Appendix 2 – Tabulated responses to HRA consultation

Section	Comments by:	Issue	Response text
1.2 and 1.3	Natural Resources Wales	Reference should be made to Regulation 102 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended).	Regulation 102 relates specifically to 'land use plans' – which are defined in Regulation 107. In short, WRMPs are not defined as 'land use plans' and therefore fall under Regulation 61.
1.3	Natural Resources Wales	We suggest that, at this stage, reference should be made to the need to include Ramsar Sites within this assessment process. It is Government policy to afford Ramsar Sites the same degree of protection as Natura 2000 Sites.	The term 'European sites' is defined in the footnotes to Section 1.2, which state that "…the term [European sites] is also commonly used when referring to potential SPAs (pSPAs), to which the provisions of Article 4(4) of Directive 2009/147/EC (the 'new wild birds directive') apply; and to possible SACs (pSACs) and listed Ramsar Sites, to which the provisions of the Habitats Regulations are applied a matter of Government policy (TAN 5 para. 5.1.3; NPPF para. 118) when considering development proposals that may affect them. "European site" is therefore used in this report in its broadest sense, including all of the above designated sites." Ramsar sites are explicitly considered throughout the remainder of the assessment.
3.1 and 3.3.2	Brecon Beacons National Park	Reference is made within this document to 'European Sites within 15km or downstream' of a proposed option. It should be noted that proposed options have, in many cases the potential to affect European Sites both upstream and downstream of any project, particularly where migratory species are 'features of interest' and/or where 'mobile species' (features of interest on a European Site but not necessarily confined within a site) such as otter, are involved.	The HRA states "…all European sites that are within 15km or directly downstream of a supply-side option are included in the 'screening', with sites beyond this considered on an option-by-option basis depending on the site interest features and how the option would function". Therefore, all upstream sites within 15km are considered, together with any other sites (including upstream sites) that could be affected, based on the sensitivities of the interest features. Sites with migratory or mobile species, upstream or otherwise, are therefore accounted for, and most of the assessments explicitly consider mobile species where these are relevant to the likely effects of the option.