

## **APPENDIX 14.4 – DESIGN MANUAL FOR ROADS AND BRIDGES & NATURAL ENGLAND GUIDANCE – ECOLOGICAL RECEPTORS**

The DMRB guidance (LA 105) sets out for when a full impact assessment on sensitive ecological receptors is to be undertaken due to the changes in the following highway conditions (within 200 m of the centre of the affected highway):

- Horizontal road alignment will change by 5 m or more;
- Daily traffic flows will change by more than 1,000 Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT);
- Heavy Duty Vehicle flows will change by more than 200 AADT; or
- Change in speed band (as per Table A.1 and A.2 in the DMRB guidance).

The Natural England (2018) document also highlights the change in daily traffic flow criteria, however, also sets out a critical level / load criteria for when a detailed assessment is required. Paragraph 4.29 of the Natural England (2018) document states:

*'If the predicted change in traffic flow is less than 1000 AADT or the level of emissions is <1% of the critical load / level, the associated emissions are not likely to have a significant effect alone but run the risk of in-combination effects should be considered further.'*