the following key requirements:"	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM50	Policy Stone 2	68	Within the Environment section add a new criterion xi at the end of the section to read as follows: 'xi Necessary measures to avoid and mitigate the impact of development on the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation.' Amend remaining criteria.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM51	Para 8.24	70	Amend wording as follows: ' come forward through infill development.' Furthermore due to the implications of new development at Stone on the North Staffordshire conurbation's urban regeneration initiatives, the housing and employment areas within the Strategic Development Location will not be delivered until after 2021, in order to provide an opportunity to deliver brownfield land development within the North Staffordshire area.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration of the delivery dates in relation to any European sites.
MM52	Para 8.26	71	Delete existing boundary map and replace with map below:	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			Development to the West and South of Stone Statistic Development Location Statistic Developmen	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
on		Numb	Delete existing concept plan and replace with plan below: Stone Concept Diagram	impacts from proposed
			Strategic Development - Housing Existing Urban Area Strategic Development - Employment Existing Employment Area Existing Employment Area Existing Circen Infrastructure New Green Infrastructure New Green Infrastructure Roads Roads Rail Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey Mapping with the permission of the Connoter of her Majesty's Stationery Offices (C) Circent Copyright: License No. 100018205 dated 2013	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
Chapter 9 –				
MM54	Policy E2	75	Amend the wording of the introductory paragraph to read as follows: 'For those rural areas outside the settlements identified in Spatial Principle SP3 Limits identified through Strategic Principle SP7, and outside the Green Belt (within which development is controlled in accordance with national guidance, and Policy E4), support will be given to the achievement of rural sustainability by encouraging:' Amend the wording of criterion x to read as follows: 'x. in exceptional circumstances, development helping to meet a local housing need, residential development in accordance with Policy C5.' Add an additional criterion under criterion x to read as follows: 'xi. protection of the best and most versatile agricultural land by using areas of poorer quality land in preference to higher quality land for new development.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration and addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM55	Para 9.11	77	Amend wording to read as follows: Stafford Borough has a number of significant rural employment concentrations, which provide a focus for new development to support a prosperous rural economy outside of Stafford and Stone. These are identified on the Proposals Map as Recognised Industrial Estates (RIEs) and the precise extent of these areas is defined by a boundary line. The Employment Land Review, studies as part of the Local Plan's evidence base, identifies potential land for economic uses. Paragraph 22 of the NPPF states planning policies should avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for that purpose. This is the case with a historic Stafford Borough Local Plan 2001 allocation at Hixon Airfield Recognised Industrial Estate (RIE) where an area within the RIE boundary has not been delivered for new employment. Therefore, it is not considered prudent to allocate this employment land at Hixon in the future, although 'It is still important to protect and maintain existing employment development at Recognised Industrial Estates. However two RIEs at Ladfordfields and Raleigh Hall have reached capacity for further development and	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			therefore require opportunities for new investment as well as enabling existing firms to expand during the plan period.'	
MM56	Policy E3	78	Amend criterion a. to read as follows: "a. Light industrial (B1), excluding B1 offices, general industrial (B2), storage and distribution (B8), or appropriate waste management uses;"	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM57	Policy E4	78	Amend the wording of the introductory paragraph to read as follows: 'Deliver a total of 6 hectares of new employment land at Ladfordfields Industrial Estate and 6 4 hectares of new employment land at Raleigh Hall Industrial Estate, identified on the Proposals Policies Map'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM58	Para 9.17	79	Amend the wording of the paragraph to read as follows: 'The land west of Raleigh Hall industrial estate will deliver a total of 6 4 hectares employment area'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM59	Policy E8	82	Amend wording of the fourth bullet point linked to the first paragraph, 'Village and Neighbourhood Shops' to read as follows: 'Village and Neighbourhood Shops - outside the hierarchy of Town and Local Centres, these serve their immediate locality. These are identified at Barlaston, Eccleshall, Gnosall, Great and Little Haywood, Hixon, Tittensor, Weston, Woodseaves, Yarnfield, Stafford Neighbourhood Centres at Baswich, Holmcroft, Parkside, Rising Brook, Wildwood and Weston Road, and Stone Local Centre at Walton. Such facilities will also be supported at Strategic Development Locations to meet local needs.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM60	Policy E8	83	Add an additional paragraph to read as follows: 'c. retain and increase the amount of attractive residential provision in town centres, through new build and conversion;	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the policy in relation to any European

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			Development proposals at Stafford providing greater than 1,000 square metres gross floorspace and at Stone providing greater than 500 square metres gross floorspace for town centre uses in an edge or out-of-centre location should be the subject of an impact assessment. For local centres the threshold should be 300 square metres gross floorspace. If planning permission is granted for retail development'	sites.
Chapter 10	- Transport	1		
MM61	Para 10.5	87	'The Council considers that the route from St Thomas' Lane to the junction with Baswich Lane and Cornwall Drive will need to be improved within the Plan period as part of the Eastern Access Improvements. Evidence suggests that there are significant transport benefits for these improvements. The route is identified on the Stafford Area Inset Map, which will be delivered subject to available resources, further assessment work and a fully designed cost effective scheme.' Staffordshire County Council currently identifies a number of protected routes within Stafford Borough as shown on the Policies Map.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.
MM62	Para 10.6	87	Add the following sentence to the end of the paragraph: 'New development should be sustainable and be able to demonstrate that any impact on the network can be sufficiently accommodated, as demonstrated by evidence based testing.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the text in relation to any European sites.
Chapter 11	– Communitie	es		
MM63	Para 11.1	90	Amend the wording of the paragraph to read as follows:	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			'To deliver a wide choice of high quality homes, widen home ownership and create sustainable communities, the new Local Plans will need to plan for a mix of housing based on trends and needs, identify size, type, tenure and range of housing to meet demand, as well as deliver affordable housing. Wherever possible, in order to achieve sustainable long term use, the Borough Council will encourage a minimum of three habitable rooms to be provided in new homes, particularly in the case of affordable houses. The following policies set out in this section of the Plan for Stafford Borough will enable future decision-making to achieve these NPPF objectives through the local context, delivering the Spatial Principles SP1 and SP2.'	
MM64	Policy C1	90	Amend the wording of the second paragraph and criterion a to read as follows: 'New developments should provide an <u>appropriate</u> range of dwelling types and sizes <u>toprovide</u> for a mixture of different households, but with the proportion based on <u>having regard to</u> : a. Existing household and dwelling size in the development locality The need for housing sizes and types as identified by the Strategic Housing Market Assessment; b. Indicative current waiting list data for the locality'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM65	Policy C5	94/95	Amend the wording for the relevant sections to read as follows: A. New Development 'In areas outside of the settlements identified in Spatial Principle SP3, Settlement Boundaries, as defined in Spatial Principle SP7, proposals for new 2. The housing is justified by a A Parish based Local Housing Needs Assessment, and an appraisal of the scheme, shall accompany any planning application, proving that it will meet the defined needs, shall accompany any planning application;' B. Replacement Dwellings 'In areas outside of the settlements identified in Spatial Principle SP3, Settlement	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			Boundaries, as defined in Spatial Principle SP7, proposals for a' C. Extensions or ef Alterations 'In areas outside ef the settlements identified in Spatial Principle SP3, Settlement Boundaries, as defined in Spatial Principle SP7, extension or alteration'	
MM66	Policy C6	96	Amend the wording of the introductory paragraph to read as follows: 'Provision will be made for the delivery of sufficient good quality, appropriately located residential pitches to satisfy local need as set out in the Stafford Borough Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTAA) or successor documents. Specific sites will be identified through a Gypsy & Travellers Sites & Allocations document Site Allocations Development Plan Document.' Delete criterion g: g. Suitable recycling facilities are provided	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM67	Para 11.20	96	Amend the wording of the paragraph to read as follows: 'A principal objective of the new Plan is the provision of adequate housing to meet the needs of Gypsies and Travellers, which are protected under Section 19A of the 1976 Race Relations Act. To inform our approach, a comprehensive Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTAA) was published in February 2013. undertaken The study was undertaken in conjunction with key stakeholders and service providers. The main aim of the study was to ascertain the levels of additional pitch provision over the period 2011 to 2031 2007 and 2026. The main findings of the study show a need to were to provide a total of 44 new 70 pitches. This study is an update of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment published in 2008 However, given that the assessment period in the study is slightly shorter than the proposed plan period, an updated assessment of Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs has been undertaken to inform provision to 2031 with New provision to will be identified through specific sites as part of the Gypsy & Travellers Sites & Allocations document a Site Allocations Development Plan Document.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM68	Para 11.21	96	Amend the wording of the paragraph to read as follows: 'The number of pitches to be delivered, and the timespan for delivery, may be subject to updating following subsequent reviews of the Stafford Borough Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTAA) or relevant Government policy. Provision for new sites will be made through a Site s and Allocations Development Plan Document. Any requirements for Travelling Showpeople will be delivered in conjunction with other local planning authorities in the sub-region, based on a revised Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment and Government policy. or any other successor documents. The Council is committed to work with its neighbouring authorities to produce an update to the current Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment, by 2016.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.
MM69	Para 11.22	97	Amend wording of the fourth sentence and replace bullet points to read as follows: 'The policy set out in this section of the Plan for Stafford Borough will guide future decision making to achieve these NPPF objectives through providing the local context for open space, sport and recreation in order to assist delivery of the following strategic projects improvements, with further details to be provided through a new Open Space, Sport & Recreation Supplementary Planning Document: New strategic green infrastructure A "core path" network of walking and cycling routes An enhanced network of artificial turf pitches Improved indoor sports provision Destination play areas	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.
			 Destination teenage areas.' Developing a network of play areas for children of all age groups, particularly teenagers; Developing, protecting and enhancing open space, public and amenity spaces as well as allotments; Protection of existing playing fields and artificial pitches and identification of new Artificial Turf Pitches across the Borough area; Provision of Multi Use Game Areas (MUGAs); Addressing the shortfall in mini soccer provision. 	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications			
Chapter 12	Chapter 12 – Environment						
MM70	Policy N1	100	Add a new criterion under the 'Space' heading of the Policy to read as follows: 'n. Where appropriate development should ensure that there is space for water within the development layout to facilitate the implementation of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDs);' Re-categorize remaining criteria.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.			
MM71	Policy N2	101	Under the Sustainable Drainage heading add the following sentence at the end of the second paragraph to read as follows: 'Any development that could lead to the degradation of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) status of the waterbody should not be permitted.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.			
MM72	Policy N2	101	Amend the wording under the Sustainable Construction heading to read as follows: 'Sustainable Construction All new residential development will be expected to incorporate sustainable design and construction technology to achieve a Code for Sustainable Homes star rating in line with Government policy. For all new development these standards require initiatives such as: All new residential development will be expected to incorporate sustainable design and construction technology to achieve zero carbon development through a combination of fabric energy efficiency, carbon compliance and allowable solutions in line with Government policy. To implement zero carbon development the following measures should be considered as part of the design: 1. Reduce water consumption, through the use of low water volume fittings and grey water systems; 2. Orientation to maximise solar gain;	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.			

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			3. High levels of insulation and energy conservation, adequate provision for separation and storage of waste for recycling; and 4. Use of materials from sustainable sources in new development. All non-residential development up to 1,000 square metres (net) will be expected to have a BREEAM Very Good rating; and non-residential development greater than 1,000 square metres (net) will be expected to have a BREEAM Excellent rating. A statement will be required to detail how the BREEAM and Code for Sustainable Homes standards will be addressed or conversely, if it is considered to be unviable, evidenced through an independent economic viability assessment. A statement will be required to detail how the BREEAM and Zero Carbon Standard will be addressed. If these are considered to be unviable to achieve, evidence must be provided through an independent viability assessment. All new developments will be required to generate a proportion of their energy requirement from on-site'.	
MM73	Policy N4	107 & 108	Amend criterion g and sub-criterion ii under the second paragraph to read as follows: 'ii. reverse habitat fragmentation due to having suffered past loss and degradation;' Amend the wording of criterion j under the second paragraph to read as follows: 'Development will support implementation of the Severn and Humber River Basin Management Plans and not pose a barrier to the meeting of their objectives for any watercourse. To alleviate the effects of climate change' Add a further sub-criterion v to criterion j under the second paragraph to read as follows: 'v. Where issues have been identified within the Water Cycle Study, developers should submit a Water Statement that includes evidence to demonstrate that there is already adequate sewerage infrastructure in place, or that it will be in place prior to occupation.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			Add a further sub-criterion vi to criterion j under the second paragraph to read as follows:	
			'vi. Support fish migration through the removal of barriers in river channels such as weirs, or where this is not possible construction of fish passes.'	
MM74	Policy N5	109	Add the following criterion under the first paragraph to read as follows: "b. If adverse effects are identified, it can be demonstrated that the proposed mitigation measures show that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of any European site; or c. if it cannot be ascertained that no adverse effect on integrity will result, the proposed development will only be able to proceed where there is no alternative solution and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest."	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM75	Policy N5	110	Add the following penultimate paragraph to the policy: 'Where possible, the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats and the recovering of priority species populations will be encouraged in line with the Staffordshire Biodiversity Action Plan.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.
MM76	Policy N6	111	Amend the wording to read as follows: Development will not be permitted where it would be likely to lead to an adverse effect upon the integrity, directly or indirectly, of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC). To ensure this site is not harmed all development within the Stafford Borough area must take account of the following criteria: i. No development involving a net increase in dwellings will be permitted within the buffer area around the SAC (400 metres), as defined on the Policies Map unless, as an exception, the form of residential development would not have an adverse effect upon the sites' integrity; ii. Between 400 metres and 12 miles, as defined on the Policies Map, development will be expected to take all necessary steps on-site, to avoid or mitigate any adverse effects upon the site's integrity or, where this cannot be achieved within the development, make	There are no additional concerns as a result of the amendment to the policy in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
Number		ei	provision for mitigation measures designed to avoid such adverse effects taking place as set out in the Cannock Chase Visitor Impact Management Strategy. Large developments within 400 metres and 12 miles of the SAC will also be required to provide targeted alternative green space within or close to the development site. The effective avoidance and / or mitigation of any identified adverse effects must be demonstrated and secured prior to approval of the development through developer contributions as set out in the Cannock Chase Visitor Impact Mitigation Implementation Plan.	
			Development will not be permitted where it would lead directly or indirectly to an adverse effect upon the Cannock Chase SAC where the effects cannot be mitigated. Development will not be permitted where it would lead directly or indirectly to an adverse impact on the Cannock Chase SAC and the effects cannot be mitigated.	
			To ensure the Cannock Chase SAC is not harmed, all development that leads to a net increase in dwellings within 15km of the site, as shown on the Policies Map, must take all necessary steps to avoid or mitigate any adverse effects upon the SAC's integrity. This may include contributions to habitat management; access management and visitor infrastructure; publicity, education and awareness raising; provision of additional recreation space within development sites where they can be accommodated and, where they cannot, by contributions to off site alternative recreation space; and measures to encourage sustainable travel.	
			The effective avoidance and / or mitigation of any identified adverse effects must be demonstrated to the Council as the Competent Authority, and secured by means of a suitable mechanism (e.g. Legal agreement) prior to approval of the development.	
MM77	Policy N7	112	Amend the wording of the first sentence to read as follows: "The conservation and enhancement of the landscape and scenic beauty of the Cannock Chase Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is of primary importance."	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the policy in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			Add an additional criterion to read as follows: "g. Therefore, any proposals for new development (including changes of use) within, or likely to adversely affect the landscape and scenic beauty of Cannock Chase AONB or its setting, will only be allowed where the proposal will enhance the visual, nature conservation and / or historic assets of the landscape."	
Chapter 13	– Infrastructui	re		
MM78	Para 13.11	118	Amend the third sentence and rest of paragraph to read as follows: 'All three Strategic Development Locations at Stafford Town can be supported with some distribution network rezoning., and at The strategic location at Stone will require some infrastructure reinforcement to support delivery. It is expected that all identified this reinforcement would be funded by Severn Trent Water and is currently planned for delivery in the period 2014-2015. 2011-2015 but will be subject to confirmation following an on-going feasibility study, Network rezoning is likely to be required at Stafford in the period 2016-2020. A new Water Pumping Station is likely to be required in the eastern rural area (Stowe) in the period 2021-25.'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.
MM79	Para 13.23	120	Amend the final bullet point to read as follows: 'Western Access Improvements scheme including the link from Martin Drive to Doxey Road (West Stafford SDL), the Northern Access Improvements scheme to include highway capacity improvements to address traffic pressures on A513 Beaconside (North Stafford SDL) and the Eastern Access Improvements Distributor Road including a new link road from including the Beaconside extension from Weston Road to Baswich Lane road bridge at St Thomas' Lane (East Stafford SDL)'	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.
MM80	Para 13.24	120/12	Delete existing table and replace with the following text: 'A summary of other critical infrastructure required to deliver the Plan is set out below, which will be kept under review through the Infrastructure Delivery Plan: costs and available funding is provided in the table below	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.

Modificati	Policy /	Page	Proposed change	Screening for potential
on	paragraph	Numb		
Number		er		modifications
on		Numb	 Highway, public transport, pedestrian and cycling – the full Stafford Western Access Route, other highway capacity improvements and complementary sustainable transport infrastructure to include junction improvements, bus priority, new bus services and extensions to existing services, real time bus passenger information, and new walking and cycling routes as detailed in the Stafford Borough Integrated Transport Strategy; Electricity infrastructure / Grid connections – Strategic Development Locations at Stafford and Stone to deliver on-site electricity infrastructure as a development cost with all off-site infrastructure to be funded by National Grid; Gas infrastructure – costs to be met by developers triggered as sites come forward; Water supply – on-site infrastructure to be funded by landowners / developers, with off-site infrastructure to be funded by Severn Trent Water; Waste water treatment – Severn Trent Water to fund all off-site strategic infrastructure with on-site infrastructure to be funded by landowners / developers; Flood defences – committed schemes and development to facilitate site delivery to be provided by developers in liaison with the Environment Agency; Green infrastructure – includes open space, Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGs) and open water to be delivered by developers / landowners on-site alongside commuted site payments and planning obligations; Education – provision for primary and secondary school facilities through new Strategic Development Locations on-site and contributions via planning obligations from other development sites; Primary healthcare – relocation / extension to existing surgeries at Stafford 	impacts from proposed modifications
			new Strategic Development Locations on-site and contributions via planning obligations from other development sites;	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed	change				Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
Appendix E	3 – Car Parkinç	g Standar	ds					
MM81	First paragraph	134	Amend the first sentence of the paragraph to read as follows: 'The car parking standards detailed below should generally be taken as a maximum minimum requirement.'					There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.
) – Infrastructu							T
MM82	Stafford Town North Infrastructur e Requiremen ts - Transport	150	Transport (CRITIC AL)	Highway capacity improvements, either through or around the perimeter of the site, or along Beaconside, will be required North of Stafford. Enhanced bus services and improved bus reliability, through bus priority, will be required along the A34 between the site and the town centre as well as real time bus passenger information, increased frequency of existing and new bus services;" Cycle and walking links to connect to the existing and proposed Borough wide, and national, cycle and walking routes to the town centre and other key destinations.	2016 <u>+</u> 2016+ 2012 - 2022	TBC £7.3m	Developer contribution s (s106 / CIL). £2.5m committed . Developer contribution s	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed	change				Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
				Package of improvements along A513 Beaconside				
MM83	Stafford Town West	152	Amend tab	le to read as set out below:				There are no additional concerns as a result of the
	Infrastructur e Requiremen ts - Transport		Transpo rt (CRITIC AL)	Link from Martin Drive spine road to Doxey Road with potential upgrade to railway bridge required for the development west of Stafford as part of the Stafford Western Access Improvements, together with new or enhanced bus routes as well as cycling & walking links to existing routes to the town centre and other key destinations. The Stafford Western Access Route Road is required to deliver the full development requirements for Stafford town, to be completed in three five sections: Section A: Foregate Street to Timberfields Road / Doxey Road Section B: Along Doxey Road from Timberfields Road including a potential upgrade of the West Coast Main Line rail bridge Section C: Doxey Road (west of rail bridge) to Martin Drive	Section Nation N	The 2013 initial estimat e for highwa Y improv ements to each section is set out below: Section A: £26m Section B: TBC Section C: £5m \$4 (TBC)	Section A: SCC / Pooled developer contribution S Section B: SCC / Pooled Developer Contribution S Section C: SDL Developer Section 1 will be developer funded. Remaining sections delivered through a mix of s106 / s278, CIL	alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.

Modificati para Number	cy / ngraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change				Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			1. Spine Road 2. The link from Martin Drive spine road to Doxey Road (adjacent to the railway line). 3. A limited upgrade to the railway bridge link. 4. The link from the bridge to the junction of Doxey Road and Pans Drive. 5. Link from the Doxey Road / Pans Drive junction to A34. 400 homes (significantly higher than 5 year allocation) can be developed prior to completion of section C 2 from Doxey Road to Martin Drive. Network Rail has identified 2017 as a window of opportunity for upgrade to railway bridge as it would correspond to planned works on West Coast Mainline. A number of key parties are responsible for delivering the whole length of the Western Access Route as part of the Western Access Improvements, which will benefit the wider Stafford Town area	2016+	\$3 & 4: £4.65m \$5: £13m	and SCC funds: 1. SDL Developer 2. SDL Developer 3. SCC / Pooled developer contributions 4. Third Party Developer contributions 5. Unknown / SCC. All costs quoted environment al mitigation / utility diversions. Cost for section 2 excludes cost of bridging railway sidings.	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
	Stafford Town East Infrastructur e Requiremen ts - Transport		Transport sustainable to read as set out below: The Eastern Access Improvements is a package of complementary sustainable transport measures and highway infrastructure to be funded through a combination of public funds and developer contributions. Developers in the East of Stafford will be required to provide the Eastern Access Route between Beaconside and St. Thomas Lane, sustainable transport access, potential highway capacity improvements and traffic management measures along Beaconside and Weston Road. Public funds will contribute towards further sustainable transport measures including the Baswich Walking and Cycling Route between Baswich Lane and Weston Road, and bus service enhancements, including real time bus passenger information. Highway infrastructure improvements included within the Eastern Access Improvements are set out below: 1: Construction of the Eastern Access Route from Beaconside to St Thomas' Lane and the Tixall	
			Road / Blackheath Lane signal junction upgrade	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
	paragraph		2: Potential highway capacity improvements between St Thomas' Lane and the junction with Baswich Lane and Cornwall Drive 3: Construction of a new roundabout at Blackheath Lane and Weston Road as a junction improvement' Improvements required to the A513 Beaconside Road / A518 Weston Road roundabout will be delivered Transport through \$106 / \$278 agreements with the developer of the parcel between Weston Road and Baswich Lane road bridge at \$t Thomas', providing the principal access into the development site A number of improvements have been identified but none considered essential to bring forward development. These comprise: Potential capacity and safety improvements to Baswich Lane (\$t Thomas' Lane); Baswich Walking	
			and Cycling link over the River Sow	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
on		Numb	Amend table to read as set out below: Transport An access, transport and travel plan strategy for the Strategic Development Location that maximises travel and accessibility by non-car transport modes via safe, attractive and conveniently designed street, pedestrian and An access, transport and travel 2011 – 2031 An access, transport and travel 2021 – 2031 TBC None communication and 2021 – 2026 None communication and 2021 – 2026 Development Location that 2021 – 2026 Developm	impacts from proposed modifications There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites. reloper otributi
			arrangements that do not disrupt existing residents and improvements to transport capacity along the B5026 Eccleshall Road, and at the A34 roundabouts" Local highway improvements and enhancements of the A34 roundabouts, the A34 / A51 roundabout and the B5026 Eccleshall Road	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM86 Stone Town West and South Infrastructu e	South Infrastructur e Requiremen	et and th estructur	Amend table to read as set out below: Education	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.
MM87	Stone Town West and South Infrastructur e Requiremen ts	156	Amend table to read as set out below: Primary Healthcar e Project in development which could serve new development on the West of Stone Project in development which could serve new development on the West of Stone 2016+ TBC Consortiu m	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.
MM88	Stone Town West and South Infrastructur e Requiremen ts	156	Amend table to read as set out below: Open Space Will need to be planned in association with requirements for SANGs and local standards of provision Developer 1 Contributions	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the text in relation to any European sites.

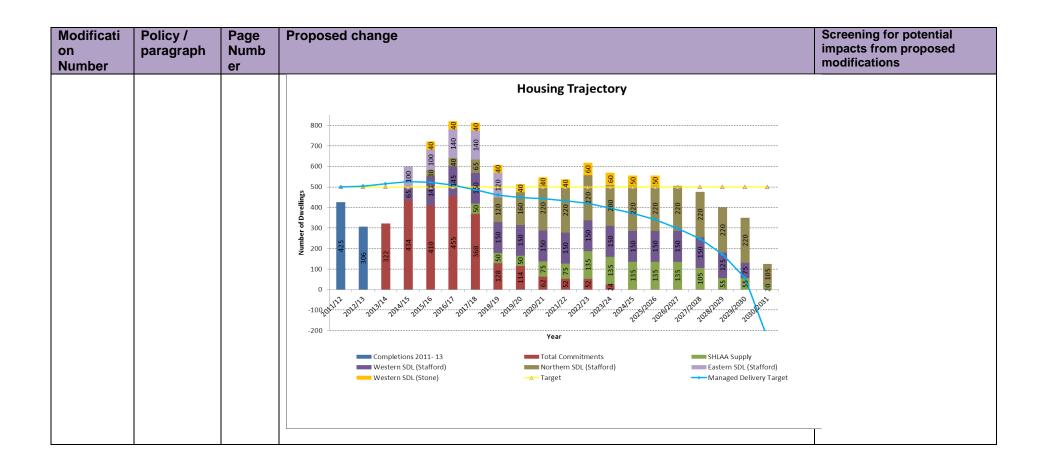
Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
Appendix E	– Performanc	e Indicat	ors and Targets	
MM89	SP2- Stafford Borough Housing and Employmen t requirement s	158	In the Target column amend wording as follows: 70 residential and 2 transit pitches to be delivered over the plan period Maintain a 5 year supply of Gypsy and Traveller pitches.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.
MM90	SP3 – Stafford Borough Sustainable Settlement Hierarchy	159	In the Target column amend wording as follows: Stone Town 8% 10%	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.
MM91	SP7 – Supporting the Location of New Developme nt	160	In the Target column amend wording as follows: Stone Town 8% 10%	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.
MM92	Policy Stafford 1 – Stafford Town	161	In the Indicator column amend wording as follows: Total Net Number of Net Additional Dwellings delivered in Stafford Town over the Plan period annually In the Target column amend wording as follows: 7,000 5,500 houses to be delivered in Stafford Town over the Plan period	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			To achieve an affordable housing mix of 80% social rented housing and 20% intermediate tenure housing 34,000sqm on non-food retailing and 2000sqm food retail to be delivered in Stafford Town Centre 14,000 sqm (net) of non-food retailing and 3,400 sqm (net) of food retail to be delivered in Stafford Town Centre Deliver Western and Access Improvements and Phase 1 of the Eastern Access Improvements scheme as far as St. Thomas' Lane	
MM93	Policy Stafford 2 – North of Stafford	161	In the Target column amend wording as follows: To achieve an <u>affordable housing</u> mix of 25% 80% social rented housing and 5% 20% intermediate <u>tenure</u> housing To achieve 60% A proportion of the properties to be 2 <u>two</u> or three bedroomed properties Deliver infrastructure as set out in Appendix € <u>D</u>	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.
MM94	Policy Stafford 3 – West of Stafford	162	In the Target column amend wording as follows To achieve an <u>affordable housing</u> mix of 25% 80% social rented housing and 5% 20% intermediate <u>tenure</u> housing To achieve 60% A proportion of the properties to be 2 <u>two</u> or three bedroomed properties Deliver infrastructure as set out in Appendix € <u>D</u>	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM95	Policy Stafford 4 – East of Stafford	163	In the Target column amend wording as follows To achieve an <u>affordable housing</u> mix of 25% 80% social rented housing and 5% 20% intermediate <u>tenure</u> housing To achieve 60% A proportion of the properties to be 2 <u>two</u> or three bedroomed properties Deliver infrastructure as set out in Appendix € <u>D</u>	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.
MM96	Policy Stone 1 – Stone Town	163	In the Target column amend wording as follows: 1,000 600 houses to be delivered in Stone Stafford Town over the Plan period To achieve 30% 40% affordable housing To achieve an affordable housing mix of 25% 80% social rented housing and 5% 20% intermediate tenure housing 1,400sqm 1,700 sqm (net) of food retailing and 2,200sqm 400 sqm (net) of non food retailing to be delivered at Stone Town To achieve 60% A proportion of the properties to be 2 two or three bedroomed properties Deliver infrastructure as set out in Appendix € D In the Indicator column amend wording read as follows: Total Net Number of Net Additional Dwellings delivered in Stone Town over the Plan period	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.
MM97	Policy Stone 1 – West and South of	163	Spatial Principle column, amend Row title: Policy Stone 4 <u>2</u> – West and South of Stone	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the spatial principle in relation to any

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
	Stone (row header)			European sites.
MM98	Policy Stone 4 <u>2</u> – Stone Town	163	In the Target column amend wording as follows: 500 dwellings to be delivered in <u>Stone</u> <u>Stafford</u> Town over the plan period To achieve an <u>affordable housing</u> mix of 25% 80% social rented housing and 5% 20% intermediate <u>tenure</u> housing <u>To achieve 60%</u> A proportion of the properties to be 2 <u>two</u> or three bedroomed properties <u>20</u> 18 ha of employment land to be delivered south of Stone Business Park <u>Provision of new employment sites to the north</u> Deliver infrastructure as set out in Appendix € <u>D</u>	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.
MM99	Policy E4 – Raleigh Hall and Ladfordfield s Industrial Estates	165	In the Target column amend wording as follows Deliver 6ha of employment land at both Ladfordfields and Raleigh Hall Deliver 4 ha of new employment land at Raleigh Hall and 6 ha at Ladfordfields	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.
MM100	Policy C3 – Specialist Housing	167	In the Target column amend wording as follows: Deliver 1,331 954 net additional units over the plan period	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM101	Policy C6 – Provision for Gypsies and Travellers	167	In the Target column amend wording as follows: Deliver 70 residential and 2 transit potches over the plan period. Performance towards this target will be monitored on an annual basis Maintain a 5 year supply of Gypsy and Traveller Pitches	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.
MM102	Policy N1 Design	168	Delete the following words from the Indicator column: Number of homes built to lifetimes homes standards Delete the following words from the Target column: All new developments to meet lifetime home standards	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target in relation to any European sites.
MM103	Policy N2 Climate Change	168	In the Indicator column amend wording as follows: Percentage of new residential developments meet relevant code for sustainable homes standard Percentage of new residential developments built to zero carbon standard In the Target column amend wording as follows: All new residential development to reach code 4 by 2013 and be carbon neutral by 2016 All new residential development to achieve zero carbon standard in line with Government guidance.	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the target and indicator in relation to any European sites.
Appendix F	– Housing Tr	ajectories	5	
MM104	Stafford Borough Housing Trajectory	173	Delete existing trajectory and replace with new trajectory and explanatory text as follows:	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alteration to the trajectory and text in relation to any European sites.



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Modificati	Policy /	Page	Proposed change	Screening for potential
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Number		er		modifications
			<u>Homes 2013.</u>	
			Total Commitments: this source relates to sites with outstanding planning	
			permission. These sites are divided into two subsets: commitments on smaller	
			sites up to 9 dwellings with the vast majority being below 5 dwellings, and larger	
			sites capable of accommodating 10+ dwellings or more. Delivery rates are those estimated by developers and owners, or estimated by the Council where this	
			information has not been provided to inform the housing trajectory. Development	
			of smaller sites are not subject to significant infrastructure constraints, and thus	
			are assumed to be completed within the first five years of the plan period.	
			Development of larger sites are expected to provide a smaller proportion of new	
			housing in the first 5 years of the Plan period, but housing provision will increase	
			on these sites in years 6 to 15.	
			Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) Supply: sites in the	
			SHLAA include those promoted to the authority by land owners, developers and	
			agents and sites which have been identified by the Council. Each site has been	
			assessed in terms of its suitability, availability and achievability for residential	
			development. The SHLAA contains a large reservoir of sites, including previous	
			Local Plan allocations and the proposed SDLs. The delivery and phasing rates for	
			these sites will be informed by the production of site-specific master plans, but	
			the currently expected rates are identified in the table. These have been primarily	
			based on information provided by developers / agents. Where this is absent,	
			phasing rates have been estimated by the Council.	
			The housing trajectory itself is a tool that draws together various strands of	
			information on the Borough's position on the supply of new housing, both in	
			terms of previous performance and projected performance against the new Local	
			Plan target. The trajectory, shown for the Borough provides the basis for	
			analysing housing performance and allows the application of a plan, monitor and	
			manage approach. The Trajectory has a number of principal components:	
			Identified For Completion: (identified by the columns within the Trajectory and	
			generated by the identified for completion row of the table)	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			The projected completions over the first five year period (2013/14 – 2017/18) start from a low base and gradually increase over the period. The principal component of the first five years is made up of the existing committed supply. This comprises sites that are under construction or sites not started. Large quantities of sites with permission are due for completion either within the first five years or shortly after. In addition, within the first five years the existing commitments will diminish as the primary source of new housing and build rates from the Northern, Western and Eastern Strategic Development Locations (SDLs) around Stafford town will provide significant contributions to the delivery of new housing. Delivery timescales for the Western and Eastern SDLs at Stafford have primarily been based on information provided through detailed discussions with the developers, whilst build rates for the Northern SDL at Stafford and the Western SDL at Stone have been estimated by the Council. The 6 - 15 year element of the plan period extends from 2018/19 – 2030/31. Within this period the pool of committed sites will provide a diminishing source of new housing. SHLAA sites that are considered developable (reflecting the assessment undertaken by the SHLAA Partnership) will provide a source of new housing from 2018/19 onwards. The quantum of housing to be delivered on SHLAA sites reflects the potential for new provision, taking account of the overall historic delivery rates and expected future trends. The delivery of housing from SHLAA sites has been approximately averaged across the period as it is not possible to accurately predict when certain sites will come forward. Also, within this period the Strategic Development Locations (SDLs) will deliver the majority of the housing requirements. Delivery timescales for the Western and Eastern SDLs at Stafford have primarily been based on information provided through detailed discussions with the developers, whilst build rates for the Northern SDL at Stafford and the	
			completion row of the table) is used to monitor under supply or over supply of	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
			housing at any one point. It thus enables assessment of whether past shortfalls or surpluses need to be addressed. It is calculated using a residual method and is derived from the total new Local Plan requirement less the cumulative rate of completions divided by the number of years a plan strategy has left to run.	
MM105	Stafford Town Housing Trajectory	174	Delete	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
MM106	Stone Town Housing Trajectory	175	Delete	The modification does not affect the findings of the previous HRA.
Policies Ma	p and Insets	I	<u>'</u>	,
MM107	Policies Map		Add a 15km buffer of the Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	There are no additional concerns as a result of the new addition to the map in relation to any European sites.
MM108	Stafford Area Inset Map		Remove settlement boundary	There are no additional concerns as a result of the
			Amend site boundary of North Stafford Strategic Development Location. Add Northern Access Improvement.	alterations to the map in relation to any European sites.
			Removal of the section of the Eastern Distributor Road, from the junction with Baswich Road and Cornwall Drive through to <u>Cannock Road via</u> Milford Road (A513)	
			Add a 15km buffer of the Cannock Chase SAC	
			Relevant key amendments	

Modificati on Number	Policy / paragraph	Page Numb er	Proposed change	Screening for potential impacts from proposed modifications
MM109	Stone Area Inset Map		Amend the boundary of the Housing SDL west of Stone to incorporate land to the north. Amend the boundary of the Employment SDL south of Stone to incorporate Bowers family land plots 0382 and 1085 and to reduce overall size to 20ha. Amend town centre boundary to incorporate Morrison's car park and Crown Wharf, Amend boundary of green infrastructure (GI) to remove land at Westbridge Park which is not GI. Add a 15km buffer of the Cannock Chase SAC	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alterations to the map in relation to any European sites.
MM110	Raleigh Hall Industrial Estate Inset Map		Amend boundary to reflect updated allocation	There are no additional concerns as a result of the alterations to the map in relation to any European sites.

Appendix 2

Date: 27 January 2014

Our ref: 109626

Your ref: HRA addendum

Stafford Borough Council

For the attention of Melissa Kurihara

BY EMAIL ONLY



Customer Services Hombeam House Crewe Business Park Electra Way Crewe Cheshire CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Melissa

Planning consultation: Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Plan for Stafford Borough – Addendum to accompany the main modifications

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 13 January 2014 which was received by Natural England the same day.

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

Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010 as amended (the 'Habitats Regulations').

Natural England has reviewed the submitted addendum document and agrees with the conclusion that the main modifications to the Local Plan are not likely to have a significant effect on European Sites.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter <u>only</u> please contact me on 0300 060 1640. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondence to <u>consultations@naturalengland.org.uk</u>.

Yours sincerely

Antony Muller Lead Adviser – Natural England Land-use Operations Team