

Date: 06 June 2018
Our ref: 247650
Your ref: Harvington Draft Neighbourhood Plan SEA/HRA Screening
Opinions



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Dear Mr Sadler

Planning consultation: Harvington Draft Neighbourhood Plan SEA/HRA Screening Opinions

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 23 May 2018 which was received by Natural England on 23 May 2018.

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.

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening

It is our advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that, in so far as our strategic environmental interests are concerned (including but not limited to statutory designated sites, landscapes and protected species, geology and soils), that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects from the proposed plan.

We have checked our records and based on the information provided, we can confirm that in terms of the following sites the development plan proposals will not be in, adjacent to, or in close proximity so as to give rise to significant adverse effects:

- Windmill Hill Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Tunnel Hill Meadow Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Highclere Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Bredon Hill Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Dixton Wood Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Lyppard Grange Ponds Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

We are not aware of significant populations of protected species which are likely to be affected by the policies / proposals within the plan. It remains the case, however, that the responsible authority should provide information supporting this screening decision, sufficient to assess whether protected species are likely to be affected.

Notwithstanding this advice, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all

potential environmental assets. As a result the responsible authority should raise environmental issues that we have not identified on local or national biodiversity action plan species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites or local landscape character, with its own ecological and/or landscape advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local landscape and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by this plan, before determining whether an SA/SEA is necessary.

Please note that Natural England reserves the right to provide further comments on the environmental assessment of the plan beyond this SEA/HRA screening stage, should the responsible authority seek our views on the scoping or environmental report stages. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make.

Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

Natural England notes the screening process applied to this Neighbourhood plan. We agree with the Council's conclusion of no likely significant effect upon the named European designated sites:

- [Bredon Hill](#) Special Area of Conservation located approximately 10.3k away
- [Dixton Wood](#) Special Area of Conservation located approximately 18.6k away
- [Lyppard Grange Ponds](#) Special Area of Conservation located approximately 17.7k away

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 Yana Burlachka on 02082256013. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

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