

Points for Scoping of Management and Mitigation Strategy

1) Background

- The Mitigation Strategy relates to the Local Plan for the Bradford Metropolitan District, providing supplementary planning guidance to the adopted Core Strategy and Allocations DPD
- Description of plan area and location of European sites (SPA/SAC)
- Proposals within LDF for housing – brief description of distribution and numbers
- Requirements of EU Habitats Regulations
- Overview of Habitats Regulations Assessment and findings
- Policy response within LDF (SC8) – the Mitigation Strategy applies between 400m and 7km -Identification of likely significant effects and zones within which they would operate.
- Detailed interpretation of provision in the zone up to 400m
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2) Approaches to Management and Mitigation – in zones of influence beyond 400m

- In order to address the impacts identified, a range of measures are proposed:
 - Improvement of existing natural greenspace
 - Provision of suitable alternative natural greenspace – within development or outside
 - Access and visitor management measures
 - Monitoring
- Statement relating to intention to explore possibilities of working in co-operation with a range of organisation outside District boundary.

a) Improvement of existing natural greenspace

- The starting point for provision of alternative greenspace to “deflect” recreational impacts for SPA/SAC should be identification of suitable existing sites which may be capable of absorbing additional visits. Eg Harden Moor, St Ives Estate, Penistone Hill Country Park, plus other accessible natural greenspace. A programme of improvements and information about the sites would be a key strand in the strategy.

b) Provision of alternative new greenspace

- Provision of new suitable alternative greenspace within new developments – again with the intention of deflecting use away from SPA/SAC.
- Provision of new suitable alternative greenspace informed by assessment of quantity, quality and accessibility of existing natural greenspace, future locations for development and habitat enhancement benefits.

c) Access and visitor management projects

- The strategy will recognise that provision of alternative sites to deflect recreational visits from the SPA/SAC has a role to play in mitigation of effects, it will equally recognise, however, that these alone will not be sufficient to mitigate fully the impacts from housing development.
- The Management and Mitigation Strategy also focuses upon proposing access and visitor management measures which will have the effect of mitigating impacts and which are achievable.
- Such measures include:
 - Improvement of existing routes linking into settlements and which could form local circular networks away from SPA/SPA*
 - Improvement of strategic routes which link to and through the SPA/SAC so that they are capable of carrying additional use without compromising the SPA/SAC conservation objectives*
 - Provision of additional visitor information at access points to the SPA/SAC to influence behaviour and understanding
 - Provision of information leaflets, on-line etc off-site to influence behaviour and understanding
 - Provision of additional on-site wardening (seasonal during bird breeding season) to influence behaviour and understanding – focussed on Rombalds Moor due to higher, concentrated levels of recreational use
 - Management of access to SPA/SAC through alterations to car parking
 - Investment in Fire Operations Group to reduce potential for wildfire
 - Provision of “dog-friendly” areas to reduce pressure on sensitive parts of SPA/SAC

*see detailed access project proposals at Appendix 1

In addition to access and visitor management measures, the benefits of habitat management and enhancement informed by further analysis of bird and habitat surveys projects can also be identified.

There is further scope for exploring the possibilities, with Natural England, of influencing owners and managers of supporting habitat within 2.5km zone – through agri-environment schemes – to ensure the long-term viability of these sites.

d) Monitoring

Key to the success and future refinement and focus of mitigation measures is a robust monitoring regime which can provide continuous information in relation to site condition.

The strategy will outline monitoring requirements relating to further data requirements relating to bird species, habitats, visitor behaviour and a regime for monitoring the effectiveness of mitigation measures.

3) Funding and approach to developer contributions

The strategy will confirm that the projects and proposals outlined within will be provided and/or funded by the developers of new residential development – some through direct on-site provision, some through financial contribution.

The formulae used to reach a suitable contribution per house will be set out in the strategy.

Appendices : Detail of Access and Visitor management projects

The strategy will include detail on a settlement by settlement basis, of potential projects which could be implemented to mitigate any additional recreational impacts.

In the attached example, which is presented as an illustration of a way forward, the access projects have been derived from analysis of the Council's Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) database which records specific potential improvements identified through wide consultation. Projects have then been set out in tables according to settlement (at Parish level) and the zone of influence with detail of the works proposed and cost estimates.

A draft example plan is also appended which shows the relationship between some of the proposed project and the settlement – although this needs further refinement. Details of existing accessible natural greenspace could also be set out and mapped on a settlement by settlement basis, along with assessment of mitigation potential and indication of improvements which may contribute to this.

This work will be carried forward as part of future work on Allocations DPD and green infrastructure.

| Rights of Way Improvement Plan ID | Path no | Parish | Route detail | Zone | Project detail | Cost estimate | Route length (m) |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------|--|----------|--|---------------|------------------|
| 1 | | Addingham | Crag House to Briery Wood Farm | <2.5 | Surface improvement, waymarking, signposting, linking to local road/bridleway network. Legal orders required if upgraded to bridleway | £55,000 | 2739.33 |
| 2 | 514 | Addingham | Disused railway to Bolton Abbey | 2.5 to 7 | Surface improvement, waymarking, signposting, linking to local road/bridleway network. Landowner consents required. Legal orders required if upgraded to bridleway | £100,000 | 3419.44 |
| 3 | 61 | Addingham | Upgrade of footpath - towards Chelker Reservoir | 2.5 to 7 | Surface improvement, waymarking, interpretation | £75,000 | 3848.36 |
| 5 | | Addingham | Upgrade of footpath - by school | <2.5 | Surface improvement, waymarking | £20,000 | 1092.28 |
| 6 | 1 | Addingham | Upgrade of footpath - Crag House to Silsden 75 | <2.5 | Waymarking, surface improvement, adjacent habitat restoration' information panels at access points to SPA/SAC | £60,000 | 2809.17 |
| 7 | 37 | Addingham | Upgrade of footpath - Low Mill | <2.5 | Waymarking, surface improvement, legal order required | £30,000 | 1600.40 |
| 8 | 19 | Addingham | Upgrade of footpath - Gildersber paths | <2.5 | Surface improvement, waymarking | £52,000 | 2898.18 |
| 9 | 17 | Addingham | Upgrade of footpath - Street Lane | <2.5 | Surface improvements, signage, seating, enhancements to Recreation Ground to create circular route | £75,000 | 4178.35 |
| 10 | 37 | Addingham | Upgrade of footpath - Moorside La to Straight La | <2.5 | Surface improvement, waymarking | £30,000 | 1807.61 |
| 11 | 10 | Addingham | Upgrade of footpath - Slade to Wingate Nick | <2.5 | Waymarking, surface improvement, adjacent habitat restoration' information panels at access points to SPA/SAC | £75,000 | 4146.14 |
| 12 | 9 | Addingham | Upgrade of footpath - Addingham Moorside to Doubler Stones | <2.5 | Waymarking, surface improvement, adjacent habitat restoration' information panels at access points to SPA/SAC | £50,000 | 2383.40 |
| 13 | 11 & 12 | Addingham | Upgrade of footpath - Stockinger Lane | <2.5 | Surface improvement, waymarking | £17,000 | 906.74 |

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| 237 | 22 | Addingham | Catsteps - slippery path needing surface improvements | <2.5 | Surface improvement, waymarking | £15,000 | 814.00 |
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