

NETTLEHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SEA SCREENING OPINION

SEPTEMBER 2023

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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 Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan requires a SEA and/or HRA. The report's sections are:
 1. Introduction
 2. Overview of the Nettleham 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 (Environment Agency, Historic England & Natural England)
 9. Determination Statement (West Lindsey District Council)
- 1.5 This screening report will be submitted to West Lindsey District Council by Nettleham Parish Council who are the qualifying body for the review of the Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan. The assessment was undertaken on the post-Regulation 14 Draft Version (submission) of the Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.6 The Screening Report was prepared in the context of the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan adopted in April 2023 which covers the Nettleham 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 Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan only.

2. Overview of the Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.1 Whether the review Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan requires a SEA and/or a HRA is dependent on what is being proposed by the plan itself. The review of the existing Plan has a vision with objectives and contains a set of locally specific planning policies and guidance for the area.
- 2.2 Nettleham is identified as a ‘Large Village’ in the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan and lies in the district of West Lindsey just to the North of Lincoln. The Neighbourhood Plan has 17 planning policies, which are:

The Environment

Policy E1 – Green Wedge

Policy E2 – Settlement Breaks

Policy E3 – Local Green Spaces

Policy E4 – The Historic Environment

Policy E5 – Major and Minor Green Corridors

Development

Policy D1 – Parking Standards for New Residential Development

Policy D2 – Parking Standards for additional Bedrooms to Existing Dwellings

Policy D3 - Water Resources, Quality and Flood Risk

Policy D4 - Design of New Development and Parish-wide Design Code Principles

Policy D5 – Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption

Policy D6 – Housing Development in Nettleham

Policy D7– Housing Mix and Affordable and Specialist Housing

Site Specific Policies and Design Codes

Policy D8 – Land North of Lechler Close

Policy D9– Land behind Brookfield Avenue

Policy D10 – Land at Sudbrooke Lane

Policy D11 –Land at Linelands

Local Community Facilities

Policy S1 - Local Community Facilities

2.3 The Neighbourhood Plan has criteria-based policies on: residential development, design and new housing. The proposed housing sites within the Plan are those allocated within the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan. Focusing on character, it contains policies on local character and Local Green Spaces. Further policies cover issues such as community facilities, parking and flooding. Existing constraints and designations in the Plan area include:

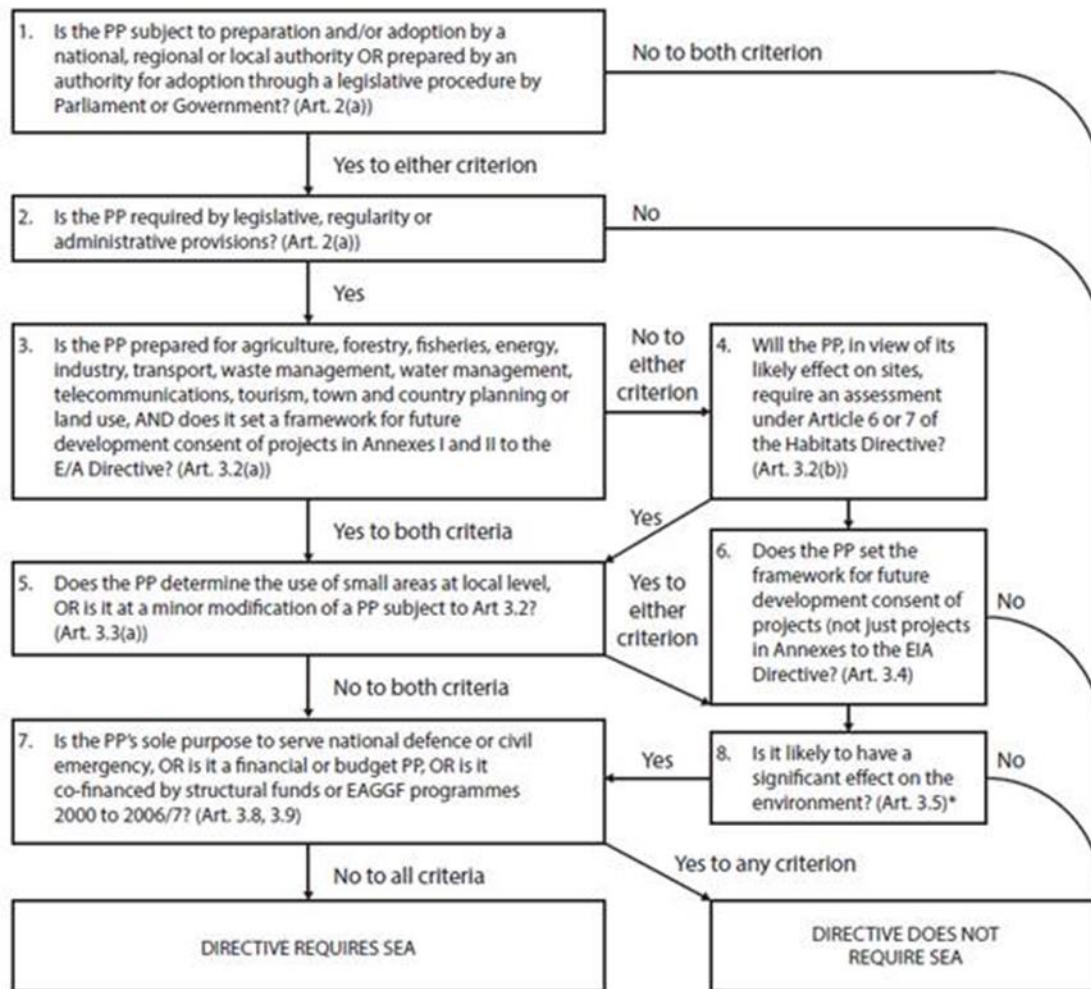
- Major and Minor Green Corridors
- Settlement Breaks
- Design codes
- Parking
- Local Green Spaces

2.4 The only environmental site of significance is The Humber Estuary European Site which is outside the Plan area and located more than 24km away from the proposed development sites identified within the Neighbourhood plan.

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 of the Plan on the environment.

This diagram is intended as a guide to the criteria for application on the Directive to plans and programmes (PPs). It has no legal status.



* The Directive requires Member States to determine whether plans or programmes in this category are likely to have significant environmental effects. These determinations may be made on a case by case basis and/or by specifying types of plan or programme.

Figure 1: Application of the SEA Directive to Plans

Table 1: Assessment of the Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan against Figure 1

<u>Criteria/Stage</u>	<u>Response:</u> Yes/ No/ <u>Not</u> <u>applicable</u>	<u>Details</u>
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 Act 2011. 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, 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 Section 5 and 6 of this 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

<p>small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a Plan subject to Article 3.2?</p>		<p>the use of 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. It recognises its rural character highlighting the key features and attributes to guide the design of new development in the area.</p> <p>The plan is not a minor modification of a previous Neighbourhood Development Plan. GO TO STAGE 6</p>
<p>6. Does the Neighbourhood Plan set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in annexes to the EIA Directive)?</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan will provide a framework for the consent of any future development projects in the Neighbourhood Plan area. GO TO STAGE 8</p>
<p>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?</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan does not deal with these issues.</p>
<p>8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>See 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. Sections 5 and 6 of this report assess any likely significant effects on European sites</p>
<p>Outcome</p>	<p>SEA not required. See Tables 2,3,4 and sections 4 and 7.</p>	

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 environmental effect?
1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to-		
(a) the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;	The 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 2023) 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 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. This review draft plan includes policy themes regarding the built and natural environment and, in particular, the provision of local green spaces, renewable energy and design codes for proposed allocated sites 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. Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.	No
(e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of	The Plan is not directly relevant to the implementation of any European legislation.	No

Community legislation on the environment (for example, 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-		
(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;	<p>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 local green spaces should create positive environmental outcomes. The Plan also provides a policy framework for local renewable energy and low carbon development.</p> <p>Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.</p>	No
(b) the cumulative nature of the effects;	<p>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.</p> <p>The Plan policies provide for protection of the character and setting of Nettleham parish, including Nettleham Beck, Biodiversity, 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.</p> <p>Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.</p>	No
(c) the transboundary nature of the effects;	The proposals within the Plan are unlikely to have a significant impact beyond the Neighbourhood Area boundary.	No

<p>(d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents);</p>	<p>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 dealt with on a procedural basis by prospective applicants.</p> <p>Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);</p>	<p>The potential for any environmental impacts are likely to be local, limited and minimal. The proposed housing site allocations will fall within Nettleham Parish Council boundaries.</p> <p>Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to— (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or (iii) intensive land-use; and</p>	<p>The Plan promotes the protection of the built and natural environment.</p> <p>One draft policy actively seeks to ensure that development responds to the existing surrounding character.</p> <p>Any effects of the plan are expected to be positive on these characteristics.</p> <p>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 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.</p> <p>Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.</p>	<p>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. These sites are towards the Lincolnshire Wolds, Coast and Humber Estuary.</p> <p>Also see assessment Tables 3 and 4.</p>	<p>No</p>

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

Plan policy with summary	Assessment- Likely significant effect?
Policy E1 – Green Wedge	This Policy seeks to support the CLLP Green Wedge Designation via Policy S63.
Policy E2 – Settlement Breaks	Policy E2 seeks to identify other sensitive areas within the Parish and between existing settlements. This Policy complements Policy S63 within the CLLP.
Policy E3 – Local Green Spaces	At the heart of all future developments this policy supports strongly the sustainability requirements of NPPF Chapter 15 as articulated in CLLP Policy S64 by protecting valued green spaces from development.
Policy E4 – The Historic Environment	Policy H4 seeks to minimise the impact from new development on the Historic Environment. Part of the village is designated a Conservation Area and the Policy supports Policy S57 in the CLLP.
Policy E5 – Major and Minor Green Corridors	Policy E5 seeks to protect and enhance local biodiversity through the identification of the Parishes Green Infrastructure. It is also reflective of National Policy and the requirement for development to make a net-gain in biodiversity and Policies S59-S61 in the CLLP.
Policy D1 – Parking Standards for New Residential Development; and Policy D2 – Parking Standards for additional Bedrooms to Existing Dwellings	Policies D1 and D2 seek to provide local policy requirements for the level of off street parking on new developments and the redevelopment of existing sites. This is to help reduce traffic congestion and parked cars blocking footways and cycleways.
Policy D3 - Water Resources, Quality and Flood Risk	Policy D3 seeks to reduce the impact of new development and the risk from flooding. This Policy is in line with the NPPF and Policy S21 in the CLLP
Policy D4 - Design of New Development and Parish-wide Design Code Principles	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 D5 – Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption	Policy D5 seeks to complement both existing policies for the adaption to and mitigation of Climate Change. In particular the low carbon policies within the CLLP S7 – S20.
Policy D6 – Housing Development in Nettleham	Policy D6 aims to add more detail criteria on in-fill sites through the character assessment. Simultaneously, the policy ensures that rural and environmentally valued sites in the countryside are protected from development pressure. This policy supports delivery of CLLP S3, S4 and S5
Policy D7– Housing Mix and Affordable and Specialist Housing	Policy D7 seeks to provide more local emphasis on the type of housing needed within the community. This is responding to local consultation and complements CLLP Policies S22 and S23.
Policy D8 – Land North of Lechler Close	<p>Policy D8 aims to add more detail to the allocation of site off Lechler Close.</p> <p>Allocated sites in the CLLP have already undergone a Strategic Environment Assessment as part of the CLLP’s Sustainability Appraisal. See para 1.5.5 of this document:</p> <p>Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Review Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Final Report Updated March 2022</p> <p>https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/STA004.1a%20Final%20SA%20Scoping%20Report%20Updated%20March%202022.pdf</p> <p>The SA (SEA) assessed each of Nettleham’s proposed housing sites including against water resources and flood risk criteria. It concluded that the four sites listed below were suitable as new housing allocations. See;</p> <p>Sustainability Appraisal Report for the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan</p>

	<p>Proposed Submission Draft (March 2022) Appendix 5.3: Sustainability Appraisal of Preferred Housing Site Allocations and Reasonable Alternatives Considered West Lindsey</p> <p>https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/STA004.1hiii%20Appendix%205.3%20Housing%20Site%20Allocations%20SA%20West%20Lindsey.pdf</p> <p>CLLP WL/NHAM/024A (Lechler Close) page 514 - NP site 24 Policy D8</p>
<p>Policy D9– Land behind Brookfield Avenue</p>	<p>Policy D9 aims to add more detail to the allocation of site off Brookefield Avenue.</p> <p>Allocated sites in the CLLP have already undergone a Strategic Environment Assessment as part of the CLLP’s Sustainability Appraisal. See para 1.5.5 of this document:</p> <p>Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Review Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Final Report Updated March 2022</p> <p>https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/STA004.1a%20Final%20SA%20Scoping%20Report%20Updated%20March%202022.pdf</p> <p>The SA (SEA) assessed each of Nettleham’s proposed housing sites including against water resources and flood risk criteria. It concluded that the four sites listed below were suitable as new housing allocations. See;</p> <p>Sustainability Appraisal Report for the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft (March 2022) Appendix 5.3: Sustainability Appraisal of Preferred Housing Site Allocations and Reasonable Alternatives Considered West Lindsey</p> <p>https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-</p>

	<p>03/STA004.1hiii%20Appendix%205.3%20Housing%20Site%20Allocations%20SA%20West%20Lindsey.pdf</p> <p>CLLP WL/NHAM/11 (Brookfield Ave) page 480 - NP site 11, Policy D9</p>
<p>Policy D10 – Land at Sudbrooke Lane</p>	<p>Policy D10 aims to add more detail to the allocation of site off Sudbrooke Lane.</p> <p>Allocated sites in the CLLP have already undergone a Strategic Environment Assessment as part of the CLLP’s Sustainability Appraisal. See para 1.5.5 of this document:</p> <p>Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Review Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Final Report Updated March 2022</p> <p>https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/STA004.1a%20Final%20SA%20Scoping%20Report%20Updated%20March%202022.pdf</p> <p>The SA (SEA) assessed each of Nettleham’s proposed housing sites including against water resources and flood risk criteria. It concluded that the four sites listed below were suitable as new housing allocations. See;</p> <p>Sustainability Appraisal Report for the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft (March 2022) Appendix 5.3: Sustainability Appraisal of Preferred Housing Site Allocations and Reasonable Alternatives Considered West Lindsey</p> <p>https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/STA004.1hiii%20Appendix%205.3%20Housing%20Site%20Allocations%20SA%20West%20Lindsey.pdf</p> <p>CLLP WL/NHAM/010 (Sudbrooke Lane) page 475 - NP site 10 Policy D10</p>

<p>Policy D11 –Land at Linelands</p>	<p>Policy D11 aims to add more detail to the allocation of site at Linelands.</p> <p>Allocated sites in the CLLP have already undergone a Strategic Environment Assessment as part of the CLLP’s Sustainability Appraisal. See para 1.5.5 of this document:</p> <p>Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Review Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Final Report Updated March 2022</p> <p>https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/STA004.1a%20Final%20SA%20Scoping%20Report%20Updated%20March%202022.pdf</p> <p>The SA (SEA) assessed each of Nettleham’s proposed housing sites including against water resources and flood risk criteria. It concluded that the four sites listed below were suitable as new housing allocations. See;</p> <p>Sustainability Appraisal Report for the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Proposed Submission Draft (March 2022) Appendix 5.3: Sustainability Appraisal of Preferred Housing Site Allocations and Reasonable Alternatives Considered West Lindsey</p> <p>https://www.n-kesteven.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2023-03/STA004.1hiii%20Appendix%205.3%20Housing%20Site%20Allocations%20SA%20West%20Lindsey.pdf</p> <p>CLLP WL/NHAM/032 (Linelands) page 541 - NP policy D11</p>
<p>Policy S1 - Local Community Facilities</p>	<p>Policy S1 seeks to promote the development of new or improved community facilities where appropriate. This is in line with national policy and is to support the ongoing and future sustainability of the village.</p>

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)

Environmental receptor	Assessment- Likely significant effect?
<p>Air quality Plans should prevent development from contributing to, or being put at risk by, air pollution.</p>	<p>Policies D5 and d8-d11 seek to reduce the impact of development on air quality by supporting the use of electric vehicles and sustainable construction.</p>
<p>Biodiversity Plans should identify important biological features and work to protect and enhance these.</p>	<p>The scale development is proposed in the Plan is also allocated within the CLLP and has already been determined that this is unlikely to have a significant impact on existing environmental assets. To enhance biodiversity in the area the plan is proposing to designate local green spaces, Major and Minor Green Corridors and Settlement Breaks through Policies E2, E3 and E5. The Plan has also provided design codes for the proposed housing allocations in policies D8-D11. These codes also identify requirements for biodiversity.</p>
<p>Landscape Development should seek to promote or reinforce local distinctive landscape features.</p>	<p>Policy D1 of the Plan encourages design in keeping with local development style and the features of local character areas as defined by the character assessment. Policies D8-D11 also identify design-codes which will help to preserve local landscape features.</p>
<p>Material Assets These refer to physical infrastructure including social infrastructure, transport infrastructure, water, and energy infrastructure.</p>	<p>The existing infrastructure in the Plan area and nearby appears to have the capacity to meet the likely demands as determined by the Central Lincolnshire Local Plan.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Policy D7 and the criteria in policies D8-D11 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.</p>

<p>Health Plans should promote healthy communities by emphasising the value of social and recreational facilities including open space and recreational facilities.</p>	<p>Policy S1 seeks to protect existing community facilities in the village and would support new ones where suitable. It supports the designation of local green spaces through Policy E3 and footpaths and cycleways through Policy E5.</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>Policy D6 seeks to minimise new development outside the existing developed footprint of the village and the proposed allocated sites. All development is therefore concentrated either on previously developed sites or on greenfield sites that will have the least impact to the countryside and to high-grade agricultural land.</p>
<p>Climate change Plans should try to reduce our contribution to, and better prepare for the effects of, climate change.</p>	<p>Policy D5 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.</p>
<p>Water New and existing development should not contribute to or be put at risk from water pollution.</p>	<p>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. Policy D3 makes provision for surface water and water quality.</p>

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 Nettleham 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. The Plan only promotes site allocations in line with the strategic Local Plan. It is not near or in a national or international designated area or contravenes significant elements of the CLLP.

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 Nettleham 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; 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.

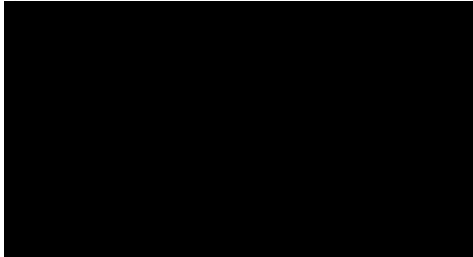
6. HRA Screening Conclusion

- 6.1 None of the policies in the Nettleham 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 Nettleham 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 important to note that this screening opinion is based on the post draft regulation 14 version of the Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan. Consequently if the content of the neighbourhood plan should materially change then the SEA/HRA screening process will need to be re-assessed and updated.
- 7.3 It is a requirement of the screening process to consult certain consultation bodies when forming a view on whether a SEA and/or HRA are required and they are the: Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England.

8 Consultation Responses (Environment Agency, Historic England & Natural England)



Our ref: AN/2007/101718/SE-12/SC1-L02

Date: 05 September 2023

Dear Luke

Nettleham SEA Screening Report

Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening report for the Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan. We are a statutory consultee in the SEA process and aim to reduce flood risk and protect and enhance the water environment. Based on our review of the draft plan, we think there are potential significant environmental effects that relate to the Neighbourhood Plan area.

We have identified that the Neighbourhood Plan area will be affected by the following environmental constraints:

1. Flood risk

The Neighbourhood Plan proposes site allocations within areas of flood zone 2 and 3 within the neighbourhood plan area, specifically site allocations WL/NHAM/11 and WL/NHAM/032. We therefore welcome the inclusion of Policy D3 which covers flood risk.

2. Water quality

The Nettleham Beck (Water Body ID: GB105030062210) runs through the Neighbourhood Plan area. This watercourse is currently failing to reach good ecological status under the Water Framework Directive (WFD) because it is heavily modified. It is currently classified as having moderate status. Developments within or adjacent to this watercourse should not cause further deterioration and should seek to improve the water quality based on the recommendations of the Anglian River Basin Management Plan. We therefore welcome the inclusion of Policy D3 which covers Sustainable Urban Drainage and water quality. We also support Policy D4 which highlights that new developments should seek to enhance and positively contribute to natural features such as Nettleham Beck.

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

Yours sincerely



Ceres House, Searby Road, Lincoln, LN2 4DW
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
Email: LNplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

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.

Cont/d..



End

2



Historic England

Direct Dial: 0121 625 6870

Our ref: PL00793601

2 August 2023

Dear Mr Brown

NETTLEHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - SEA SCREENING REQUEST

Thank you for your consultation of 21 July 2023 and the request for a Screening Opinion in respect of the Nettleham 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



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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 organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.



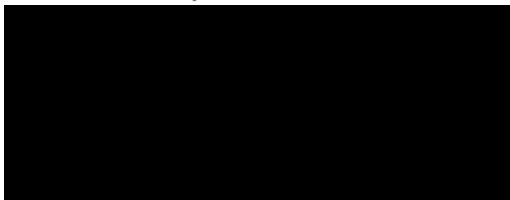
Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Historic Environment that is relevant to both local and neighbourhood planning and available at:

<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,


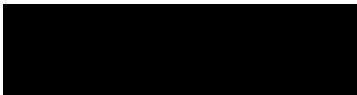
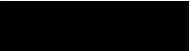


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Date: 23 August 2023 Our ref: 443496 Your ref: Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan	
Mr Luke Brown West Lindsey District Council 	Hornbeam House Crewe Business Park Electra Way Crewe Cheshire CW1 6GJ 

Dear Mr Brown

Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan – SEA Screening Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 21 July 2023.

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 (SEA)

It is Natural England's advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely.

The proposed neighbourhood plan is unlikely to significantly affect any Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection area (SPA), Ramsar wetland or sites in the process of becoming SACs or SPAs ('candidate SACs', 'possible SACs', 'potential SPAs') or a Ramsar wetland. The plan area is unlikely to have a significant effect on a National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Heritage Coast, and is unlikely to impact upon the purposes for which these areas are designated or defined.

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 is contained within the [Planning Practice Guidance](#). This identifies three triggers that may require the production of an SEA:

- 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.

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require an SEA. Further information is included in Natural England's [standing advice](#) on protected species.

Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife

sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant an SEA. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission [standing advice](#).

We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a SEA is necessary.

Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If a SEA is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

Please send any new consultations, or further information on this consultation to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the sender.

10.Determination Statement

Determination Statement

West Lindsey District Council (WLDC)

Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan Review

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

To determine whether the Nettleham Neighbourhood Plan Review (NNPR) 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 NNPR 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, considered the screening report and agreed that it should go out to consultation, as required by regulations and directives, with the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England in the case of SEA and also Natural England in the case of HRA.

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

Based on the screening report and responses from statutory agencies, WLDC determined that a SEA and/or HRA assessment was not required for the NNPR.