



**South
Derbyshire**
District Council
Community and
Planning Services

SEA

South Derbyshire Design SPD

Strategic Environmental Assessment

**Screening
Report**



May 2017

South Derbyshire Changing for the better

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1 Introduction and Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 South Derbyshire District Council has produced a Draft Design Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to assist in the delivery of affordable housing in accordance with policies included in the Adopted South Derbyshire Part 1 Local Plan.
- 1.2 This screening report sets out whether or not the contents of the Design SPD requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC and associated Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

2 Legislative Background

- 2.1 The objective of SEA is to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. It is a requirement of the European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment, also known as the SEA Directive. The Directive was transposed in UK law by The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, (the SEA Regulations).
- 2.2 Article 3(2) of the directive states that SEA is required for plans and programmes:
 - a) which are prepared for agriculture, town and country planning or land use and which set the framework for future development consent for projects listed in Annexes I and II to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive (85/337/EEC); or
 - b) which, in view of the likely effect on sites, have been determined to require an assessment pursuant to Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).
- 2.3 However, Article 3(3) and 3(4) only requires SEA for some plans and programmes where they have significant environmental effects. This includes plans and programmes which “determine the use of small areas at a local level” or which only propose “minor modifications to plans and programmes”. Annex II of the Directive lists criteria for determining the likely significance of the environmental effects of plans or programmes.
- 2.4 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 required Local Authorities to produce Sustainability Appraisals (SA) in preparing most documents that inform the development and use of land within an Authorities area. It is considered best practice to incorporate the requirements of the SEA Directive into a Sustainability Appraisal. The 2008 Planning Act removed the requirement to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal for a Supplementary Planning Document,

although consideration of whether the proposed plan or programme requires SEA is still required. This report screens for SEA, to determine whether a full assessment is needed.

3 Overview of the Design SPD

3.1 The SPD provides clear and consistent guidance on how Policies included in the Councils Part 1 Local Plan and are to be implemented. The guidance structured around the specific requirements set out in policy BNE1 (Design Excellence) and seeks to assist developers in meeting the requirements of that policy. However the guidance does not seek to provide an exhaustive check list for design and the Council will seek to apply the guidance proportionately in relation to the scale of development. Nonetheless the guidance will be an important consideration in determining relevant planning applications.

3.2 Policy BNE1 (Design Excellence) requires that all new development in South Derbyshire be well designed, embrace the principles of sustainable development, encourage healthy lifestyles and enhance peoples quality of life by adhering to a number of identified design principles which address:

- Community Safety
- Street Design, Movement and Legibility
- Diversity and Community Cohesion
- Ease of Use
- Local Character and Provide
- National Forest
- Visual Attractiveness
- Neighbouring Uses and Amenity
- Cross Boundary Collaboration
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Resource Use

3.3 The SPD explains how the policy is applied and answers questions that may be raised when considering the policy, for example:

- The purpose of the document and how the guide should be used
- The policy context that underpins the SPD
- The Design Process and how the Council will engage with developers
- Guidance on the Design Principles set out in Policy BNE1 and the measures or

approaches sought by the Council to ensure that new housing and commercial development adheres to these principles.

4 Screening Procedure

- 4.1 The purpose of the SPD is to provide advice on how the requirements of Policy BNE1 of the South Derbyshire Part 1 Local Plan can be met. The Part 1 Local Plan is an 'overarching' strategic policy document and covers a wide range of issues and spatial matters. SEA has been undertaken for the Part 1 Local Plan as part of the Sustainability Appraisal undertaken during document preparation. This screening report establishes whether there are any additional likely significant impacts arising from the preparation of the Design SPD that have not been considered in the Part 1 Local Plan Sustainability Appraisal Report. A full SEA is only required if additional likely significant effects are identified.
- 4.2 Schedule 1 of the Directive sets out the assessment criteria for considering significant environmental effects. The SPD has been assessed against these criteria. The detailed assessment is set out in Appendix 1.

5 Conclusion and Screening Outcome

- 5.1 As a result of the assessment documented in Appendix 1 it is unlikely that there will be any significant environmental effects arising from the Design SPD that were not covered in the Appraisal of the Part 1 Local Plan. Therefore, the Council considers that there is no requirement to undertake an SA/SEA.

Appendix 1: Assessment of Likely Significance of Effects (LSE) on the Environment

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the Environment	Potential effects of the SPD	Is there a LSE
1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to—		
(a) the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;	The SPD will provide guidance on how to apply policy BNE1, 'Design Excellence' as set out in the Part 1 Local Plan. It does not set new policy. The policy framework in respect of urban design is set out in the Adopted Part 1 Local Plan which has been subject to SEA. Nothing in the SPD would alter the scale or location of growth proposed in the District, although the SPD could provide guidance on how developers could meet the requirements of Local Plan Policy BNE1.	No
(b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;	The SPD is a daughter document to the South Derbyshire Local Plan and provides detail on how to apply the Council's Design Excellence Policy. The SPD will provide certainty to developers by expressing the mechanisms or ways in which the requirements of BNE1 can be best met. The SPD will not form part of the Development Plan and is not likely to be definitive or universally applicable, particularly since best practice in respect of urban design will continue to change and guidance will need to be applied proportionately with the requirements placed on smaller developments likely to be less rigorous than large strategic development sites.	No
(c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;	<p>The SPD could ensure that developer have the necessary additional information and support to deliver the requirements expressed in Policy BNE1 in respect of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Safety - Street Design, Movement and Legibility - Diversity and Community Cohesion - Ease of Use - Local Character and Provide - National Forest - Visual Attractiveness - Neighbouring Uses and Amenity - Cross Boundary Collaboration - Healthy Lifestyles - Resource Use <p>However policy in respect of these issues is already articulated within the Plan (within Policy BNE1) and the SPD will provide guidance to developers and homeowners regarding the ways or mechanisms by which the policy requirements can be met. The SPD will be applied proportionately as already indicated and the guidance in the SPD offers illustrations of best practice rather than definitive requirements. The exception to this is in respect of minimum distances between new dwellings and garage sizes. However these issues whilst appearing fixed are suggested and in any case are of a localized nature and would be unlikely to give rise to significant environmental or other effects.</p>	No

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the Environment	Potential effects of the SPD	Is there a LSE
(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme; and	The SPD will not alter the number or location of new homes. The guidance in the SPD suggests mechanisms by which site effects could be reduced or beneficial effects enhanced, although the actual requirement to undertake such actions is required by Policy BNE1 and an assessment of the likely effects of developments (and this policy) is included in the SEA for the Part 1 Local Plan.	No
(e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	The SPD sets out guidance on ways to meet the requirements of policy BNE1. The principle of development on individual sites and on a plan wide basis is considered through the Local Plan, which has been subject to SEA. In undertaking this SEA of the Part 1 Local Plan, consideration has been given to the effect of the Plan in respect of significant effects on the environment including on areas of known environmental importance. This consider the effects the plan could potentially have on the implementation of community legislation including that related to the Water Framework Directive, air quality, the Habitat Regulations as well as the efficient use of resources.	No
2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to—		
(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;	No adverse effects on the environment have been identified. The Supplementary Planning Document will be used to provide clarity and guidance to developers seeking to bring forward housing sites in the District in respect of urban design. This guidance does not affect the overall requirement for housing to 2028 (this is set out in the Part 1 and Part 2 South Derbyshire Local Plans) or the location of that housing. Additional guidance does not mandate design and the design approach adopted by developers would in all cases need to meet the requirements included in Policy BNE1. On this basis it is unlikely that the SPD would have any discernible environmental effects.	No
(b) the cumulative nature of the effects;	Given that the SPD would have no likely effect in isolation (the number and location of homes is already defined through the Part 1 and Part 2 Local Plans and this SPD will simply seek to provide guidance on how the requirements in the Council Part 1 local Plan in respect of urban design can be met. However the strategic effects of the plan have previously been assessed through SEA and localised design approaches to meet an overall requirement already articulated in the Plan would be unlikely to give rise to cumulative effects different to those already considered.	No
(c) the trans-boundary nature of the effects;	The SPD will have no transboundary effects given that South Derbyshire does not share a boundary with other nation states. Cross boundary effects in respect of housing delivery with Derby City were considered through the Sustainability Appraisal for the Part 1 Local Plan.	No

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the Environment	Potential effects of the SPD	Is there a LSE
(d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents);	There are not likely to be significant effects on human health or environment, although the provision of design guidance could help deliver housing and other developments that contribute towards healthy lifestyles and community safety. However the Part 1 Local Plan requires that these issues be addressed in policy BNE1 and this document offers guidance on the mechanisms that could be used to help achieve these requirements.	No
(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);	The SPD covers the District of South Derbyshire which extends around 112 square miles or 33,800 hectares. There were 38,992 homes in 2011 and the population of the District was recorded as 94,611. This had increased to 99,300 by 2015. The SPD will not affect the quantum of housing or employment land planned for delivery between 2011-28 or indeed its location as the scale and location of new homes and businesses is planned for within the Part 1 and 2 Local Plans	No
(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to— special natural characteristics or (1) cultural heritage; (i) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or (ii) intensive land-use; and	The SPD will not affect environmental standards or lead to the intensification of land use. The areas that will be affected are designated as housing sites through the Part 1 and Part 2 Local Plans and will be guided by individual planning applications. The SPD will be limited to providing design guidance to assist developer meet the requirements set out in Policy BNE1 of the Part 1 Local Plan.	No
(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.	The likely effects of site allocations and policies to control future development have been tested through the local plan process, including through sustainability appraisal. These indicates that likely effects on the landscape and townscape of the District related to development will be substantially limited to the location of allocations made in the Plan. There are no landscapes in the District which are protected through national or local designations, nonetheless specific policies to control landscape/townscape effects in addition to BNE1 are included in the Plan to ensure that local character is protected. These policies have been tested through the SA process. The SPD will provide further clarity to developers on how development that reflects local character can be achieved.	No



**South
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HRA

South Derbyshire Design SPD

Habitat Regulations Assessment

Screening Report



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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Habitat Regulations Assessment (screening) report determines whether or not the contents of the Design Supplementary Planning Document (the SPD) will result in significant impacts on international sites.

2 Background to the Affordable Housing SPD

- 2.1 The SPD provides detailed guidance on how Policy BNE1 included in the Part 1 South Derbyshire Local Plan is to be implemented. It is an important consideration in determining relevant planning applications.

- 2.2 The policy requires that all new development in South Derbyshire be well designed, embrace the principles of sustainable development, encourage healthy lifestyles and enhance peoples quality of life by adhering to a number of identified design principles which address:

- Community Safety
- Street Design, Movement and Legibility
- Diversity and Community Cohesion
- Ease of Use
- Local Character and Provide
- National Forest
- Visual Attractiveness
- Neighbouring Uses and Amenity
- Cross Boundary Collaboration
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Resource Use

3 Background to HRA

- 3.1 Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) is required by Regulation 61 the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the Habitat Regulations) for all plans and projects which may have likely significant effects on an European site and are not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the European site.
- 3.2 European sites include Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and listed Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites). HRA is also required, as a

matter of UK Government policy for potential SPAs, candidate SACs and proposed Ramsar sites for the purposes of considering plans and projects, which may affect them. Hereafter all of the above designated nature conservation sites are referred to as 'international sites'.

3.3 The stages of HRA process are:

- **Stage 1 – Screening:** To test whether a plan or project either alone or in combination with other plans and projects is likely to have a significant effect on an international site;
- **Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment:** To determine whether, in view of an international site's conservation objectives, the plan (either alone or in combination with other projects and plans) would have an adverse effect (or risk of this) on the integrity of the site with respect to the site structure, function and conservation objectives. If adverse impacts are anticipated, potential mitigation measures to alleviate impacts should be proposed and assessed;
- **Stage 3 – Assessment of alternative solutions:** Where a plan is assessed as having an adverse impact (or risk of this) on the integrity of an international site, there should be an examination of alternatives (e.g. alternative locations and designs of development); and
- **Stage 4 – Assessment where no alternative solutions remain and where adverse impacts remain:** In exceptional circumstance (e.g. where there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest), compensatory measures to be put in place to offset negative impacts.

3.4 This report comprises the Stage 1 – Screening of the project.

4 Previous HRA Work

4.1 An HRA has been produced for both the Part 1 and Part 2 South Derbyshire Local Plan Documents. These are available to view on the District Council's website:

<http://www.south-derbys.gov.uk>

4.2 The Screening Report for the Part 1 Local Plan which includes strategic housing allocations (those allocations of 100 homes or more) and strategic policies in respect of environmental protection concluded that:

- There is no likely significant impact on any SPAs or SACs located outside of the District as a result of implementing the Local Plan.
- There is no potential for growth earmarked within the Local Plan to increase foul water flows to waste water treatment works within the Mease SAC catchment (as no allocations were proposed for that part of the District in the River Mease catchment in this document).
- There is no potential for growth earmarked within the Local Plan to increase diffuse water pollution within the River Mease catchment (as no allocations were proposed for that part of the District in this document).
- The Water Companies operating in the District have undertaken Habitat Regulations Assessment of their water resource management plans. These have concluded that proposed growth in water demand (associated with new development and changes in demand) will not have any significant impact on water dependent wildlife sites such as the River Mease SAC.
- As the Local Plan Part 1 will have no impact on the River Mease SAC or any other SAC or similarly protected International site in isolation it will not have any impact in combination with other plans and strategies.

4.3 In respect of Draft Part 2 Local Plan (which sets out the location of non-strategic housing locations (sites of fewer than 100 homes) and development management policies) this concluded that:

- There is no likely significant impact on any International Sites located outside of the District as a result of implementing small scale development projects outlined within the Local Plan 2 given the limited housing requirement, the spatial distribution of growth and the distance from international sites having regard to the conservation objectives and site vulnerabilities of sites.

- Two proposed allocations (both of which already benefit from planning consent) would increase foul flows to Overseal Waste Water Treatment Works (WwTWs), although water quality impacts associated with increased discharges into the SAC will be mitigated via contributions to the River Mease Developer Contribution Scheme.
- Three sites (including two housing sites in Overseal) could increase surface water flows into the SAC, although the use of sustainable drainage (required by extant planning consents and by flood risk and drainage policies in the Part 1 Local Plan will ensure surface water is appropriately treated prior to discharge)
- Two of the proposed sites in the catchment (Valley Road and Acresford Road Overseal) already have planning consent and have been subject to Habitat Regulations Assessment through that process and no likely significant effects have been identified.
- The remaining allocated site located in Woodville would discharge foul and potentially surface water out of catchment.
- As the South Derbyshire Local Plan (parts 1 & 2) will have no impact on the River Mease SAC alone, they would not have in combination effects with other plans and strategies.

4.3 Given the conclusions reached in the detailed screening assessments for the Part 1 and Part 2 Local Plans, it is considered unnecessary to undertake an appropriate assessment under the Habitat Regulations for the Design SPD. This is because the SPD will not increase the level of growth proposed in the Plan area, or alter the location of growth proposed to meet development need (including within the river Mease SAC catchment). Moreover, nothing included in the design SPD will alter existing policies included in the Plan to protect the SAC from inappropriate development or secure appropriate measures via the River Mease DCS. The purpose of the SPD is to further explain the design principles set out in Policy BNE1 (Design Excellence) of the Local Plan and set out the ways in which developers could achieve improved design with reference to those principles.

4.4 In any case the Council has sought control the extent of new housing in the catchment of the River Mease SAC through the Local Plan part 1 and Part 2 documents and indeed allocations for less than 134 homes in total are proposed for villages in the River Mease Catchment. Moreover all sites that would discharge to WwTWs in the Mease catchment benefit from planning consent and will make an appropriate financial contribution

towards mitigating their potential effects on the SAC via the River Mease Developer Contribution scheme (DCS).

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The Council has previously screened out a requirement to undertake an appropriate assessment under the Habitat Regulations Assessment in respect of the Part 1 Local Plan and Part 2 Local Plan. This is because both plans would not have a likely significant effect on International sites when considered alone or in combination with other plans or programmes owing to the scale and nature of growth planned, its location and the measures proposed to control the significance of any environmental effects.

- 5.2 Given the limited scope of the Design SPD which provides guidance on housing mix and tenure no effects on International sites are likely. Nothing in the SPD will alter the location or scale of new development proposed in higher tier policy documents

Exley Kevin

From: Drewry, Joe A <joe.drewry@environment-agency.gov.uk>
Sent: 23 May 2017 15:26
To: Exley Kevin
Cc: Millbank, Rob
Subject: FW: Design SPD SEA and HRA Draft Screening statement
Attachments: Design SPG v6.pdf; Design Screening Statement v1.pdf

Hi Kevin,

We have no comments to make on the below draft screening statement as it indicates no significant environmental effects.

Thanks,

Joe Drewry

Planning Advisor - Derbyshire

Sustainable Places - Planning Team

Please note my new telephone number

Email : joe.drewry@environment-agency.gov.uk

External : 02030 253277, Internal: 53277

From: Planning, Lower Trent
Sent: 19 May 2017 16:24
To: Millbank, Rob <rob.millbank@environment-agency.gov.uk>; Drewry, Joe A <joe.drewry@environment-agency.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Design SPD SEA and HRA Draft Screening statement

Hi guys,

Please see email below and attachments from Kevin Exley at South Derbyshire District Council. Not sure which one of you will be actioning this, so sent it to both of you.

Regards,

Lydia Bond

Planning Advisor - Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire

Sustainable Places - Planning Team

☎ Internal: 2796 / 45166

☎ External: 0115 9828396 / 020 847 45166

✉ Environment Agency | Trentside Offices | Scarrington Road | West Bridgford | NOTTINGHAM | NG2 5BR



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From: Exley Kevin [<mailto:Kevin.Exley@south-derbys.gov.uk>]
Sent: 19 May 2017 15:37
To: 'e-emids@HistoricEngland.org.uk' <e-emids@HistoricEngland.org.uk>; Planning, Lower Trent <planning.trentside@environment-agency.gov.uk>; 'consultations@naturalengland.org.uk' <consultations@naturalengland.org.uk>
Cc: Sworowski Nicola <Nicola.Sworowski@south-derbys.gov.uk>
Subject: Design SPD SEA and HRA Draft Screening statement

Dear Sir/Madam

Please find attached a copy of the draft Design SPD Screening assessment undertaken by South Derbyshire District Council in respect of the HRA and SEA regulations. I have addressed this to the general consultation email address we hold of your respective organisations however if you have received this email directly I have copied you in the expectation that you are the most likely officer to respond to the consultation.

This document will be going to our Environment and Development Services Committee shortly and is not available on our website currently. Hence the document is attached above.

For information Policy BNE1 (Design Excellence) to which this guidance relates is available to view at http://www.south-derbys.gov.uk/Images/Local%20Plan%20Part%201_Chapters%206%20-%20Appendicies_tcm21-281375.pdf whilst the Part 1 SA is available to view at: http://www.south-derbys.gov.uk/Images/LP1%20Sustainability%20Appraisal%20update%20Main%20Report_tcm21-281382.pdf

I have included a draft version of the councils screening assessment which concludes that the Plan will not give rise to any likely significant environmental effects and will not affect the integrity of any European/Ramsar sites. A negative screening decision in respect of the need for SEA and any further stages of HRA has therefore been provisionally reached.

I would ask that in all cases that a formal response in respect of the need to undertake SEA or an appropriate assessment be provided to the Authority by Monday 12 June, but would very much welcome an early response if at all possible. I would also welcome early discussion should you need further information regarding the scope and content of either SPD or the South Derbyshire Local Plan in coming to a formal view, or should you have concerns regarding your ability to respond within 21 days.

Kind regards

Kevin Exley
Planning Policy Officer (Sustainability)
South Derbyshire District Council

01530 228717

Kevin Exley
Planning Policy Officer (Sustainability)
South Derbyshire District Council

01283 228717

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Exley Kevin

From: Mahoney, Sean (NE) <Sean.Mahoney@naturalengland.org.uk>
Sent: 30 May 2017 05:41
To: Exley Kevin
Subject: RE: Design SPD SEA and HRA Draft Screening statement

Dear Kevin,

Planning consultation: South Derbyshire District Council Design Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) & Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Statement

Thank you for your consultation.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Natural England welcomes the Screening Report which assesses the requirement for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the South Derbyshire District Council Design Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

Natural England concurs with the report's conclusion that it is unlikely that there will be any significant environmental effects arising from the Design SPD that were not covered in the Appraisal of the Part 1 Local Plan which means that there is no requirement to undertake an SA/SEA. Natural England also agrees that the Design SPD would be unlikely to result in any significant effect on any European Site either alone or in combination and therefore no further assessment work under the Habitats Regulations is required.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us. For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact me on 02080261940. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Kind regards

Sean Mahoney

Lead Adviser

Sustainable Development

East Midlands Area Team

Natural England

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NG2 4LA

Tel: 02080261940

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www.gov.uk/natural-england

We are here to secure a healthy natural environment for people to enjoy, where wildlife is protected and England's traditional landscapes are safeguarded for future generations.

Natural England offers two chargeable services – The Discretionary Advice Service (DAS) provides pre-application, pre-determination and post-consent advice on proposals to developers and consultants as well as pre-licensing species advice and pre-assent and consent advice. The Pre-submission Screening Service (PSS) provides advice for protected species mitigation licence applications.

These services help applicants take appropriate account of environmental considerations at an early stage of project development, reduce uncertainty, reduce the risk of delay and added cost at a later stage, whilst securing good results for the natural environment.

We now offer free and chargeable advice to land owners and managers planning works on Sites of Special Scientific Interest through the SSSI Advice Service.

From: Exley Kevin [mailto:Kevin.Exley@south-derbys.gov.uk]

Sent: 19 May 2017 15:37

To: 'e-emids@HistoricEngland.org.uk'; 'planning.trentside@environment-agency.gov.uk'; Consultations (NE)

Cc: Sworowski Nicola

Subject: Design SPD SEA and HRA Draft Screening statement

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Kind regards

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South Derbyshire District Council

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01283 228717

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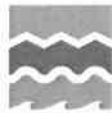
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Historic England

EAST MIDLANDS OFFICE

Mr Kevin Exley
South Derbyshire District Council
Civic Offices
Civic Way
Swadlincote
Derbyshire
DE11 0AH

Direct Dial: 01604 735460

Our ref: PL00098642

8 June 2017

Dear Mr Exley

RE: SDDC DRAFT DESIGN GUIDE SPD - SCREENING OPINION REQUEST

Thank you for your consultation request for a Screening Opinion in respect of the Draft Design Guide SPD.

For the purposes of consultations on SEA Screening Opinions, Historic England confines its advice to the question, "Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?" in respect of our area of concern, cultural heritage. Our comments are based on the information supplied with the screening request.

On the basis of the information supplied and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], Historic England is of the view that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not likely to be required.

The views of the other statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for a SEA is made. If a decision is made to undertake a SEA, please note that Historic England has published guidance on Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Historic Environment that is relevant to both local and neighbourhood planning and available at:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

Should it be concluded that, overall, a SEA will be required for the Plan, Historic England would be pleased to discuss the scope of the assessment in relation to the historic environment in due course.

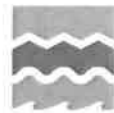
I hope that this information is of use to you at this time. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me



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EAST MIDLANDS OFFICE

Yours sincerely,

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