



Basingstoke
and Deane

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council
Civic Offices, London Road,
Basingstoke, Hampshire RG21 4AH
www.basingstoke.gov.uk | 01256 844844
customer.service@basingstoke.gov.uk
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Burghclere Parish Council Clerk

Sent via email:

clerk@burghclerepc.com

06 October 2022

Dear Sir or Madam,

Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Opinion

This letter sets out the borough council's screening opinion concerning the need for SEA and HRA in relation to the Updated Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan. This has been underpinned by a detailed report and consultation with the Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England.

The screening process undertaken concludes that in order to meet the 'basic conditions'¹ for neighbourhood planning an Environmental Assessment is considered to be required to accompany the Updated Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan, and that this could be addressed through an update or addendum to the SEA that accompanied the original Neighbourhood Plan, and it would not need to be subject to HRA. The reasons for the decision are set out below:

Strategic Environmental Assessment

Following analysis undertaken to assess the effects on the environment resulting from the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan including from the scale of development and other policies proposed, it is considered effects on the environment are likely and therefore a SEA is considered to be required. This could be addressed through an update or addendum to the SEA that accompanied the original Neighbourhood Plan.

Habitats Regulations Assessment

There are three European sites within a 10km buffer zone of the neighbourhood area. However, taking into account the policies proposed, it is considered that there are not likely to be significant effects on any European sites and an HRA is not required.

¹ Requirement (f), that the making of the order or neighbourhood plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with EU Obligations. The basic conditions are set out in [paragraph 8\(2\) of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990](#) as applied to neighbourhood plans by section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Chief Executive Russell O'Keefe

Interim Executive Director of Residents' Services Tom Payne CEnvH

Further information on the above can be found within the final version of the Burghclere Neighbourhood Plan Screening Report (October 2022). The responses from the consultation bodies can be found in Appendix 5 of the document.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact me on Jessica.Wells@basingstoke.gov.uk or on 01256 845450.

Yours sincerely

Jessica Wells
Planning Policy Officer

Enc. Final version of the Neighbourhood Plan Screening Report (October 2022)

CC: Richard Carrow Chair of Burghclere Parish Council