

Appendix C – Assessment criteria used within the SEA

Table C.1. Criteria for constraints ratings.

SEA topic	Constraints rating		
	Low (L)	Medium (M)	High (H)
Population and human health	Target areas were defined because of a risk of flooding to homes, businesses or infrastructure, with associated impacts on human health. Therefore, for the purpose of this assessment it was considered that sensitivity would be high across all target areas.		
Biodiversity	No national or internationally designated site for nature conservation within target area or wider catchment/ coastal area.	No nationally or internationally designated sites for nature conservation within target area, but within wider catchment and/or coastal area.	Nationally or internationally designated site within target area.
Soil	Small area of either agricultural land or peatland, or none of either present.	Small area of agricultural land and peatland. No large areas of agricultural land or peatland present.	Large area of agricultural land and/or peatland.

SEA topic	Constraints rating		
	Low (L)	Medium (M)	High (H)
Water	No river water bodies identified within 2015 River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) within the catchment that are failing (in 2018) to meet their 2027 WFD objectives as a result of their physical condition.		One or more river water bodies identified within 2015 RBMP within the catchment that are failing (in 2018) to meet their 2027 WFD objectives as a result of their physical condition
Cultural heritage	No cultural heritage assets in target area.	Battlefield and/or conservation area and/or garden and designed landscape within wider catchment. Listed buildings and scheduled monuments within target area.	Battlefield and/or conservation area and/or garden and designed landscape within target area. Several listed buildings and scheduled monuments within target area.
Landscape	Local landscape area within target area	Local landscape area within target area and nature reserve/ national scenic area within the wider catchment.	Local landscape areas within target area and nature reserve and national scenic area within target area.

Table C.2: Criteria for compatibility assessment of objectives.

Compatible	+
Not compatible	-
No or negligible relationship	0
Uncertainty regarding compatibility	?

Table C.3: Criteria for significance assessment.

Effect	Description	Symbol
Significant positive effect	The proposed actions contribute significantly to the achievement of the SEA objective.	++
Minor positive effect	The proposed actions contribute to the achievement of the SEA objective, but not significantly.	.
Neutral effect	There is no clear relationship between the proposed actions and the achievement of the SEA objective (or it is uncertain and cannot be defined at this stage), or the relationship is negligible.	0
Minor negative effect	The proposed actions detract from the achievement of the SEA objective, but not significantly.	.
Significant negative effect	The proposed actions detract significantly from the achievement of the SEA objective. Mitigation is therefore required.	--
Mixed effect	The proposed actions are likely to have both positive and negative effects.	+/-