

Screening Opinion for Stafford Borough, Cannock Chase District, South Staffs District, Lichfield District and Staffordshire County Councils Core Strategies in respect of Cannock Chase Natura 2000 site



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1 Introduction / Background

1 Introduction / Background

1.1 This screening opinion has been prepared jointly to assist Stafford Borough, Cannock District, South Staffordshire, Lichfield District and Staffordshire County Council (known hereafter as the 5 authorities) and in deciding whether an Appropriate Assessment of their Core Strategies in relation to Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation is required under the European Directive 92/43/EEC (The Habitats Directive).

1.2 The screening opinion has been prepared in accordance with the Requirements of article 6 (3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive and the draft Conservation (Natural Habitats and Conservation) (Amendment) (England and Wales) Regulations 2006.

1.3 This report has also drawn on guidance contained in PPS9, Circular 06/2005 and the EC publications 'Managing Natura 2000 sites: The provisions of Article 6 of the 'Habitats' Directive 92/43/EEC, and 'Assessment of plans and projects significantly affecting Natura 2000 sites – Methodological guidance on the provisions of Article 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC'.

1.4 Following the ECL judgement on the 20th October 2005, the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) have drawn up guidance titled 'Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Appropriate Assessment', which has also been taken into account.

1.1 The Habitats Regulations Assessment

1.5 A Habitats Regulations Assessment is the requirement that Local Authorities and Regional Planning Bodies (RPBs) should consider whether projects or plans, as part of land use planning documents, will have adverse affects on Natura 2000 Sites (also known as European Sites). Natura 2000 Sites are nature conservation sites designated as Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), and includes species outlined in Regulation 10 of the Habitats Regulations 1994.

1.6 This requirement was brought about by the United Kingdom's failure to implement Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the European Directive regarding Habitats (92/43/EEC) and enforced through the European Court of Justice (ECJ). The Court ruled that UK law did not adequately transfer the Directive into British legislation.

1.7 Planning Policy Statement 9 (PPS9): 'Biodiversity and Geological Conservation' states that RAMSAR sites should receive the same protection as SPAs and SACs.

1.2 Cannock Chase SAC

1.8 This document, relates only to Cannock Chase SAC, which lies both within Stafford Borough, Cannock Chase District and Staffordshire County Council boundaries. Whilst there are other Natura 2000 sites within and surrounding the authorities, these will be covered in separate documents.

1.9 The purpose of a Habitats Regulations Assessment is to assess the impacts of land-use plans and projects against the conservation objectives of a Natura 2000 site and to ascertain whether there will be an adverse affect on the integrity of the site. If significant effects are identified by the assessment, alternative plan options need to be examined.

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1.3 Methodology

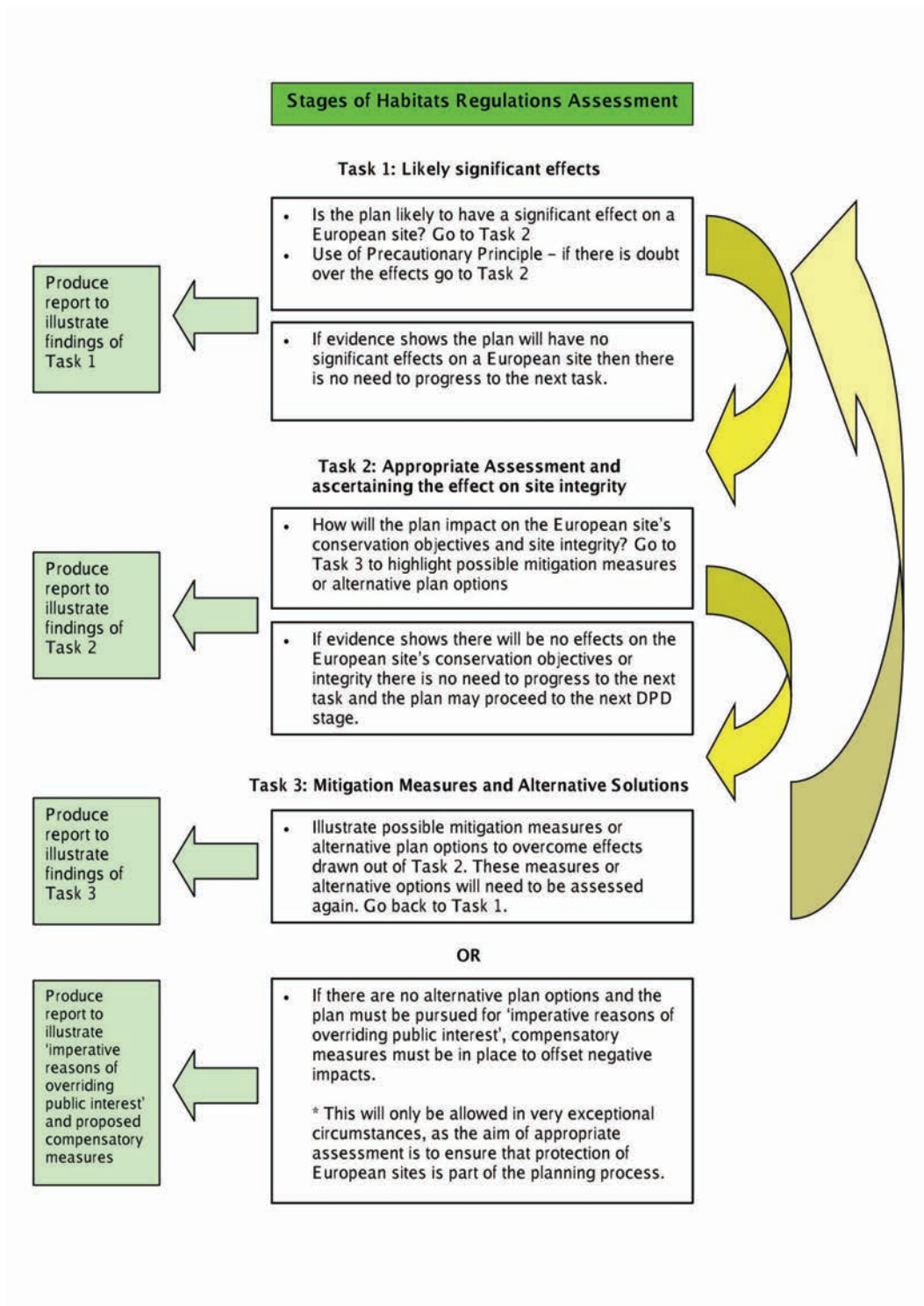
1.10 EC guidance and the recent publication from DCLG titled Planning for the Protection of European Sites: Appropriate Assessment agree the following stages or tasks: -

- Stage one: Likely Significant Effects (Screening)
- Stage two: Appropriate Assessment and ascertaining on the site integrity
- Stage three: Mitigation and alternative solutions and

* Imperative reasons of overriding public interest

1 Introduction / Background

Habitat Regulation Assessment Process



1.11 The five authorities Core Strategies have been screened in detail to determine the potential impact on Cannock Chase SAC.

The assessment considers the following impacts

Introduction / Background 1

- **Direct impacts** - represent a straight route between an action or event and a resultant effect on the ecological interest feature. For example, development that removes habitat for which a Natura 2000 sites was designated.
- **Indirect impacts** - do not arise directly from the plan but instead occur away from the original effect or as a result of a complex pathway. For example development which alters the hydrology of a catchment area may impact on water levels further downstream
- **Induced impacts** - are secondary actions which may result from the actions set out in the plan, which may promote further development or change.

1.12 The following types of impacts have been considered as part of this screening assessment

- Eutrophication associated with sewage discharges
- Diffuse air pollution
- Surface run-off
- Flooding
- Nitrogen deposition
- Spread of invasive plants
- Recreational pressure
- Water transfer impacts
- Nutrient increase
- Water quality
- Habitat fragmentation
- Vegetation change

1.3.1 HRA of Regional Spatial Strategy

1.13 The Habitat Regulations Assessment of the Regional Spatial Strategy prepared by URSUS Consulting Ltd & Treweek Environmental Consultants in 2007 highlight the following likely significant effects on Cannock Chase SAC:

- *Those parts of Cannock Chase SAC within 200 m of the A34, 513 or 460 may be exposed to increased levels of deposition of atmospheric pollutants, causing changes in the plant species composition of the vegetation communities for which the site is designated. Levels of traffic on these and more local roads could be further exacerbated by increased recreational use of the site associated with an expanding local population. Increasing recreational use could create a future need for additional supporting infrastructure or facilities, which could potentially require land-take within or near Cannock Chase SAC.*
- *Another possible consequence of increased recreational use could be impacts on water quality and localised eutrophication.*
- *All these effects could be further exacerbated by the in-combination effects of the South Staffordshire Economic Regeneration Strategy and Visitor Economy Strategy.*
- *Water abstraction is an existing issue at the site which could potentially be exacerbated by housing development.*
- Recreational pressure and disturbance, particularly from dog-walking, horse-riding, mountain-biking and off-track activities (orienteering noted): all of these cause or contribute to erosion, creation of new tracks and damage to vegetation

1 Introduction / Background

1.4 Outcomes of the Screening Decision

1.14 This report is dealing primarily with Stage One of the Habitats Regulations Assessment, the screening stage. This stage assesses in general terms whether the proposals in the five authorities Core Strategies are likely to have a significant impact on Cannock Chase SAC. If no likely effects are determined, the Appropriate Assessment stage need not be carried out and each authorities LDF proposals may continue through the LDF process.

1.15 However, if the screening stage decides that the plans or projects will result in likely significant effects on Cannock Chase SAC, a separate Appropriate Assessment of each of the five authorities Core Strategies will need to be carried out.

Stage One: Likely Significant Effects 2

2 Stage One: Likely Significant Effects

2.1 Screening has four tasks: –

1. Determining whether the plan or project is directly connected with or necessary for the management of the site
2. Describing the project or plan and any others that in combination have the potential to significantly affect the Natura 2000 site
3. Characteristics of the site and identification of possible effects
4. Assessing the significance of any effects

2.1 Task 1 and Task 2

2.2 Each of the district authorities Core Strategies will set a spatial strategy for the District over the next 20 years, and includes proposals relating to the distribution of housing, employment land and transport infrastructure. Staffordshire County Council Waste and Mineral Core Strategies set the spatial vision, a spatial strategy, including the identification of strategic sites and broad locations for future mineral working and waste management sites over the next 15 years.

2.3 None of the Core Strategies are directly necessary to the site management for nature conservation.

2.4 The table below provides the development requirements for each authority, taken from Phase 2 of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)

Authority	Housing Requirement	Employment requirement	Waste & Minerals
Stafford Borough Council	10,100 - 13,000 houses between 2006 - 2026	120 hectares indicative long term requirement employment land	
Cannock Chase District Council	5,800 houses between 2006 - 2026	84 hectares long term requirement employment land	
Lichfield District Council	8,000 houses between 2006 - 2026	99 hectares long term requirement employment land	
South Staffordshire District Council	3,500 houses between 2006 - 2026	24 hectares long term requirement employment land	

2 Stage One: Likely Significant Effects

Authority	Housing Requirement	Employment requirement	Waste & Minerals
Staffordshire County Council			<p>Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent require an additional 14.8 – 18.8 hectares of land to locate sufficient waste facilities</p> <p>To maintain 1.395 million tonnes crushed rock derived from limestone reserves up to the end of 2026</p> <p>To secure supply of 6.602 million tonnes of sand & gravel up to the end of 2026</p>

2.5 It is important to consider the possible impacts of the five authorities Core Strategies alongside other plans and projects, listed below:

- Staffordshire Local Transport Plan
- Cannock Chase AONB Management Plan 2006 - 2010
- Rugeley Power Station Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD) plans
- Environment Agency consents for water extraction
- Severn Trent Water Water Resources Plan
- South Staffs Water Resources Plan
- Stoke -on-Trent and Newcastle Core Strategy
- East Staffordshire Core Strategy
- Regional Spatial Strategy and Phase II Revision
- Telford and Wrekin Core Strategy
- Outline Planning Application for housing development at Pye Green, Cannock Chase District
- Outline Planning Application for housing development at Curborough, Lichfield District

2.2 Task 3: Characteristics of the site and identification of possible effects

Description of the Site	
Name	Cannock Chase SAC
Date of designation	April 2005
Site Description	<p>The site comprises of lowland heathland and is the most extensive in the Midlands region.</p> <p>Character of the vegetation is intermediate between the upland and northern heaths of England and Wales and those of the southern counties.</p>

Stage One: Likely Significant Effects 2

Description of the Site	
	<p>The heathland includes species of cowberry (<i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i>) and crowberry (<i>Empetrum nigrum</i>), alongside being home to the main British population of the hybrid bilberry (<i>Vaccinium intermedium</i>), a plant of restricted occurrence.</p> <p>The site has important populations of butterflies and beetles, European nightjar (<i>caprimulgus europaeus</i>) and five species of bats.</p>
Site condition	<p>2.27% Favourable</p> <p>95.29% Unfavourable recovering</p> <p>2.45% Unfavourable no change</p>
Reason for European Designation	<p>European dry heaths Annex 1 habitat</p> <p>for which this is considered to be one of the best areas in the United Kingdom.</p>
Qualifying Features	<p>Northern Atlantic wet heaths Annex 1 habitat present as a qualifying feature, but not primary reason for site selection</p>
Key Environmental features that support site integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sympathetic management of heathland vegetation ● Climate ● Maintenance of soil chemistry ● Maintenance of hydrology ● Water chemistry
Distance from Stafford BC Boundary	<p>The SAC lies entirely within Staffordshire County Council boundary, approximately two thirds of the SAC lies within Stafford Borough boundary and one third lies within Cannock Chase District boundary. The SAC borders South Staffordshire District and lies approximately 2.5km from Lichfield District Boundary.</p>
Size	<p>1,271.78 ha</p>
General site character	<p>Inland water bodies (standing water, running water) (0.5%)</p> <p>Heath. Scrub. Maquis and garrigue. Phygrana (76.3%)</p> <p>Coniferous woodland (12%)</p> <p>Non-Forest areas cultivated with woody plants (including orchards, groves, vineyards, (10.5%)</p> <p>Other land (including towns, villages, roads, waste places, mines, industrial sites) (0.7%)</p>

2 Stage One: Likely Significant Effects

Description of the Site

Site Objectives	<p>The Conservation Objectives for this site are to maintain the following habitats and geological features in favourable condition, with particular reference to any development component special interest features for which the land is designated as individually listed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Dwarf shrub heath2. Broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland <p>On this site favourable condition requires the maintenance of the extent of each designated habitat type. Maintenance implies restoration if evidence from condition assessment suggests a reduction in extent.</p> <p>To maintain the dwarf shrub heath habitats at Cannock Chase SSSI in favourable condition, with particular reference to relevant specific designated interest features.</p>
Site Vulnerability / Issues	<p>Due to much of Cannock Chase being popular and well-used as a Country Park there are many threats to track creation and vegetation damage from visitors including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog walking• Horse riding• Mountain biking• Off-track activities such as orienteering• Car parking <p>Other threats include the invasion of other plant species including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bracken invasion• Birch and pine scrub• Loss of heathland to fragmentation and scrub/woodland encroachment <p>The land is registered as Common Land which poses a threat to the site as the Secretary of State must give approval before fencing can take place, this means that the reintroduction of sustainable management in the form of livestock grazing has many problems.</p> <p>Although mining in the area has ceased the site overlies coal measures which have been deep mined, resulting in fissures across the site. This is a threat to the hydrology of the site.</p> <p>Furthermore the underlying Sherwood Sandstone is a major aquifer with water abstracted for public and industrial uses and the effects of this on the wetland features of the Chase are not fully understood. Major increase in its use would obviously impact significantly on the site.</p>

Stage One: Likely Significant Effects 2

Description of the Site

The prime air pollution concerns for heathlands and sub-arctic scrub habitats in the UK are nitrogen deposition and ozone. Acid deposition may also be substantial, with implications for catchment water quality.

2.3 Task 4: Assessing the significance of any effects on Cannock Chase SAC

<p>Describe the individual elements of the project (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) likely to give rise to impacts on the Natura 2000 site</p>	<p>Stafford Borough Core Strategy</p> <p>A range of 10,100 - 13,100 new dwellings in the Borough between 2006 – 2026 and 120 hectares employment land may impact on the Cannock Chase SAC.</p> <p>Cannock Chase Core Strategy</p> <p>5,8000 new dwellings in Cannock Chase District Council and 84 hectares of employment land between 2006 – 2026.</p> <p>Lichfield District Core Strategy</p> <p>8,000 new dwellings in Lichfield District between 2006 - 2026 and 99 hectares of employment land.</p> <p>South Staffordshire District Core Strategy</p> <p>3,500 new dwellings in South Staffordshire District between 2006 - 2026 and 24 hectares employment land.</p> <p>Staffordshire County Council Waste and Minerals Core Strategy</p> <p>Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent require an additional 14.8 – 18.8 hectares of land to locate sufficient waste facilities, the maintenance of 1,395 million tonnes crushed rock derived from limestone reserves up to the end of 2026 and to secure supply of 6.602 million tonnes of sand and gravel up to the end of 2026.</p> <p>Other Plans and Projects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current water abstraction rates by Seven Trent Water and South Staffs Water at sites on or surrounding the SAC. It is currently unknown if abstraction at some of these sites are having a negative impact on the wet heaths at Cannock Chase or whether an increase in water abstraction could have a negative impact on the SAC. • The FGD Plant at Rugeley Power Station will reduce the amount of sulphur Dioxide produced by the station, but the process will increase Nitrogen emissions.
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2 Stage One: Likely Significant Effects

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential planning application for 1,500 dwellings at land to the West of Pye Green Road, abutting the western boundary of the Cannock Chase AONB SAC. An Appropriate Assessment report for this application is currently in preparation. • The outline application for 5,000 houses and associated infrastructure and services and facilities at Curborough, Lichfield District could lead <i>'to an overall increase in visitor pressure on Cannock Chase SAC,and would make the management of recreational pressure that more challenging'</i>⁽¹⁾
<p>Describe any likely direct, indirect or secondary impacts Of the project (either along or in combination with other Plans or projects) on the Natura 2000 site by virtue of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Size and scale; • Land-take; • Distance from the Natura 2000 site or key features of the site; • Resource requirements (water abstraction etc); • Emissions (disposal to land, water or air); • Excavation requirements; • Transportation requirements; • Duration of construction, operation, decommissioning; 	<p>Possible impacts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased visitor use and associated impacts on Cannock Chase SAC • Increased water demand may lead to increased water abstraction at boreholes within and surrounding the Chase • Increased nitrogen deposition • No initial phasing of development for the districts – the delivery of housing and employment land likely to be constant over the plan period of 2006 – 2026 • No development proposed within the Cannock Chase SAC • Two thirds of the 1268-hectare SAC lie in Stafford Borough with the remaining third in Cannock Chase District.
<p>Describe any likely changes to the site arising as a result of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of habitat area: Disturbance to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in water flows • Water quality • Habitat fragmentation • Reduction in habitat area • Vegetation change

Stage One: Likely Significant Effects 2

<p>key species; Habitat or species fragmentation;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduction in species density; ● Changes in key indicators of conservation value (water quality etc); ● Climate change 	
<p>Describe any likely impacts on the Natura 2000 site as a whole in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Interference with the key relationships that define the structure of the site ● Interference with the key relationships that define the function of the site 	<p>Impacts may interfere with the soil chemistry of the SAC and give rise to other species, which may invade the heathland.</p> <p>Increased Nitrogen levels can be expected to favour grassland species rather than those that are characteristic of dwarf shrub heath</p> <p>Impacts may alter the hydrology of the SAC, interfering with the wet heath habitats.</p>
<p>Provide indicators of significance as a result of the identification of effects set out above in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Loss; ● Fragmentation; ● Disruption; ● Disturbance; ● Change to key elements of the site (e.g. water quality etc.) 	<p>Recreation</p> <p><i>The Cannock Chase AONB Visitor Survey 2000</i> concludes that approximately 1.27 million visits are made to Cannock Chase on an annual basis. 70% of visitors originate within 10 miles of their destination.</p> <p>The most popular locations are Milford Common, Marquis Drive, Birches Valley, Seven Springs, the Sherbrook Valley and Castle Ring.</p> <p>Visitors mostly cite walking as their reason for visiting the Chase, but other activities such as cycling, games and equine activities are other activities for which people visit the Chase.</p> <p>The report states that the principal areas of conflict centre on the use of the Chase by growing numbers of mountain bike riders and a smaller number of horse riders. Conflicts centre especially upon concerns over personal safety as well as problems of damage to paths.</p> <p>Using the evidence above, it is possible to judge that an increase in dwellings in Stafford Borough and Cannock Chase District will increase visitor numbers to the Chase, based on current distance travelled by visitors. Damage to paths is an existing problem and may be exacerbated by an increase in visitors.</p>

2 Stage One: Likely Significant Effects

Dog walking is already resulting in vegetation change along path edges due to fouling. Survey evidence (Cannock Chase Council 2007) shows vegetation change attributable to increased nutrient levels at distances of up to 280 metres from car parks and other access points.

Water abstraction

The 2002 Seven Trent Water commissioned Halcrow report titled *Cannock Chase Hydrogeological Study: Final Report* investigates current Seven Trent Water abstraction sites in or surrounding the SAC. Two of these, Shugborough and Milford pumping stations may have an impact on the wet heaths at Sherbrook and Oldacre Valleys. An updated study in 2006 by ESI confirmed that while there is no conclusive evidence to suggest that the public water supply sources are having a detrimental impact on groundwater levels across the SAC area, it is possible that abstraction at licensed rates could affect stream flows and local groundwater levels further. If this is the case, the extent of the wet heaths may be affected and this would conflict with the conservation objectives for the SAC. Further investigations, regarding the issue of groundwater levels are being carried out and results are expected in March 2008.

Current abstraction levels are below the full licensed abstraction levels.

South Staffs Water Plc have several water abstraction licences at pumping stations within Cannock Chase District, surrounding the SAC at Moors Gorse, Brindley Bank and Slitting Mill. In addition South Staffs Plc operate other pumping stations at Maple Brook, Seedy Mill and Shenstone, which lie within a different groundwater catchment. Following discussions with The Environment Agency and Natural England, South Staffs Water Plc have been informed that the scale of their operations does not warrant the need for Appropriate Assessment but the impact of abstractions at Moors Gorse and Slitting Mill are being investigated by the EA as part of the Memorandum of Understanding that is linked to a group licence.

In addition South Staffs Water Plc have no plans to increase our abstraction licence quantities for these sources. Should a supply demand shortfall be identified in the next South Staffs Water Plc water resources plan, the deficit will be met by alternative measures/locations.

Stage One: Likely Significant Effects 2

Air Quality

Air Pollution Information System (APIS) state that the main concerns for lowland heathland are the impacts of nitrogen deposition and acid deposition. Lowland heaths may also be at risk from nearby air pollutant sources such as farming or industrial activity.

For upland heathland the key concerns are the effects of nitrogen deposition and ozone.

The critical load for nitrogen deposition on lowland heathland is 10 – 25 kg N ha⁻¹ year⁻¹.

Acid deposition consists of sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxides for which the critical loads are:

Sulphur Dioxide 20 µg SO₂ m⁻³ annual mean and half-year (Oct-March) mean

Nitrogen oxides 30 µg NO_x (as NO₂) m⁻³ annual mean; 75 µg NO_x (as NO₂) m⁻³ 24-hour mean

The critical load for nitrogen deposition on upland heathland is 10-20 kg N ha⁻¹ year⁻¹ and 3000 ppb hours (accumulated over a threshold of 40 ppb or AOT40) over a period of up to three months for ozone.

While collection of such data on or nearby the SAC is limited Nitrogen Dioxide is measured at Birches Valley, approximately 1.5km from the SAC boundary. Figures are provided monthly from January 1994, with the most recent figure for November 2006. In the last three months there has been an increase in Nitrogen Dioxide from 11.9 to 16.7 ug/m³. The highest measurement of nitrogen dioxide was recorded in November 1997 at 62.8 ug/m³. Currently nitrogen dioxide measures at a low level and is below the critical load, but in the past this has been exceeded and the effects of this are unknown.

The total load deposited on the SAC may not be directly correlated with atmospheric nitrogen levels recorded at Birches Valley as much of the nitrogen reaching the SAC will be in rainwater derived at least in part from high-level sources.

Data published by the Critical Loads Network suggests that total nitrogen deposition in the area exceeds critical load.

Environment data for 2006 report to local authorities for Rugeley Power Station

2 Stage One: Likely Significant Effects

	<p>CO2 emissions from Rugeley Power Station have fluctuated over the last 7 years, but were reduced in 2006. Levels of Sulphur Dioxide, Oxides of Nitrogen and Hydrogen Chloride were also reduced in 2006. However the amount of electricity produced in 2006 was below that generated in previous years.</p> <p>Rugeley Power Station is presently installing a flue gas desulphurisation plant in order to comply with the European Union Large Combustion Plant Directive, which aims to apply tighter limits on sulphur dioxide emissions.</p> <p>The 2002 Rugeley Power Station Proposed FGD Plant – Environmental Statement states that the plant may lead to an increase in carbon dioxide emissions, but these should be insignificant. The process will result in decreased Sulphur emissions but there will be an increase in Nitrogen.</p>
<p>Describe from the above those elements of the project or plan, or combination of elements, where the above impacts are likely to be significant or where the scale or magnitude of impacts is not known</p>	<p>Water abstraction and water quality impacts are not known.</p> <p>Air quality impacts from increased populations and households in Stafford Borough and neighbouring authorities along with increase traffic in Stafford Borough due to the M6 widening are unknown.</p> <p>Recreational impacts. It is thought that a significant increase in dwellings and population will lead to an increase in visitors to the Chase.</p>

3 Conclusion

Is the plan or project directly linked to the management of the site?	No, none of the 5 authorities Core Strategies are directly linked to the management of the Cannock Chase SAC
Are significant effects likely?	It is not certain whether the effects identified in this report (see task 4 table) are significant and/or likely but following the precautionary principle, the next stage of the Habitats Regulations Assessment, the Appropriate Assessment stage will be carried out to clarify on issues of significance.

3.1 Summary of effect on Cannock Chase SAC

3.1 This screening report highlights the following potential negative effects

- Air quality
- Recreational pressure
- Water quality

3.2 The Appropriate Assessment report will investigate these issues and possible mitigation measures in more detail.

Table of likely significant effects matrix

Table of likely significant effects matrix

Site	Qualifying features	Key environmental conditions to support site integrity	Possible impacts that will arise from the plan	Is the impact 'significant'?	Describe other plans, projects or trends that 'in combination' will have possible impacts	Are impacts 'significant'?
Cannock Chase SAC	European dry heaths, intermediate between uplands of northern England and Wales and those of southern counties	Maintenance of soil chemistry	<p>10,100 - 13,100 new houses for Stafford Borough between 2006 – 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased levels of eutrophication resulting from dog fouling along path/edges etc. 	Yes?	<p>8,000+ new houses for Lichfield District between 2006 – 2026. Impacts include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased levels of eutrophication resulting from dog fouling along path/edges etc. 	Yes?
			<p>5,800 new houses for Cannock Chase District between 2006 – 2026. Impacts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased levels of eutrophication resulting from dog fouling along path/edges etc. 	Yes?	<p>3,500 new houses for South Staffordshire District between 2006 – 2026. Impacts include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased levels of eutrophication resulting from dog fouling along path/edges etc. 	Yes?

Table of likely significant effects matrix

Site	Qualifying features	Key environmental conditions to support site integrity	Possible impacts that will arise from the plan	Is the impact 'significant'?	Describe other plans, projects or trends that 'in combination' will have possible impacts	Are impacts 'significant'?
Cannock Chase SAC	European dry heaths, intermediate between uplands of northern England and Wales and those of southern counties	Maintenance of soil chemistry	Expansion of industrial areas in Cannock Chase District <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible increase in nitrogen deposition due to atmospheric pollution 	Yes?	Installation of a flue gas desulphurisation plant at Rugeley Power Station <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in SO2 emissions but possible increase in carbon dioxide and N emissions 	No, Rugeley Power Station Proposed FGD Plant – Environment Statement states that carbon dioxide emissions should be insignificant in the context of sector and national carbon dioxide emissions
Cannock Chase SAC	North Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>	Maintenance of hydrology	10,100 - 13,100 new houses for Stafford Borough between 2006 – 2026. Impacts include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in demand for water, which could result in increased water abstraction 	Yes?	3, 500 new houses for South Staffordshire District between 2006 – 2026. Impacts include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in demand for water 	Yes?

Table of likely significant effects matrix

Site	Qualifying features	Key environmental conditions to support site integrity	Possible impacts that will arise from the plan	Is the impact 'significant'?	Describe other plans, projects or trends that 'in combination' will have possible impacts	Are impacts 'significant'?
			<p>5,800 new houses for Cannock Chase District between 2006 – 2026</p> <p>Impacts include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase in demand for water 		<p>8,000 new houses for Lichfield District</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May increase demand for water 	<p>No, South Staffs Water state there will be no increase in abstraction rates at Pumping Stations on Cannock Chase</p>