Proposed amendment to paragraph 5.6.47

1. Discussion during matter 6 highlighted confusion as to whether bio- and geo-diversity designations could be challenged as part of the Plan preparation process. The Council also agreed to suggest amended wording to the above paragraph.

2. For clarity, the Council will make clear in its emerging Sites and Policies Document that local sites designations replace elements of the ‘known interests outside protected sites’ identified in UDP policy ENV2.2 and that the Council does seek views on local site designations through its Local Plan preparation process. This was previously made clear in paragraph 5.1 of the Draft Sites and Policies Document May 2013 (CSP/44). Specifically paragraph 5.3 clarifies how the Local Wildlife Sites System has been developed.

3. The suggested re-wording of paragraph 5.6.47 is shown below, with additions shown **bold and underlined** and deletions shown struck through:

Policy CS20 will be delivered by Rotherham MBC, its partners, and landowners through Council actions, the determination of planning applications, and through the allocation and designation of sites through the Sites and Policies DPD. More detailed policies will also be provided as part of the Sites and Policies DPD. **The Rotherham Local Site System identifies sites of substantive nature conservation value through documented local criteria in line with national good practice (Local Sites Guidance on their Identification, Selection and Management, DEFRA, 2006) supportive of the Council’s implementation the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006 Biodiversity Duty. In accordance with the NPPF local sites mapping and development management policy will be included in the emerging Sites and Policies document.**