

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Opinion:

Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan

Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

August 2019

Quality information

Prepared by

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Revision History

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Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

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1. Purpose of this SEA Screening Opinion

- 1.1 This SEA Screening Opinion has been prepared in relation to the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan by AECOM.
- 1.2 The purpose of the Screening Opinion is to set out a screening opinion in relation to whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process is required to accompany the development of the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan. The Screening Statement has been provided to the statutory consultation bodies for SEA (Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England) for their opinion.
- 1.3 SEA is a systematic process undertaken to evaluate the likely significant environmental effects of plans. The requirement for SEA in England was introduced in 2004 through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulation 2004 ('The SEA Regulations'), which transposed the European SEA Directive (2001/42/EC).
- 1.4 One of the 'Basic Conditions' that a Neighbourhood Plan is tested against is whether the making of the Neighbourhood Plan is compatible with European Union obligations, including obligations under the SEA Directive. Neighbourhood Plans only require SEA where they are likely to lead to significant environmental effects. To decide whether a proposed Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects, it should be screened against the criteria set out in Annex 2 of the SEA Directive.
- 1.5 Where it is determined that the Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects (and, accordingly, does not require SEA), a statement of reasons for this determination should be prepared and published for consultation with the statutory consultation bodies (Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England). Where a Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, an SEA process must be carried out.
- 1.6 This Screening Opinion therefore provides a screening opinion as to whether the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan is likely to lead to significant environment effects, and as such requires an SEA process. In this context it presents the following:
 - Details and context of the Neighbourhood Plan, including its scope and likely content, its relationship with the Bedford Local Plan and the key environmental constraints in the vicinity of the Neighbourhood Plan area (**Chapter 2**)
 - A discussion of the potential significant environmental effects of the Neighbourhood Plan and their significance (**Chapter 3**); and
 - A summary of the screening opinion (**Chapter 4**).
- 1.7 The statutory environmental bodies for SEA are subsequently invited to provide their comments.

2. Context for the Neighbourhood Plan

Key information relating to the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan is presented in **Table 2.1**.

Table 2.1: Key information relating to the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan

Name of Qualifying Body	Thurleigh Parish Council
Title of the Plan	Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan
Area covered by the Plan	The Neighbourhood Plan covers the parish of Thurleigh in Bedford Borough. It is located approximately 10km north of Bedford. The boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area is presented in Figure 2.1 below.
Timescale	The Neighbourhood Plan covers the period to 2030 to align with that of the emerging Bedford Local Plan.
Purpose, aims and objectives	<p>A number of 'Core Objectives' have been identified the Neighbourhood Plan, which are as follows:</p> <p>Housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> delivering housing which both sustains the current and meets the future needs of the community <p>Infrastructure needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> managing both existing and future infrastructure requirements encouraging safe and sustainable movement <p>Green spaces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> protecting and enhancing our existing and future open spaces <p>Village facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensuring that the village benefits from sufficient facilities and services <p>Business & employment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying development opportunities to provide further employment within the village whilst safeguarding existing employment provision for the community <p>Young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensuring that the village benefits from sufficient facilities and services for young people <p>Local distinctiveness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> encouraging and supporting our distinctive landscape which contributes to a sense of place and community, including natural features such as small woodlands, in-field trees, hedgerows, ponds and streams which distinguish the parish <p>Heritage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> protecting and enhancing our listed buildings and our scheduled ancient monuments such as the mound at Bury Hill Camp. <p>Policies to achieve these key goals are presented under seven categories. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing Infrastructure Green Space Recreation, Young People, Sport and Village facilities Employment Local Distinctiveness, Landscape and Public Access Heritage Assets
Plan contact	Mandy Wilson, Parish Clerk, Thurleigh Parish Council thurleighpc@gmail.com

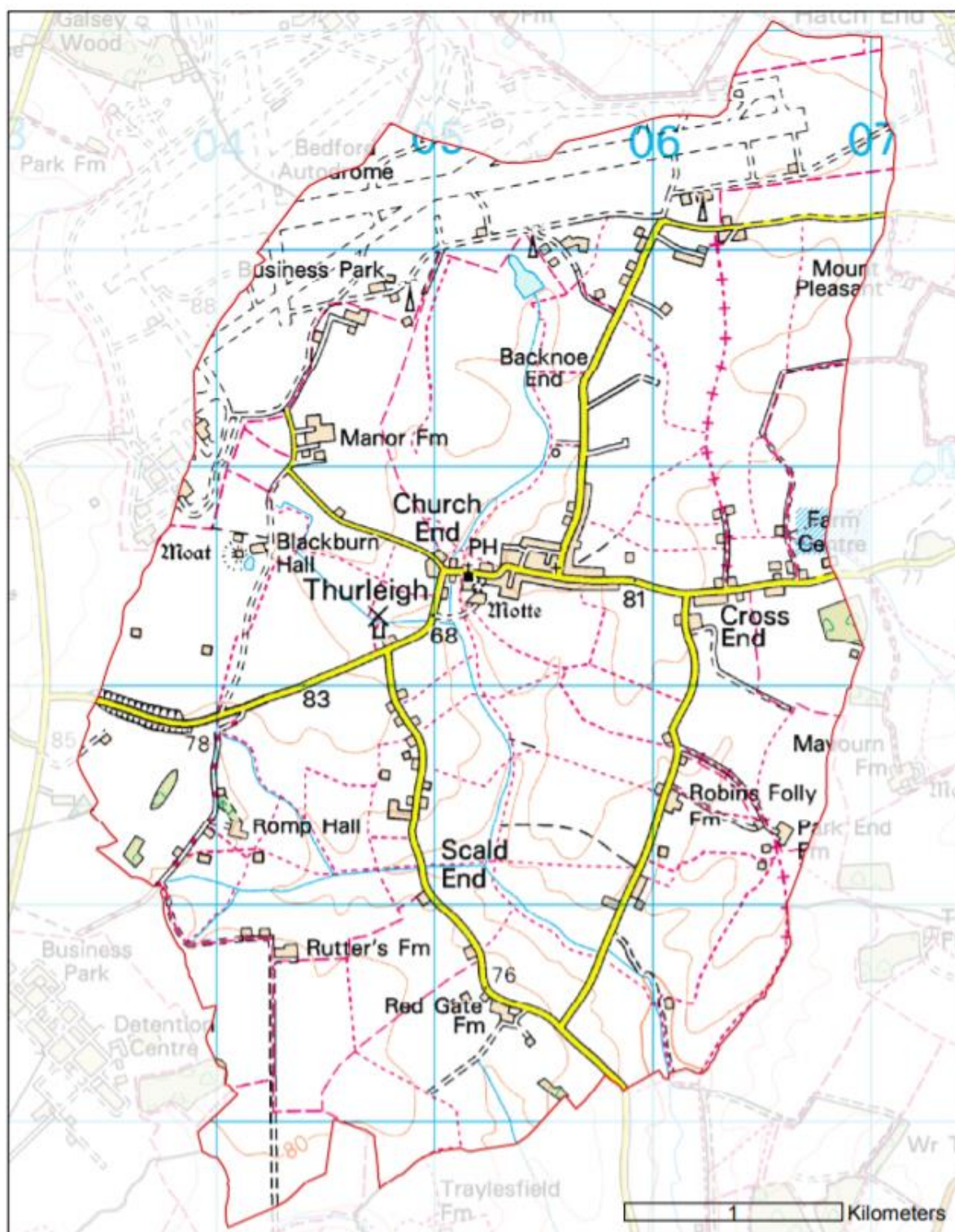


Figure 2.1: Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan area (source Bedford Borough Council)

Further context for the Neighbourhood Plan, including the key environmental constraints in the Neighbourhood Plan area, is presented in **Table 2.2**.

Table 2.2: Further context relating to the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan

Local Plan context for the Neighbourhood Plan	<p>The current development plan for Bedford Borough comprises of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bedford Borough Local Plan 2002 saved policies • Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan 2008 • Allocations and Designations Local Plan 2013 • Bedford Town Centre Area Action Plan 2008 • Saved policies in the Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2005 • Minerals and Waste Local Plan: Strategic Sites and Policies 2014 • Policies Map <p>These documents are currently in the process of being replaced by a new Local Plan, the Local Plan 2030. The emerging Local Plan is well advanced, and examination hearing sessions were undertaken in May / June 2019. Subsequent to examination, the Local Plan has recently been approved by the Planning Inspector subject to a number of Main Modifications being made on the plan.</p> <p>Reflecting the advanced stage of development of the Local Plan, it is likely the Neighbourhood Plan will at independent examination be considered in terms of its general conformity with the Local Plan 2030.</p> <p>The Bedford Borough Council Settlement Hierarchy has identified Thurleigh as a Group 3 village and, whilst the Local Plan 2030 does not specifically require allocations in Thurleigh to meet Borough wide needs, or provide a housing number for the parish, it does enable local areas to bring forward development through the neighbourhood planning process.</p>
What are the key components of the Neighbourhood Plan?	<p>The Core Objectives and categories of policies for the Neighbourhood Plan are presented above in Table 2.1.</p> <p>In terms of key land use policies which should be considered for their potential for significant effects, the Neighbourhood Plan proposes two site allocations, for a total of 30 homes. These are outlined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A residential development of 10 dwellings on the land at The Beeches, High Street. • A residential development of 20 dwellings on the land at Hayle Field, High Street. <p>In addition the Neighbourhood Plan designates Local Green Spaces on six areas of existing open space.</p> <p>In terms of other potential changes of use of land, the Neighbourhood Plan also support the re-use of the Officers and Support Mess site on Keysoe Road, as well as proposals for new local services including a village shop, medical and dental care facility (although no areas of land are identified for these purposes).</p>
Are there any sensitive receptors within or in close proximity to the Neighbourhood Plan area?	<p>A key determinant of whether effects are likely to be significant is the sensitivity of the asset affected. In this context, the more environmentally sensitive a location, the more likely it is that potential environmental effects from a plan will be significant.</p> <p>The NPPG provides guidance on this topic through providing a list of sites and areas which should be deemed as 'sensitive areas' for the purposes of environmental assessment.¹</p> <p>These comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI); • Natura 2000 sites; • National Parks; • Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty; • World Heritage Sites; and • Scheduled Monuments².

¹ I.e. those sites and areas that should be considered 'sensitive' for the purposes of screening projects for Environmental Impact Assessment.

In the context of the NPPG, there are three sensitive areas within the Neighbourhood Plan area, all of which comprise scheduled monuments. These are as follows:

- Bury Hill Camp: a motte and bailey castle with three fishponds: located to the south west of Thurleigh village
- Thurleigh churchyard cross: located in the churchyard of the Church of St Peter.
- Blackburn Hall moated site, associated fishponds and quarries: located at Blackburn Hall Farm.



Figure 2.2: Location of scheduled monuments in relation to Thurleigh village (source www.magic.gov.uk)

The Neighbourhood Plan area is also not within SSSI Impact Risk Zones for the type of development likely to be taken forward through the Neighbourhood Plan, including in relation to Tilwick Meadow SSSI, which is located in the adjoining parish of Ravensden.

In terms of other key environmental assets (i.e. those which are not defined as 'sensitive areas' by the NPPG) these include in the Neighbourhood Plan area:

- Two Grade II* listed structures, as follows:
 - Parish Church of St Peter
 - Churchyard Cross near South Door of Church
- 33 Grade II listed buildings
- 248 listings on the Bedfordshire Historic Environment Record
- Thurleigh Conservation Area, covering the western part of Thurleigh village

² [http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/environmental-impact assessment/screening-schedule-2-projects/interpretation-of-project-categories/](http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/environmental-impact%20assessment/screening-schedule-2-projects/interpretation-of-project-categories/)

3. Screening assessment

Table 3.1 discusses the significance of the potential environmental effects of the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan, and their likely significance.

Table 3.1: Potential environmental effects of the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan and their significance

SEA Topic	Discussion of potential effects and their significance	Is there the potential for a significant effect (Yes/No)?
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	<p>No biodiversity sites in the Neighbourhood Plan area are deemed as 'sensitive areas' as defined by the NPPG. Furthermore, the Neighbourhood Plan area is also not within SSSI Impact Risk Zones for the type of development likely to be taken forward through the Neighbourhood Plan (including in relation to Tilwick Meadow SSSI, which is located in the adjoining parish of Ravensden).</p> <p>Due to their location, none of the sites considered for potential allocations through the Neighbourhood Plan have the potential to affect the ecological value of the key biodiversity assets in the Neighbourhood Plan area.</p> <p>In terms of potential mitigation measures, a key facet of the evolving plan is the enhancement of green infrastructure networks in the Neighbourhood Plan area and the protection of key landscape features of biodiversity importance, such as hedgerows and mature trees. This will help limit effects on biodiversity and support biodiversity improvements. In light of this evidence, effects on biodiversity are <u>unlikely to be significant</u>.</p>	No
Population and human health	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan sets out a range of policies which have an explicit focus on improving the quality of life of residents, including improving the public realm, for accessibility to services and facilities, and improving accessibility via active transport modes. Whilst the benefits which arise for residents from a well-designed Neighbourhood Plan have the potential to be wide-ranging, these are <u>not deemed to be significant</u> with regards to the SEA Directive and its requirements.</p>	No
Soil	<p>Recent agricultural land classification has not been undertaken in the parish. However according to Natural England's provisional agricultural land quality dataset, which is based on a high level assessment undertaken prior to 1988, much of the parish is underlain by land classified as Grade 2 agricultural land, which is land classified as the 'best and most versatile'. However, given the small scale of land take required by the proposed Neighbourhood Plan allocations, the loss of this productive agricultural land is unlikely to be significant overall.</p> <p>As such, the effect on soil resources is <u>deemed to be insignificant</u> with regards to the SEA Directive and its requirements.</p>	No
Water	<p>Development arising as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan may lead to an increase in the population of the Neighbourhood Plan area and create an associated increase in water demand. However, in the context of water management within the South East, and wider population pressures, the effect on water resources is <u>deemed to be insignificant</u>.</p>	No

SEA Topic	Discussion of potential effects and their significance	Is there the potential for a significant effect (Yes/No)?
Air	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan area is not located in close proximity to the Air Quality Management Area present in the wider borough, in Bedford town centre. In terms of the context of Bedford and the wider area, any increase in congestion - or alternatively - improvements to traffic flow created by the Neighbourhood Plan, are unlikely to be significant. Therefore with regard to the SEA Directive and its requirements the effect on air is <u>deemed to be insignificant</u></p>	No
Climatic factors	<p>In terms of climate change mitigation, the allocations proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan will lead to inevitable increases in greenhouse gas emissions from an increase in the built footprint of the parish. These are however insignificant given the scale of growth proposed. In terms of emissions from transport, the objectives and policies of the plan actively seek to encourage sustainable modes of transport, discourage private car use and reduce the need to travel. This will help limit potential increases in greenhouse gas emissions from transport that may arise as a result of the plan.</p> <p>In terms of flood risk, the proposed locations for development are not within areas at risk of fluvial or surface water flooding. It is also considered that statutory requirements (including the requirements of the NPPF) will ensure that flood risk is addressed through new development proposals.</p> <p>Effects in relation to climate change mitigation and adaptation are therefore <u>unlikely to be significant</u> with regard to the SEA Directive and its requirements.</p>	No
Material assets	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan may lead to small but very limited increases in the Neighbourhood Plan area's waste management requirements. Effects are likely to be further limited by statutory requirements regarding waste management.</p> <p>No mineral sites are likely to be affected as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Effects are therefore <u>unlikely to be significant</u> in the context of the SEA Directive and its requirements.</p>	No

SEA Topic	Discussion of potential effects and their significance	Is there the potential for a significant effect (Yes/No)?
Cultural heritage	<p>In terms of the development proposals taken forward through the Neighbourhood Plan, the following applies:</p> <p>Allocated site, land at The Beeches, High Street (10 dwellings): The site is not located within the Thurleigh Conservation Area. Whilst the site is located approximately 100m south of the conservation area, it is screened by existing development on the south side of the High Street and the topography of the area, which slopes down to the south. The site is also not within the setting of the listed buildings and scheduled monuments in the parish. The site is within an archaeological interest site, and is, like much of the west of the village, within an area listed on the Historic Environment Record as '<i>The site of medieval settlement of Church End in Thurleigh</i>'; these are however not deemed to be significant constraints. Significant effects are therefore not anticipated as a result of this allocation.</p> <p>Allocated site, land at Hayle Field, High Street (20 dwellings): The site is located 120m to the east of the Thurleigh Conservation Area, and is screened from the conservation area by existing properties on the High Street. The site is not within the setting of the listed buildings and scheduled monuments in the parish. Significant effects are therefore not anticipated as a result of this allocation.</p> <p>Re-use of the Officers Mess site on Keysoe Road: The site is located at significant distance from key heritage assets in the parish, including the scheduled monuments, listed buildings and conservation area present in Thurleigh village, and is not within the setting of these. The site is the location of two features listed on the Historic Environment Record linked to the Women's Auxiliary Air Force camps associated with RAF Thurleigh. This is not considered to be a significant constraint to development given there are no visible features on the site. Significant effects are not anticipated as a result of the policy covering this site therefore.</p> <p>Allocation of Local Green Space: The allocation of Local Green Space will help conserve and enhance the setting of the historic environment and contribute to the character of the village. Given the allocation of Local Green Spaces protects existing areas of open space, significant effects are not anticipated.</p> <p>More broadly, the Neighbourhood Plan sets out a range of provisions which will conserve and enhance the fabric and setting of the historic environment, including through stipulating that new development does not result in any undue harm to the heritage and community value of features and areas of historic environment value.</p> <p>Therefore, negative effects are <u>unlikely to be significant</u> in the context of the SEA Directive.</p>	No
Landscape	<p>No nationally or locally designated areas of landscape value are present in the Neighbourhood Plan area.</p> <p>Although the two allocations for a total of 30 dwellings have the potential to have some effects on local villagescape character, these are likely to be limited by the location and scale of proposals. In addition the policies of the Neighbourhood Plan have a close focus on protecting and enhancing landscape and villagescape character and the setting of the historic environment, and on implementing high quality design.</p> <p>Given the relatively small scale of allocated sites, and their location in areas of lower landscape and villagescape sensitivity, effects are <u>unlikely to be significant</u> in the context of the SEA Directive and its requirements.</p>	No

SEA Topic	Discussion of potential effects and their significance	Is there the potential for a significant effect (Yes/No)?
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4. Summary of screening opinion

This screening determination has considered whether the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan is likely to lead to significant environmental effects in conjunction with Directive 2001/42/EC, the 'SEA Directive' and accompanying regulations.

The determination has considered a number of potential environmental effects that may arise as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan, including as a result of site allocations. Whilst some limited environmental effects have the potential to take place as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan, including in relation to the majority of the SEA 'topics', it is considered that these are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive and its requirements.

The SEA topic where effects have the most potential to be significant relates to the historic environment. This is with regard to the presence of a rich historic environment resource in Thurleigh village, including as represented by the presence of the Thurleigh Conservation area, two scheduled monuments, and a large number of listed buildings. However, due to the location of allocations, and their lack of proximity and screening from features and areas of historic environment interest, the sites taken forward as allocations by the Neighbourhood Plan are unlikely to have significant effects on the fabric and/or setting of key heritage assets in the parish.

In terms of the other topics considered, no significant effects have been identified. This is given:

- the relative lack of sensitivity of the Neighbourhood Plan area in relation to key environmental considerations; and
- the location of the sites taken forward through the Neighbourhood Plan process for allocation.

In addition a key element of the Neighbourhood Plan's Core Objectives and emerging policies is to limit potential environmental effects, secure environmental enhancements and to bring benefits for the quality of life of the parish's residents. This will further limit the potential for significant environmental effects.

For these reasons, it is considered that the Neighbourhood Plan is not subject to the requirements of Directive 2001/42/EC, the 'SEA Directive' and associated regulations. As such, **an SEA process meeting the requirements of the SEA Regulations is not deemed to be required to accompany the development of the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan.**

5. Statutory environmental body responses

Date: 1 October 2019
Our ref: 293985



Thurleigh Parish Council

BY EMAIL ONLY

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

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Sir/Madam

THURLEIGH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – SEA Screening Opinion

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 26 February 2019.

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 [National Planning Practice Guidance](#). 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 significant populations of protected species which are likely to be affected by the policies / proposals within the plan. It remains the case, however, that the responsible authority should provide information supporting this screening decision, sufficient to assess whether protected species are likely to be affected.

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

Please note that Natural England reserves the right to provide further comments on the environmental assessment of the plan beyond this SEA/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 consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours faithfully
Dawn Kinrade
Consultations Team

Dear Mandy

We agree with your conclusions.

Kind regards

Neville Benn

Senior Planning Advisor
Sustainable Places
East Anglia Area (West)

✉ Environment Agency, Bromholme Lane, Brampton, Huntingdon, Cambs. PE28 4NE

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Does Your Proposal Have Environmental Issues or Opportunities? Speak To Us Early!

If you're planning a new development, we want to work with you to make the process as smooth as possible. We offer a bespoke advice service where you will be assigned a project manager who be a single point of contact for you at the EA, giving you detailed specialist advice within guaranteed delivery dates. This early engagement can significantly reduce uncertainty and delays to your project. More information can be found on our website [here](#).

From: Mandy Wilson [mailto:thurleighpc@gmail.com]

Sent: 03 September 2019 18:32

To: Anglian Central, Planning_Liaison <planning.brampton@environment-agency.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan- SEA Screening

Apologies- resent with document!

Mandy

Mandy Wilson

Parish Clerk

Thurleigh Parish Council

01234 782816

thurleighpc@gmail.com

www.thurleigh.net

www.bedsparishes.gov.uk/thurleigh-parish-council

Please note I work part time and may not respond immediately

From: [Mandy Wilson](#)

Sent: 03 September 2019 18:28

To: planning.brampton@environment-agency.gov.uk; planning-liaison.anglian-central@environment-agency.gov.uk

Subject: Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan- SEA Screening

Good afternoon

SEA Screening Opinion: Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan, Bedford

Thurleigh Parish Council is currently preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish of Thurleigh in Bedford Borough.

In association with the requirement for Neighbourhood Plans to demonstrate that they have met the relevant European obligations, please find attached a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Opinion for the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan.

The attached Screening Opinion sets out the reasons for which it is considered that a full SEA process is not required for the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan in association with the requirements of the SEA Regulations. This is given that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan.

On this basis, please could you confirm whether you agree with this screening determination.

We look forward to receiving your response. If you could respond to this email address within 4 weeks of today (2nd October 2019), we would be very grateful

Mandy

Mandy Wilson
Parish Clerk
Thurleigh Parish Council
01234 782816
thurleighpc@gmail.com
www.thurleigh.net
www.bedsparishes.gov.uk/thurleigh-parish-council

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Ms Mandy Wilson
Thurleigh Parish Council
Bedfordshire

Direct Dial: 01223 582746

Our ref: PL00615749
3 October 2019

Dear Ms Wilson

RE: Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening

Thank you for inviting Historic England to comment on the above consultation. As the Government's adviser on the historic environment Historic England is keen to ensure that the protection of the historic environment is fully taken into account at all stages and levels of the local planning process. Therefore we welcome this opportunity to review the Screening Report for this plan. For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine its advice to the question, "Is it (the Thurleigh Neighbourhood Plan) likely to have a significant effect on the historic environment?". Our comments are based on the information supplied with the Screening Opinion.

The Screening Report indicates that the Council considers that the plan will not have any significant effects on the historic environment. We note that the plan proposes to allocate two sites for development, but upon consideration find it unlikely that their development will cause significant effects upon the historic environment.

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 concurs with the Screening Report's conclusion that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

The views of the other two statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for an SEA is made.

I should be pleased if you can send a copy of the determination as required by REG 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

We should like to stress that this opinion is based on the information provided by you with your correspondence dated 3rd September 2019. To avoid any doubt, this does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on later stages of the SEA process and, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the plan) where we consider that, despite the SEA, these would have an adverse effect upon the environment.

Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of the



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Historic England

relevant local authorities are closely involved throughout the preparation of the plan and its assessment. They are best placed to advise on; local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the Historic Environment Record (HER), how the allocation, policy or proposal can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of heritage assets.

Please do contact me, either via email or the number above, if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

Edward James
Historic Places Advisor, East of England
Edward.James@HistoricEngland.org.uk

cc:



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Telephone 01223 582749
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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.

