



**Basingstoke
and Deane**

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Sent via email:
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26 September 2018

Dear Amy,

East Woodhay Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Opinion

This letter provides formal confirmation of the borough council's screening opinion concerning the need for SEA and HRA in relation to the East Woodhay Neighbourhood Plan. This screening opinion has been underpinned by a detailed report and the opinions of the three consultation bodies (Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England).

The screening process undertaken concludes that in order to meet the 'basic conditions'¹ for neighbourhood planning an Environmental Assessment is not considered to be required to accompany the East Woodhay Neighbourhood Plan, and it would not need to be subject to HRA. The reasons for the decision are set out below:

Strategic Environmental Assessment

Following analysis undertaken to assess the effects on the environment resulting from the East Woodhay Neighbourhood Plan including from the scale of development and other policies proposed, it is considered significant effects on the environment are not likely and therefore a SEA is considered to not be required.

Habitats Regulations Assessment

There are two European sites within a 10km buffer zone of the neighbourhood area (The Kennet Valley Alderwoods SAC and Lambourn Flood Plain SAC). However, the draft plan is not proposing to allocate any development sites and includes policies to protect the natural environment. It is therefore considered that there are not likely to be

¹ Requirement (f), that the making of the order or neighbourhood plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with EU Obligations. The basic conditions are set out in [paragraph 8\(2\) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990](#) as applied to neighbourhood plans by section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

significant effects on any European sites flowing from the Neighbourhood Plan and that an HRA is not required.

Further information on the above can be found within the final version of the East Woodhay Neighbourhood Plan Screening Report (September 2018). The responses from the consultation bodies can be found in Appendix 4 of that document.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please email robyn.kelly@basingstoke.gov.uk or telephone (01256) 845175.

Yours sincerely

Robyn Kelly
Planning Policy Officer

Enc. Final version of the Neighbourhood Plan Screening Report (September 2018)

CC: Susan Cooper
Mark Rand