A Neighbourhood Plan For Keelby. **"Strategic Environmental Assessment** and **Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report**" **July 2022**

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Only a Neighbourhood Plan that meets the basic conditions can be put to a referendum and be made. One of the basic conditions is that the making of the Neighbourhood Plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, obligations as set out in its relevant Directives including 2001/42/EC, 79/409/EEC, 92/43/EEC, and 2009/147/EC. These Directives necessitate that a Neighbourhood Plan be screened to determine whether it requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment and/or a Habitats Regulations Assessment.
- 1.2 A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a process for evaluating, at the earliest appropriate stage, the environmental effects of a plan before it is made. The SEA screening determines whether the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects. If likely significant environmental effects are identified, an environmental report must be produced.
- 1.3 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) identifies whether a plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. An HRA is required when it is deemed that likely negative significant effects may occur on protected European Sites (Natura 2000 sites) as a result of the implementation of a plan/project. The HRA screening will determine whether significant effects on a European site are likely.
- 1.4 This screening report determines whether the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan requires a SEA and/or HRA. The report's sections are:
 - 1. Introduction
 - 2. Overview of the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan
 - 3. SEA screening assessment
 - 4. SEA screening conclusion
 - 5. HRA screening assessment
 - 6. HRA screening conclusion
 - 7. Overall screening conclusions
 - 8. Consultation responses
 - 9. Determination Statement
- 1.5 This screening report will be submitted to West Lindsey District Council by Keelby Parish Council who are the qualifying body for Keelby Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.6 The Screening Report was prepared in the context of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan adopted in April 2017 which covers the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan area and whose policies were the subject of separate SEA and HRAs. The purpose of this screening report is to assess the policies of the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan only.

2. Overview of the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan

2.1 Whether the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan requires a SEA and/or a HRA is dependent on what is being proposed by the plan itself. The Plan has a vision with objectives and contains a set of locally specific planning policies and guidance for the area. The plan can be viewed with its supporting documents at:

https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/planning-buildingcontrol/planning/neighbourhood-planning/all-neighbourhood-plans-westlindsey/keelby-neighbourhood-plan

- 2.2 Keelby is considered to be a 'large village' respectively in the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan and lie in the district of West Lindsey just west of Northeast Lincolnshire. The Neighbourhood Plan has 7 formal planning policies, which are:
 - Policy 1: Retaining Village Character
 - Policy 2a: Land at Church Lane, Keelby (Site WLKEE/003)
 - Policy 2b: New Residential Development
 - Policy 3: Local Residential Design Principles
 - Policy 4: Business and Service Development
 - Policy 5: Environment and Countryside
 - Policy 6: Roads
 - Policy 7: Public Transport (Walking and Cycling)

In addition, there are 7 Community Objectives, which reflects the views of local residents but these do not form part of the SEA screening.

- 2.3 The Neighbourhood Plan has criteria based policies on: sustainable development, residential development management, local connections, flood risk and limited new housing. The proposed housing sites within the Plan are those allocated within the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan. Focusing on character, it contains four policies on; local character, key views, designated heritage assets and local heritage assets. Open spaces (existing and proposed Local Green Spaces) are covered by three policies. Four further policies cover community facilities, shops, commercial premises and local employment. Connectivity issues are covered by two final policies. Existing constraints and designations in the Plan area include:
 - Flood Risk Zones 2 & 3.
 - Listed Buildings and other heritage assets.
 - Woodlands.

2.4 There are is a Special Area of Conservation within a 15km radius of the Plan Area. The Humber Estuary which is a European Site and is close to the Lincolnshire Wolds AONB.

3. SEA Screening Assessment

3.1 Figure 1 below illustrates the process for screening a planning document to ascertain whether a full SEA is required. The findings of the screening are given in Tables 1 to 4 which examine specifically the likely significant effect on the Plan on the environment.

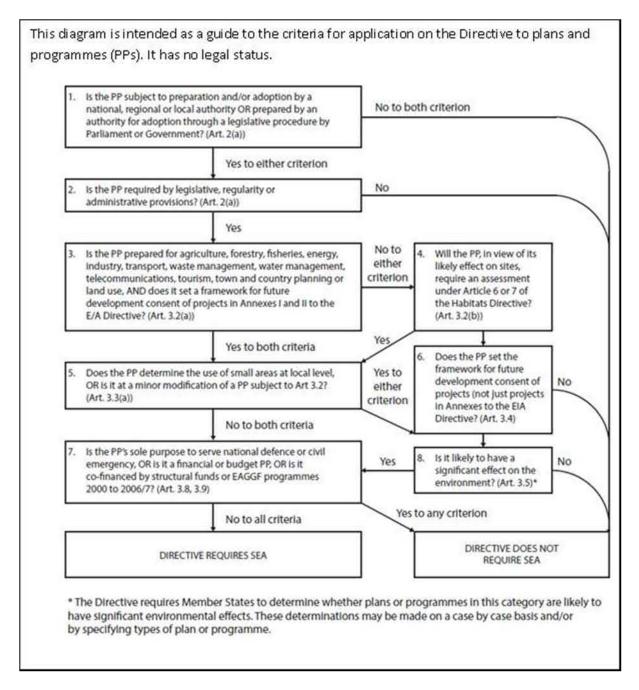


Figure 1: Application of the SEA Directive to Plans

Table 1: Assessment of the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan against Figure 1			
Criteria/Stage	Response: Yes/ No/ Not applicable	Details	
1. Is the Neighbourhood Plan 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?	Yes	Neighbourhood Plans are made by a 'qualifying body' (e.g. parish/town council) under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act2011. A neighbourhood plan is subject to an examination and referendum. If it receives 50% or more 'yes' votes cast at referendum, it will be 'made' by West Lindsey District Council as the local planning authority. GO TO STAGE 2	
2. Is the Neighbourhood Plan required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions?	Yes	Communities have a right to be able to produce a neighbourhood plan but they are not required by legislative, regulatory or administrative purposes to produce one. GO TO STAGE 3	
3. Is the Neighbourhood Plan prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water 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?	Yes	The plan is being prepared for 'town and country planning and land use' (Article 3(2) and, once adopted, will be part of the planning policy framework determining future development within the Neighbourhood Area. Developments that fall within Annex I are 'excluded' developments for Neighbourhood Plans (as set out in Section 61(k) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). It is not anticipated that the Neighbourhood Plan would be the tool to manage development of the scale and nature envisaged by Annex I and Annex II of the EIA Directive. GO TO STAGE 5	
4. Will the Neighbourhood Plan, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment for future development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive?	No	See screening assessment for HRA in report.	
5. Does the Neighbourhood Plan determine the use of	Yes	Once made the Neighbourhood Plan will be part of the land use framework for the area and will help to determine	

6. Does the Neighbourhood Plan set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in annexes to the EIA Directive)?The Neighbourhood Plan area. GO TO STAGE 87. Is the Neighbourhood Plan'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?N/AThe Neighbourhood Plan does not deal with these issues.8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?NoSee Table 2: Assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment. Also see Tables 3 and 4 for detailed assessments by neighbourhood plan policy and environmental receptors respectively.0utcomeSEA not required	small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a Plan subject to Article 3.2?		the use of small areas of land at a local level. The Plan recognises and supports the designation of local green spaces. It seeks to protect and enhance community facilities, listed buildings and non-designated heritage assets. It recognises its rural character highlighting the key features and attributes to guide the design of new development in the area. The plan is not a minor modification of a previous Neighbourhood Development Plan. GO TO STAGE 6
7. Is the Neighbourhood Plan'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?N/AThe Neighbourhood Plan does not deal with these issues.8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?NoSee Table 2: Assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment. Also see Tables 3 and 4 for detailed assessments by neighbourhood plan policy and environmental receptors respectively.	Neighbourhood Plan set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in annexes to the EIA	Yes	framework for the consent of any future development projects in the Neighbourhood Plan area.
significant effect on the environment? Significant effects on the environment. Also see Tables 3 and 4 for detailed assessments by neighbourhood plan policy and environmental receptors respectively.	7. Is the Neighbourhood Plan'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	N/A	
Outcome SEA not required	8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the	No	significant effects on the environment. Also see Tables 3 and 4 for detailed assessments by neighbourhood plan policy and environmental receptors
	Outcome	SEA not requ	ired

Table 2: Stage 8 of Table 1 Assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment		
SEA Directive criteria and Schedule 1 of Environmental Assessment of plans and programmes Regulations 2004	Assessment	Likely significant environment al effect?
1. The characteristics of pla	ans and programmes, having regard, in pa	articular. 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 neighbourhood plan will set a policy framework for the determination of planning applications for future development projects within the Designated Neighbourhood Area. Once made, the Plan will form part of the operative Development Plan.	No
(b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;	The Plan must be in general conformity with the operative Development Plan, i.e. the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan (adopted April 2017) and the emerging Central Lincolnshire Local Plan review 2022 and national planning policy, i.e. National Planning Policy Framework. It does not have any influence over other plans. Once made, the Plan will form part of the planning policy framework for the designated Neighbourhood Area and will be used in conjunction with the CLLP (and review) and other relevant policy and material considerations to determine planning applications.	No
(c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;	The achievement of sustainable development is one of the basic conditions that the Plan must meet. The draft plan includes policy themes regarding the built and natural environment and, in particular, the provision of local green spaces within the Neighbourhood Area.	No
(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme; and	It is not considered that there are any particular environmental problems relevant to the Plan. Flood zones 2 and 3 within Keelby where most developments take place.	No

	Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.	
(e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for	The Plan is not directly relevant to the implementation of any European legislation.	No
example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection). 2. Characteristics of the eff	ects and of the area likely to be affected,	having regard,
in particular, to- (a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;	The Plan policies are designed to expect any new development to contribute to the sustainability of the Neighbourhood Area and minimise environmental impacts within the Plan Area where possible. The designation of 8 local green spaces should create positive environmental outcomes.	No
(b) the cumulative nature of the effects;	Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4. The effects of the Plan need to be considered alongside the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan. The Plan is required to be in general conformity with this plan which was subject to full SEA and HRA assessments. These concluded that either the implementation of the Local Plan would not result in any likely significant environmental effects or sufficient mitigation measures were in place to address any effects. The Plan is in general conformity with the CLLP and the review plan.	No
	The Plan policies provide for protection of the character and setting of Keelby parish, including heritage assets, green spaces and community facilities. The Plan is focussed on providing for the future sustainability of the village, and as such has the principles of sustainability at its core.	
(c) the transboundary nature of the effects;	Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4. The proposals within the Plan are unlikely to have a significant impact	No

	boyond the Neighbourhood Area]
	beyond the Neighbourhood Area boundary.	
(d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents);	There are no significant risks anticipated, and it is considered that the Plan will enhance human health and the environment. Health and safety mitigation measures will be	No
(a) the magnitude and	dealt with on a procedural basis by prospective applicants. Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.	No
(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);	The potential for any environmental impacts are likely to be local, limited and minimal. Any proposed housing site allocations will fall within Keelby Parish Council boundaries.	NO
(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due	Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4. The Plan promotes the protection of the built and natural environment.	No
to— (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;	One draft policy actively seeks to ensure that development responds to the existing surrounding character.	
(ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values;	Any effects of the plan are expected to be positive on these characteristics.	
or (iii) intensive land-use; and	The Plan is unlikely to adversely affect the value and vulnerability of the area in relation to its special natural characteristics or cultural heritage. The policies within the plan	
	heritage. The policies within the plan seek to provide greater protection to the specific rural character of the area, as well as encouraging new developments to be in keeping with	
	historically and culturally important design characteristics. As such there are unlikely to be any intensive land- use concerns.	
(a) the offects on energy and	Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.	Na
(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection	It is not considered that the policies in the Plan will adversely affect any areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status.	No
status.	Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.	

environment by neighbourhood plan policy		
Plan policy with summary	Assessment- Likely significant effect?	
Policy 1: Retain Village Character	This policy provides a positive framework for decision-making, as required by the NPPF. Locally, the concept of character relates to the need for sensitive design such that developments reflect the character of surroundings; meeting environmental, social, and economic objectives are met.	
Policy 2a: Land at Church Lane, Keelby (Site WLKEE/003)	Policy 2 aims to add more detail to the allocation of site WLKEE/003 off Church Lane. This site is already allocated through the CLLP and review Plan. This Policy provides a detailed development criteria which focuses heavily on the design and layout of the development. This site has already been tested for sustainability and environmental impact through the site selection process of the Local Plan.	
Policy 2b: New Residential Development	Policy 2b aims to add more detail criteria on in-fill sites. Simultaneously, the policy ensures that rural and environmentally valued sites in the countryside are protected from development pressure. This policy supports delivery of CLLP LPs 2 and 4 and review plan S3 and S4	
Policy 3: Local Residential Design Principles	This policy, conforming to NPPF Section 12 and CLLP LP26, seeks to ensure that developments are of a high quality to respect the character and setting of Keelby including its important buildings, character, green spaces, and important pathsways.	
Policy 4: Business and Service Development	Policy 7 seeks to encourage business development that provides sustained job opportunities. It also seeks to protect existing services and facilities. It conforms to the aspirations of CLLP and review plan and paragraphs 72, 83, 84, 104, and 121 of the NPPF.	
Policy 5: Environment and Countryside	At the heart of all future developments this policy supports strongly the sustainability requirements of NPPF	

Table 3: Detailed assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment by neighbourhood plan policy

	Chapter 15 as articulated in CLLP and the review plan.
Policy 6: Roads	Seeks to ensure new road investment does not compromise existing infrastructure or the wider environment.
Policy 7: (Public Transport) Footpaths and Cycleways	The NPPF identifies as a key priority the protection and enhancement of green infrastructure such as footpaths and cycleways. This policy set the local context of CLLP LP20.

environment by environmental receptors as recognised in Annex 1(f) of the SEA Directive (2004)		
Environmental receptor	Assessment- Likely significant effect?	
Air quality Plans should prevent development from contributing to, or being put at risk by, air pollution.	Given the development limitations in the CLLP and the review plan (<10 properties per development) proposals are unlikely to increase traffic congestion or create air quality problems for nearby residents or biodiversity hotspots.	
Biodiversity Plans should identify important biological features and work to protect and enhance these.	There appear to be no designated wildlife sites in the Plan area. Only small scale development is proposed in the Plan which is unlikely to have a significant impact on existing environmental assets. To enhance biodiversity in the area the plan is proposing to designate 8 local green spaces.	
Landscape Development should seek to promote or reinforce local distinctive landscape features.	Policies 1 and 3 of the Plan encourages design in keeping with local development style and the features of local character areas as defined by the character assessment. The Plan area has no nationally important landscape designations.	
Material Assets These refer to physical infrastructure including social infrastructure, transport infrastructure, water, and energy infrastructure.	The existing infrastructure in the Plan area and nearby appears to have the capacity to meet the likely demands.	
Population Plans should encourage development that adds to the overall quality of the area, establishes a strong sense of place, is visually attractive, and contributes to safe and accessible environments.	The policies will ensure that development of these sites will be in keeping with local character features and be in easy reach of existing facilities and also suitably linked to existing road and footpath networks.	
Health Plans should promote healthy communities by emphasising the value of social and recreational facilities including open space and recreational facilities.	The Plan protects existing community facilities in the village and would support new ones where suitable. It supports the designation of local green spaces and identifies footpaths and cycleways in the plan area.	

Table 4: Detailed assessment of the likely significant effects on the environment by environmental receptors as recognised in Annex 1(f) of the SEA Directive (2004)

Natural resources Plans should protect and enhance soils particularly best and most versatile agricultural land. The plan should, where relevant, recognise the need for a sufficient supply of minerals and making best use of these finite resources.	The Plan does not impact on surrounding farmland in use and would not impact on the supply of minerals.
Climate change Plans should try to reduce our contribution to, and better prepare for the effects of, climate change.	Policy 3 recognises that every effort in new constructions should not add to the existing flood risk and should conform to the national government's policy on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
Water New and existing development should not contribute to or be put at risk from water pollution.	It is understood that the Plan's proposals are unlikely to contaminate any nearby water bodies or affect water supply or impact on any groundwater source protection zones that may exist in the Plan area.

4. SEA Screening Conclusion

- 4.1 As a result of the evaluations carried out in Tables 2, 3 and 4 it is considered that it is unlikely that any significant environmental effects will arise as a result of the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan. Consequently, the assessment within Table 1 concludes that an SEA is not required when judged against the application of the SEA Directive criteria.
- 4.2 No sensitive natural or heritage assets will be significantly affected by policies contained in the Plan. The Plan's policies are in general conformity with those within the CLLP and review Plan. The Plan does not allocate specific large development sites or promote a large amount of development. It is not near or in a national or international designated area or contravenes significant elements of the CLLP and review Plan.

5. HRA Screening Assessment

5.1 The HRA involves an assessment of any plan or project to establish if it has potential implications for European wildlife sites. The HRA will consider if the proposals in the neighbourhood plan have the potential to harm the habitats or species for which European wildlife sites are designated. European wildlife sites are:

• Special Protection Areas (SPA) designated under the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC)

• Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) designated under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).

- 5.2 In addition to SPA and SAC sites, Ramsar sites are designated under the Ramsar Convention (Iran 1971 as amended by the Paris Protocol 1992). Although they are not covered by the Habitats Regulations, as a matter of Government Policy, Ramsar sites should be treated in the same way as European wildlife sites. European wildlife sites and Ramsar sites are collectively known as Natura 2000 sites.
- 5.3 The initial screening stage of the HRA process determines if there are any likely significant effects possible as a result of the implementation of the plan and if an appropriate assessment is needed. This stage should provide a description of the plan's policies (see Table 3) and an identification of the Natura 2000 sites which may be affected by the plan and assess the significance of any possible effects on the identified sites.
- 5.4 As a general 'rule of thumb' it is identified that sites with pathways of 10-15km of the plan boundary should be included within a HRA. However, there are no European sites within 15km of the Keelby neighbourhood plan boundary nor are there any sites within the Central Lincolnshire Area.
- 5.5 The neighbourhood plan also needs to be screened for the likelihood of combined effects with other plans and projects. For the purpose of this HRA, other plans and projects would include: national plans; core strategies / local plans; neighbourhood plans; water resource management plans; catchment flood management plans; catchment abstraction management strategies; and river basin management plans. However as there are no European Sites affected by the neighbourhood plan it is not necessary to then screen the plan for likelihood of its combined effects with these identified other plans and projects.

6. HRA Screening Conclusion

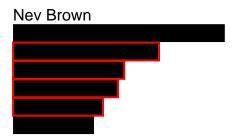
6.1 None of the policies in the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan are likely to have a significant effect on a European Site whether alone or in combination with other plans and projects. Consequently the plan is not considered to require further assessment under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive (Art. 3.2(b)).

7. Overall Screening Conclusions

- 7.1 A SEA and HRA screening report exercise has been undertaken for the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan. The assessments have concluded that the neighbourhood plan is unlikely to give rise to any significant environmental effects or have significant effects on a European site. Accordingly it is considered that a SEA or HRA assessment is not required for the neighbourhood plan.
- 7.2 It is a requirement of the screening process to consult certain consultation bodies when determining whether a SEA and/or HRA are required and they are: Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England. See sections 8 and 9.

8. Consultation Responses





Our ref: AN/2007/101718/OT-40/SB1-L01

Date: 06 October 2022

Dear Nev

Keelby Neighbourhood plan Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report – Regulation 16

Thank you for consulting us on the Strategic Environmental Assessment screening report for the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan.

Based on a review of environmental constraints for which we are a statutory consultee, we find that there are areas of fluvial flood risk and watercourses within the neighbourhood plan area. In particular, we note that the boundary does extend into areas of flood zones 2 and 3 of the East Holton and Skitter Beck.

On the basis that future development is steered away from the sensitive aspects of the environment highlighted, we do not consider there to be potential significant environmental effects relating to these environmental constraints. Nevertheless we recommend the inclusion of relevant policies to cover the management of flood risk.

Should you require any additional information, or wish to discuss these matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details below.

Yours sincerely

Amelia Crawford Sustainable Places Planning Advisor



Calls to 03 numbers cost no more than national rate calls to 01 or 02 numbers and count towards any inclusive minutes in the same way. This applies to calls from any type of line including mobile.



Mr Nev Brown	Direct Dial:	
	15 September 2022	

Dear Mr Brown

KEELBY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - SEA SCREENING REQUEST

Thank you for your consultation of 9 September 2022 and the request for a Screening Opinion in respect of the Keelby 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/>">https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>">https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>">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.

DISABLED





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



Yours sincerely,

C Fletcher

Clive Fletcher



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



Nev Brown West Lindsey District Council

BY EMAIL ONLY

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

Dear Nev Brown

Keelby Neighbourhood Plan – SEA/HRA Screening Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 09 September 2022 which was received by Natural England on 09 September 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.

Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment

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

Neighbourhood Plan

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in light of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended), is contained within the <u>National Planning</u> <u>Practice Guidance</u>. The guidance highlights three triggers that may require the production of an SEA, for instance where:

•a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development

•the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan

•the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

We have checked our records and based on the information provided, we can confirm that in our view the proposals contained within the plan will not have significant effects on sensitive sites that Natural England has a statutory duty to protect.

We are not aware of <u>significant</u> 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/SA 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.

For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to

Yours sincerely

Dominic Rogers Consultations Team

Determination Statement

West Lindsey District Council (WLDC)

Keelby Neighbourhood Plan

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and/or Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

To determine whether the Keelby Neighbourhood Plan (KNP) required a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC and associated Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 - a screening report was completed.

The screening report also considered whether the KNP complied with the Habitats Directive (Directive 92/ 43/ECC) and Birds Directive (Directive 2009/147/EC) and if it needed a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

These are basic conditions and requirements under the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.

WLDC, as the responsible authority, gave consideration to the screening report and agreed that it should go out to consultation, as required by regulations and directives, with Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency in the case of SEA and also Natural England in the case of HRA.

Responses to the consultation from Natural England, Historic England, and the Environment Agency confirmed that the KNP was unlikely to give rise to any significant environmental effects and/or have significant effects on a European site.

On the basis of the screening report and responses from statutory agencies, WLDC determined that a SEA and/or HRA assessment was not required for the KNP.