

Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) for Moray Local Development Plan 2020 Proposed Plan

December 2018

Introduction

Natura 2000 sites are a network of protected sites for international importance which includes special areas for conservation (SACs) and special protection areas (SPAs). It is a requirement of Article 6 (3&4) of the European Habitats Directive that any plans likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site shall be subject to an appropriate assessment to determine the implications in relation to the sites qualifying interests and conservation objectives. A plan should not be approved until it has been ascertained that the policies and proposals contained within it will not adversely affect the integrity of the sites. Proposed SACs and SPAs should also be given the same consideration.

The following Natura 2000 sites are within the Moray Local Development Plan (LDP) area:-

Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

Culbin Bar
Hill Of Towanreef
Lower Findhorn Woods
Lower River Spey – Spey Bay
Moidach More
Moray Firth
River Spey

Special Protection Areas (SPA)

Loch Spynie
Moray and Nairn Coast
Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor
Darnaway and Lethen Forest
Moray Firth (Proposed)

Moray Local Development Plan 2020 – Proposed Plan Context

Moray Council is preparing the Moray Local Development Plan (LDP) 2020 under the terms of the Planning (Scotland) Act 2006, which will replace the Moray LDP 2015. The LDP will cover the whole of the Moray Council administrative area, excluding the Cairngorms National Park.

The purpose of the LDP is to provide a land use planning policy framework to guide future development and be used to determine planning applications. The LDP will include a strategic “vision” for Moray, forecasts for new housing, industrial and commercial requirements, with site designations made to meet these requirements. The LDP will also contain policies aimed at considering development proposals while protecting the built and natural environment resources of Moray.

Vision

“People want to live, work and invest in Moray because of the outstanding quality of life and environment.”

Plan Aims/Objectives

- Apply a placemaking approach to development to create sustainable, welcoming, well connected and distinctive places that are safe, healthy and inclusive.
- Provide sufficient housing land to meet the needs of various sectors of the market.
- A strong framework for investment that provides sufficient land for development.

- Identify and provide for new social and physical infrastructure to support the expanding population whilst safeguarding existing infrastructure.
- Promote the vitality and viability of town centres.
- Encourage efficient use of land and promote low carbon and sustainable development
- Protect and enhance the built and natural environment
- Improve resilience of the natural and build environment to climate change.

Methodology

The following methodology has been used to carry out this HRA.

Screening has been undertaken to determine whether elements of the Proposed Plan individually or in combination with other policies, plans or projects are likely to have a significant effect on the Natura 2000 sites. Any policies or allocations considered likely to have a significant effect, either alone or in combination are then considered against the conservation objectives of the relevant Natura site in the Appropriate Assessment. As stated the Proposed Plan sets out strategic objectives that are reflective of Scottish Government priorities including sustainable economic development, creating healthy places and tackling climate change.

Screening for likely significant effect

Table 1 screens the policies for likely significant effects. Tables 2 and 3 then consider whether allocations in the settlements and rural groupings have connectivity and potential for likely significant effects on Natura sites.

Table 1 – Proposed Plan Policies Screening for likely significant effects

[illegible]

[illegible]

	Potential development issues	PPS likely to have significant effects individually or in combination	General Supporting Statement	Projects not generated by this PPS	Protective, enhancement and conservation	Does not generate development and change	Provision of a change with no connectivity to Natura 2000 site	Provision of a change with no or minimal effects	Too general to assess due to lack of information on where, how or when	Screen in/screen out
DEL2 – Maintaining an effective supply of land for housing and employment uses									X	Out

Conclusion – None of the policies have shown connectivity to, or will have an effect on, Natura sites and are therefore screened out.

Settlements have been screened to identify potential connectivity between allocations within those settlements and Natura sites. This is presented in Table 2. (The allocations with connectivity and potential for likely significant effects are then taken forward to more detailed appraisal in the Appropriate Assessment. Allocations not considered to have connectivity to a Natura site or sites are listed in Annex 1.)

Table 2 – Proposed Plan Settlement Screening for connectivity and likely significant effects

Settlements	Connectivity	Culbin Bar SAC	Hill of Towanreef SAC	Lower Findhorn Woods SAC	Lower River Spey – Spey Bay SAC	Moidoch More SAC	Moray Firth SAC	River Spey SAC	Loch Spynie SPA	Moray and Nairn Coast SPA	Tips of Corsemaul and Tom Mor SPA	Darnaway and Lethen SPA	Moray Firth SPA (Proposed)
Aberlour	Yes							Sediment/ pollution, disturbance					
Alves	No												
Archiestown	Yes							Sediment/ pollution					
Buckie	Yes						Disturbance						Disturbance
Burghead	Yes						Water quality, disturbance						Water quality, disturbance
Craigellachie	No												
Cullen	Yes												Water quality, disturbance
Cummingston	No												
Dallas	No												
Dufftown	Yes							Sediment/ pollution, disturbance					
Duffus	No												
Dyke	No												
Elgin	Yes								Pollution/water quality				
Findhorn	Yes						Water quality, disturbance			Water quality, disturbance			Water quality, disturbance
Findochty	Yes												Water quality, disturbance

[illegible]

[illegible]

Rural groupings have been screened to identify potential connectivity between allocations within those groupings and Natura sites. This is presented in Table 3. (The rural grouping allocations with connectivity and potential for likely significant effects are then taken forward to more detailed appraisal in the Appropriate Assessment.)

Table 3 – Proposed Plan Rural Grouping Screening for connectivity and likely significant effects

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Appropriate Assessment

The screening tables have identified that Natura sites in close proximity to towns and villages have the potential to experience likely significant effects either alone or in combination with development in multiple locations. In particular the River Spey SAC, Moray Firth SAC, Moray and Nairn Coast SPA, Lower River Spey – Spey Bay SAC and the Loch Spynie SPA. Due to no identified impacts on Tips of Corsemaul SPA, Culbin Bar SAC, Lower Findhorn Woods SAC, Darnaway and Lethen Forest SPA and Moidach More SAC they have been screened out. Others have been screened in and taken forward to appropriate assessment.

The Appropriate Assessment will assess the potential impact of the proposed specific allocations found within the settlements that have been screened in as requiring Appropriate Assessment in the tables above. Information on each Natura site is presented below, along with assessment of proposed allocations.

Consideration of how development of the allocations would affect the conservation objectives in the absence of mitigation is required. Mitigation is then applied and the proposals re-assessed for remaining effects. Mitigation may be application of particular policies within the proposed LDP, or bespoke developer requirements from more complex sites/effects.

Safeguarding Policies

Policies to safeguard Natura sites that have been incorporated into the LDP policies. The principle safeguarding policies are set out below;

EP1 – Natural Heritage – Sets out a framework for assessing proposals that will affect international, national and local conservation objectives. Proposals which will affect a designated or proposed site will be refused unless it can be demonstrated that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or there is no alternative solution, there are imperative reasons of over-riding public interest and compensatory measures are provided to ensure the overall coherence of the Natura network is protected.

EP3 – Special Landscape Areas and Landscape Character – Identifies coastal protection areas and special landscape areas where limited types of development will only be permitted in specified circumstances.

EP4 – Countryside around Towns – seeks to protect the transition from urban to rural where limited types of development will only be permitted in specified circumstances.

EP12 – Management and Enhancement of the Water Environment – Supports the protection and enhancement of the water environment, requires the appropriate use of SUDs and the submission of drainage impact assessments.

EP13 – Foul Drainage – Requires all developments within or close to settlements to connect to the public sewerage system.

EP14 – Pollution, Contamination and Hazards – Requires consideration of potential air, water, soil, light or noise issues. Where significant or unacceptable impacts cannot be mitigated development proposals will not be supported.

EP15 – Geodiversity and Soil Resources – Seeks to ensure that peat and carbon rich soils are not disturbed by new development.

River Spey SAC

The qualifying interests of the River Spey are the freshwater pearl mussel, otter, sea lamprey, and Atlantic salmon all of which are non-priority. Freshwater pearl mussels and sea lamprey are known to be present only within the main River Spey. Atlantic salmon and otters are more widely distributed and can be found in the main stem and many of the tributaries. The 3 wholly aquatic species depend upon a range of instream habitats to support their life cycles and a water quality and quantity that supports them. These species are very vulnerable to deterioration in water quality either through pollutants or sediment input which can arise during development if unmanaged. Otters rely on the food resources within the rivers and also habitat adjacent to watercourses in which to breed and rest. Often areas of riparian woodland are a valuable habitat for otters as they can offer shelter and the opportunity for breeding holts (under trees for example).

The conservation objectives for the River Spey SAC are to avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed below) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:-

- Population of the species, including range of genetic types for salmon, as a viable component of the site;
- Distribution of the species within site;
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species;
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species;
- No significant disturbance of the species;
- Distribution and viability of freshwater pearl mussel host species; and
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting freshwater pearl mussel host species.

Moray Context

The River Spey SAC includes the main stem of the River Spey from Cragganmore to the mouth of the river at Spey Bay. It also includes several major and minor tributaries. Larger settlements that have potential to influence the SAC are Dufftown, Aberlour, Craigellachie, Rothes, Fochabers and Mosstodloch. The sort of development that has potential to impact on the 4 species and their habitats are road and paths construction and other infrastructure projects (including bridges, safety barriers). Predominantly the mitigation required to eliminate the risk to the 4 species, their habitats and the processes that support them is to ensure that development is well positioned and is able to implement a suite of construction methods that avoid sediment release, pollution and risk of disturbance to otters.

River Spey SAC - Freshwater Pearl Mussel, Atlantic Salmon, Sea Lamprey and Otter

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Aberlour I2 Aberlour/Glenlivet Distillery I4 Fisherton Yard Industrial designation	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, construction and post-construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and to ensure no disturbance to otter that may be using the watercourse and banks, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
OPP1 Mary Avenue Mixed use designation		A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, and to ensure no disturbance to otter that may be using the watercourse and banks, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	
Archiestown R1 East End Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, construction and post-construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, and to ensure no disturbance to otter that may be using the watercourse and banks, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Garmouth R1 south of Innes Road Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Kingston on Spey No identified designations but could be infill development and subdivision of plots	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, construction and post-construction disturbance to species.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, and to ensure no disturbance to otter that may be using the watercourse and banks, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Mosstodloch I5 Baxters Industrial designation	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, construction and post-construction disturbance to species.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and to ensure no disturbance to otter that may be using the watercourse and banks, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
T1 Baxters Tourism designation	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Roths Roths R1 Spey Street, R2 Green Street Residential designations and I1 Back Burn, I2 The Distilleries, I3 Reserve Land Rear of Dark Grains Plant, I4 Station Yard and I5 Greens of Roths Industrial Designations	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
OPP1 North Street Mixed Use designation.	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, construction and post-construction disturbance to species.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and to ensure no disturbance to otter that may be using the watercourse and banks, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	

Rural Grouping	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Auchbreck	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None,	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Blinkbonnie	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, construction and post-construction disturbance to species.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, and to ensure no disturbance to otter that may be using the watercourse and banks, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided..	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development
Boat o Brig	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect

		avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.		on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development
Bridgend of Glenlivet Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Cardhu Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Cragganmore Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Dailuaine Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Knockando (Lower) Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, construction and post-construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, and to ensure no disturbance to otter that may be using the watercourse and banks, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Marypark Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon .	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or

		reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and to ensure no disturbance to otter that may be using the watercourse and banks, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided		cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Tugnet	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None,	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it

Moray Firth SAC

The bottle-nosed dolphin population within the Moray Firth travel more widely along our coasts and are not just found within the SAC but the SAC remains an important core area for them. The sandbanks that remain submerged at all times extend under much of the Moray Firth and provide a substrate upon which many different habitats, which depend upon certain light conditions thrive.

The conservation objectives for the Moray Firth SAC are to avoid the deterioration of the qualifying habitat (sandbanks) thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying habitat that the following are maintained in the long term:-

- Extend of habitat on site;
- Distribution of habitat within site;
- Structure and function of the habitat;
- Processes supporting the habitat;
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat;
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat; and
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat.

To avoid deterioration of the qualifying species (bottle-nosed dolphins) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes and appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are established then maintained in the long term:-

- Population of the species as viable component of the site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats surrounding the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Moray Context

The sandbanks are a soft and fragile habitat that can easily be damaged during marine works that could include dredging disposals, harbour improvements, jetties, coastal defence, outfalls etc. The renewable energy industry has potential to impact on them either directly through schemes or the need to lay new offshore cabling to link to new schemes.

Outfalls from foul and surface water treatments or for intakes of water for industry can impact on the sandbanks and the quality of water which can affect the dolphins. Noise from marine construction can also affect dolphins.

Marine wildlife watching tourism is closely scrutinised and most operators within the Moray Firth sign up to protocols such as the Dolphin Space Programme to ensure that watching is carried out responsibly.

Moray Firth SAC – Bottle-Nosed Dolphins and Sandbanks

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Buckie I5 Harbour Area	Post-construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and how any increases in human activity (including from water based activities arising from development) will be managed to ensure no disturbance to bottlenose dolphin, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Burghead HBR 1 Burghead Harbour and OPP1 West Foreshore Mixed use designation and I1 Burghead Maltings Industrial designation and T1 Caravan Park and T2 Caravan Park Extension Tourism designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, and post-construction disturbance to species.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and how any increases in human activity (including from water based activities arising from development) will be managed to ensure no disturbance to bottlenose dolphin, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
R1 North Quay Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided	None.	

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Findhorn OPP1 Boat yard Mixed use designation	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, and post-construction disturbance of species.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and how any increases in human activity (including from water based activities arising from development) will be managed to ensure no disturbance to bottlenose dolphin, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Hopeman T1 Land South of West Beach Caravan Park Mixed use and tourism designation.	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon.	West Beach Caravan Park - Western boundary to be set back sufficiently from the shore. A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
HBR1 Hopeman Harbour	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, and post-construction disturbance of species.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and how any increases in human activity (including from water based activities arising from development) will be managed to ensure no disturbance to bottlenose dolphin, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided	None.	

Rural Grouping	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
N/A				

Lower River Spey – Spey Bay SAC

The SAC's qualifying interests are the “alder woodland on floodplains” found along the banks or the River Spey and on the shingle islands within the river, and the “coastal shingle vegetation outside the reach of waves” found around the mouth of the river and to the west of Kingston just landward of the active shingle ridge at the beach.

Conservation objectives for Lower River Spey - Spey Bay SAC are to avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features; and to ensure for the qualifying habitats that the following are maintained in the long term:-

- Extent of the habitat on site;
- Distribution of the habitat within site;
- Structure and function of the habitat;
- Processes supporting the habitat;
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat;
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat; and
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat.

Moray context

The floodplain woodland is maintained by the natural processes of the River Spey so the greatest threat to this habitat is from river engineering works, flood schemes and coastal defences. Much of the woodland is regularly subject to fluvial flooding and therefore totally unsuitable for most development. The Spey is powerful and the river channel is mobile in this lowest section so areas not currently affected by flooding and erosion may be subject to these issues in the future. These are most critical considerations when looking at development opportunities at Garmouth, Kingston, Tugnet and other rural settlements bordering the Spey's floodplain.

The Sustrans cycle route crosses the SAC along the viaduct and maintenance may be required at intervals.

Scottish Water's waste water overflow outfall for Garmouth discharges into the river at the golf club. This outfall regularly requires repair due to erosion damage. Any major works to improve or remediate this could impact on the river's natural processes and the impact on the woodland would need to be considered.

There is already quite a tourism hub at Tugnet and visitor numbers do not impact on the woodland.

The vegetated coastal shingle is mostly found to the west of Kingston at the 'Lein' and into Lossie Forest. It includes the firing range within the forest. Recreation levels seem to be compatible with the interest. Increasing visitor numbers might need to be managed but this could be achievable through signage. There is currently very little signage and waymarking. Coastal erosion will prompt calls for coastal defences at Kingston. This has potential to have knock-on impacts on this habitat.

The habitat includes wetter areas and to avoid increasing nutrients in these spots adjacent housing needs to have foul water treatments that do not risk nutrients leaching into the site.

Lower River Spey – Spey Bay SAC - Alder Woodland On Floodplains And Coastal Shingle Vegetation Outside The Reach Of Waves

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity
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Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity
Garmouth R1 South of Innes Road Residential designation.	Indirect habitat impacts.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Kingston No identified designations but opportunities for infill and subdivision of plots	Indirect habitat impacts	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.

Rural Grouping	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Blinkbonnie	Indirect habitat impacts	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided	None	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Tugnet	Indirect habitat impacts	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SAC, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC is avoided	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.

Loch Spynie SPA

The qualifying interests of the SPA site are the wintering Greylag geese.

The conservation objectives for Loch Spynie SPA are to avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:-

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site;
- Distribution of the species within site;
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species;
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species; and
- No significant disturbance of the species.

Moray Context

Loch Spynie is a wetland area and therefore highly unlikely to be directly affected by construction developments however recreation and tourism proposals could increase human activity at the site that could, if poorly managed, disturb the birds.

A greater threat is that to the water quality within the loch itself. It is a shallow water body regulated by a dam and sluice. Loch Spynie is naturally fairly high in nutrients the risk of additional nutrient input from the catchment could increase nutrient levels giving rise to algal blooms and encouraging vegetation growth which could decrease the extent of open water through time. The open water is important for the geese to safely roost at night. Much is being done within the catchment to reduce agriculturally derived nutrient input.

Developers considering such projects will need to engage early with the Moray Council, SEPA and SNH to determine what measures may need to be implemented to fully safeguard the SPA.

Loch Spynie SPA – Greylag Geese

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Elgin MU 2 Lossiemouth Road (NE) Release of LONG and mixed use development and LONG 1 North East Release LONG and R10 Spynie Hospital North, R11 Findrassie R12 Lossiemouth Road NE Residential designations and I8 Newfield Industrial designation	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid pollution, particularly diffuse pollution, reaching the SPA during and post-construction, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.

Rural Grouping	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Ardivot	Indirect habitat impacts, including impacts on habitats that species rely upon.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid pollution, particularly diffuse pollution, reaching the SPA during and post-construction, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA is avoided..	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.

Moray and Nairn Coast SPA

The qualifying interests of the SPA site include foraging grounds for nationally important numbers of breeding osprey, over 20,000 wintering waterfowl and internationally important wintering populations of Icelandic/Greenland pink footed geese, Icelandic greylag geese and redshank.

The sites are split between Findhorn Bay/Culbin Sands and Spey Bay and although the features can be found in both areas Findhorn Bay/Culbin Sands is probably more important for the wintering bird interests because it is a greater extent of habitat relatively undisturbed by human activity. Spey Bay is very important for its wet woodland and shingle habitats and is also important for foraging osprey.

Conservation objectives of Moray and Nairn SPA are to avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:-

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site;
- Distribution of the species within site;
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species;
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species; and
- No significant disturbance of the species.

Moray Context

Culbin Sands is fairly remote and so low lying that it is unlikely to be affected by development. Access and recreation are the key pressures in this area because of the damage to saltmarsh. Sections on Findhorn Bay have a lot of human activity but other sections remain fairly quiet and act as important refuges for birds. There are potential impacts likely to arise from recreation and tourism proposals.

Moray & Nairn Coast SPA– Non-Breeding And Breeding Bird Interests

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Findhorn OPP1 Boat yard	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, and post-construction disturbance of species.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SPA, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and how any increases in human activity (including from water based activities arising from development) will be managed to ensure no disturbance to SPA birds, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA is avoided	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Forres R3 Lochyhill Residential Designation	Direct habitat impacts.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate that there will not be a significant reduction in available foraging areas that qualifying interests rely upon, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it
Garmouth R1 South of Innes Road Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SPA, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA is avoided	None	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it
Kingston on Spey No identified designations but could be infill development and subdivision of plots	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, and post-construction disturbance of species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SPA, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and how any increases in human activity (including from water based activities arising from development) will be managed to ensure no disturbance to SPA birds, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA is avoided	None	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it
Rural Grouping	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?

Rural Grouping	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Blinkbonnie	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, and post-construction disturbance of species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SPA, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and how any increases in human activity (including from water based activities arising from development) will be managed to ensure no disturbance to SPA birds, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA is avoided	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it
Tugnet	Indirect habitat impacts including impacts on habitats that species rely upon, and post-construction disturbance of species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the SPA, or other changes to water quality and/or quantity, and how any increases in human activity (including from water based activities arising from development) will be managed to ensure no disturbance to SPA birds, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA is avoided	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it

Hill of Towanreef SAC

The qualifying interests of the SAC are blanket bog, dry, alpine and sub-alpine heaths, juniper on base-rich soils and grassland found on soils rich in heavy metals. There is also a species of plant, marsh saxifrage that is found. Marsh saxifrage is also a plant species listed as a European Protected Species (EPS).

Conservation objectives for Hill of Towanreef SAC are to avoid deterioration of the qualifying habitats thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features;

- Extent of the habitat on site
- Distribution of the habitat within site
- Structure and function of the habitat
- Processes supporting the habitat
- Distribution of typical species of the habitat
- Viability of typical species as components of the habitat
- No significant disturbance of typical species of the habitat

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (yellow marsh saxifrage) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained and the site makes an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status for each of the qualifying features;
and;

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Moray Context

Although predominantly on high upland ground remote from most development a small section abuts the A941 Cabrach road. The site is shared by Moray and Aberdeenshire with the Moray section being mostly moorland habitats managed for grouse. The risk of development affecting this SAC is most likely to come from road upgrades and renewable wind energy. It is unlikely owing to the protection afforded to the SAC that wind energy developments would be proposed within the SAC but any proposed adjacent to the site would need to demonstrate that they would not influence the hydrology that supports the blanket bogs and some of the other habitats.

Hill of Towanreef SAC - blanket bog, dry, alpine and sub-alpine heaths, juniper on base-rich soils and grassland and marsh saxifrage

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
N/A				

Rural Grouping	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Cabrach	Indirect habitat impacts	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate that any changes in hydrology that qualifying interests rely upon will not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the SAC either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it

Moray Firth SPA (Proposed)

The qualifying interests of the pSPA are the Great Northern Diver, Red-Throated Diver, Slavonian Grebe, Migratory Species Scaup, Common Eider, Long-Tailed Duck, Common Scoter, Velvet Scoter, Common Goldeneye, Red Breasted Merganser and European Shag.

The conservation objectives for the pSPA are to avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and to ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:-

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site;
- Distribution of the species within site;
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species;
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species; and

- No significant disturbance of the species.

Moray Context

The Moray Firth proposed Special Protection Area (pSPA) comprises an area of 1762.36 square kilometres (km²). The Moray basin is an extensive site stretching seaward from the Helmsdale coast in the north, to Portsoy in the east and it includes the outer Dornoch and Cromarty Firths, Beaully and Inverness Firths, as well as part of the wider Moray Firth.

Most of the Firth is shallow water (less than 20 metres (m)) over a sandy substrate, apart from a deep channel running east to west through muddy substrate. Rocky outcrops are also frequent along the coast. This variety of habitats provides an abundance of invertebrates such as crabs, mussels and marine worms as well as supporting important nursery areas for a number of fish species; all of these species provide an important food source for the birds.

The main effects with the potential to have a likely significant effect on the pSPA species are disturbance from land and water based activities, changes to habitat and/or water quality (directly through damage or loss, or indirectly through pollution affecting prey of the SPA species).

Moray Firth SPA (Proposed) – Great Northern Diver, Red-Throated Diver, Slavonian Grebe, Migratory Species Scaup, Common Eider, Long-Tailed Duck, Common Scoter, Velvet Scoter, Common Goldeneye, Red Breasted Merganser and European Shag

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Buckie R10 Station Road Residential designation and OPP3 Barron Street, OPP4 Bank Street, OPP5 Former Jones Shipyard OPP6 Former Grampian Country Park Mixed use designations T1 Strathlene Caravan Park T2 Coastal Strip Strathlene Tourism Designations	Indirect habitat impacts	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there is no adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
I5 Buckie Harbour Industrial designation	Indirect habitat impacts and post construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided and how any increase in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None	

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Burghead OPP1 West Foreshore Mixed use development and HBR1 Burghead Harbour and I1 Burghead Maltings Mixed use and industrial designation and T1 Burghead Caravan Park and T2 Burghead Caravan Park Extension Tourism designations	Indirect habitat impacts and post-construction disturbance to species.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, and how any increases in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Cullen OPP2 Port Long Road Commercial, business and tourism	Indirect habitat impacts and post-construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, and how any increases in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
T1 Harbour Tourism	Post-construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how any increases in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None	

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Findhorn ENV 11 North Beach Overnight motorhome, and camping provision	Disturbance.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals demonstrate how any increases in human activity (including water based activities and human waste disposal) arising from longer stays will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
OPP1 Boatyard	Indirect habitat impacts and post-construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, and how any increases in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None.	
Findochty OPP1 North Beach Leisure/tourism/residential	Indirect habitat impacts and post-construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, and how any increases in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
HBR1 Harbour	Disturbance of species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should demonstrate how any increases in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None	

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Hopeman T1 West Beach Caravan Park Expansion of current caravan park	Indirect habitat impacts	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
HBR Hopeman Harbour	Indirect habitat impacts and post-construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, and how any increases in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None.	
Kinloss R1 West of Seapark House, R2 Findhorn Road West RC Seapark Residential Caravan Park Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
Lossiemouth T3 Old Station Tourism, recreation and/or community use and HBR1, HBR2 Harbour	Indirect habitat impacts and post-construction disturbance to species.	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, and how any increases in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None.	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Portgordon R1 West of Reid Terrace Residential designation	Indirect habitat impacts	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
HBR 1 Harbour	Disturbance of species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided, and how any increases in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None	

Settlement	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
Portknockie R1 Seabraes Residential	Indirect habitat impacts	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided.	None	The identified mitigation and application of safeguarding policies within the LDP will ensure there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA either alone or cumulatively with other development affecting it.
OPP1 Patrol Road Business/residential and T1 Harbour Area Tourism	Indirect habitat impacts and post-construction disturbance to species	A developer requirement should be applied in the LDP 2020 that proposals should be connected to the mains water and sewerage, or otherwise to demonstrate how they will avoid sedimentation and pollution reaching the pSPA, and how any increases in human activity (including water based activities arising from development) will be managed, so that an adverse effect on the integrity of the pSPA is avoided	None	
Rural Grouping	Potential Likely Significant Effects	Plan Modification/Mitigation	Residual Affects	Conclusion – Adverse Effect on Site Integrity?
N/A				

Conclusion

After the application of mitigation in the form of safeguarding policies and specific developer requirements it can be concluded that development of the proposed allocations within the LDP 2020 Proposed Plan will not have an adverse effect on site integrity for any of the Natura sites.

Annexe 1 - Allocations not considered to have connectivity to a Natura site or sites

Settlements have been screened to identify potential connectivity between allocations within those settlements and Natura sites. This is presented in Table 2. Allocations within these settlements not considered to have connectivity to a Natura site or sites are listed below.

Settlement	Designations	
Aberlour	R1	Tombain Farm
	R2	Speyview
	I1	Fisherton
	I3	Mary Avenue
Archiestown	R2	South Lane
	R3	West End
	R4	South of Viewmount
Buckie	R1	Burnbank
	R2	Archibald Grove
	R3	Rathburn (N)
	R4	Rathburn (S)
	R5	High Street (E)
	R6	Barhill Road (S)
	R7	Land at Muirton
	R8	Land at Barhill Road
	R9	Site at Ardach Health Centre
	LONG 1	Land to south west of Buckie
	MU	Mixed Use
	I1/I2	March Road (NW)/March Road (NE)
	I3	March Road (SE)
	I4	Maltings
	LONG 2	March Road (Strategic Reserve)
	OPP1	Highland Yards
	OPP2	Blairdaff Street
	OPP7	Former Millbank Garage Site
	OPP8	Site at March Road West
Burghead	R1	Clarkly Hill
	LONG	Clarkly Hill
	I2	Crematorium
Cullen	R1	Seafield Road
	I1	Site South of Cemetery
	OPP1	Blantyre Street
	T1	Cullen Caravan Site
Dufftown	OPP1	Auction Mart, Hill Street
	OPP2	Hill Street

	OPP3	Balvenie Street
Elgin	R1	Bilbohall North
	R2	Edgar Road
	R3	Bilbohall South
	R4	South West of Elgin High School
	R5	Bilbohall West
	R6	Knockmasting Wood
	R7	The Firs
	R8	Alba Place
	R9	Hamilton Drive
	R13	Lesmurdie Fields
	R14	South Lesmurdie
	R15	Pinegrove
	R16	Barmuckity
	R17	Driving Range Site
	R18	Linkwood Steading
	R19	Easter Linkwood and Linkwood (Village Core East, Meadows, and Village Garden) Elgin South
	R20	Glassgreen (South Glassgreen, and Crescent (north)) Elgin South
	R21	Palmers Cross
	R22	Spynie Hospital
	RC1	Ashgrove Residential Caravan Park
	LONG2	Elgin South
	I1	Linkwood Industrial Estate
	I2	Chanonry Industrial Estate
	I3	Moycroft Industrial Estate
	I4	Tyock Industrial Estate
	I5	Pinefield Industrial Estate
	I6	Linkwood East
	I7	Barmuckity Business Park
	I9	Railway Sidings/Ashgrove Road
	I10	Edgar Road
	I11	Johnstons Woollen Mill
	I12	Glen Moray Distillery
	I13	Linkwood Distillery
	I14	Ashgrove Road
	I15	Sandy Road (The Wards)
	I16	Burnside of Birnie
	LONG 3	Burnside of Birnie
	MU1	Riverview
	OPP1	Flemings Sawmill
	OPP2	Hill Street/ Ladyhill
	OPP3	Wards Road
	OPP4	Ashgrove Road
	OPP5	Auction Mart
	OPP6	Grampian Road

	OPP7 OPP8 OPP9 OPP10 OPP11	Gordon Macphail, Borough Briggs Lossie Green Town Hall Grant Lodge Walled Garden
	T1	Linkwood
Findhorn	R1 R2 RC	Heathneuk Dunelands Residential Caravans
	T1	Findhorn Sands and Findhorn Bay Holiday Caravan Parks
Findochty	R1 R2	Morvern Crescent West of Primary School
	T1	Caravan Site
Fochabers	OPP1	Institution Road
Forres	R1 R2 R4 R5 R6 R7	Knockomie Ferrylea Mannachie Balnageith Dallas Dhu Pilmuir Road West
	I1 I2 I3 I4 15	Greshop Waterford Benromach Distillery Waterford North Easter Newforres
	BP1	Enterprise Park
	OPP1 OPP2 OPP3 OPP4 OPP5 OPP6 OPP7	Caroline Street Bus Depot Castlehill Hall Auction Mart, Tytler Street Edgehill Road Leancoil Hospital Whiterow
Garmouth	No further designations	
Hopeman	R1 R2 R3	Manse Road Hopeman Golf Club Forsyth Street
	I1	Forsyth Street
Kingston on Spey	No designations	
Kinloss	R3	Damhead

	OPP1	Kinloss Home Farm
	OPP2	Land at former Abbeylands School
Lossiemouth	R1	Sunbank/Kinneddar
	R2	Stotfield Road
	R3	Inchbroom
	I1	Coulardbank Industrial Estate
	I2	Shore Street
	OPP1	Sunbank
	T1	Lossiemouth Bay Caravan Park
	T2	Caravan Park Extension
Mosstodloch	R1	Stynie Road
	R2	Garmouth Road
	R3	Balnacoul
	I1	Garmouth Road
	I2	North of Baxter's
	I3/LONG 2	West of Mosstodloch
	I4	Sawmill
	LONG1	South of A96
Portgordon	No further designations	
Portknockie	T2	Caravan Site
Roths	No further designations	