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Our ref:

Your ref:

13 November 2014

Dear Mr Irwin

Tangmere Neighbourhood Development Plan

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Opinion Screening Determination under Regulation 9 and Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

This letter addresses whether an environmental assessment of the Tangmere Neighbourhood Plan is required and as such whether it meets one of the basic conditions that a neighbourhood plan must meet in order to proceed to referendum: that it does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations.

On the basis of the contents of the Tangmere Pre Submission Neighbourhood Plan and subsequent consultation with the relevant statutory agencies in accordance with Regulation 9(2) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, the following determination can be made.

The screening determination is that **an environmental assessment of the Tangmere Neighbourhood Plan is not required** due there being no adverse comments from the Statutory Consultees and for the reasons set out in the Criteria and response of screening which are attached as part of this letter.

As such it is the opinion of Chichester District Council that the Tangmere Neighbourhood Plan is in accordance with the provisions of the European Directive 2001/42/EC as incorporated into UK law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

This decision has been based on the information provided. If the contents of the Plan are revised and/or there is a material change in the environmental characteristics in the locality (e.g. any additional nature conservation or other environmental designations), then the comments contained in this decision would need to be reconsidered in order to take account of the changes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Andrew Frost'.

Andrew Frost
Head of Planning Services

Screening Report for the Tangmere Neighbourhood Plan

Criteria and response of screening

Criteria (from Annex II of SEA Directive and Schedule I of Regulations)	Relevance in context of this screening report
The characteristics of plans and programmes	
(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;	<p>The Tangmere Neighbourhood Plan (NP) will, once adopted, form part of the Statutory Development Plan and as such will establish the development framework for Tangmere village, the Strategic Allocation and surrounding environs.</p> <p>The NP is prepared for town and country planning and land use and sets out a framework for future development in Tangmere parish. The nature of the NP includes housing, open space, community facilities, infrastructure, green infrastructure and small scale employment.</p>
(b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;	<p>The NP is the lowest tier in the planning hierarchy and must conform to plans in the upper tiers rather than influence them. In this case the NP must conform to plans including the Chichester Local Plan, the National Planning Policy Framework and European Directives.</p>
(c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;	<p>It is considered that the NP integrates environmental considerations and promotes sustainable development, particularly with regard to the strategic development location and the opportunities to promote sustainable development and enhance the natural environment of the area.</p> <p>Policy 2 supports the identification of the Tangmere Strategic Development Area. It sets principles for the character of housing development and refers to the provision of community facilities, infrastructure and commercial uses. Reference is also made to the Tangmere Green Infrastructure Network and natural green space.</p> <p>Policy 10 relates to the establishment of the Tangmere Green Infrastructure Network which comprises of a variety of green</p>

	<p>infrastructure assets.</p> <p>Policy 11 relates to the creation of the Tangmere Sustainable Movement Network in and around the village as a network of footpaths, cycleways, bridleways, public transport routes and roads connecting people within the 'One Village' and to neighbouring communities further afield.</p>
<p>(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme; and</p>	<p>Key issues taken from the Scoping Report of Chichester Local Plan and derived from the Tangmere NP which are relevant to the plan include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing. Due to the strategic development site, Tangmere has an allocation of 1000 homes with a proportion of affordable housing. A rapidly increasing population puts pressure on creating a sense of community involving all residents. 2. Environment. Chichester district has many National and European designated sites. Tangmere is outside the zone of influence for Chichester and Langstone Harbour, and Pagham Harbour. The plan makes reference to increasing green infrastructure and protecting areas of community and biological importance such as Local Green Space in accordance with paragraph 77-78 of the NPPF. 3. Local economy. Whilst providing significant new housing, a number of small shops and employment uses will help to support the community and increased population. 4. An enriched and active community. Reference is made to the provision of additional community facilities and the protection and enhancement of recreational space for residents as part of the designation of Local Green Space and Green Infrastructure.
<p>(e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example,</p>	<p>The NP has no relevance to the implementation of Community legislation.</p>

plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	The NP is a land-use plan and sets the framework for future development consents within the Tangmere NP area.
Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected	
(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;	<p>No significant effects are anticipated on Biodiversity, Population, Human Health, Flora, Fauna, Soil, Air, Climatic Factors, Material Assets, Cultural Heritage and Landscape in Tangmere Parish.</p> <p>The NP is likely to have short-term effects resulting from activity associated with the development of the strategic development site and other allocated sites. There may also be longer-term effects relevant to changes in land use which may be positive but are likely to be negative for environmental factors but not significant.</p>
(b) the cumulative nature of the effects;	The proposals are in keeping with the aspirations and objectives of the Chichester Local Plan. No cumulative effects are expected as a result.
(c) the transboundary nature of the effects;	All development is within the Parish of Tangmere, therefore the majority of the effects of the NP are considered to be localised. Although the plan applies to Tangmere and its links to Chichester, there may be minimal transboundary effects with Arun District Council for example with increased traffic from commuters to Barnham station.
(d) the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents);	Tangmere does not have any AQMAs but there are three in Chichester City. The NP is likely to increase traffic levels but not to an extent that is considered to cause significant effects on human health.
(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);	<p>Tangmere is the largest settlement in the Parish. It is adjacent to the settlement of Boxgrove (within Boxgrove Parish) although separated by the A27.</p> <p>Tangmere is linked by the A27 to the city of Chichester which acts as a commuter route</p>

	<p>to Chichester City and wider environs. Although there is employment within Tangmere, residents generally out-commute for work. Indirect effects of the plan, such as out-commuting, may extend beyond the immediate area of the plan but are not anticipated to cause significant effects.</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>(i) Tangmere has a conservation area but it is not expected that development will have a significant impact on it or the church. There is some WW11 military history at Tangmere but it is not considered that development will have a significant impact on the historic environment. The response from English Heritage supports this view.</p> <p>(ii) The NP is not expected to exceed environmental quality standards or limit values.</p> <p>(iii) Any site allocations are expected to make the best and most efficient use of land; not to intensively use the land for development. Other policies within the Development Plan should mitigate against the over-development of land.</p>
<p>(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.</p>	<p>The land surrounding Tangmere does not have any nationally important landscape designations such as AONB.</p> <p>There are no designated sites of local, national or European importance located within the NP area. The NP seeks to protect open and green spaces and to avoid or mitigate any cumulative impacts.</p> <p>The NP wishes to designate Local Green Spaces and Green Infrastructure Networks in order to protect areas of community and biological importance.</p>