

Wing Neighbourhood Plan

Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental Assessment & Habitat Regulations Assessment

Screening Report



Rutland
County Council

September 2022

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

Contents

1. Introduction	2
Purpose of Report	2
Wing Neighbourhood Plan Submission Version	2
Local Plan	3
2. Legislative Background	4
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	4
Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA)	4
3. SEA Assessment	6
Assessment	6
Criteria for Assessing the Effects of the Wing Neighbourhood Plan	8
SEA Screening Outcome	12
4. HRA Screening	13
HRA Process	13
Relevant European sites	13
In combination effects	22
Screening Outcome	22
5. Conclusions and Recommendations of the Screening Assessments	23
SEA	23
HRA	23
6. Determination	24
Appendix 1 – Wing Neighbourhood Plan Area	25
Appendix 2 – Statutory Body Responses	26

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

1. Introduction

Purpose of Report

- 1.1 This screening report is designed to determine whether the contents of the proposed submission version of the Wing Neighbourhood Plan (WNP) 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.
- 1.2 This report will also screen whether the WNP requires a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive and Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). A HRA is required if it is deemed that likely adverse significant effects may occur on protected European Sites (also known as Habitats Sites (NPPF, 2021)) as a result of the implementation of a plan/project. As a general 'rule of thumb' sites with pathways of 10-15km of the plan/project boundary should be included with a HRA. Rutland Water Special Protection Area (SPA)/RAMSAR is the only internationally designated site within a 15km radius of the WNP boundary.
- 1.3 The legislative background is referred to in section 2 which outlines the regulations that require the need for this screening exercise. The report is then split in two parts. The first part will cover the screening for the SEA and the second will cover the screening process for the HRA. Section 3 provides a screening assessment for both establishing the need for a SEA and the criteria for determining the likely significant environmental effects of the WNP on the environment. Section 4 provides a screening assessment for the WNP of both the likely significant effects of the implementation of the WNP and the need for a HRA.
- 1.4 A summary of findings and conclusions for both screening processes can be found in Section 5 at the end of this document.

Wing Neighbourhood Plan Submission Version

- 1.5 The purpose of the WNP is to provide a set of statutory planning policies to guide development within the Parish of Wing over the life of the plan. The area covered by the Plan is shown at Appendix 1. Once formally adopted, a Neighbourhood Plan carries the same weight as Development Plans adopted by Rutland County Council.
- 1.6 The submission version of the WNP contains a vision statement which states the *"...vision for Wing parish is that it continues to develop as a thriving, caring, sustainable and diverse village whilst preserving the aspects identified by the community as important both now and in the future."* The vision discusses the attraction and retention of young and older residents with appropriate and affordable housing and the improvement of infrastructure for home workers.
- 1.7 The Plan sets out the objectives which will contribute to the delivery of the vision. This encompasses range of housing to meet the needs of all generations, encouraging high quality sustainable design, safeguarding valued open spaces, protecting views and important green spaces, enhancing biodiversity, protecting the provision of village facilities and protecting heritage assets.
- 1.8 The policies proposed in the Plan (see Section 4) are intended to support decision making that will deliver the objectives and achievement of the Vision. The Plan does

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

allocate a site for about 8 new dwellings which would include 2 affordable dwellings. A reserve site has been identified (site B) which would only come forward if the preferred site fails to be developed or the housing need for Wing increases over the Plan period.

Local Plan

- 1.9 The Localism Act (2011) requires that Neighbourhood Plans must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan. Rutland County Council has a Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) which was adopted in July 2011 and a Site Allocations & Policies DPD adopted in October 2014. The Local Plan Review (2016-2036) was withdrawn in September 2021 and work is taking place on a new Local Plan which will cover the period up to 2041.
- 1.10 The settlement hierarchy (CS3) in the adopted Local Plan categorises the towns and villages of Rutland according to their accessibility to facilities and services. Wing is defined as a 'Smaller Service Centre' which means that it has a '...more limited range of services and facilities as such can only accommodate a minor scale level of development.' Minor development is defined as up an individual development up to 5 dwellings.
- 1.11 Policy CS4 – The location of development states that Smaller Service Centres 'can accommodate a minor scale level of development mainly on previously developed land on a limited scale appropriate to the character and needs of the village concerned, comprising affordable housing sites, infill developments and conversion or reuse of redundant suitable rural buildings.'
- 1.12 Both the adopted Core Strategy DPD and Site Allocations & Policies DPD were subject to a full Sustainability Appraisal which included a SEA assessment. A HRA of both documents was also undertaken. The assessments established there were no likely significant effects arising from the implementation of the Core Strategy and the Site Allocations & Policies DPD.

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

2. Legislative Background

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 2.1 The basis for Strategic Environmental Assessments and Sustainability Appraisal legislation is European Directive 2001/42/EC and was transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, or SEA Regulations. Detailed Guidance of these regulations can be found in the Government publication 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' (ODPM 2005).
- 2.2 Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires local planning authorities to carry out a sustainability appraisal (SA) for any documents that can form part of a local plan. It is considered best practice for the SA to incorporate the requirements of the SEA.
- 2.3 There is no legal requirement for a neighbourhood plan to have a sustainability appraisal (as set out in section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004). However, a qualifying body must demonstrate how its plan will contribute to achieving sustainable development.
- 2.4 However, one of the basic conditions that will be tested by the independent examiner is whether the making of the Neighbourhood Development Plan is compatible with relevant legal obligations including a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)¹. Where a neighbourhood plan is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, a strategic environmental assessment needs to be carried out and an environmental report prepared in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3) of regulation 12 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004². Examples of where there may be such effects include, as set out in national Planning Practice Guidance, where a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development, the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by proposals in the plan or the neighbourhood plan is likely to have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a SA of the local/strategic policies for the area³.
- 2.5 To fulfil the legal requirement, this report focuses on screening for a SEA and the criteria for establishing whether a full assessment is needed.

Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA)

- 2.6 It is required by article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive and by regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) that an appropriate assessment is carried out with regard to the Conservation Objectives of the European Sites and with reference to other plans and projects to identify if any significant effect is likely for any European Site.
- 2.7 To fulfil the legal requirements to identify if likely significant effects will occur with the implementation of the WNP upon the European Sites, a screening assessment has been undertaken (in Section 4 of this report).

¹ Paragraph: 027 Reference ID: 11-027-20190722, National Planning Practice Guidance

² Paragraph: 028 Reference ID: 11-028-20150209, National Planning Practice Guidance

³ Paragraph: 028 Reference ID: 11-028-20150209, National Planning Practice Guidance

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

- 2.8. In line with the Court judgement (CJEU People over Wind v Coillte Teoranta C-323/17) mitigation measures cannot be considered when carrying out a screening assessment to decide whether a plan or project is likely to result in significant effects on a European Site.

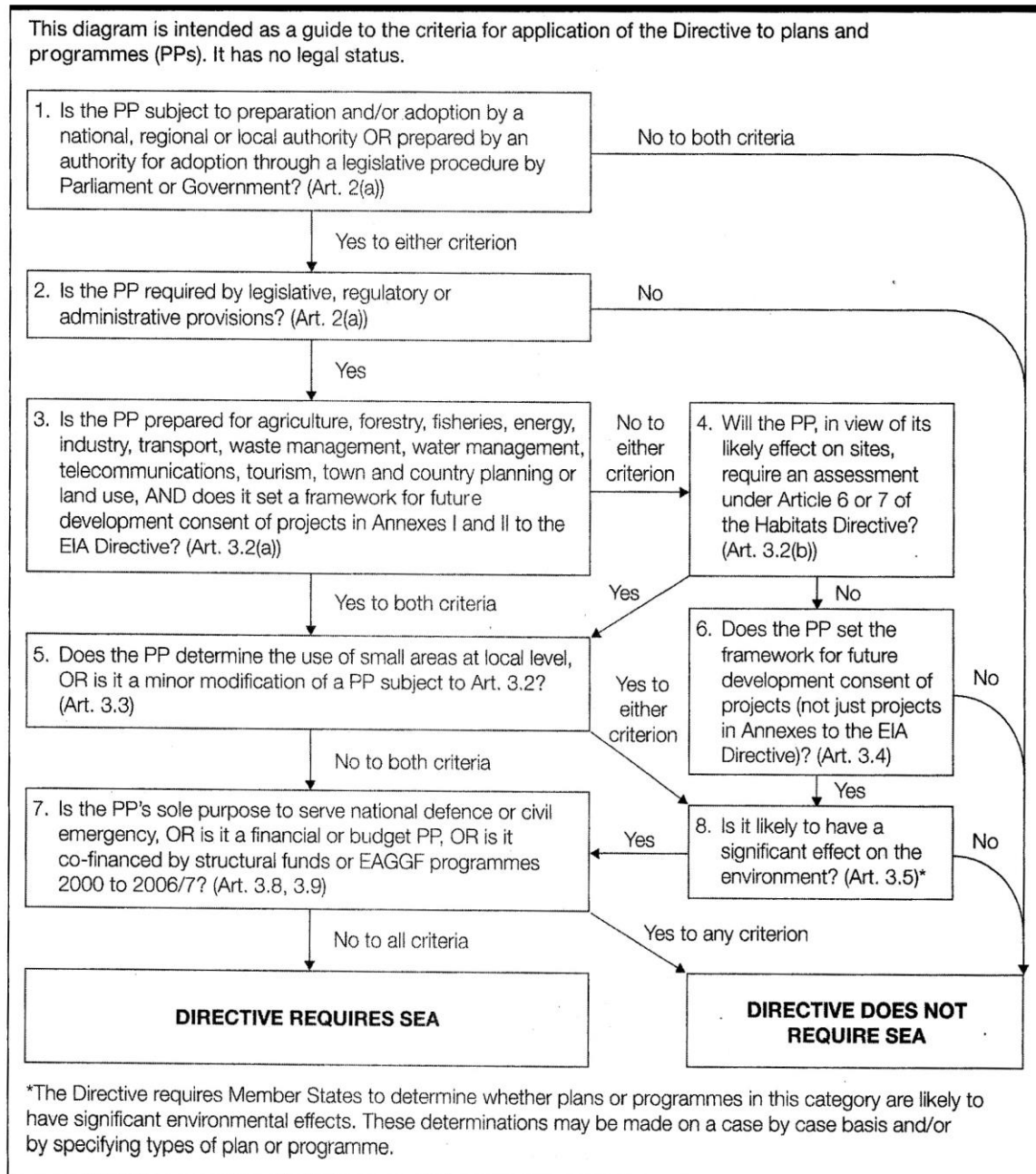
Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

3. SEA Assessment

Assessment

3.1. The diagram in Figure 1 illustrates the process for screening a planning document to ascertain whether a full SEA is required.

Figure 1: Application of the SEA Directive to plans and programmes



**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

3.2 Table 1 shows the assessment of whether the WNP will require a full SEA. The questions below are drawn from the diagram in Figure 1 which sets out how the SEA Directive should be applied.

Table 1: Establishing the Need for SEA

Stage	Y/N	Reason
1. Is the PP (plan or programme) subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government? (Art. 2(a))	Y	Neighbourhood Plans are prepared by a qualifying body under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). The WNP is prepared by Wing Parish Council (as the Qualifying Body) and the Wing Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Once the plan is 'made', subject to examination and having received 50%+ or more 'yes' votes through a referendum, it will be adopted by Rutland County Council and become part of the Statutory Development Plan for the area.
2. Is the PP required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))	N	Communities have a right to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. However, communities are not required by legislative, regulatory, or administrative purposes to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. However, once 'made' the WNP would form part of the statutory development plan and will be used when making decisions on planning applications within the Neighbourhood Area. Therefore, it is considered necessary to answer the following questions to determine further if an SEA is required.
3. Is the PP prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, AND does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive? (Art 3.2(a))	Y	The WNP is prepared for town and country planning and land use and will set out a framework for future development of the scale that would fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive. However, for Neighbourhood Plans, developments which fall under Annex I of the EIA Directive are "excluded development" as set out in Section 61k of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended by the Localism Act)
4. Will the PP, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment for future development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Art. 3.2 (b))	N/K	A neighbourhood plan could potentially have impacts on sites covered by the Habitat Regulations. A separate HRA screening assessment has been undertaken and can be found in Section 4 of this report.
5. Does the PP Determine the use of small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to Art. 3.2? (Art. 3.3)	Y	A neighbourhood plan can determine the use of small areas at a local level. The WNP covers the parish of Wing and will determine the use of sites and areas at a local level. The WNP allocates one site for

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

		a small housing development of up to 8 dwellings and identifies a reserve site (of up to 6 dwellings) which will only be permitted to be developed if the preferred site fails to be developed or the housing need for Wing increases over the Plan period.
6. Does the PP set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art 3.4)	Y	Once 'made' the WNP will form part of the statutory development plan and will be used in the determination of planning applications within the WNP area. It, therefore, sets the framework for future developments at a local level.
7. Is the PP's sole purpose to serve the national defence or civil emergency, OR is it a financial or budget PP, OR is it co-financed by structural funds or EAGGF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Art 3.8, 3.9)	N	The WNP does not deal with these issues.
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)	N	No significant environment effects are identified. The assessment of likely significant effects are considered in more detail in Table 2.

Criteria for Assessing the Effects of the Wing Neighbourhood Plan

3.3. Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5) of Directive 2001/42/EC are set out below:

1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to
 - 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 degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy,
 - the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development,
 - environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme,
 - the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection).
2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to
 - the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects,
 - the cumulative nature of the effects,
 - the transboundary nature of the effects,
 - the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents),
 - the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected),
 - the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:
 - special natural characteristics or cultural heritage,
 - exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values, - intensive land-use,
 - the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status
 - intensive land-use,
 - the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

Source: Annex II of SEA Directive 2001/42/EC

3.4. Table 2 below looks at the likelihood for the Submission WNP to have significant effects on the environment.

Table 2: Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment from Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

Criteria (from Annex II of the SEA Directive and Schedule 1 of Regulations)

1. Characteristics of the plans and programmes, having regard, in particular to:		Is there a significant environmental impact? Y/N	Justification
1a	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.	N	<p>The WNP sets out policies which will be used to determine proposals within the Neighbourhood Plan area only. The WNP policies must be in general conformity with the strategic planning policy framework provided by existing policies within the Core Strategy and Site Allocations & Policies DPD and those in the emerging Rutland Local Plan. These are separately subject to SEA as a matter of course.</p> <p>The WNP allocates one site for a small housing development of up to 8 dwellings and identifies a reserve site (of up to 6 dwellings) which will only be permitted to be developed if the preferred site fails to be developed or the housing need for Wing increases over the Plan period. Due to the small scale of these sites, no significant effects are predicted.</p>
1b	The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy	N	<p>The WNP will introduce new locally specific policies but will be in general conformity with other plans in the hierarchy, supporting the implementation of those higher tier policies at the Neighbourhood Plan Area level. Due to the locally specific nature of the policies, it is considered that the effect of the Plan on other plans and programmes or their effects on the environment will not be significant.</p>

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

1c	The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	N	Neighbourhood Plans are required to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. The WNP seeks to ensure environmental considerations are taken into account. It includes policies relating to the protection of the natural environment including the designation of local green space, the protection of features of environmental significance and policies to enhance biodiversity in Wing. It also includes policies relating to the enhancement and protection of heritage assets and policies related to protecting the landscape character and setting of the village. It is anticipated that the WNP may have a positive impact on the neighbourhood plan area and the likelihood of significant effects on the environment, therefore, minimised.
1d	Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme	N	The WNP itself will not result in any environmental problems beyond those already identified in the SA of the Core Strategy & Site Allocations & Policies DPD and emerging Local Plan. It is anticipated that the WNP may have a positive impact in the neighbourhood plan area through seeking to encourage sensitive and sustainable development in relation to the environment.
1e	The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of [European] Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection)	N	The WNP must be in conformity with the strategic policies contained within the Local Plan and supports the implementation of higher tier policies at a Neighbourhood Area level. The existing Local Plan for Rutland has had regard to European Community legislation on the environment. The content of the WNP is not considered to conflict with plans or programmes related to waste management or water protection.
2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having particular regard to:		Is there a likely significant environmental impact?	Justification

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

2a	The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	N	Some development is expected during the duration of the Plan (to 2026) so an element of environmental change will take place and permanent effects would exist beyond this. The policies are designed to ensure new development is sustainable and minimises environmental impacts. The Plan does allocate a small site for residential development of up to 8 dwellings and a reserve site (up to 6 dwellings) if the original site doesn't come forward or housing need increases over the plan period. Due to the small scale of these sites, they would not impact on the nearby Wing Water Treatment works SSSI. The allocated site is located near to the Maze Ancient Monument however the Residential site allocation policy (HBE2) states that the "development is to be located away from the Maze, with the land closest to the Maze to be landscaped to enhance the setting of the Maze." Accordingly, no significant effects are predicted.
2b	The cumulative nature of the effects	N	The cumulative effects of the WNP are likely to be positive although only on a local scale.
2c	The trans-boundary nature of the effects	N	The WNP is unlikely to have a significant impact on neighbouring areas.
2d	The risk to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	N	It is unlikely that there would be risks to human health or the environment arising from the implementation of the policies proposed in the WNP.
2e	The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	N	The WNP is applicable only to developments within the Neighbourhood Plan area. Therefore, the effects of the WNP will more likely be felt at a much more local scale (i.e. site or neighbourhood).
2f	The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: i) Special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;	N	The WNP is applicable to developments within the Neighbourhood Plan area, which includes a Conservation Area, a number of listed buildings and structures and an ancient

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

			monument. Impacts of development on these assets will be considered as part of individual planning applications. The WNP provides policies for the parish of Wing in addition to those in the existing Development Plan. The anticipated effects should, therefore, be positive for this criterion, particularly as the WNP includes policies which will provide greater support to protect and enhance the natural and cultural heritage assets of the area.
	ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values;	N	This would be unlikely to result from the proposals.
	iii) Intensive land-use	N	This would be unlikely to result from the proposals.
2g	The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.	N	None identified. The WNP provides additional planning policy for Wing which will not have a significant effect. Any applications for development will be required to satisfy the relevant policies for protection of the character of the area before permission is granted.

SEA Screening Outcome

3.3 On the basis of the assessments set out in Table 1 and 2, it is concluded that the WNP will not have significant effects in relation to any of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations and, therefore, does not need to be subject to SEA. The reasons for this are:

- The WNP supports the implementation of higher tier policies in the existing Rutland Local Plan;
- The WNP seeks to avoid or minimise negative environmental effects through the provision of guidance on issues which should be considered when making proposals within the Neighbourhood Area. It is, therefore, likely to have an indirect positive environmental effect by setting out how proposals can avoid adverse effects on a number of environmental factors; and
- Although the Plan does allocate land for new residential development, this is small in scale and the residential allocation policy includes conditions to minimise impact on heritage assets. Therefore, the development of this site will not result in any significant environmental impacts.

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

4. HRA Screening

HRA Process

- 4.1 The initial stage of the HRA process is the screening assessment of the impacts of a land use proposal against the conservation objectives of European (Habitats) sites. It determines if the implementation of the Plan, taking no account of mitigation measures, would result in a likely significant effect on any European site either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. If a 'significant effect' is likely, then the need for an Appropriate Assessment of the Plan would be triggered.
- 4.2 The screening process should provide a description of the plan, identify the European sites which may be affected by the plan and assess the significance of any possible effects on the identified sites.

Relevant European sites

- 4.3 Rutland Water Special Protection Area (SPA)/RAMSAR is the only international designated site within a 15km radius of the WNP boundary. The HRA screening assessment needs to identify if any likely significant effects will be caused by the implementation of the WNP.

Rutland Water SPA/RAMSAR

- 4.4 Rutland Water is a manmade pump storage reservoir created by the damming of the Gwash Valley in 1975 and is the largest reservoir by surface area in the United Kingdom. In general, the reservoir is drawn down in the summer and filled during the autumn and winter months when river levels are high. The main habitats are open water and a mosaic of lagoons, reedswamp, marsh, old meadows, scrub and woodland. The lagoons are one of the most important areas for wintering wildfowl.
- 4.5 The interest features in relation to the site as an SPA and RAMSAR are provided in Table 3.

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

Table 3: Interesting Features of Rutland Water SPA/RAMSAR

Designation	Interesting Features
SPA	<p>Qualifies under Article 4.2 by supporting populations of European importance of the following migratory species over winter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shoveler (<i>Anas clypeata</i>) - Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)* - Wigeon (<i>Anas Penelope</i>)* - Gadwall (<i>Anas strepera</i>) - Tufted Duck (<i>Aythya fuligula</i>)* - Goldeneye (<i>Bucephala clangula</i>)* - Mute Swan (<i>Cygnus atra</i>)* - Goosander (<i>Mergus merganser</i>)* - Great Crested Grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>)* - Coot (<i>Fulica Arra</i>)⁴ <p>Qualifies under Article 4.2 by regularly supporting at least 20,000 waterfowl.</p> <p>* Species that may be removed following the SPA Review *Stroud et al, 2001; The UK SPA network: its scope and content, JNCC)</p>
RAMSAR	<p>RAMSAR criterion 5 – Assemblages of international importance</p> <p>Species with peak counts in winter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 19274 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1998-99 – 2002/2003) <p>RAMSAR criterion 6 – Species/populations occurring at levels of international importance</p> <p>Qualifying Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> - Northern shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i>

4.6 The sensitivities and vulnerabilities of the site have been identified in HRA assessments for Rutland County Council’s Core Strategy and Site Allocations & Policies Development Plan Documents.

4.7 The HRA identified that the most noticeable species are the populations of gadwall and shoveler. Data on the use of the site by these species indicate the gadwall and shoveler numbers peak in the autumn, generally around September/October, before declining over the winter period.

4.8 This suggests that Rutland is mainly used as a refuge whilst species are moulting in early autumn, before dispersing from the site to other wintering areas as winter

⁴ Natural England (2014):’Rutland Water Citation, [Online] available to access [here](#)

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

progresses. During the winter, gadwall and shoveler occupy more extensive open waters of lakes, reservoirs, and gravel pits.

4.9 Threats include disturbance and water pollution. The principal sensitivities and vulnerabilities of Rutland Water include:

- Water Quality. The level of phosphate can vary above the recommended level at certain times of the year. This increases the risk of a shift in the trophic status of the water body to an algae dominated system, which would adversely affect the site.
- Water level. The water level is linked to abstraction and affects accessible aquatic plants are for wildfowl feeding on the site. The ecological perturbation that frequent lowering and raising of water levels causes could be an important factor in whether or not a switch in trophic status occurs
- Recreation. Management of the trout fishery has caused some debate over potential effects on site ecology. In addition, water sports such as sailing have the potential to affect the site through disturbance. Casual recreation around the site margins may also affect some interest features. The site and the interest features are most likely to be vulnerable to disturbance during the key autumn period

4.10 The HRA considered that both the Core Strategy and the Site Allocations & Policies DPDs would have no likely significant effects on Rutland Water in combination with any other adopted planning documents.

4.11 Any development that comes forward in the WNP area will be subject to Core Strategy Polices CS4 – ‘Location of Development’ and Site Allocations & Policies DPD Policy SP5 – ‘Built Development in the towns and villages’.

4.12 An assessment of likely significant effects has been undertaken for all policies in the WNP. Table 4 below presents a HRA Screening for the Wing Neighbourhood Plan.

Table 4: Establishing the Need for an Appropriate Assessment

Wing Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Detail of Policy to be Screened	Comment	Likely Significant Effect
POLICY HBE 1	SETTLEMENT BOUNDARY	This Policy presents amendments to the planned limits of development of Wing. The policy itself will not lead to development but seeks to ensure that development is sustainable and does not negatively impact the built and natural environment of Wing.	No likely significant effect
POLICY HBE 2	RESIDENTIAL SITE ALLOCATION	This policy allocates a small site for residential development for up to 8 dwellings. It also	No likely significant effect

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

Wing Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Detail of Policy to be Screened	Comment	Likely Significant Effect
		<p>stipulates conditions to this development to mitigate and impact on the Maze ancient monument.</p> <p>This policy promotes a small-scale development in Wing however it has been written to minimise any negative environment impacts and there will not have a significant environmental effect.</p>	
POLICY HBE 3	RESERVE SITE	<p>This policy identifies a reserve site for residential development if the original site fails to come forward or housing need increases over the plan period in accordance with a new development plan for Rutland.</p> <p>This policy may lead to small scale development which would not have significant environmental effects.</p>	No likely significant effect
POLICY HBE 4	HOUSING MIX	<p>The policy sets out the expected mix of housing sizes and types to be provided in new residential proposals to meet the local housing need and in accordance with policies of the Local Plan.</p> <p>The policy itself will not lead to development but seeks to ensure that housing meets the requirements of local people.</p>	No likely significant effect
Policy HBE 5	AFFORDABLE HOUSING	<p>The policy sets out the out the expectations for affordable housing provision through rural exception sites.</p> <p>The policy itself will not lead to development but seeks to ensure that provision of affordable housing is of high quality and meets the identified needs within the community.</p>	No likely significant effect
POLICY HBE 6	WINDFALL SITES	The policy itself will not lead to development but aims to ensure that infill or redevelopment proposals are of high-quality,	No likely significant effect

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

Wing Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Detail of Policy to be Screened	Comment	Likely Significant Effect
		safe and avoid any negative impact on heritage assets or local character and amenity.	
Policy KT2	Landscape Character and Important views	The policy itself will not lead to development, it sets out measures to conserve and enhance the positive features of the local landscape and consider the impact on a number of identified views which contribute to maintaining and enhancing the character of the Neighbourhood Plan area.	No likely significant effect
POLICY HBE 7	DESIGN	The policy itself will not lead to development but aims to ensure that development proposals are of high-quality design, layout and use of materials that make a positive contribution to the special character of the village. It references that proposals should have regard to the Design Guide for Wing.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 1	LOCAL GREEN SPACES	The policy itself will not lead to development. It proposes Local Green Space designations and sets out that development proposals that result in a loss of or have an adverse impact on these sites will not be permitted.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 2	IMPORTANT OPEN SPACES	<p>The policy itself will not lead to development. It sets out that development proposals which will have an adverse impact on important open spaces and frontages will not be supported unless open space is replaced by at least equivalent provision in an equally suitable location.</p> <p>The policy also includes open spaces which are of high local value due to their contribution to village form, character and setting. It states that any loss of these spaces should be weighed up against the values of the development.</p>	No likely significant effect

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

Wing Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Detail of Policy to be Screened	Comment	Likely Significant Effect
POLICY ENV 3	SITES AND FEATURES OF NATURAL ENVIRONMENT SIGNIFICANCE	The policy will not lead to development. It identifies sites and features as being of at least local significance for their natural environment significance. The wildlife value of any site identified should be balanced against the local benefit of any development that would adversely affect it. The policy states that if significant harm to biodiversity cannot be avoided, adequately mitigated, or compensated for, planning permission should be refused.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 4	WOODLAND NOTABLE TREES AND HEDGES	The policy itself will not lead to development. It sets out measures to protect and enhance trees and hedges. It supports development schemes which incorporate trees and hedges. It states that where damage or loss is unavoidable, replacement trees and hedges should be provided of equivalent quality, type and scale to ensure biodiversity net gain.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 5	BIODIVERSITY, BAT CONSERVATION AND HABITAT CONNECTIVITY	The policy itself will not lead to development. It sets out that all development proposals will be expected to safeguard habitats and species and deliver biodiversity net gain. The policy states that planning permission should be refused if significant harm to biodiversity cannot be avoided or mitigated. The policy also sets out conditions that development proposals should meet in known bat habitat areas.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 6	BIODIVERSITY PROTECTION IN NEW DEVELOPMENT	The policy itself will not lead to development. The policy outlines how the design and construction of new development should make provision to protect and enhance biodiversity.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 7	SITES OF HISTORICAL ENVIRONMENT SIGNIFICANCE	The policy itself will not lead to development. The policy map identifies the sites of at least local significance for their historical	No likely significant effect

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

Wing Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Detail of Policy to be Screened	Comment	Likely Significant Effect
		features. The policy states that the historical significance should be balanced against the local benefit of any development proposal that would impact them.	
POLICY ENV 8	RIDGE AND FURROW	The policy itself will not lead to development. The policy states that ridge and furrow is a non-designated heritage asset and aims to minimise the impact of development proposals on them.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 9	NON-DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS	The policy itself will not lead to development. It identifies buildings and structures in the plan area which are non-designated local heritage assets. The policy aims to ensure that any negative impacts of development proposals are minimised.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 10	IMPORTANT VIEWS	This policy itself will not lead to development, it sets out measures to conserve and enhance the views identified on the policy map. The policy states it will not support development proposals which would have a significant adverse impact on the identified views. The views contribute to maintaining and enhancing the character and setting of Wing.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 11	FOOTPATHS AND OTHER WALKING ROUTES	This policy itself will not lead to development; it sets out that development proposals which have a significant adverse effect on the existing footpath network will not be support without appropriate mitigation.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 12	LOCAL LANDSCAPE CHARACTER AREAS	The policy itself will not lead to development. It aims to conserve and enhance Local Landscape Character Areas particular characteristics and distinctiveness. It sets out that if a development proposal will have a harmful effect on the LLCA's character then it will not be supported.	No likely significant effect

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

Wing Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Detail of Policy to be Screened	Comment	Likely Significant Effect
POLICY ENV 13	FLOOD RISK RESILIENCE	This policy itself will not lead to development. It seeks to minimise the development proposals in flood risk zones 2 and 3. It also sets out conditions that development proposals should demonstrate to ensure that they minimise surface run off and the risk of flooding. It also sets out that flood water management infrastructure should not adversely affect sites of natural or historical environmental significance.	No likely significant effect
POLICY ENV 14	RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION INFRASTRUCTURE	This policy itself will not lead to development. It sets out the conditions that small scale solar and wind generation infrastructure proposals should comply with, to be supported.	No likely significant effect
POLICY CF1	COMMUNITY FACILITIES AND AMENITIES	The policy itself will not lead to development. It seeks to protect existing community facilities as part of the development of sites allocated in the existing or future Rutland Local Plan It also sets out conditions of the provision of new community facilities in Wing.	No likely significant effect
POLICY E1	EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT	The policy itself will not lead to development. It aims to protect existing employment use in Wing and sets out criteria for development proposals associated with the establishment of new employment related development.	No likely significant effect
POLICY E3	WORKING FROM HOME	The policy itself will not lead to development but promote development proposals to enable home working within the Neighbourhood Plan area where it does not adversely affect the residential character or amenity of the area and meets the conditions set out in the policy.	No likely significant effect
POLICY E4	FARM DIVERSIFICATION	The policy itself will not lead to development but promote opportunities for the development of small business,	No likely significant effect

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

Wing Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Detail of Policy to be Screened	Comment	Likely Significant Effect
		recreation, or tourism purposes where the development proposal meets the conditions set out in the policy. The aim of these conditions is to minimise any negative impacts of the development proposal on the rural character, environmental or historical assets and local amenity.	
POLICY E5	TOURISM	The policy itself will not lead to development but support development proposals of facilities that promote tourism where the development proposal meets the conditions set out in the policy.	No likely significant effect
POLICY E6	BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE	This policy will not lead to development. It supports proposals to increase access to super-fast or ultra-fast broadband and telecommunications network. It also sets out that all new development proposals should be included access to super- fast broadband.	No likely significant effect
POLICY T1	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT	This policy will not lead to development. It set outs how the design of development proposals will be expected to be minimise and increase in vehicular traffic in the neighbourhood plan area.	No likely significant effect
POLICY T2	CAR PARKING	This policy will not lead to development. It states that proposals will not be supported where they result in a loss of off street car parking.	No likely significant effect
POLICY T4	ELECTRIC VEHICLES	This policy will not lead to development but promotes the installation of infrastructure to facilitate the subsequent installation of electric vehicle charging points on new residential and commercial development.	No likely significant effect

4.13 The findings show that the policies will have no likely significant effect upon Rutland Water. Therefore, in the context that the WNP does not propose to allocate land

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

specifically for new development and the policies within the WNP are in conformity with those in both the adopted Core Strategy and Site Allocations & Policies DPD, which were subject to a HRA that confirmed no significant effects are likely, it is considered that there will be no requirement to undertake an Appropriate Assessment of the WNP.

In combination effects

- 4.14 Regulation 105 of the Habitats Regulations 2017 requires an appropriate assessment where a land use plan (not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects
- 4.15 There are a number of potentially relevant plans and projects which may result 'in combination' effects for the WNP, a useful starting point to determine whether the WNP may result in 'in combination' effects are the HRA's undertaken for Rutland County Council's Core Strategy and Site Allocations & Policies DPD's. Both these HRA's identified possible 'in combination' effects in relation to development and regional water resource demands on Rutland Water.
- 4.16 However, in mitigation, the Water Cycle Study identifies that there is either sufficient capacity within the sewerage network to avoid significant effects on Rutland Water, or works will be able to improve their treatment levels within the limits of conventional wastewater treatment technology to allow for increased discharges from the Waste water Treatment Works (WwTWs).
- 4.17 The screening assessment undertaken concludes that no likely significant effects in relation to the Rutland Water SPA/RAMSAR site will occur as a result of the implementation of the Core Strategy and Site Allocations & Policies DPD's.

Screening Outcome

- 4.18 The WNP does not go beyond the requirements set out in the Core Strategy & the Site Allocations & Policies DPD or emerging Rutland Local Plan (2016-2036). Consequently, it is considered that no significant 'in combination' likely effects will occur from the implementation of the WNP. As such, the WNP does not require a full HRA to be undertaken.

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

5. Conclusions and Recommendations of the Screening Assessments

SEA

- 5.1 The WNP has been prepared for town and country planning purposes and sets a framework for future development consent. The policies of the WNP can be considered to determine the use of small areas at local level commensurate with their status in determining planning applications.
- 5.2 A screening assessment was undertaken to determine the need for an SEA in line with regulations and guidance and can be found in Section 3 of this report. The assessment finds no likely significant effects will occur as a result of the WNP. The assessment finds many of the policies are in conformity with the local plan policies which have a full SA/SEA and which identified no likely significant effects will occur as a result of the implementation of policies.
- 5.3 From the findings of the screening assessment, it is recommended that a full SEA does not need to be undertaken for the WNP.

HRA

- 5.4 A screening assessment was undertaken to determine the need for a HRA in line with regulations and guidance and can be found in section 4 of this report. The assessment finds that the WNP is not predicted, without mitigation, to have any likely significant effects on a European site. The assessment finds many of the policies are in conformity with the local plan policies, which have undergone a full HRA and which identified no likely significant effects would occur as a result of the implementation of policies. It is also identified that no likely in combination significant effects will occur as a result of the implementation of the WNP.
- 5.5 From the findings of the screening assessment, it is recommended that a full HRA does not need to be undertaken for the WNP.

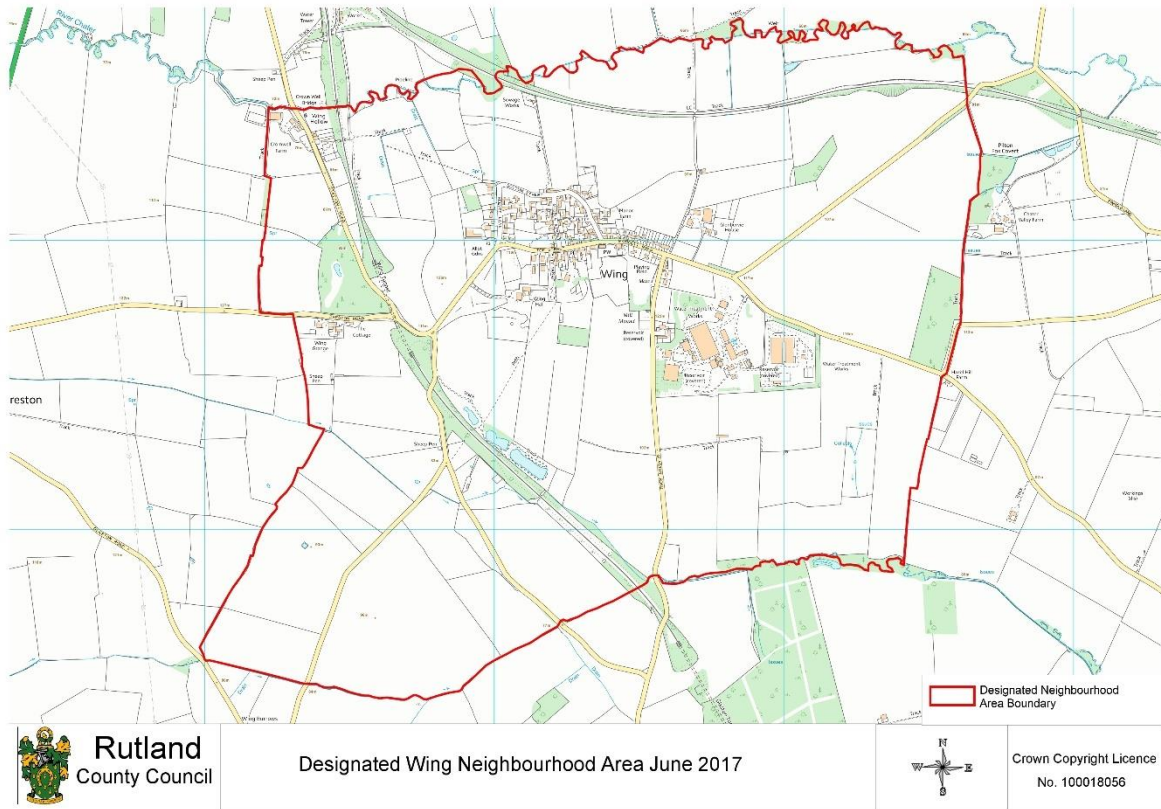
Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

6. Determination

- 6.1. Before the Council made a formal determination, there is a requirement to consult the three statutory consultation bodies designated in the regulations: Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England.
- 6.2. Consultation on the Screening Report was carried out with the three bodies in August-September 2022. All three bodies agreed with the conclusions of the Screening Report. The consultation responses are attached at Appendix 2.
- 6.3. Rutland County Council are of the opinion, that a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Wing Neighbourhood Plan is not required as it is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.
- 6.4. It is also the Council's opinion that a full Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment is not required, as the Wing Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have a significant effect on any designated sites.

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

Appendix 1 – Wing Neighbourhood Plan Area



Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

Appendix 2 – Statutory Body Responses

Date: 23 August 2022
Our ref: 404393



Rutland County Council

BY EMAIL ONLY

Hombeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Kerry Andrews

Planning consultation: Wing Neighbourhood Plan - SEA & HRA Screening Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 16 August 2022.

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.

Where Neighbourhood Plans could have significant environmental effects, they may require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the Environment Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended). Further guidance on deciding whether the proposals are likely to have significant environmental effects and the requirements for consulting Natural England on SEA are set out in the [planning practice guidance](#).

Planning practice guidance also outlines that if an appropriate assessment is required for your neighbourhood plan this will also engage the need for a SEA. One of the basic conditions that will be tested by the independent examiner is whether the neighbourhood plan is compatible with European obligations, including those under the SEA Directive. Where a SEA is required it should be prepared in accordance with [regulation 12](#) of the SEA Regulations.

Natural England welcomes the Screening Report which assesses the requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the Wing Neighbourhood Plan.

I can confirm that Natural England agrees with this report's conclusion that it is not likely there will be significant environmental effects arising from the policies in the plan, which have not already been accounted for within the adopted local plan. Therefore, the **Wing Neighbourhood Plan does not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to be undertaken.**

Natural England also agrees that the Plan would be unlikely to result in any significant effect to European Sites, either alone or in combination, and therefore an **appropriate assessment under the Habitats Regulations is not required.**

We note that the Allocation site, and Reserve site, lie within proximity to Wing Water Treatment Works SSSI, and additionally lies south of Rutland Water SPA/Ramsar. However, these sites and proposed developments do not trigger Impact Risk Zones for these designations; we advise that the development of these sites is unlikely to impact the interest features of the SSSI or SPA/Ramsar.

Aside from this, Natural England have no specific comments at this stage. We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**

hesitate to contact us. For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter please contact me on 020 8720 4183. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Robbie Clarey
Lead Adviser – East Midlands Area Delivery

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan



Ms Kerry Andrews
Rutland County Council
Castnose
Oakham
Rutland
LE15 6HP

Direct Dial: 0121 625 6870

Our ref: PL00788642

6 September 2022

Dear Ms Andrews

WING NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - SEA SCREENING REQUEST

Thank you for your consultation of 16 August 2022 and the request for a Screening Opinion in respect of the *Wing Neighbourhood Plan*.

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.

Yours sincerely,



THE FOUNDRY 82 GRANVILLE STREET BIRMINGHAM B1 2LH

Telephone 0121 625 6888
HistoricEngland.org.uk



Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any information held by the organization can be requested for release under this legislation.

**Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment
Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan**



C. Fletcher


Clive Fletcher
Principal Adviser, Historic Places
clive.fletcher@HistoricEngland.org.uk





Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report for Wing Neighbourhood Plan

FW: Wing Neighbourhood Plan SEA screening consultation



LN Planning <LNplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk>
To: Kerry Andrews

 Follow up. Start by 14 September 2022. Due by 14 September 2022.
You replied to this message on 13/09/2022 13:51.

 Reply  Reply All  Forward 

Tue 13/09/2022 13:27

Dear Kerry

I have now reviewed your SEA / HRA screening report with reference to the draft Wing Neighbourhood Plan.

I do not consider the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects relating to the environmental constraints for which the Environment Agency is a statutory consultee. I am therefore happy with the conclusions of the report.

I note that the plan area is bordered to north and south by main rivers, with associated flood zones 2 and 3. However, these are not located in the centre of the village, where the two alternative sites have been proposed for housing.

Kind regards

Nicola

Nicola Farr
Sustainable Places - Planning Advisor
Environment Agency, Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire Area
Ceres House, Searby Road, Lincoln, LN2 4DW (Currently working from home)

nicola.farr@environment-agency.gov.uk

External: 020 302 55023

Mobile: 07831 117865