



**Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Proposed Plan –
Habitat Regulations Appraisal 2019**



Contents

1. INTRODUCTION	3
2. THE RENFREWSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND NATIONAL POLICY & REGULATIONS	5
RENFREWSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN	5
NATIONAL POLICY AND REGULATIONS	6
3. METHODOLOGY	7
HABITAT REGULATIONS APPRAISAL PROCESS	7
4. THE APPRAISAL.....	10
EVIDENCE GATHERING STAGES 2 – 4	10
SCREENING STAGES 5-7	15
5. APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT	30
POLICIES ALONE AND IN-COMBINATION	30
IN-COMBINATION EFFECTS WITH OTHER PLANS OR PROJECTS	35
ASSESSMENT OF ALLOCATED SITES.....	43
6. CONCLUSION	45



1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) sets out the spatial strategy that facilitates investment and guides the future use of land in Renfrewshire.
- 1.2 In preparing the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) a process to assess the impact of the Plan and its policies on areas of importance to the conservation of rare, threatened or endemic animal and plant species or habitat that aids the conservation of bird species native to the European Union must be completed.
- 1.3 This requirement is set out in Article 6(3) of the EC Habitats Directive;

‘Article 6(3) of the EC Habitats Directive requires that any plan, which is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site, but would be likely to have a significant effect on such a site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to an ‘appropriate assessment’



Hen harrier pictured over Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park, Lochwinnoch.

- 1.4 The requirements set out in the EU Directive are delivered in Scotland under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1991, as amended. Guidance is provided within Scottish Planning Policy.
- 1.5 The process of meeting these National Regulations and Guidance is through a Habitats Regulations Appraisal.
- 1.6 This Habitats Regulations Appraisal will consider whether the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) is likely to have a significant effect on any Natura 2000 (European) site, whether alone or in combination within any other policy or plan.



2. The Renfrewshire Local Development Plan and National Policy & Regulations

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan

- 2.1 The preparation of the Local Development Plan is a legislative requirement providing the land use planning framework for Renfrewshire, setting out an overarching, clear, concise and easy to understand, map-based guide for shaping the area for the 10 years, with the Plan being reviewed after 5 years.
- 2.2 The Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) sets out the Spatial Strategy that will guide the future use of land and facilitate investment opportunities with policy statements providing a framework for decision making to ensure that development and changes in land use are appropriate.
- 2.3 The Proposed Plan, once adopted, will replace the current Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014) which was subject to a Habitat Regulations throughout its preparation. The Spatial Strategy and Policy Framework has not changed significantly in the Proposed Local Development Plan from the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan.
- 2.4 This Habitat Regulations Appraisal has been targeted at the changes from the adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014) and completed alongside the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Proposed Plan.
- 2.5 The preparation of the next Local Development Plan has involved several stages; these can be seen in detail within the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan – Development Plan Scheme 2018.
- 2.6 The Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) is consistent with Scottish Planning Policy. The Proposed Plan contains policies which are reflective of Scottish Planning Policy guidance and aims to protect Natura 2000 sites from adverse effects upon their integrity.

National Policy and Regulations

2.7 Scottish Planning Policy provides guidance on how policies for the conservation and enhancement of Scotland's natural heritage should be reflected in land use planning. The guidance states that: A derogation is available for authorities to approve plans or projects which could adversely affect the integrity of a Natura 2000 site if:

- there are no alternative solutions;
- there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest, including those of a social or economic nature; and
- compensatory measures are provided to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura network is protected.

If an authority wishes to use this derogation, Scottish Ministers must be notified.

2.8 Planning Circular 6/2013 Development Planning requires that while preparing Development Plans that a 'Habitats Regulations Appraisal' (HRA) is undertaken in accordance with Part IVA (regulations 85A - E) of The

Conservation Natural Habitats, &c. Regulations 1994, as amended.

2.9 Part IVA of those regulations requires that, where a land use plan is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), and is not directly connected with, or necessary to the management of, that site, the Planning Authority should make an 'Appropriate Assessment'. This allows the implications for the site in view of that site's conservation objectives, ensuring that suitable mitigation measures have been set out if necessary to ensure that there are no adverse effects on the integrity of any Natura 2000 sites, before the Plan is adopted or submitted to Ministers.

2.10 The term 'Habitats Regulations Appraisal' encompasses both the 'screening' process for determining whether an 'Appropriate Assessment' is required, as well as any 'Appropriate Assessment' under regulation 85B (1).

2.11 Circular 6/2013 requires authorities undertaking a Habitats Regulations Appraisal to consult Scottish Natural Heritage when determining likely significant

effect and before concluding that an Appropriate Assessment is not required.

- 2.12 Where an Appropriate Assessment is required, the authority must consult Scottish Natural Heritage and should have regard to any representations they may make. Where, following that assessment, the Planning Authority cannot conclude that the Plan would not adversely affect the integrity of any European site(s), the Plan will usually not be adopted.

3. Methodology

Habitat Regulations Appraisal Process

- 3.1 The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994, as amended, requires Local Development Plans and any associated Supplementary Guidance to be the subject of a Habitats Regulations Appraisal.
- 3.2 Scottish Natural Heritage set out guidance to assist undertaking a Habitats Regulations Appraisal.
- 3.3 This Habitats Regulations Appraisal follows the staged appraisal process set out in Scottish Natural Heritage's Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans - Guidance for Plan-Making Bodies in Scotland v. 3.0 January 2015.

- 3.4 The guidance offers a 12 stage appraisal process that will *'ensure compliance with the Habitats Directive, protect internationally designated nature conservation sites and assist in achieving sustainable economic growth.'* Figure 1 on page 8 sets out the 12 key stages of the Habitats Regulations Appraisal.
- 3.5 Renfrewshire Council, as 'the competent authority', shall agree to adopt the next Renfrewshire Local Development Plan only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site, both within and outside the area of the Plan.



Figure 1: The 12 key stages of the Habitats Regulations Appraisal process

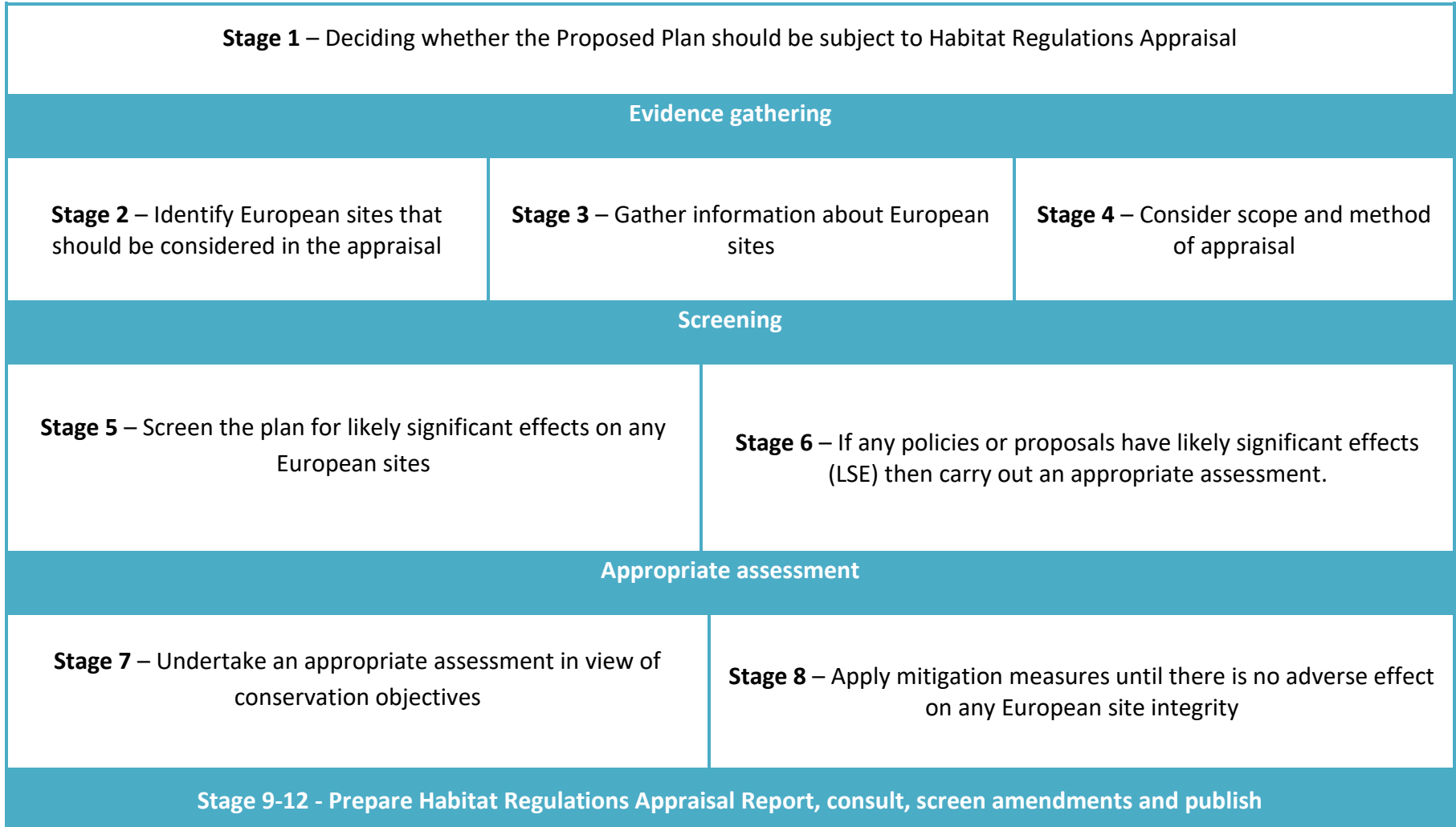
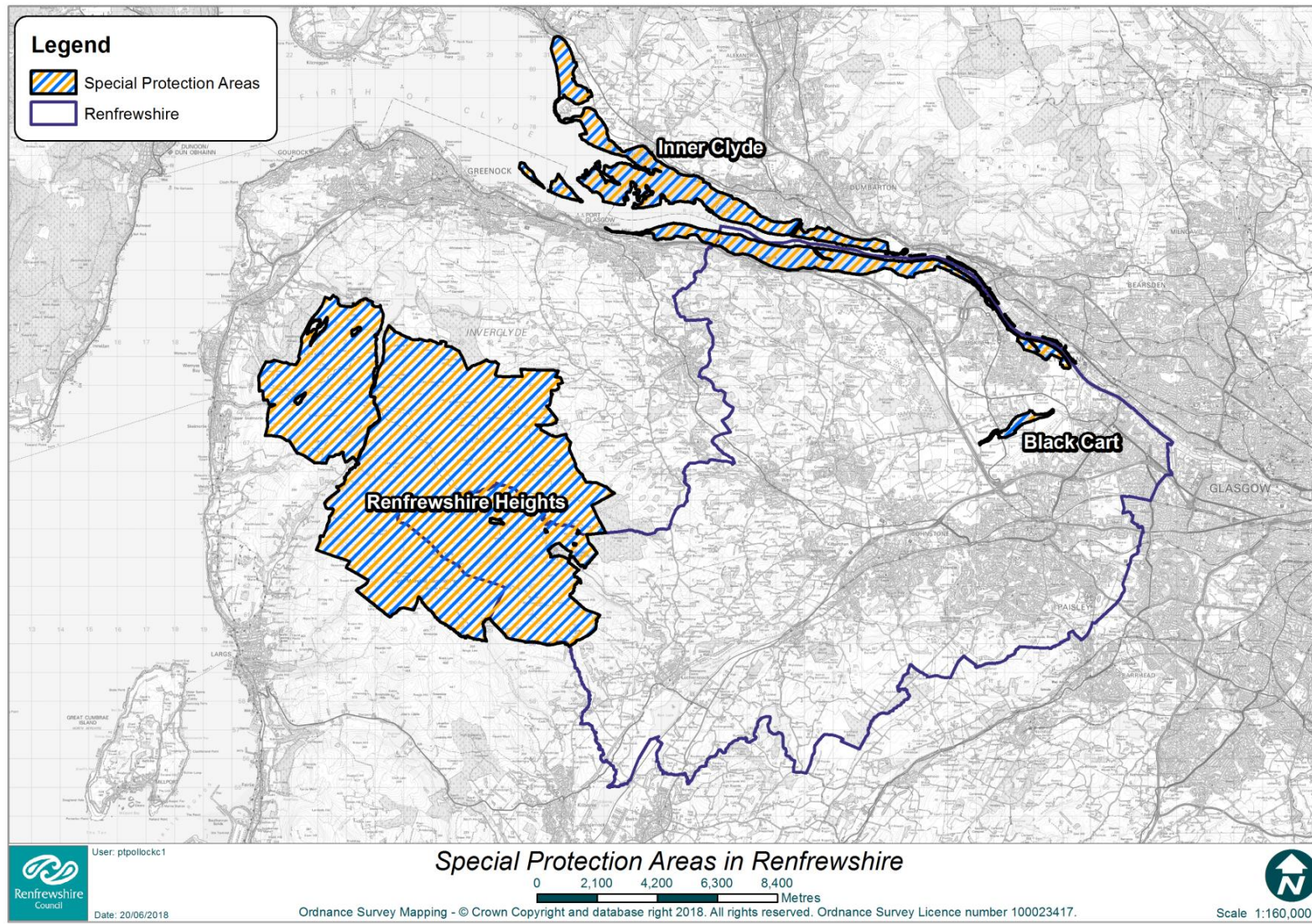


Figure 2: Location of Renfrewshire’s Special Protection Area



4. The Appraisal

Evidence gathering stages 1 – 4

Stage 1 – Decide whether the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan should be subject to Habitats Regulations Appraisal

- 4.1 Renfrewshire Council as the responsible authority is required to determine whether the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) qualifies in terms of need for appraisal.
- 4.2 The Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) is not directly connected with, or necessary to the management of any Natura 2000 sites.
- 4.3 Renfrewshire Council has completed a ‘screening’ exercise to determine whether the Proposed Plan would result in any likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites, either individually, or in combination with other plans or projects.
- 4.4 The Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) does not promote any development on Natura 2000 sites. Aspects of the Plan could however affect Natura sites. It is therefore considered that the Proposed Plan qualifies for the appraisal process.

This is consistent with the approach taken in the preparation of the current Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014)

Stage 2 - Identifying the European sites that should be considered in the appraisal

- 4.5 There are two broad categories of European site:
 - (i). **Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)** and candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSAC) designated under Articles 3-5 of the European Commission's Habitats Directive, are areas designated in respect of the habitats and/or species.
 - (ii). **Special Protection Areas (SPA)** and proposed Special Protection Area (pSPA) classified under the European Commission's Birds Directive, aims to protect wild bird species naturally occurring in the European Union. The Directive places emphasis on the protection of habitats for endangered and migratory species.

4.6 There are no Special Areas of Conservation in Renfrewshire; however, there are 3 Special Protection Areas.

Renfrewshire's 3 Special Protection Areas are:

- (i). **Renfrewshire Heights;**
- (ii). **Black Cart Water;** and,
- (iii). **Inner Clyde Estuary.**

Figure 2 on page 9 shows the location of Renfrewshire's three Special Protection Areas.

4.7 To enable the long-term survival of Europe's most valuable and threatened species and habitats Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas also form a coherent European Union wide ecological network known as 'Natura 2000'.

4.8 Through this Appraisal and any subsequent Appropriate Assessment, full consideration is given to the qualifying interests and the conservation objectives of the Natura 2000 sites.

4.9 Where there is a possibility of adverse effects on Natura site integrity, it is necessary to ensure that mitigation measures are put in place prior to adopting the Plan, unless there are no alternative solutions,

there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest and compensatory measures are provided to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura network is protected.

4.10 The Natura 2000 sites set out above; the Black Cart, Inner Clyde and Renfrewshire Heights are included within the appraisal.

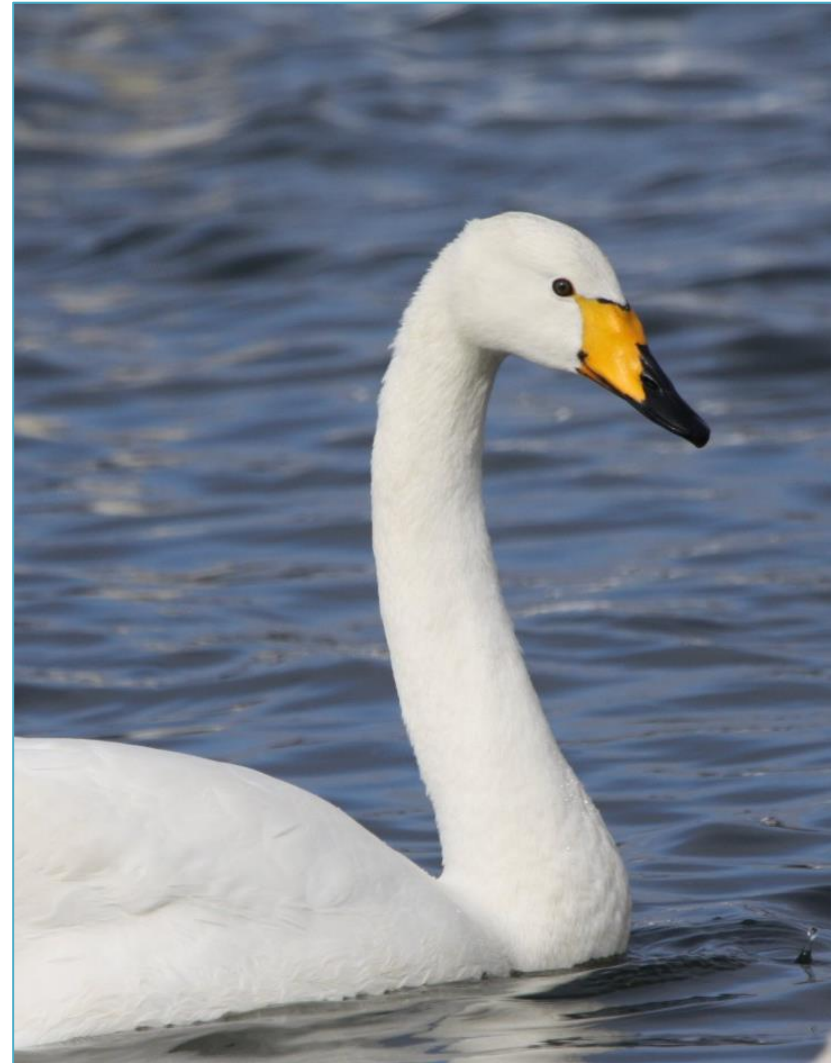
4.111 It is also important to consider if there are any likely significant effects on Natura sites outwith the Plan area, as a result of the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan.

4.12 Utilising the criteria set out within Scottish Natural Heritage guidance on the 'Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans', and after consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage, it is considered that there are **no** sites outwith the Plan area which require to be included within the appraisal.

Stage 3 - Gathering information about the European sites

- 4.12 This section outlines each of the three Natura 2000 sites that are included within the appraisal and provides details of their qualifying interests, conservation objectives and site conditions to ensure that the appraisal focuses on the most relevant aspects of each site.
- 4.13 The qualifying interests potentially affected will vary between the different Natura 2000 sites. It is necessary to consider how the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) policies and proposals may affect the achievement of the conservation objectives.

Figure 3 provides details of each site included within the appraisal.



Whooper Swan, qualifying interest at Black Cart SPA

Figure 3: Natura 2000 sites included in this appraisal

	Site 1 Black Cart	Site 2 Inner Clyde	Site 3 Renfrewshire Heights
Designation Status	SPA	SPA	SPA
Site Area (Ha)	56	1,826	8,943
Date of Designation	07/12/2000	27/03/2000	17/12/2007
Qualifying Interests	Whooper swan (Cygnus Cygnus), non-breeding	Redshank (Tringa tetanus), non-breeding	Hen harrier (Circus cyaneus), breeding
Conservation Objectives	<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and,</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the longer term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of the species as a viable component of the site; • Distribution of the species within the site; • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species; • Structure, function and supporting the species; • No significant disturbance of the species. 	<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and,</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the longer term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of the species as a viable component of the site; • Distribution of the species within the site; • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species; • Structure, function and supporting the species; • No significant disturbance of the species. 	<p>To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and,</p> <p>To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the longer term:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population of the species as a viable component of the site; • Distribution of the species within the site; • Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species; • Structure, function and supporting the species; • No significant disturbance of the species.

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

	Site 1 Black Cart	Site 2 Inner Clyde	Site 3 Renfrewshire Heights
Site Condition	Whooper swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>), non-breeding; Favourable declining.	Redshank (<i>Tringa tetanus</i>), non-breeding; Favourable maintained.	Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>), breeding: Unfavourable declining.
Factors Currently Influencing the Site	<p>Land use changes affecting roosting and feeding habitat in the wider Black Cart floodplain.</p> <p>Grazing management.</p> <p>Disturbance from development, land use or access (could increase recreational access, including dogs off the lead)</p> <p>Changes to water quality of Black Cart and associated impacts on submerges aquatic vegetation feeding resource</p> <p>Bird management for air safety</p>	<p>Riverfront development.</p> <p>Changes to water quality.</p> <p>Recreational access (particularly dogs off leash)</p> <p>Fisheries management – fishing/ shellfish harvesting.</p>	<p>Moorland management practices.</p> <p>Predation of nests.</p>
Vulnerabilities to change/potential effects of the Plan	<p>Development within AMIDS and CWRR could have potential for impacts.</p> <p>Inchinnan Cycleway</p>	<p>Riverfront development could have potential for impacts in some cases.</p> <p>City Deal Investment - Clyde Waterfront Renfrew Riverside project and associated development.</p>	<p>Not currently considered vulnerable to development in Renfrewshire.</p>

Stage 4 – Method and scope of appraisal

- 4.14 A Habitats Regulations Appraisal was conducted in preparing the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014).
- 4.15 Scottish Natural Heritage was consulted upon in relation to the method and scope of this appraisal. It is considered that the main components outlined in the Local Development Plan Proposed Plan remain relevant. Therefore, the appraisal of the current Local Development Plan, along with the associated appropriate assessments, has provided the basis of the method and scope of the appraisal of the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019).
- 4.16 This Appraisal focuses on the key changes to the Policy Framework since the adoption of the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014).
- 4.17 A significant change within the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) compared to the current Renfrewshire Local Development Plan is the associated development of the Glasgow City Region City Deal Investment.
- 4.18 As set out in Figure 3, City Deal Investment AMIDS and Clyde Waterfront Renfrew Riverside could have a potential impact on Special Protected Area sites at Black Cart and Inner Clyde.
- 4.19 Scottish Natural Heritage has been consulted throughout the City Deal Investment planning application process including the preparation of Environmental Impact Assessments for the AMIDS and Clyde Waterfront Renfrew Riverside City Deal projects. The guidance and feedback provided by SNH in the City Deal projects consultation process has been considered in the preparation of this Habitat Regulations Appraisal.

Screening stages 5-7

Stage 5 – Screen the Plan for likely significant effects on European sites

- 4.20 The Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019), its policies and allocated sites was screened for likely significant effects alone and in-combination using the template provided within the Scottish Natural Heritage Habitats Regulations Appraisal of Plans Guidance as updated in 2015.
- 4.21 A group of criteria by which the individual policies and proposed sites were screened alone and in-combination with other policies within the Proposed

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) have been set out in Figure 4 the screening matrix.

4.21 Aspects which will not lead to development or change:

- (i). general policy statements which do not contribute to potential development or land use change, such as the Spatial Strategy;
- (ii). proposals which are not contained within the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019), such as policy I3 – Fastlink;
- (iii). policies that are designed to protect the natural environment, notably Environment policies (Green belt, Natural heritage, etc);
- (iv). policies with a provision for development or change however have no link or ‘pathway’ to have an impact on any Natura 2000 site, such as Policy P1 – Renfrewshire’s places;
- (v). policies which do promote change of land use however will have no or minimal effect, such as Policy P3 – Housing mix and Affordable housing and P4 – Additional housing sites, and;

- (vi). general policies with limited information on where development or change may be implemented.

4.22 Figure 4, the screening matrix, identifies the aspects of the Plan which will not themselves lead development or change, have been 'screened out' under the criteria groups outlined above and no appropriate assessment is required.

4.23 Those policies ‘screened in’ and where no straightforward mitigation measures can be identified require an appropriate assessment. An Appropriate Assessment is completed in Section 5 of this Habitats Regulations Appraisal.

4.24 Policy C1 - Renfrewshire Network of Centres was screened in during the Habitats Regulation Assessment of the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan. It has been screened out in this appraisal as a result of no significant policy change and the appropriate mitigation remains in place.

4.25 Mitigation included within the Habitats Regulation Assessment of the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan is as follows *'It is recognised that Erskine Town Centre is near the Inner Clyde SPA. In order to secure the centre's vitality and viability and to ensure that it will continue to provide services to the local communities without adversely affecting the integrity of the neighbouring Natura site, an appropriate caveat was included within Policy C1. The caveat is site specific, relating only to Erskine Town Centre, and it should allow adequate flexibility for development to proceed without the integrity of the Inner Clyde SPA being adversely affected.'*



Figure 4: Screening matrix

Policies	Supplementary Guidance	Policy Change from LDP1	potential for significant change to previous Plan	General policy statements	Not generated by the Proposed Plan	Protective, enhancement and conservation policies	Does not promote development and/or change	Provision of change with no link or pathway to qualifying features	Provision for change with no or minimal effects	General policy with limited information on where, when or how policy/development will be implemented	Screened in / Screened out
Spatial Strategy		No significant change		✓							OUT
E1 – Renfrewshire’s Economic Investment Locations	Economic Development Criteria Economic Investment Locations	New Economic Investment Location added – Netherton Farm	✓								IN
E2 – City Deal Investment Framework	Economic Development Criteria Economic Investment Locations	New policy	✓								IN
E3 – Transition Area	Economic Development Criteria Transition Areas	Erskine Riverfront boundary change	✓								IN
E4 – Tourism	Economic Development Criteria Development out with Renfrewshire’s Economic Investment Locations Tourism	No significant change								✓	OUT
E5 – Glasgow Airport	Economic Development Criteria Glasgow Airport	Boundary change	✓								IN

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policies	Supplementary Guidance	Policy Change from LDP1	potential for significant change to previous Plan	General policy statements	Not generated by the Proposed Plan	Protective, enhancement and conservation policies	Does not promote development and/or change	Provision of change with no link or pathway to qualifying features	Provision for change with no or minimal effects	General policy with limited information on where, when or how policy/development will be implemented	Screened in / Screened out
C1 – Renfrewshire’s Network of Centres	Centres Development Criteria Strategic Centres and Core Town Centres Local Service Centres and Village Centres Commercial Centres Meeting Local Neighbourhood Demand Hot Food; Public Houses; Licensed Venues and Amusement Arcades	No significant change; appropriate mitigation in place							✓		OUT
C2 – Development out with Renfrewshire’s Network of Centres	Centres Development Criteria Strategic Centres and Core Town Centres Local Service Centres and Village Centres Commercial Centres Meeting Local Neighbourhood Demand Hot Food; Public Houses; Licensed Venues and Amusement Arcades	No significant change						✓			OUT
I1 – Connecting Places	Infrastructure Development Criteria Connecting Places	No significant change								✓	OUT

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policies	Supplementary Guidance	Policy Change from LDP1	potential for significant change to previous Plan	General policy statements	Not generated by the Proposed Plan	Protective, enhancement and conservation policies	Does not promote development and/or change	Provision of change with no link or pathway to qualifying features	Provision for change with no or minimal effects	General policy with limited information on where, when or how policy/development will be implemented	Screened in / Screened out
I2 – Freight	Infrastructure Development Criteria Connecting Places	Glasgow Airport identified as a Strategic Freight Transport Hub in Clydeplan (2017)	✓								IN
I3 – Flooding and Drainage	Infrastructure Development Criteria Flooding and Drainage	No significant change				✓					OUT
I4 – Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments	Infrastructure Development Criteria Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Developments	No significant change							✓		OUT
I5 – Waste Management	Infrastructure Development Criteria	No significant change								✓	OUT
P1 – Renfrewshire's Places	Places Development Criteria Creating Places	No significant change						✓			OUT
P2 – Housing Land Supply	Alterations and Extensions to Existing Properties Residential development within	No significant change						✓			OUT
P3 – Housing Mix and Affordable Housing	Garden Grounds Change of Use from Amenity Space to Garden Ground	New Policy							✓		OUT
P4 – Sites for Gypsies/ Travellers and Travelling	Core Town Centre Upper Floor Residential Developments	New policy								✓	OUT

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policies	Supplementary Guidance	Policy Change from LDP1	potential for significant change to previous Plan	General policy statements	Not generated by the Proposed Plan	Protective, enhancement and conservation policies	Does not promote development and/or change	Provision of change with no link or pathway to qualifying features	Provision for change with no or minimal effects	General policy with limited information on where, when or how policy/development will be implemented	Screened in / Screened out
Showpeople	Re-use / Redevelopment of Institutional Premises Affordable Housing Gypsy Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Development Green Network and Infrastructure										
P5 – Green/Blue Network	Places Development Criteria Green Network and Infrastructure Open Space Open Space Provisions in New Developments Regional Parks	No significant change				✓					OUT
P6 – Open Space	Places Development Criteria Open Space Open Space Provisions in New Developments Regional Parks	No significant change				✓					OUT
P7 – Dargavel Village	Meeting Local Neighbourhood Demand Provision for Waste Recycling in New Developments Re-use/Redevelopment of Institutional Premises Affordable Housing Green Network and Infrastructure	New Policy							✓		OUT

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policies	Supplementary Guidance	Policy Change from LDP1	potential for significant change to previous Plan	General policy statements	Not generated by the Proposed Plan	Protective, enhancement and conservation policies	Does not promote development and/or change	Provision of change with no link or pathway to qualifying features	Provision for change with no or minimal effects	General policy with limited information on where, when or how policy/development will be implemented	Screened in / Screened out
	Open Space Provision in New Developments Air Quality Contaminated Land										
ENV1 – Green Belt	Environmental Development Criteria Acceptable forms of development in the Green Belt Green Belt Green Belt Development Criteria Housing in the Green Belt	No significant change				✓					OUT
ENV2 – Natural Heritage	Environmental Development Criteria Natural Heritage Trees, Woodland and Forestry Biodiversity International Designations National Designations Wild Land Local Designations: Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs)/ Local Nature Reserves (LNR)	No significant change				✓					OUT
ENV3 – Built and Cultural Heritage	Environmental Development Criteria	No significant change				✓					OUT

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policies	Supplementary Guidance	Policy Change from LDP1	potential for significant change to previous Plan	General policy statements	Not generated by the Proposed Plan	Protective, enhancement and conservation policies	Does not promote development and/or change	Provision of change with no link or pathway to qualifying features	Provision for change with no or minimal effects	General policy with limited information on where, when or how policy/development will be implemented	Screened in / Screened out
	Conservation Area Listed Buildings Enabling Development Demolition of Listed Buildings Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites										
ENV4 – The Water Environment	Environmental Development Criteria The Water Environment	No significant change				✓					OUT
ENV5 – Air Quality	Environmental Development Criteria Air Quality	No significant change				✓					OUT
ENV6 – Natural Resources (Minerals and Soil)	Environmental Development Criteria Natural Resources – Minerals Natural Resources - Soil	No significant change				✓					OUT
ENV 7 – Temporary Enhancement of Unused or Underused Land	Environmental Development Criteria	New Policy				✓					OUT

Figure 5: Screening Matrix of Allocated Sites

Allocated Sites	Potential likely significant effect on a Natura 2000 Site	Screened in/out
West of Burnfoot Road, Lochwinnoch	No	OUT
South of Woodend House, Houston Road, Houston	No	OUT
Beardmore Cottages, Inchinnan (self-build plots)	Yes	IN
Manse Crescent, Houston (self-build plots)	No	OUT
Renfrew Golf Course, car park area	No	OUT
Golf Driving Range, Rannoch Road, Johnstone	No	OUT

Stage 6 – Policy Assessment

- 4.25 Scottish Natural Heritage guidance states that a policy that has been ‘screened in’ and therefore have a likely significant effect must go through appropriate assessment where mitigation can be applied.
- 4.26 3 of the 5 policies ‘screened in’ were assessed in the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014). An appropriate assessment was completed for each of these policies and suitable mitigation measures were taken.
- 4.27 While only minor changes have been made to these policies it is important to consider what further mitigation measures may be required in light of the time passed since the previous assessment.
- 4.28 Figure 6 assesses the five policies of the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) which have been screened in to consider any likely significant effects on any Natura 2000 site.



Figure 6: Summary of the likely significant effects resulting from policies

Policy where there is potential for a likely significant effect	Natura Site/s which will be affected	Qualifying interest on the site	Summary of the likely Significant Effects
E1 – Renfrewshire’s Economic Investment Locations	Black Cart SPA	Whooper Swan (Cygnus Cygnus), non-breeding	<p>The Council identifies and promotes Economic Investment Locations as the most suitable and sustainable for the development of Class 4, 5 and 6 developments and ancillary service provision. A number of Economic Investment Locations were identified in the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014). It is well serviced by existing transport networks and key infrastructure, it is important to note that Glasgow Airport is also identified as a Strategic Freight Transport Hub in the Clydeplan SDP (2017). The Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) aims to secure the principles of the Spatial Strategy in each new development and therefore all development proposals will require to be considered in relation to the spatial strategy diagrams and overarching policy. Although it is possible that development at the Economic Investment Locations could have a likely significant effect on the Natura 2000 site. In recognition of the potential effect that economic development proposals could have on the Black Cart and the Inner Clyde SPA Policy E1 includes a specific reference to Natura 2000 sites.</p>
E2 – City Deal Investment Framework	Black Cart SPA and Inner Clyde SPA	Whooper Swan (Cygnus Cygnus), non-breeding and Redshank (Tringa tetanus), non-breeding	<p>The aim of this policy is to promote investment opportunities within Renfrewshire’s Economic Investment Locations identified within the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019). AMIDS has been identified as an Economic Investment Location; development of this area may result in land use changes affecting grazing management and the roosting and feeding habitat in the wider Black Cart floodplain. The land use change of this area will bring a positive effect as there have been issues with Whooper Swans flying between Netherton Farm and the Black Cart SPA over airport land which causes concern for flight collision. Changing this area from agricultural use is likely to reduce the potential for flight collision risk reducing any likely significant effects. The Economic Investment Location at Erskine Riverfront has been removed in the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) and is now included in Policy E3 – Transition Areas.</p> <p>The Policy enables the benefits and opportunities of City Deal investment to be delivered as well as supporting the implementation of potential developments across Renfrewshire. The areas that are being developed through</p>

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policy where there is potential for a likely significant effect	Natura Site/s which will be affected	Qualifying interest on the site	Summary of the likely Significant Effects
			<p>the City Deal Investment projects are identified in the current Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014) as Investment Locations which will support economic growth.</p> <p>The policy seeks to support the delivery of the Glasgow City Region City Deal projects in Renfrewshire, namely the AMIDS and the Clyde Waterfront & Renfrew Riverside.</p> <p>Those projects are within 2km of the stated Natura 2000 sites. Major infrastructure developments to be delivered near the Black Cart SPA and Inner Clyde SPA could impact on the grazing management and roosting and feeding habitat in the wider Black Cart floodplain. Previously Scottish Natural Heritage had set a 300m threshold for any proposed development that falls within this threshold from the boundary of the SPA. Having reviewed evidence Scottish Natural Heritage have amended the threshold for considering potential disturbance to feeding redshank to 150m due to the evidence supporting the conclusion that Flight Initiation Distance typically lies within 50-100m.</p>
E3 – Transition Area	Inner Clyde SPA	Redshank (Tringa tetanus), non-breeding	<p>Erskine Riverfront is identified in the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan as a Transition Area. Appropriate mitigation was delivered through the Habitats Regulations Appraisal (2013). This area has been extended in the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019). Riverfront development and improvement to water quality at Erskine Riverfront has the potential to increase the use of the area for recreational access and in particularly the exercising of dogs which has the potential to affect the Redshank population in the area.</p> <p>Development of the Candren, Paisley another Transition Area, could have the potential impact on a Whooper Swan roost area due to the nearby Black Cart Water. Mitigation measures will be required at appropriate assessment.</p>
E5 – Glasgow	Black Cart SPA	Whooper Swan (Cygnus	Land identified through Policy E5 is within close proximity to the boundary of the Black Cart SPA raising the potential for land use changes which may affect the swan’s roosting and feeding habitat, and/or the grazing

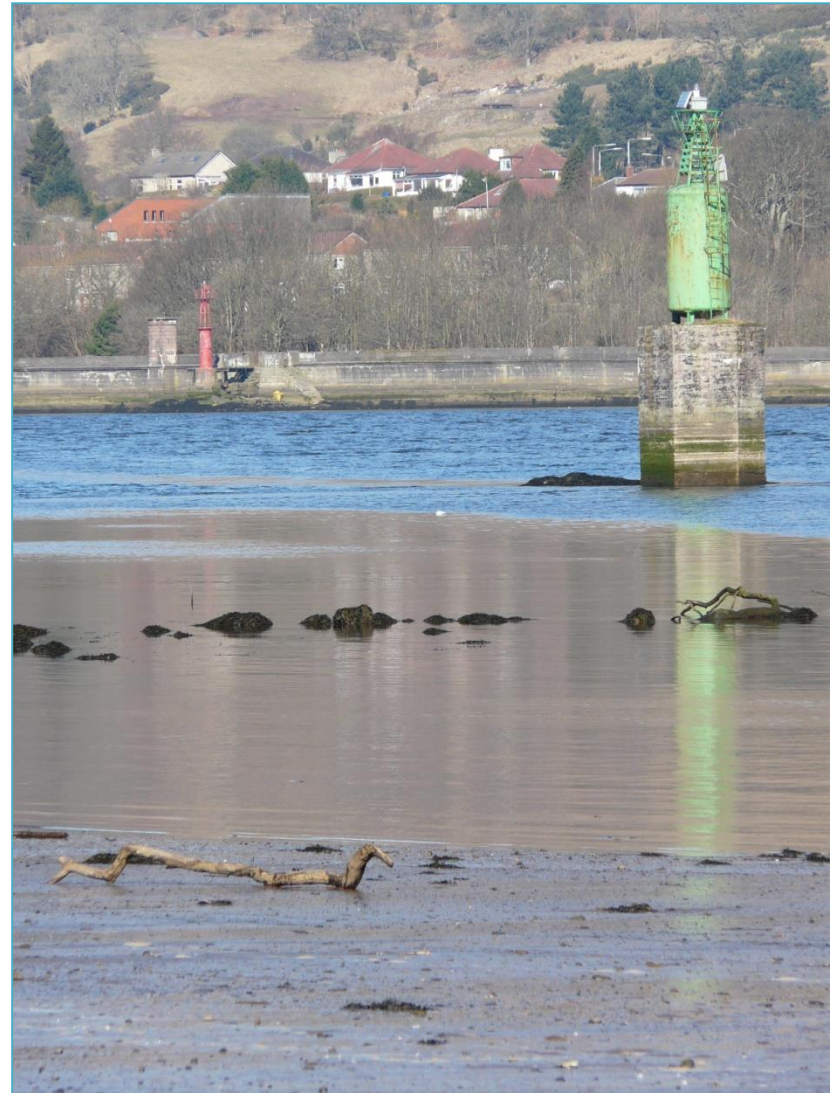
Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policy where there is potential for a likely significant effect	Natura Site/s which will be affected	Qualifying interest on the site	Summary of the likely Significant Effects
Airport		Cygnus), non-breeding	management of land used by the Whooper Swans. It is possible that development at Glasgow Airport could potentially have a likely significant effect on the Natura 2000 site.
I2 –Freight	Black Cart SPA	Whooper Swan (Cygnus Cygnus), non-breeding	<p>Policy I2 aims to safeguard Strategic Freight Transport Hubs in order to facilitate future investment in freight related activity and services. Glasgow Airport was identified in Clydeplan (2017) as a Strategic Freight Transport Hub with City Deal Investment identified as an opportunity to enhance the freight and transport opportunities in the area.</p> <p>Any enhancement or development to the existing freight connections may impact on the grazing management of the wider Black Cart floodplain and affect roosting and feeding patterns of Whooper Swan.</p> <p>It is possible that there may be in-combination effects that could have a likely significant effect on the Natura 2000 site. Mitigation measures cannot be identified at this stage.</p>

Stage 7 - Conclusion of Likely Significant Effects Stage and Appropriate Assessment.

4.29 The above five policies all have a likely significant effect on Natura 2000 sites. Therefore, it is considered that an appropriate assessment is required for the following five policies of the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) that were ‘screened in’;

- E1 – Renfrewshire’s Economic Investment Locations;
- E2 – City Deal Investment Framework;
- E3 – Transition Areas;
- E5 – Glasgow Airport, and;
- I2 – Freight.



5. Appropriate Assessment

Policies alone and in-combination

- 5.1 An ‘appropriate assessment’ is required where aspects within the Plan would be likely to have a significant effect on any Natura 2000 site either alone or in-combination within the plan or other plans/projects. The assessment will consider what effects the policies/projects could have on all aspects of the Plan and outline what appropriate mitigation measures will be taken.
- 5.2 The in-combination assessment has taken into consideration all aspects of the Plan with only the following aspects being excluded from this: Those which have no effect at all on any European sites; General policy statements; Projects referred to in, but not proposed by the Plan; and those which are too general in nature.

Figure 7: Appropriate Assessment, mitigation and conclusion

Policy	Mitigation	Conclusion
E1 - Renfrewshire’s Economic Investment Locations	<p>The potential impact of development under this policy on Black Cart SPA has been identified throughout the appraisal process. All developments will be assessed in relation to Scottish Planning Policy and the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) policy framework and Spatial Strategy.</p> <p>Appropriate mitigation was provided in the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014) which will be carried forward into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019); this will extend the mitigation to include Netherton Farm for AMIDS which is an addition to Renfrewshire’s Economic Investment Locations. The mitigation from the 2014 Local Development Plan included the recognition of the potential effect that economic development proposals could have on the two Natura sites and that the policy was amended to include specific reference to Natura 2000 sites.</p> <p>Policy E1 – Renfrewshire’s Economic Investment Locations has been amended to include specific reference to the protection of Natura 2000 sites, the following caveat has been included in the policy.</p> <p>‘Development proposals must demonstrate that development does not have an adverse effect on the integrity of</p>	<p>It is considered that appropriate mitigation has been provided. No in-combination or individual effects are likely.</p>

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policy	Mitigation	Conclusion
	<p>any Natura 2000 sites.'</p> <p>In-combination effects on: Black Cart SPA – Whooper Swans (non breeding). There are potential in-combination effects with Policy E2 – City Deal Investment Framework and I2 – Freight, however there is adequate flexibility in the policy to mitigate any in-combination adverse effects on any Natura 2000 site. Mitigation will also be taken forward through City Deal Investment projects where appropriate.</p>	
<p>E2 - City Deal Investment Framework</p>	<p>Mitigation measures have been outlined within the Environmental Impact Assessment carried out to support the planning applications for City Deal Investment projects at AMIDS and Clyde Waterfront & Renfrew Riverside, this includes:</p> <p><i>'construction of the Inchinnan Cycleway will be undertaken outwith the wintering period when the qualifying interest is present. A hedgerow will be created on the western boundary of the Inchinnan Cycleway to provide visual screening reducing disturbance to the qualifying interest. Screening will be installed along the Cycleway until the hedgerow has reached maturity and is fully established.'</i></p> <p>The mitigation measures outlined mean that no individual effects are likely.</p> <p>Policy E2 – City Deal Investment Framework has been amended to include specific reference to the protection of Natura 2000 sites, the following caveat has been included in the policy.</p> <p>'Development proposals must demonstrate that development does not have an adverse effect on the integrity of any Natura 2000 sites.'</p> <p>In-combination effects on:</p> <p>Black Cart SPA – Whooper Swans (non breeding) Inner Clyde SPA – Redshank (non breeding)</p> <p>Appropriate mitigation was provided in the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014) for Policy E1 – Renfrewshire's Economic Investment Locations which has been extended to the inclusion of Netherton</p>	<p>Following a meeting held in March 2017 with Scottish Natural Heritage it was confirmed that through application of suitable mitigation, Scottish Natural Heritage consider there to be no likely significant effects on Black Cart SPA.</p> <p>It is considered that appropriate mitigation has been provided within Policy E2 and those policies within the plan where a potential in-combination effect may occur.</p> <p>Further mitigation will</p>

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policy	Mitigation	Conclusion
	<p>Farm in the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019).</p> <p>Policy I2 – Freight includes Glasgow Airport which has been identified as a Strategic Freight Transport Hub in Clydeplan (2017), City Deal Investment will provide improved transport access to the Airport. Suitable mitigation has been provided in policy E2 – City Deal Investment Framework and through City Deal Investment projects to mitigate in-combination effects.</p>	<p>also be taken forward through City Deal Investment projects.</p>
<p>E3 - Transition Areas</p>	<p>This Policy was screened in during the Habitats Regulations Appraisal of the current adopted Renfrewshire Local development Plan (2014) and was amended to include appropriate mitigation specific to Natura 2000 sites.</p> <p>This mitigation has been carried forward into the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) which will include the expanded area of Erskine Riverfront. The mitigation recognised the proximity of Erskine Riverfront to the Inner Clyde SPA and the potential for development to cause an adverse effect on the integrity of site ensuring any development demonstrates that it does not have an adverse effect on any Natura 2000 site.</p> <p>Development and land use change through this policy will continue to be assessed in relation to Scottish Planning Policy and the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) Spatial Strategy and Policy Framework.</p> <p>In-combination effects on:</p> <p>Inner Clyde SPA – Redshank (non breeding)</p> <p>Erskine Riverfront is within close proximity to the Inner Clyde SPA. The development promoted within Policy E1 of Erskine Riverfront has the potential to negatively impact on the Natura 2000 site.</p> <p>Mitigation has been provided through a caveat within each of these policies seeking development to demonstrate no adverse affect on the Natura 2000 site.</p> <p>Black Cart SPA – Whooper Swans (non breeding)</p> <p>Candren, Paisley has been identified as a potential main secondary roost for the Whooper Swans of the Black Cart SPA. The development promoted within Policy E1 of Candren has the potential to negatively impact on the</p>	<p>It is considered that appropriate mitigation has been provided. No in-combination or individual effects are likely.</p>

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policy	Mitigation	Conclusion
	<p>Whooper Swan’s access to feeding ground.</p> <p>Mitigation has been provided through a caveat within each of the policies seeking development to prove no adverse effect on the Natura 2000 site therefore preventing impact on the Whooper Swan’s within the Black Cart SPA.</p>	
E5 - Glasgow Airport	<p>Policy E5 has been updated with a caveat in recognition of the proximity of Glasgow Airport to the Black Cart SPA.</p> <p>This will provide flexibility for the delivery of development whilst protecting the integrity of the Natura 2000 site.</p> <p>Development and land use change through this policy will continue to be assessed in relation to Scottish Planning Policy and the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) Spatial Strategy and Policy Framework.</p> <p>In-combination effects on:</p> <p>Black Cart SPA – Whooper swans (non breeding)</p> <p>It is possible that development close to Black Cart SPA may occur as a result of Policy E5 and Policy E1 in-combination, however mitigation has been provided within both policies to provide flexibility for the delivery of development whilst maintaining and protecting the integrity of the Natura 2000 site.</p>	<p>It is considered that appropriate mitigation has been provided within Policy E5 and those policies within the plan where a potential in-combination effect may occur.</p>
I2 - Freight	<p>Enhancements to the existing freight network to support improvements to the transport network and increase economic benefit to Renfrewshire will be supported through the Proposed Plan.</p> <p>Development and land use change through this policy will continue to be assessed in relation to Scottish Planning Policy and the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) Spatial Strategy and Policy Framework.</p> <p>Renfrewshire Council will support the movement of freight by alternative means to the road network. Clydeplan (2017) has identified the opportunities that will be provided by City Deal Investment projects to support the expansion of Glasgow airport as a freight hub in support of the Glasgow city region economy.</p>	<p>It is considered that the policy has sufficient flexibility combined with the mitigation applied to the policies E1 and E2 to protect the conservation aims at the Natura 2000 site.</p>

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Policy	Mitigation	Conclusion
	<p>In-combination effects on:</p> <p>Black Cart SPA – Whooper Swans (non breeding)</p> <p>AMIDS and the potential in-combination effects with development in this area and enhancements to the Strategic Freight Transport Hubs at Glasgow Airport have been considered for in-combination effects.</p> <p>Policies E1 and E2 have had appropriate mitigation applied through this appraisal to mitigate the impacts of development on any Natura 2000 sites.</p>	

In-combination effects with other plans or projects

- 5.15 An appropriate assessment of the screened in policies and the potential in combination effects of these screened in policies was completed and suitable mitigation provided as shown in Figure 6.
- 5.16 Consideration of the in-combination effects with other plans or projects beyond the Proposed Plan have also been considered.
- 5.17 The plans and projects that may have an in-combination effect with the screened in policies within the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) are:
- i. Clydeplan (2017)
 - ii. West Dunbartonshire Local Development Plan, Main Issues Report (2017)
 - iii. Inverclyde Local Development Plan, Main Issues Report (2017)
 - iv. North Ayrshire Local Development Plan, Main Issues (2017)
 - v. Argyll and Bute Local Development Plan, Main Issues Report (2017)
 - vi. Renfrewshire’s Core Paths Plan
 - vii. Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy 2016-2021 & Strategic Housing Investment Programme 2018/19 – 2022/23
 - viii. Glasgow Airport Draft Masterplan (2011)
 - ix. Glasgow City Region City Deal Infrastructure projects; Glasgow Airport Investment Area and Clyde Waterfront & Renfrew Riverside.
- 5.18 The in-combination effects of the identified plans and projects have been considered against the Natura 2000 sites Black Cart SPA and Inner Clyde SPA as these have been identified in the screening process as the sites likely to be effected by the screened in polices.
- 5.19 Figure 8 outlines the potential in-combination effects of the plan and projects identified by each of the Natura 2000 sites.

Figure 8: In-combination effects of Other Plans and Projects

Black Cart SPA				
Plan or project	HRA conducted?	How the plan or project will impact upon the site and to what extent.	Potential interactions with the ‘development sites’	Will the Proposed Plan have an in-combination effect on a European site?
Clydeplan (2017)	Yes	<p>The Glasgow Airport Investment Area has been identified within Clydeplan as a Strategic Economic Investment Area and a Strategic Freight Transport Hub. Clydeplan also considers the opportunities for increased connectivity to international, national and regional markets with City Deal infrastructure development in the area.</p> <p>Development in this area could impact on the Whooper Swan population as a result of physical loss of habitat and as a result of non physical disturbance arising from site works associated with industrial and economic development. Development may also affect the foraging of Whooper Swans out with the Black Cart SPA.</p>	<p>The strategic policy framework for the Local Development Plan is set by Clydeplan.</p> <p>This Habitat Regulations Appraisal for the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Proposed Plan and the Habitat Regulations Appraisal for Clydeplan both recognise the sensitivity of the Black Cart SPA and its conservation value. As such, appropriate mitigation measures have been taken to ensure the interaction does not result in an adverse effect on the Natura 2000 site.</p>	No
Glasgow Airport Draft Master Plan (2011)	No	<p>The Glasgow Airport Draft Master Plan sets out the land use at the airport up to 2020 in detail and expands some considerations to 2040. The proposed land use up to 2020 shows no changes to the airport land boundary however the current boundary is adjacent to the Black Cart</p>	<p>The Draft Master Plan covers the land use at Glasgow Airport, an area that is identified within the Proposed Plan of strategic economic importance and the Airport’s land use requirements are considered within the Proposed Plan. The Renfrewshire Local Development Plan covers a 5 year period</p>	No

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Black Cart SPA				
Plan or project	HRA conducted?	How the plan or project will impact upon the site and to what extent.	Potential interactions with the 'development sites'	Will the Proposed Plan have an in-combination effect on a European site?
		SPA.	<p>however the Glasgow Airport Master Plan covers a larger time period (up to 2040 in areas).</p> <p>A caveat has been included within the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Proposed Plan to mitigate any likely significant effect alone and in-combination.</p>	
West Dunbartonshire Local Development Plan, Main Issues Report (2017)	No	<p>West Dunbartonshire Local Development Plan Main Issues Report (2017) considers the options around the Clyde Crossing City Deal Project. As highlighted in this Habitat Regulations Appraisal record, The City Deal Infrastructure Investment projects at the Clyde Waterfront & Renfrew Riverside will have no likely significant effects.</p> <p>As the infrastructure project will improve surface transport across Glasgow, West Dunbartonshire and Renfrewshire, the development and land use change are considered within the West Dunbartonshire Local Development Plan Main Issues Report (2017).</p>	<p>Land uses within West Dunbartonshire will not be confirmed until the adoption of the Proposed Plan at which point a Habitat Regulations Appraisal will be confirmed.</p> <p>At present, it is considered that there are no in-combination effects arising from the interaction of the two plans.</p>	No

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Black Cart SPA				
Plan or project	HRA conducted?	How the plan or project will impact upon the site and to what extent.	Potential interactions with the 'development sites'	Will the Proposed Plan have an in-combination effect on a European site?
Glasgow City Region City Deal Infrastructure projects; Clyde Waterfront & Renfrew Riverside and Glasgow Airport Investment Area (2017)	No	<p>Scottish Natural Heritage requested further information on the proposed cycle bridge crossing over the Black Cart Water.</p> <p>A full assessment of the impacts of construction and operation of the cycleway on the qualifying bird species at the Black Cart SPA was conducted.</p>	<p>Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Proposed Plan Policy E3 supports the delivery of the City Deal projects.</p> <p>The Clyde Waterfront & Renfrew Riverside and Glasgow Airport Investment Area projects are led by Renfrewshire Council. A comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment was undertaken to support planning applications for the major infrastructure projects.</p> <p>Scottish Natural Heritage were consulted during the assessment and full assessment of the impact on the qualifying interest, wintering Whooper Swan population at the Black Cart SPA and appropriate mitigation was undertaken. Appropriate mitigation has been agreed with Scottish Natural Heritage .</p>	No

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Inner Clyde SPA				
Plan or project	HRA conducted?	How the plan or project will impact upon the site and to what extent.	Potential interactions with the 'development sites'	Will the Proposed Plan have an in-combination effect on a European site?
Renfrewshire Core Path Plan	No	The Core Paths Plan designates and promotes Renfrewshire's Core Paths; the plan identifies a route along the River Clyde, which exists as a formal promenade. Improvements to this route could cause disturbance to the protected bird species due to increased recreational use (particularly for dog walking off lead).	<p>The route identified in the Core Paths Plan alongside the River Clyde corresponds with an area identified within the Proposed Plan's Transition Areas (Policy E3).</p> <p>Many of the core paths identified within the Core Paths Plan are already in existence and have been for a number of years. Any Core Paths crossing a development site will be taken into consideration at the time of the development. The likely significant effects on any Natura 2000 sites have been appropriately mitigated in the Proposed Plan.</p>	No
West Dunbartonshire Local Development Plan, Main Issues Report (2017)	No	<p>Development of Key Regeneration Sites at Dumbarton Waterfront, Esso Bowling, Carless and Queens Quay would all impact upon the SPA.</p> <p>The Main Issues Report (2017) preferred option for the regeneration sites referenced will likely have a short term impact on the protected bird species due to a change in land use and subsequent reduction in water quality.</p>	<p>Land uses within West Dunbartonshire will not be confirmed until the adoption of the Proposed Plan at which point a Habitat Regulations Appraisal will be confirmed.</p> <p>At present, it is considered that there are no in-combination effects arising from the interaction of the two plans.</p>	No

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Inner Clyde SPA				
Plan or project	HRA conducted?	How the plan or project will impact upon the site and to what extent.	Potential interactions with the 'development sites'	Will the Proposed Plan have an in-combination effect on a European site?
Inverclyde Local Development Plan Proposed Plan (2019)	Yes	<p>A number of sites along the Inverclyde Riverfront have been designated within the Local Development Plan Main Issues Report (2017) as areas of 'Major Change' and areas of 'Potential Change'. The preferred option is to carry forward the approved strategies for these areas from the current Inverclyde Local Development Plan.</p> <p>The potential for land use and water quality change in these areas designated for major or potential change will likely impact on the protected bird species.</p>	A Habitat Regulations Appraisal has been completed for the adopted Inverclyde Local Development Plan and the 2017 Main Issues Report. No likely significant effects have been found through these Habitats Regulations Appraisal records and as such there is no likely impact in combination with the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Proposed Plan.	No
Argyll and Bute Council Local Development Plan 2, Main Issues Report (2017)	No	<p>The Argyll & Bute Local Development Plan Main Issues Report (2017) outlines an area along the north of the designated SPA site as the Helensburgh and Lomond Growth Area.</p> <p>The preferred option for the Growth Area includes delivering population growth, economic and employment opportunities through development and land use change.</p>	Argyll and Bute have not set a firm resolution to the land use change and development at the Helensburgh and Lomond Growth Area within the MIR, however appropriate mitigation has been applied within the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Proposed Plan to avoid likely significant effect on the Natura 2000 site alone or in-combination therefore it is considered that there are no likely in-combination effects between the two plans.	No

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Inner Clyde SPA				
Plan or project	HRA conducted?	How the plan or project will impact upon the site and to what extent.	Potential interactions with the 'development sites'	Will the Proposed Plan have an in-combination effect on a European site?
Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy 2016-2021 & Strategic Housing Investment Programme 2018/19 – 2022/23	No	<p>The Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy sets out how Renfrewshire Council and partners will deliver solutions to meet the housing needs of Renfrewshire residents. This includes the delivery of new affordable and private housing developments through the Strategic Housing Investment programme.</p> <p>The Local Housing Strategy highlights the need for affordable housing delivery in North and West Renfrewshire which includes Erskine.</p>	<p>Development at Erskine Riverfront has been identified in the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) and Erskine as a part of the wider North Renfrewshire Housing Sub Area in the Renfrewshire Local Housing Strategy.</p> <p>Renfrewshire's Local Housing Strategy and Local Development Plan work in partnership to deliver both affordable and private housing development. All housing development will be subject to the policies within the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan. Appropriate mitigation has been applied to the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Proposed Plan therefore no in-combination effects are likely.</p>	No

Renfrewshire Local Development Plan - Proposed Plan – Habitats Regulation Appraisal (2019)

Renfrewshire Heights SPA				
Plan or project	HRA conducted?	How the plan or project will impact upon the site and to what extent.	Potential interactions with the 'development sites'	Will the Proposed Plan have an in-combination effect on a European site?
North Ayrshire Local Development Plan (2018), Main Issues Report (2017)	Yes	<p>The North Ayrshire Local Development Plan Main Issues Report (2017) and the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development plan (2019) does not propose any new development along or within close proximity to the Renfrewshire Heights SPA.</p> <p>There has been no designation for windfarms along or in close proximity to the boundary of the Renfrewshire Heights SPA.</p>	There are no potential interactions with development sites.	No

Assessment of Allocated Sites

- 5.20 An appropriate assessment of the ‘screened in’ policies and other development plans and the potential impact and in-combination effects was completed, and suitable mitigation provided above.
- 5.21 Consideration of the potential impacts of allocated sites within the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Proposed Plan has also been considered.
- 5.22 Through the screening process the allocated site that may have a potential impact on the Natura 2000 sites within the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019) are:
- I. Beardmore Cottages, Inchinnan.
- 5.23 Erskine Riverfront is an allocated site within the Proposed Local Development Plan and will have an impact on the Inner Clyde SPA. However, Erskine Riverfront has already been considered under the appropriate assessment of Policy E3 - Transitions Areas with mitigation measures identified.
- 5.24 The potential impact of the allocated and proposed sites within the Renfrewshire Local Development Plan Proposed Plan have been considered against the Natura 2000 sites which are Black Cart SPA and Inner Clyde SPA as these have been identified in the screening process as the sites are likely to be affected by the allocated site.
- 5.25 Figure 8 outlines the potential effects of the allocated and proposed sites by each of the Natura 2000 sites.

Figure 9: Summary of the Potential Impacts of an Allocated Site

Renfrewshire Heights SPA			
Plan or project	How the allocated site will impact upon the SPA and to what extent.	Mitigation	Will the allocated site have an in-combination effect on a European site?
Beardmore Cottages, Inchinnan	The site is located 700m from Black Cart SPA. Whilst the site itself is not within the Black Cart SPA boundary, it is within the wider area used by the Whooper Swans for feeding. The impact on the Whooper Swan feeding area is not expected to be too significant as the allocated site is not a large site. The full extent of the impact can be determined when planning applications are submitted for the site.	Due to the scale of the site, no significant adverse effect on the Black Cart SPA and Whooper Swans is expected. To reduce any potential risk of impact, appropriate mitigation will be taken forward when the developable area of the site is determined. This will then minimise any impact potential impact on the Whooper Swan feeding area and the Black Cart SPA.	No

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The initial screening stages identified that five of the Proposed Plan policies could potentially have a likely significant effect upon any Natura 2000 site.
- 6.2 3 of the 5 policies screened in had been screened in during the Habitats Regulations Appraisal of the current adopted Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2014) and suitable mitigation was included in the plan following the appropriate assessment.
- 6.3 All five policies were assessed and alterations made to the policies or mitigation was carried forward from the current adopted Renfrewshire Local development Plan (2014) to mitigate the identified likely significant effects and then the plan was re-screened.
- 6.4 In-combination assessments were carried out for all aspects of the Plan and, following appropriate mitigation, there are no adverse effects on the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites as a result of in-combination effects.
- 6.4 Following this process of screening, appropriate assessment and applying mitigation, it is considered that the implementation of the policies in the Proposed Renfrewshire Local Development Plan (2019)

will not have any adverse effects on the site integrity of any Natura 2000 sites, either alone or in-combination.



This publication can be made available in Braille, large print or audio.

If you would like information in another language please ask us.

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਲਓ।

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.

 0300 300 0300

 localplanconsultation@renfrewshire.gov.uk