

**Strategic Environmental Assessment, Habitats  
Regulations Assessment and Marine Plan  
Screening Opinion for Tattenhall & District  
Neighbourhood Plan**

Prepared on behalf of Tattenhall & District Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group by  
Cheshire West and Chester Council

**September 2023**

## Contents

1. Introduction.....	2
2. Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening.....	7
3. Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening.....	9

Appendix 1: SEA Screening - Overview of policies and identified effects of the Tattenhall & District Neighbourhood Plan (August 2023)

Appendix 2: SEA Screening – Assessment of significant environmental effects of Tattenhall & District Neighbourhood Plan

Appendix 3: SEA Screening – Characteristics of the plan’s effects and of the area likely to be affected

Appendix 4: HRA Screening – European sites relevant to the Draft Neighbourhood Plan

Appendix 5: HRA Screening – Screening of Neighbourhood Plan policies for Likely Significant Effect

Appendix 6: Marine Plan Screening - Assessment of potential to impact on the Welsh marine plan area

## 1. Introduction

This screening opinion determines whether the draft Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), and/or a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) in accordance with the requirements of the

Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). It also assesses whether further work is required to ensure that the Neighbourhood Plan takes full account of the relevant Marine Plans.

Under the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, the responsible authority (i.e. the Local Planning Authority) must carry out an environmental assessment for any plan or programme that is prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, which sets the framework for future development consents of certain projects. It is likely that Development Plan Documents (DPDs), such as the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies and Neighbourhood Plans will require SEA as they will contain planning policies that influence the above list of topics, and which will be used to determine planning applications.

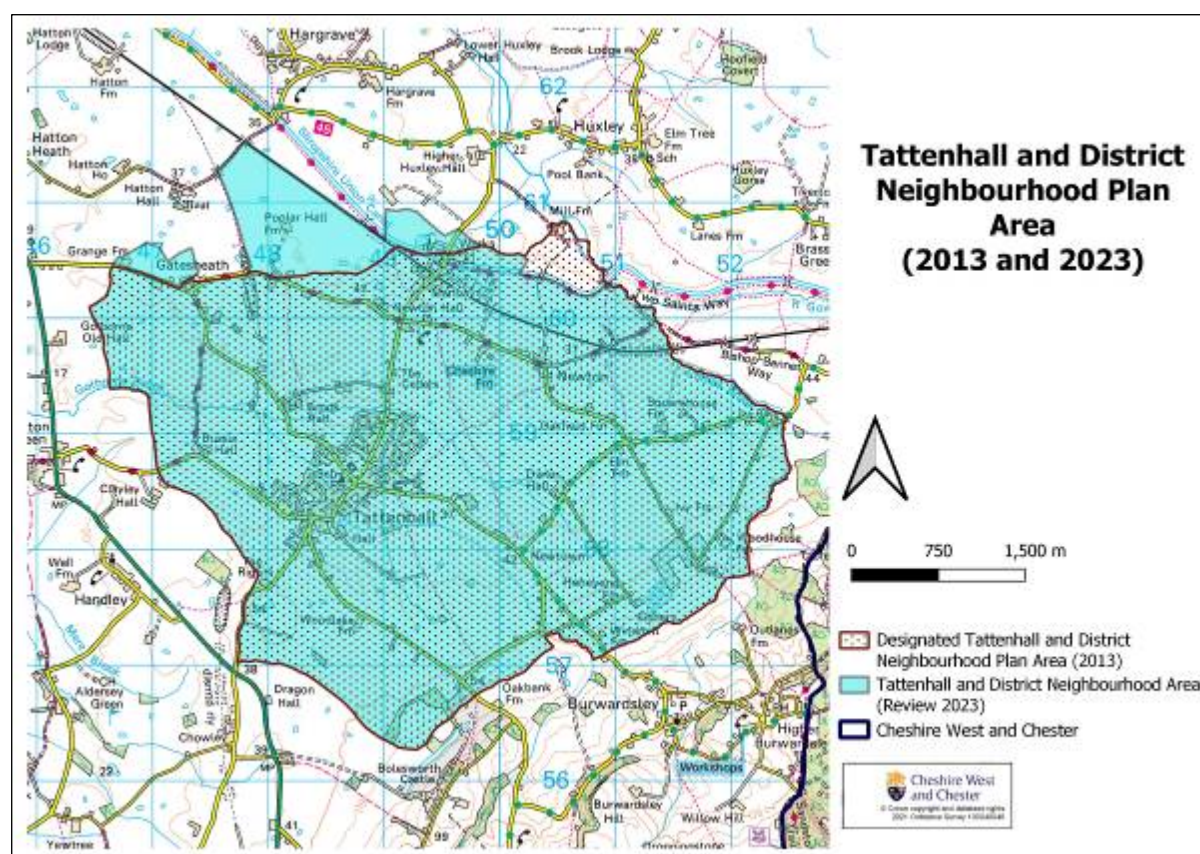
However, the regulations state that an environmental assessment need not be carried out for a plan or programme which determines the use of a small area at a local level unless it has been determined that the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects.

The regulations advise that a screening process is used to determine whether a plan is likely to have a significant effect on the environment. This process should use a specified set of criteria (set out in Schedule 1 of the regulations). The results of this process must be summarised in a SEA screening opinion, which is then sent to the statutory consultation bodies for comment. Once comments have been taken into account a screening determination is prepared setting out whether SEA is required and reasons for the decision and this must be made publicly available.

This screening opinion has been based upon the policies set out in the draft Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan – Five Year Review (August 2023).

### **Location and geographical scope of the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan – Five Year Review**

The revised Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Area is the area covered by Tattenhall and District Parish Council and follows the same boundary. It includes the settlements of Tattenhall, Newton, Tattenhall Marina, Newtown and Gatesheath. The Neighbourhood Area is located within the Tattenhall ward. The revised boundary only results in a change to the north, with three small parcels of land now included around Gatesheath, Poplar Hall Farm and Crow's Nest Bridge and now excludes land to the north of Newton-By-Tattenhall (which used to be within Tattenhall parish but is now outside the parish due to parish boundary changes).



Map 1 showing the Tattenhall and District NP Area (2013 and 2023)

At the 2001 Census, the population was recorded as 1,986.

### Relationship to other plans and programmes

Once made the Neighbourhood Plan will form part of development plan for Cheshire West and Chester. The policy framework once made will not work in isolation. The Neighbourhood Plan will work alongside the adopted Local Plan policies in place at the time it is made.

The Neighbourhood Plan must have regard to national policy; be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the adopted Local Plan; must contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and meet EU obligations and human rights requirements.

The current adopted Local Plan for the area is Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) Strategic policies (adopted January 2015) and the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies (adopted July 2019). The Part One plan sets out the overall vision, strategic objectives, spatial strategy and strategic planning policies for the borough to 2030, with supporting policies in Part Two.

The Local Plan policy framework has been taken into account when carrying out the screening exercise. This forms the baseline for the SEA and HRA screening assessment. It has considered the potential effects of the Neighbourhood Plan over and above the current adopted Local Plan (Part One) and the Local Plan (Part Two).

### **Scope of Neighbourhood Plan**

As detailed in the Tattenhall Parish Plan (2006) and Tattenhall Village Design Statement (2009) the community would like Tattenhall to continue to thrive as a vibrant and distinctive village, to continue to respect and reflect the views of its community, to evolve and expand whilst retaining its unique and distinctive character, and to provide an outstanding quality of life for current and future generations of residents.

The Parish Council will do this by:

- Encouraging a thriving and prosperous community that delivers a high quality of life for all its residents,
- Promoting a distinctive and flourishing local economy that exhibits vitality and dynamism,
- Supporting measured, proportionate, timely and sustainable development to meet local requirement,
- Endorsing policies that have a positive effect on the environment, including those that remove or minimise flood risk, mitigate climate change and reduce our carbon footprint,
- Maintaining the high-quality natural environment with its protected wildlife interests.

The Neighbourhood Plan group's review of the current Plan's objectives have revealed the following:

<b>Objective No.</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Review comments</b>
1	Delivery of a housing growth strategy tailored to the needs and context of Tattenhall	Partially met as affordable housing has fallen short of the target.

2	Sensitive development which protects and enriches the landscape and built setting	Being supported by current policies, therefore no change necessary.
3	Sustaining and improving excellent local facilities for existing and new residents	Being supported by current policies, therefore no change necessary.
4	Strengthening and supporting economic activity	Little evidence to see if policy is effective. Consideration given to strengthen the policy.
5	Seek on-going improvements to transport, to utility infrastructure and to digital connectivity	No evidence to see if policy is effective. Policies are required to support better cycling provision, such as cycle racks in the village centre and improved cycle ways between Newton, Gatesheath and Tattenhall
6	Prioritise local distinctiveness in every element of change and growth	Being supported by current policies, therefore no change necessary.
7	Protect greenspace, the landscape and support nature conservation	This is supported by Plan policies, but consideration to be given to update to Village Design Statement to prevent progressive weakening due to being increasingly out-of-date. Consideration should be given to strengthen policies to prevent further loss of green space, re-provision of lost open space and support schemes to protect the environment including green-energy supply.
8	Involve local people in an ongoing basis in the process of plan-making, monitoring and delivery of development	No evidence to see if policy is effective. Consideration should be given to a policy to require developers to have thorough and detailed discussions with the Parish Council before submitting planning applications and to keep the Council updated on the applications and developments progress.

The vision and objectives are consistent with the strategy of the Local Plan, which directs development to sustainable locations.

The Neighbourhood Plan includes policy areas relating to: housing; leisure and hospitality; local businesses; facilities and services; natural and historic environment; infrastructure, transport and local green spaces. Tattenhall is identified as a key service centre within Local Plan (Part One) Policy STRAT 8, which identifies that it should accommodate at least 250 dwellings during the plan period. The Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) 2022 identifies that 94% of this minimum requirement has now been built. The consultation draft Neighbourhood Plan does not propose land allocations for development.

The SEA screening opinion only considers the likelihood of a significant environmental effect resulting from the draft policies, rather than general conformity with strategic policies which is a matter for the Examination.

## **2. Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening**

### **Legislative background and methodology**

European Directive 2001/42/EC (the SEA Directive) required a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be carried out for certain plans and programmes to assess their effects on the environment. This Directive was transposed in law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

The Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plans fall within the scope of this legislation as it is a plan prepared for town and country planning or land use and will set the framework for future development consent of projects, in accordance with Part 3(2) of the SEA Directive. However, Neighbourhood Plans are land use planning documents prepared at the local level to determine land use in a small area.

Under Part 5(6) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, SEA is only required for documents that determine land use of a small area at local level and minor modifications to plans and programmes where it is considered that it is likely to have significant environmental effects. Assessment of whether the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects is carried out through the screening process.

If SEA is required, the assessment is usually incorporated into a Sustainability Appraisal, which includes environmental factors as required under the SEA Directive, along with social and economic factors.

### **Screening methodology**

The role of the screening exercise is to determine whether the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

The criteria for assessing whether a plan or programme is likely to have a significant environmental effect are set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

The assessment criteria used to determine whether a plan or programme will have significant environmental effects are separated into two categories:

- those relating to the characteristics of the plan; and
- those relating to the characteristics of the plan's effects and of the area likely to be affected.

In order to undertake the identification of the likely significance of effects, an assessment has been undertaken of each policy of the Neighbourhood Plan, its potential effects and its relationship to Local Plan (Part One) strategic policies and the policies in the Local Plan (Part Two). This helps to assess the impact that the Neighbourhood Plan will have above and beyond the impact of existing Local Plan policies. This assessment is set out in the table in Appendix 1.

The assessment of the significant environmental effects of the draft Neighbourhood Plan is set out in Appendix 2. The characteristics of the plan's effects and the area likely to be affected are set out in Appendix 3.

## **Conclusion**

As a result of the SEA screening assessment, Cheshire West and Chester Council consider that it is unlikely there will be any significant environmental effects arising from the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan. As such, a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan is not required.

### **3. Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening**

#### **Legislative background**

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 transposed the requirements of the European Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC into UK law. The Habitats Directive and Regulations afford protection to plants, animals and habitats that are rare and vulnerable in a European context.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is a systematic process through which the performance of a plan or project can be assessed for its likely impact on the integrity of a European Site. European sites, also referred to as Natura 2000 sites, consist of Special Protection Areas (SPA), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC); Potential Special Protection Areas and candidate Special Areas of Conservation (pSPA and cSAC); and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.

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

The first stage of HRA is to screen a plan or programme to identify if there are likely to be any significant effects on the European sites. This will indicate whether a full Appropriate Assessment is required. The regulations require that the impacts and effects of any land use plan being assessed, are considered in combination with other plans and projects that may also be affecting the relevant European site(s).

#### **Inter-relationship with the Local Plan HRA**

The Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) Strategic policies has already been through the HRA process, and the results detailed in the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan Publication Draft (Part 1) Strategic policies Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report.

The HRA for the Local Plan (Part One) identified 12 European sites to include within the HRA:

- Oak Mere SAC;
- Midlands Meres and Mosses Ramsar site;
- West Midlands Mosses SAC;
- River Dee and Bala Lake SAC;
- Mersey Estuary SPA and Ramsar;
- Dee Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar;

- Liverpool Bay SPA;
- Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains SAC;
- Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Ramsar and SPA;
- Sefton Coast SAC;
- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site; and
- River Eden SAC.

Due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan, it is not considered relevant to include these sites in the HRA Screening of the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan.

Information about all of these sites, the reasons for designation, pressures and pathways of impacts are provided in the HRA for the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two). Information about sites relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan is summarised in Appendix 4.

Map 2 below shows the European sites that are within 15km of the Neighbourhood Plan area. All of the other European sites have been screened out from this assessment as impacts would not occur due to the distance or would be so small and insignificant in scale that they would not have a Likely Significant Effect, even when combined with other plans or projects.

The following sites have been screened out as they are outside the 15km radius for the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Area:

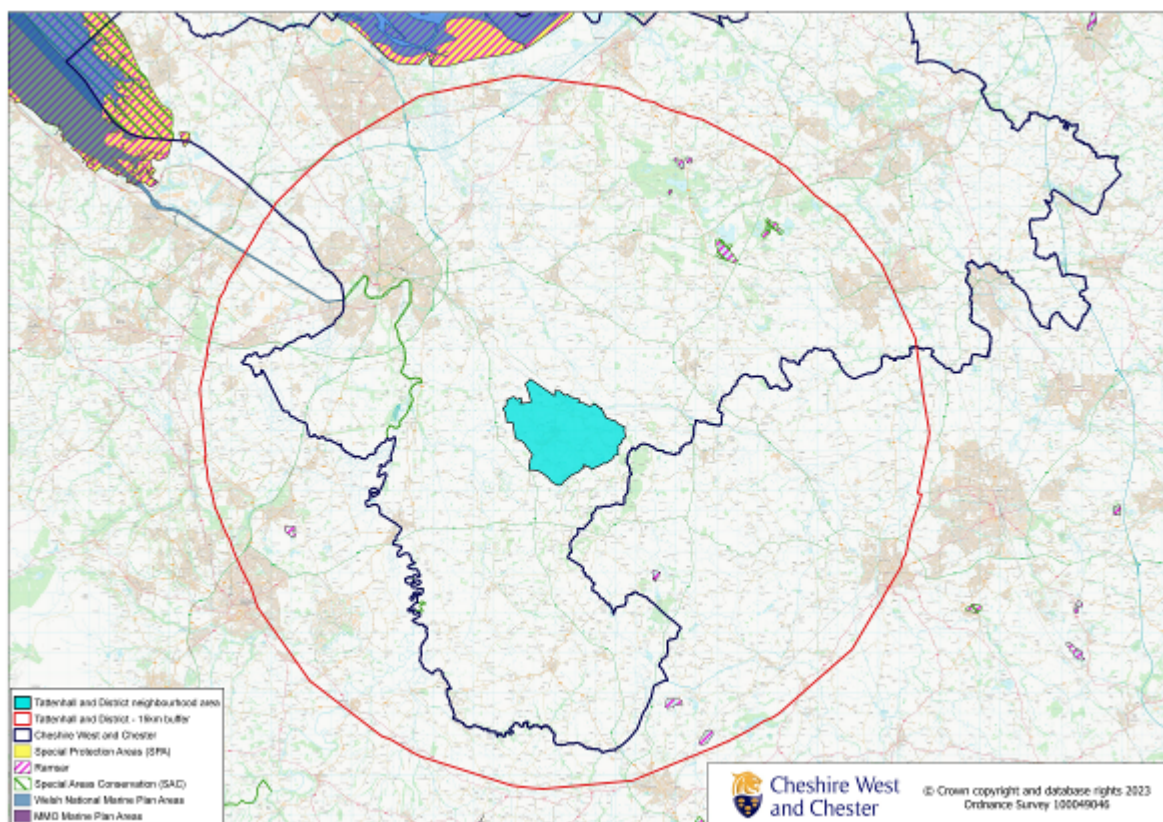
- Mersey Estuary SPA and Ramsar;
- Dee Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar;
- Liverpool Bay SPA;
- Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains SAC;
- Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Ramsar and SPA;
- Sefton Coast SAC;
- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site; and
- River Eden SAC.

Appendix 4 identifies whether there could be potential impacts arising from the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan, on the European protected site and their reasons for designation.

The conservation objectives of the European sites will be taken into account. These include maintaining or restoring:

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely
- The populations of qualifying species
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

The HRA undertaken for the Local Plan (Part One) and (Part Two) forms part of the baseline for the HRA screening assessment of the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan. The potential effects of the Neighbourhood Plan over and above those already assessed for the Local Plan have been considered. The Local Plan (Part One) was identified through the HRA process, as not leading to a Likely Significant Effect on European Sites. The HRA of the Local Plan (Part Two) concluded that, in the context of the over-arching strategic policies contained within the Local Plan (Part One) comprises a sufficient policy framework to enable the subsequent delivery of necessary measures that would avoid or adequately mitigate adverse effects on internationally designated sites and thus enable a conclusion of no adverse effect on integrity.



Map 2 showing the European sites that are within 15km of the Neighbourhood Plan area.

The European sites are also subject to certain pressures that are outside the scope of the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans and therefore have not been included in the table above. Table 1 below identifies the potential pressures (which may be relevant to one or several of the European sites) and explains why it is not considered relevant to the HRA of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Table 1: Potential pressures outside the scope of the HRA

Pressure	Reasons outside scope of this HRA
Disturbance of sediment releasing legacy heavy metal pollution that is bound into the sediment.	The policies within the Neighbourhood Plan relate to land-based uses and operations, which will not disturb sediment within European sites.
Pollution via commercial shipping by chemical or noise pollution and dumping of litter at sea	The policies within the Neighbourhood Plan will not have a significant impact on commercial shipping.
Navigational / aggregate dredging resulting in physical loss and alteration of coastal processes or damage of marine benthic habitat	The policies within the Neighbourhood Plan will not have a significant impact on navigational or aggregate dredging.
Overfishing of particular species	Fishing levels are not controlled through Neighbourhood Plans.
Overgrazing of ungrazed / little grazed saltmarsh	Grazing levels are not controlled through Neighbourhood Plans.

Damage of marine benthic habitat directly from fishing methods	Commercial fishing methods and levels are not controlled through Neighbourhood Plans.
The need to manage continuing coastal erosion at protected sites outside CWaC	Neighbourhood Plans within CWaC will not impact on management of coastal erosion in areas outside CWaC.
The need to develop and maintain management practices which sustain the conservation value of the area for protected sites outside CWaC.	Neighbourhood Plans cannot influence management practices for protected sites outside CWaC.
Loss or damage of habitat as a result of increasing off-shore exploration and production activity associated with oil and natural gas on protected sites outside CWaC.	Neighbourhood Plans within CWaC cannot control oil and gas exploration and production activity outside CWaC.
Coastal squeeze from land reclamation and coastal flood defences and drainage in European sites outside CWaC.	Neighbourhood Plans within CWaC will not have a significant impact on coastal squeeze resulting from land reclamation, coastal flood defences and drainage in areas outside CWaC.

## **HRA screening**

The Neighbourhood Plan is not directly connected with, or necessary to the management of a European site for nature conservation and therefore needs to be assessed for Likely Significant Effects.

It is considered that as long as the proposed policies of a Neighbourhood Plan do not alter the strategic policy framework assessed in the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two) HRA Screening Report and do not have Likely Significant Effects beyond this, then Appropriate Assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan will not be required. The Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate sites for development, which makes it less likely to have significant effects resulting from specific development supported through the Plan.

In March 2022, Natural England issued advice to Local Authorities about the adverse effect that nutrient pollution is having on habitats sites. Nutrient neutrality advice requires that competent authorities under the Habitats Regulations carefully consider the nutrient impacts of any new plans and projects on habitats sites and whether those impacts may have an adverse effect on the integrity of a protected site. Within CWaC, Oakmere and the West Midlands Meres and Mosses are identified as potentially affected sites.

Oakmere and the West Midlands Meres and Mosses have been screened into the HRA as there could be potential impacts through the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan. The Plan does not provide for additional development or land allocations and is within overall levels of growth established through the Local Plan and therefore unlikely to create a source of water pollution. As such, nutrient pollution is not discussed in greater details in this screening opinion.

Appendix 5 identifies whether the Neighbourhood Plan alters the policy position for the area. It also assesses whether each policy has a Likely Significant Effect alone. If a Likely Significant Effect is identified, the policy would be taken forward for further investigation through Appropriate Assessment. If there is no Likely Significant Effect when considering the policy alone, the final column assesses whether the policy could have a Likely Significant Effect when combined with the effects of other relevant policies, plans or projects.

Appendix 5 outlines all negative Likely Significant Effects however, policies 2 and 6 will also have positive impacts on habitats and biodiversity in terms of protection of green spaces, tree planting, and protecting and enhancing biodiversity.

## **Conclusion**

The Neighbourhood Plan will not work in isolation and will be used alongside other development plan policies including the Local Plan (Part One) and Local Plan (Part Two) for determining planning applications for new development. The quantum of development to come forward in Tattenhall and District in the future will be set by Local Plan policy. The Neighbourhood Plan will guide how this should come forward locally.

There are no specific issues highlighted in the HRA of the emerging Local Plan in relation to Tattenhall and District, although there were other more general potential impacts resulting from the quantum and location of development proposed for the borough as a whole in the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two). However, this was considered within the HRAs for the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two) and the HRAs concluded that there were sufficient mitigation and control measures in the policy framework of the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two) to avoid and mitigate any of these adverse effects on the integrity of a European site in the emerging Local Plan. The policies and proposals within the Neighbourhood Plan will not add significantly to the impacts and will not prevent the mitigation and control measures from avoiding and mitigating the effects sufficiently.

Therefore, it is considered that any proposals coming forward for Tattenhall and District in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan would not result in a Likely Significant Effect on a European site than already identified and assessed through the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two) Habitats Regulation Assessment Report.

The Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have an adverse effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d), alone or in combination with other plans and projects. As such, Appropriate Assessment is not considered to be required.

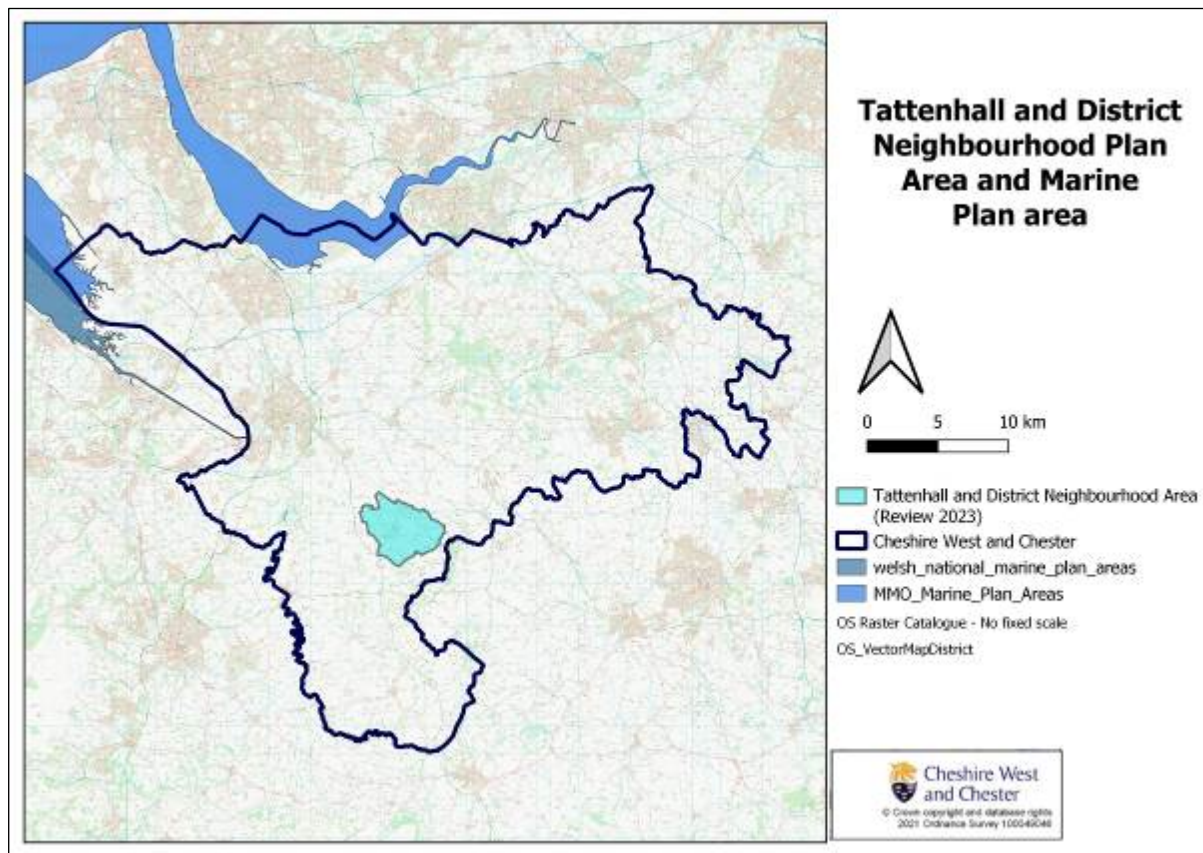
## **4 Marine Plan Screening**

Marine planning ensures that the right activities happen in the right place, at the right time and in the right way in marine areas.

Marine plans provide guidance on things to promote or avoid in certain marine locations. As the marine planning authority for England, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) is responsible for preparing marine plans in England for inshore and offshore waters.

The Marine Plans that are potentially relevant to neighbourhood planning in Cheshire West and Chester (CWaC) are the draft North West Marine Plan and the Welsh National Marine Plan. The diagram below shows the areas covered by these Marine

Plans. Marine plans apply up to the mean high-water springs mark, which includes the tidal extent of any rivers, as shown on the map 3 below.



Map 3 showing the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan Area and the Marine Plan Areas.

It is a legal requirement for marine plans to be considered in all decisions that affect England's marine area, now and into the future. Section 58(3) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act requires that public authorities must have regard to marine plans when taking any decisions which relate to the exercise of any function capable of affecting the UK marine area. This can include decision making relating to Neighbourhood Plans.

The policies set out in marine plans apply only in their area (i.e. up to the mean high-water springs mark – which includes the tidal extent of any rivers), but if a proposed activity may affect the plan area, this should be acknowledged and considered.

There are not statutory requirements or guidelines for the screening of Neighbourhood Plans to assess likelihood of impacts on the marine plan or marine area. To do this we undertake a three-stage process, with the first stage to assess the distance of the Neighbourhood Plan area from the marine area.

### Stage 1

If a Neighbourhood Plan extends into the marine plan area, it will definitely be screened in. If a Neighbourhood Plan is within 1km of a marine plan area it should proceed to the next stage, but it is likely that it will need to be screened in. As the distance from mean high-water springs mark increases, the likelihood of being screened in reduces, however further assessment is required at the next stage.

Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan is about 19 km from the mean high-water springs mark for the North West Marine Plan and about 21 km from the mean high-water springs mark for the Welsh National Marine Plan. As shown in Map 2, a small inshore part of the Welsh Marine Plan area is within the 15 km buffer of the neighbourhood plan area. But none of the Northwest Marine Plan area is within the 15 km buffer. In both cases, the distance from the neighbourhood plan area is significant and no major watercourses are within the neighbourhood plan area that could drain into either of the marine planning areas. A very small area of the Gowy floodplain is within the northern corner of the neighbourhood plan area which is designated as Open Space no 24 and 25 (Pg 42 of the Draft Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan).

However, due to some proximity of the neighbourhood plan area to the Welsh inshore marine plan area, some relevant policies of the neighbourhood plan would be assessed against the Marine Plan as seen in the table in Appendix 6. Due to significant distance, direct link with the North West Marine Plan area can be ruled out and therefore, would not be considered further.

## **Stage 2**

The second stage is to assess whether the plan includes proposed allocations and if so, whether these allocations have the potential to impact on the marine plan area. The potential for impacts will depend upon distance from the marine plan area, potential pathways of impact and scale and nature of the proposed allocation.

The Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan Review does not include any allocations.

## **Stage 3**

The final stage is to assess whether the proposed policies have the potential to impact on the marine plan area.

Due to a small portion of the inshore area of the Welsh Marine to the distance from the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan area to the Mersey, the sector policy areas within the Welsh Marine Plan are not relevant and can be screened out (for example because they relate to infrastructure, aquaculture, dredging, ports or other activities and direct impacts on the marine area). However, there are general cross-cutting policies that are screened in for further investigation are planning policy, living within environmental limits etc.

The policies have been checked against the key policies in the marine plan using the [Wales Marine Planning Portal \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales/marine-planning-portal) tool. 4 policies are shown to apply to the Neighbourhood Area under the following themes:

- Policy ECON\_02: Coexistence Proposals should demonstrate how they have considered opportunities for coexistence with other compatible sectors in order to optimise the value and use of the marine area and marine natural resources. Consideration should also be given to the coexistence of activities and developments in adjacent marine planning areas and at the land-sea interface in order to optimise the value and sustainable use of wider resources.

- ENV\_06: Air and water quality Proposals should demonstrate that they have considered their potential air and water quality impacts and should, in order of preference: a. avoid adverse impacts; and/or b. minimise adverse impacts where they cannot be avoided; and/or c. mitigate adverse impacts where they cannot be minimised. If significant adverse impacts cannot be avoided, minimised or mitigated, proposals must present a clear and convincing case for proceeding. The
- GOV\_01: Cumulative effects: Proposals should demonstrate that they have assessed potential cumulative effects and should, in order of preference: a. avoid adverse effects; and/or b. minimise effects where they cannot be avoided; and/or c. mitigate effects where they cannot be minimised. If significant adverse effects cannot be avoided, minimised or mitigated, proposals must present a clear and convincing case for proceeding. Proposals that contribute to positive cumulative effects are encouraged.
- GOV\_02: Cross-border and plan compatibility Relevant public authorities, in making their decisions, should have regard to: • any applicable policy in a relevant marine plan; • any applicable policy in relevant terrestrial development plans or related documents; • the Natural Resources Policy; • any relevant local well-being plan(s) (including the local well-being assessment); and • evidence in any relevant Area Statement(s) produced by Natural Resources Wales (NRW)

The relevant Tattenhall and District neighbourhood plan policies have been assessed against their impact on the Welsh Marine Plans as in the table in Appendix 6. Please note that Policies 1, 3, 4 have been screened out because their scope is related to Housing and local commercial and community facilities which do not have any direct implication on the marine plan policy area. Policy 1 relates to restricting development and providing affordable housing. However, the neighbourhood plan doesn't allocate any new housing sites and as such the scale of new housing development is expected to be limited and subsequently, the effect on waterbodies and air quality would be limited or negligible. Policy 3 relates to small scale employment extensions or changes of use and their associated design considerations. Policy 4 relates to protecting and enhancing local facilities, vitality and impact of new development on existing utility services. These policies have negligible direct effects on the natural environment, runoff and waterbodies in the area, mainly because they do not propose any specific new development as such.

## **Conclusion**

The Tattenhall Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to impact on the Northwest Marine Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to impact on the Welsh marine plan through policies 2, 5 and 6 as seen in the above table. The policies are generally positively worded and are compatible with the objectives of the Welsh Marine Plan. The policies will help to combat or reduce climate change, improve air quality and reduce emissions and improve water quality and maintain and enhance biodiversity.

The Neighbourhood Plan group will need to consider the impacts of the Neighbourhood Plan on the Welsh Marine Plan and should specifically consider the impacts of those policies and allocations that have been screened in. The impact of the Neighbourhood Plan will also need to be considered as a whole.

The Marine Plans should be considered in future stages of Neighbourhood Plan preparation and in any relevant planning decisions made in this area.

The Local Planning Authority will inform the Neighbourhood Plan group of the outcome of the screening assessment. No specific additional work is suggested here as the policies are positively worded and compatible with the objectives of the Marine Plans.

## Appendix 1: SEA Screening - Overview of policies and identified effects of the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan.

P o refer	Summary of policy	Identified potential e account SEA topics human health, faur climatic factors, r heritage and landsca	Relationship to Local Plan (P Plan (Part Two) Land Allocatio
1	<p><b>Housing:</b></p> <p>To manage housing growth, p site would be allowed to come</p> <p>For proposals which have a comprise an area of 0.1 hec 30% affordable housing.</p> <p>Specifies housing mix, respect contribution to sense of place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Human health</li> <li>Material assets</li> <li>Landscape</li> <li>Cultural Heritage</li> </ul>	<p>Local Plan (Part One) Strategic p</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy STRAT 1 (Sustainable d</li> <li>Policy STRAT 2 (Strategic deve</li> <li>Policy STRAT 8 (Rural Area)</li> <li>Policy SOC 3 Housing mix and</li> </ul> <p>Local Plan (Part Two) Land Alloc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy R 1 - Development in the</li> <li>Policy DM 1 - Development of</li> <li>policy)</li> <li>Policy DM 3 - Design, chara</li> <li>policy)</li> <li>Policy DM 19 - Proposals for</li> <li>policy)</li> </ul>
2	<p><b>Design, Carbon neutrality a</b></p> <p>Development would be sup features are incorporated. N Tattenhall and District Design</p> <p>Development must take ever of carbon emission.</p> <p>Wildlife corridors, biodive advertisements, trees and ma enhanced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Human health</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Flora, fauna</li> <li>Material assets</li> <li>Air</li> <li>Climatic factors</li> <li>Landscape</li> <li>Cultural Heritage</li> </ul>	<p>Local Plan (Part One) Strategic p</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy STRAT 1 (Sustainable d</li> <li>Policy ENV 2 Landscape</li> <li>Policy ENV 3 Green infrastru</li> <li>Policy ENV 3 Green infrastru</li> <li>Policy ENV 4 Biodiversity and</li> <li>Policy ENV 5 (Historic environr</li> <li>Policy ENV 6 High quality desig</li> <li>Policy SOC 6 Open space, spo</li> </ul> <p>Local Plan (Part Two) Land Alloc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy DM 4 - Sustainable cons</li> <li>DM 2 (Impact on residential an</li> <li>DM 3 (Design, character and v</li> <li>Policy DM 44 - Protecting and</li> <li>Policy DM 45 - Trees, woodlan</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Employment:</b></p> <p>Small scale new builds or ext need to respect the existing harm the surrounding landscap road safety, and demonstrate the Tattenhall and District D version.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population</li> <li>Material assets</li> <li>Economic Deve</li> <li>Landscape</li> <li>Human health</li> </ul>	<p>Local Plan (Part One) Strategic p</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy ECON 1 (Economic gro</li> <li>Policy STRAT 8 Rural area</li> <li>Policy ECON 2 Town centres</li> </ul> <p>Local Plan (Part Two) Land Alloc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policy R 1 - Development in the</li> <li>Policy R 3 - Employment land p</li> <li>Policy DM 5 - Protection and</li> <li>premises. (Not a Strategic polic</li> <li>DM 19 - Proposals for resident</li> </ul>

4	<p><b>Local Facilities:</b></p> <p>Proposals for development v cumulative impact on local in to demonstrate how any such</p> <p>Developments that bring new</p> <p>Appropriate development tha Tattenhall village centre will b</p> <p>Change of use of shops and local community which requir unless it can be demonstrat equal or greater benefits to evidence would be sought as</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Human Health</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Landscape</li> <li>• Economic Deve</li> </ul>	<p>Local Plan (Part One) Strategic p</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy ECON 1 (Economic gro</li> <li>• Policy ECON 2 Town centres</li> <li>• Policy STRAT 1 (Sustainable d</li> <li>• Policy STRAT 8 Rural area</li> </ul> <p>Local Plan (Part Two) Land Alloc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy R 3 - Employment land p</li> <li>• Policy DM 15 - District and loca</li> <li>• DM 2 (Impact on residential an</li> <li>• DM 3 (Design, character and v</li> <li>• Policy DM 19 - Proposals for policy)</li> <li>• DM 22 (Change of use to dw (Not a strategic policy)</li> </ul>
5	<p><b>Transport and Communicat</b></p> <p>Impact of new development assessed and mitigated. M modes of transport and sup Schemes to increase car p village centre will be supporte</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> </ul>	<p>Local Plan (Part One) Strategic p</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy STRAT 1 (Sustainable d</li> <li>• Policy STRAT 10 Transport and</li> <li>• Policy STRAT 11 Infrastructure</li> <li>• Policy SOC 5 Health and well-k</li> </ul> <p>Local Plan (Part Two) Land Alloc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy T 5 - Parking and acces</li> <li>• Policy DM 18 - ICT and telecor</li> <li>• Policy DM 37 - Recreational ro</li> </ul>
6	<p><b>Local Green Spaces:</b></p> <p>Designated Local Green Spa development unless very demonstrated:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Human health</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Landscape</li> <li>• Flora, fauna</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	<p>Local Plan (Part One) Strategic p</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy ENV 2 Landscape</li> <li>• Policy ENV 3 Green infrastru</li> </ul> <p>Local Plan (Part Two) Land Alloc</p> <p>Policy DM 44 - Protecting and er</p>
Not a separate Policy	<p><b>Views and Vistas:</b></p> <p>16 views and vistas that are i and District. The views shoul</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Landscape</li> <li>• Cultural heritag</li> </ul>	<p>Local Plan (Part One) Strategic p</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy ENV 2 (Landscape)</li> <li>• Policy ENV 5 (Historic environr</li> </ul> <p>Local Plan (Part Two) Land Alloc</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policy DM 46 - Development policy)</li> <li>• Policy DM 3 - Design, chara policy)</li> <li>Policy DM 47 - Listed buildings (l</li> </ul>

## Appendix 2: SEA Screening – Assessment of significant environmental effects of the Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan

SEA Directive	Characteristics of the plan	Significant environmental effects?
<b>The degree to which the plan provides a framework for projects and activities in the area, and the conditions or by allocating resources</b>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan is a local level land use planning within the planning policy framework of the Local Plan for Tattenhall and District.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan will provide a local planning development plan for Cheshire West and Chester. It is required by the Local Plan. The Tattenhall and District Neighbourhood Plan will set the conditions of new development over and above that set by the Local Plan.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan policies will work alongside the measures and environmental protection legislation.</p>	No
<b>The degree to which the plan influences other plans and policies, and those in a hierarchy</b>	The Neighbourhood Plan has to be in general conformity with the achievement of sustainable development. It will therefore not be at a strategic level or lead to the development of further plans at a higher level.	No
<b>The relevance of the plan to the integration of environmental considerations, particularly with a view to sustainable development</b>	The Neighbourhood Plan is required, as one of the basic conditions for the promotion of sustainable development is set by the Government's Framework and the policies in the adopted Local Plan for Tattenhall and District. The Neighbourhood Plan will be required to change the sustainable development policies in plans and policies.	No
<b>Environmental problems and issues</b>	<p>The Sustainability Appraisal scoping reports for the Local Plan for Cheshire West and Chester. There are no specific environmental issues identified for the Tattenhall and District area.</p> <p>Some of the environmental issues and problems for Tattenhall and District are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect the countryside, biodiversity and local green spaces</li> <li>• Safeguard and enhance the heritage assets and reduce the impact of climate change</li> <li>• Reduce the effect of climate change and promote sustainable development</li> </ul> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan will seek to address these issues</p>	No

<b>The relevance of the implementation of Co environment (e.g. plan waste-management or v</b>	The Neighbourhood Development Plan will have no direct include policies on these matters. The Neighbourhood Plan in part 2 of this document.	No
---	--	----

### **Appendix 3: SEA Screening – Characteristics of the plan’s effects and of the area likely to be affected**

Identify the effect of the policy	Probability, duration, frequency and cumulative nature of the effect	Cumulative nature of the effect	Trade-offs	Risk to human health or environment (e.g. accidents)	Magnitude and extent of the effect (geographical area, size of population likely to be affected)	Value of the area to be affected (the effect on special characteristics)	Value of the area to be affected (the effect on environmental quality or limit)	Value of the area affected (the effect on intensity of land-use)	Effects on the landscape and its characteristics (e.g. Comm. interr. protection)	Significance of the effect?
<b>Population</b>	Probability: Low as there are policies to protect employment opportunities and enhance facilities, shops and services.  Duration: Long Term	Potential small cumulative effect	No	None	Local scale neighbourhood level	None	None	None as land-use has been made more sustainable. Policies seek to improve quality of life and development.	None identified	No
<b>Human Health</b>	Probability: High as the Neighbourhood Framework to support community health, space and sustainable transport has a positive effect on health and well-being.  Duration: Long Term	Small scale effect: The policy has a positive effect on health and well-being.	No	None	Local scale neighbourhood level	None	None	None	None identified	No
<b>Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</b>	Probability: High as policies seek to set out biodiversity net gain expectations.  Duration: Short, medium and long term	Small scale effect.	No	None	Local scale neighbourhood level	None	None as policies seek to enhance biodiversity in the environment.	None	None identified	No
<b>Air Quality and Climate Factors</b>	Probability: Medium as policies seek to promote sustainable alternatives but also support private car and transport in the town centre.  Duration: Short, medium and long term  Frequency: High as policies seek to improve impact on air quality.	Small scale effect. Supporting a private car and transport of transport	No	None	Local scale neighbourhood level	None	None	None	None identified	No
<b>Water</b>	Probability: Low as no direct policies for the associated flora, fauna.	Potential small effect: The plan seeks to maintain biodiversity and enhance it.	No	None	Local scale neighbourhood level	None	None	None	None identified	No
<b>Land</b>	Probability: High as policies seek to improve views and landscape.  Duration: Short, Medium and Long Term	Small to medium effect: Policies seek to improve vistas and heritage.	No	None	Local scale neighbourhood level	None	None	None	None identified	No
<b>Soil</b>	Probability: Low as no policies seek to protect and enhance agricultural soil and land.  Duration: Medium and Long Term	Potential small effect: Policies seek to protect and enhance agricultural land and indirectly have a positive effect on it.	No	None	Local scale neighbourhood level	None	None	None	None identified	No

Identified effects of the proposed	Probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	Cumulative nature of the effects	Trans-boundary nature	Risks to human health or the environment	Magnitude and spatial extent of the effects	Value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected	Value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected	Value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected	Effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised	Significant
<b>Population</b>	Probability: Low as there are no direct policies catering to sections of population, but policies seek to provide housing in suitable locations, protect employment	Potential small scale positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale	None	None	None as no specific land-use allocation has	None identified.	None
<b>Human Health</b>	Probability: High as the Neighbourhood Plan provides a positive framework to support community facilities, local economy, local green space and sustainable	Small scale positive cumulative effect.: The policies support	None	None	Local, small scale	None	None	None	None identified	None
<b>Biodiversity, Flora,</b>	Probability: High as policies seek to protect Local Green Spaces and sets out biodiversity net gain expectation.	Small scale positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale	None	None as policies seek to	None	None identified	None
<b>Air and Climatic Factors</b>	Probability: Medium as policies seek to reduce car use by providing sustainable alternatives but also seek to increase car parking in the town centre. Duration: Short, medium and	Small scale cumulative effect: Supporting alternatives to the private car and sustainable	None	None	Local, small scale at the	None	None	None	None identified	None
<b>Material Assets</b>	Probability: High as policies seek to pay attention to design of new developments. Policies also seek to protect and mitigate harmful effects of unsustainable development. Duration: Short, Medium and Long Frequency: High	Medium scale positive cumulative effect: Policies seek to protect and enhance the character and scale of new developments	None	None	Local scale neighbourhood level	None	None	None as no specific land-use allocation has been made. Policies seek to enhance quality of development	None identified	None
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	Probability: High as policies seek to protect and enhance the character and scale of new developments. Duration: Short, Medium and Long	Small to medium scale cumulative effect: Policies seek to protect and enhance the character and scale of new developments but will only improve	None	None	Local scale neighbourhood level	None as policies seek to protect and enhance	None	None	None as no specific land-use allocation has been made. Policies seek to enhance quality of development	None identified

Identified effects of the proposed	Probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	Cumulative nature of the effects	Trans-boundary nature of the effects	Risks to human health or the environment	Magnitude and spatial extent of the effects	Value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected	Value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected	Value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected	Effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised	Significant
<b>Population</b>	Probability: Low as there are no direct policies catering to sections of population, but policies seek to provide housing in suitable locations, protect employment	Potential small scale positive cumulative effect.	No	None	Local, small scale	None	None	None as no specific land-use allocation has	None identified.	No
<b>Human Health</b>	Probability: High as the Neighbourhood Plan provides a positive framework to support community facilities, local economy, local green space and sustainable	Small scale positive cumulative effect.: The policies support	No	None	Local, small scale	None	None	None	None identified	No
<b>Biodiversity, Flora,</b>	Probability: High as policies seek to protect Local Green Spaces and sets out biodiversity net gain expectation.	Small scale positive cumulative effect.	No	None	Local, small scale	None	None as policies seek to	None	None identified	No
<b>Air and Climatic Factors</b>	Probability: Medium as policies seek to reduce car use by providing sustainable alternatives but also seek to increase car parking in the town centre. Duration: Short, medium and	Small scale cumulative effect: Supporting alternatives to the private car and sustainable	No	None	Local, small scale at the	None	None	None	None identified	No
<b>Economic Development</b>	Probability: High as policies seek to enhance local economy. Duration: Short, Medium and Long	Small scale Policies seek to enhance local development.	No	None	Local scale neighbourhood	None	None	None as economic allocation made by Policies and existing factors	None identified	No

## Appendix 4 – HRA Screening - European sites relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan

European sites	Reasons for inclusion	Reason for designation	Existing pressures and	Relevance to the Neighbourhood Plan
----------------	-----------------------	------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------------------

O a k Mere SAC	Located within Cheshire and Cheshire Meres and Mosses SAC	Water body with clear water (oligotrophic waters and a macrophyte flora). Site supports an assemblage of wetlands in the lowlands of England, including the scarce narrow small-reed beds.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water pollution / eutrophication</li> <li>- Hydrological changes due to natural causes</li> <li>- Threat to shorelines and invasion by bracken</li> <li>- Atmospheric pollution</li> </ul>	The site falls within the 15km Neighbourhood Area. It is unlikely to be directly affected by the policies of the plan.  Due to the distance, lack of scale of anticipated development proposed through the plan, it is not considered relevant to the HRA Plan.
Midlands Meres and Mosses SAC	Located within Cheshire and Cheshire Meres and Mosses SAC	Series of open water and wetland habitats from open water to natural dystrophic lakes and quaking bogs with floating beds. Site supports a number of wetlands and an assemblage of species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water pollution / eutrophication</li> <li>- Hydrological changes due to natural causes</li> <li>- Despite number of recreational pressures and mosses, in general the sites away from boardwalks.</li> <li>- Due to distance from air quality are not</li> </ul>	The site falls within the 15km Neighbourhood Area. However, it does not fall within the Neighbourhood Area and is unlikely to be directly affected by the policies of the plan.
West Midlands Mosses SAC	Located within West Midlands Mosses SAC	Series of open water and wetland habitats from open water to natural dystrophic lakes and quaking bogs with floating beds. Site supports a number of wetlands and an assemblage of species.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water pollution / eutrophication</li> <li>- Hydrological changes due to natural causes</li> <li>- Despite number of recreational pressures and mosses, in general the sites away from boardwalks.</li> <li>- Due to distance from air quality are not</li> </ul>	The site falls within the 15km Neighbourhood Area. However, it does not fall within the Neighbourhood Area and is unlikely to be directly affected by the policies of the plan.
River Dee and Bala Lake SAC	Located within West Cheshire and Cheshire Meres and Mosses SAC	The site contains the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water courses of Renunculation fluit vegetation</li> </ul> The site contains the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Atlantic salmon (Salmo trutta)</li> <li>- Floating water-plants</li> <li>- Sea lamprey (Petromyzon marinus)</li> <li>- Brook lamprey (Lampetra planicoxis)</li> <li>- Bullhead (Cottus gobio)</li> <li>- Otter (Lutra lutra)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Recreational activities</li> <li>- Risk of excess sediment loading</li> <li>- Fish entrainment</li> <li>- Deterioration in water quality due to eutrophication</li> <li>- Introduction of invasive species</li> </ul>	The site falls within the 15km Neighbourhood Area. However, it does not fall within the Neighbourhood Area and is unlikely to be directly affected by the policies of the plan.

## Appendix 5: HRA Screening – Screening of Neighbourhood Plan policies for Likely Significant Effect

Policy	Comment	Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone	L S E combined
--------	---------	---------------------------------------	----------------



<b>Policy 5 a Comm</b>	Impact of new development on road Maximise opportunities for sustainable speed internet. Schemes to increase centre will be supported in principle.	Positive impact as harmful effects could encourage less use of cars, disturbance. New direct footpaths and green spaces. Any impact on air quality small in scale due to the small scale  No LSE	No
<b>Policy Green S</b>	Designated Local Green Spaces (2) very special circumstances can be demonstrated	The policy seeks to protect existing small-scale positive effect on air quality  Any impacts on recreational disturbance be positive and would be very small scale  No LSE.	No
<b>Views and</b>	16 views and vistas that are important views should be respected or enhanced	The plan promotes hedgerows and hedges a positive impact.  No links/pathways with recreational pollution – no LSE	No

## Appendix 6: Marine Plan Screening - Assessment of potential to impact on the Welsh marine plan area

Po	Key features of the policy	Poten pathw impac	Assessment of potential area
Po 2	The policy stipulates that new development appropriate measures to secure and enhance how a biodiversity net gain is provided. Protect and mature trees, hedgerows, ponds, areas  Restricts disruption to natural habitat in line	Biodi and H	Potential beneficial impacts restricts size of development to the Marine Plan area due
Po 5	This policy discusses traffic mitigation, sustainable the village centre	Air Qu	The policy on one hand talks transport but on the other t This seems contradictory and lead to increased car usage method, thereby improving wouldn't be large enough significantly adverse manner
Po 6	The policy designates Local green spaces circumstances can be demonstrated.  Protects and enhances the natural environment promote and improved human health in line	Biodi habita improv	Potential beneficial impacts scale impacts due to distance

