

**Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan – Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)  
Scoping Report - May 2019**

**Representations Received:**

Arun District Council

Environment Agency

Highways England

Natural England

South Downs National Park Authority

West Sussex County Council

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**From:** Local Plan <localplan@arun.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 24 April 2019 15:25  
**To:** Neighbourhood Planning  
**Subject:** RE: Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment - Scoping Report

Hello

Thank you for consulting Arun District on the Westbourne NDP SEA Scoping document.

In terms of the content of the document we are glad to note the mention of the Joint Mitigation Strategy (Bird Aware Pagham) relating to the designated site of Pagham Harbour SPA and Ramsar.

Simply for further information, the 2019 version of the NPPF at paragraph 177 specifically dealt with the need for where appropriate assessment may be needed, so it is suggested that this be added to the box relating to the NPPF in the Plans & Programmes table. In addition, you may also wish to insert Biodiversity 2020 into the tale of relevant Plans & Programmes -

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/69446/pb13583-biodiversity-strategy-2020-111111.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69446/pb13583-biodiversity-strategy-2020-111111.pdf).

Kind Regards

The Local Plan Team

Visit Arun's web site at [www.arun.gov.uk](http://www.arun.gov.uk)



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As a consequence, however, Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan must now also be undertaken. The first stage of the process is to publish the SEA Scoping Report for the Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan in accordance with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 for consultation and comment.

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### **Chichester District Council**

East Pallant House, 1 East Pallant, Chichester PO19 1TY  
(08:45 – 17:10 Mon – Thurs/ 08:45 – 17:00 Fri)

Anyone wishing to submit comments on the scoping report should do so no later than **5.00pm on 22 May 2019** either by email to [neighbourhoodplanning@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodplanning@chichester.gov.uk) or by writing to Neighbourhood Planning, Chichester District Council, East Pallant House, 1 East Pallant, Chichester PO19 1TY

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**From:** Hyland, Hannah <hannah.hyland@environment-agency.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 22 May 2019 09:02  
**To:** Neighbourhood Planning  
**Subject:** RE: Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment - Scoping Report  
**Attachments:** Neighbourhood Plan Checklist Chichester.pdf

Thank you for your consultation on the SEA Scoping Report for the Westbourne Neighbourhod Plan.

The Environment Agency is a statutory consultee for Strategic Environmental Assessments and provides advice to Local Planning Authorities on the scope and findings of the SEA. We note that the scope of the SEA has been directed solely to issues associated with biodiversity and therefore scoped out, e.g. water and soil. Whilst we do not have concerns with this approach, given the higher level SEA undertaken for the Chichester Local Plan, we would recommend that these issues still fully considered as part of the development of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Attached is the Neighbourhood Plan Checklist we have produced for Plans in Chichester District Council area which Westbourne may find useful in progressing their Plan.

Kind regards,

Hannah

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**From:** Cleaver, Elizabeth <Elizabeth.Cleaver@highwaysengland.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 10 May 2019 14:59  
**To:** Neighbourhood Planning  
**Cc:** Planning SE  
**Subject:** Highways England response: Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment - Scoping Report consultation

**Consultation:** Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment - Scoping Report

**Highways England reference:** #7374

Dear Neighbourhood Planning Team,

Thank you for your email of 17 April 2019 notifying Highways England of the Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment - Scoping Report consultation.

Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the strategic road network. The strategic road network is a critical national asset and as such Highways England works to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity.

Highways England does not wish to comment on this scoping report.

If you have any queries regarding this response, please contact us at [PlanningSE@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:PlanningSE@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Kind regards,

**Elizabeth Cleaver, Assistant Spatial Planning Manager**

Highways England | Bridge House | 1 Walnut Tree Close | Guildford | Surrey | GU1 4LZ

Web: <http://highwaysengland.co.uk/>

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**From:** Crooks, Lucy <Lucy.Crooks@naturalengland.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 22 May 2019 13:05  
**To:** Neighbourhood Planning  
**Subject:** Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan SEA Scoping  
**Attachments:** 280390\_SEA Scoping Westbourne NP\_Response.pdf

Please find attached Natural England's formal response to the above consultation.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries relating to this consultation.

Best wishes,

Lucy

Lucy Crooks  
Lead Advisor  
Natural England  
Floor 9, International House  
Ashford, Kent, TN23 1HU  
☎ 07554116046

Working days are Tuesday, and Wednesday and Thursday until 2.30pm

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**From:** Amy Tyler-Jones <Amy.Tyler-Jones@southdowns.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 15 May 2019 16:50  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Westbourne SEA Scoping

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

I've taken a look at the Westbourne SEA Scoping Report and have the following comments to make. Firstly, we agree with the scoping approach whereby just significant effects on biodiversity have been screened in given the HRA screening assessment that has triggered the need for SEA.

However, we do note two omissions from the scoping report. There is no outline of the contents of the NDP or its main objectives – although these can be accessed by looking at the NDP itself.

We also note that Singleton and Cocking Tunnels SAC have been scoped out as they are assessed to be too far from the parish, with no potential mechanism of impact. However, the eastern half of the parish is within the 12km wider conservation area for the SAC where significant impacts or severance to flightlines should be considered. Given that the 3 sites allocated for development are adjacent to the settlement of Westbourne and are beyond the 12km wider conservation area, we consider that significant impact can be screened out. We suggest that the SEA report includes further commentary on Singleton and Cocking Tunnels SAC to this effect.

If you have any queries on the above comments, please do get in touch.

Best wishes

Amy

Amy Tyler-Jones  
Senior Planning Policy Officer  
South Downs National Park Authority  
Tel: 01730 819272

*Please note my working days are Monday - Wednesday*

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**From:** Eloise Short <Eloise.Short@westsussex.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 24 April 2019 14:38  
**To:** Neighbourhood Planning  
**Cc:** Caroline West  
**Subject:** RE: Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment - Scoping Report

Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding the Westbourne SEA Scoping Report in preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.

The County Council does not have sufficient resources available to respond in detail to Neighbourhood Plan consultations (including SA/SEA/HRAs) unless there are potentially significant impacts on its services that we are not already aware of, or conflicts are identified with its emerging or adopted policies. When consulted we consider whether or not we will submit a response and if a response is needed, whether this be in the form of a formal County Council response to a consultation or general planning policy advice and development management guidance.

We can confirm we have no comments to make on this SEA Report.

Please continue to send consultations on the Neighbourhood Plan to [planning.services@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:planning.services@westsussex.gov.uk) and [caroline.west@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.west@westsussex.gov.uk), liaison will take place with services within the County Council and respond if it is considered appropriate.

Kind regards,

**Eloise Short**

Assistant Planner | Planning Policy and Infrastructure | Planning Services  
Ground Floor, Northleigh, County Hall, Chichester, PO19 1RH  
Phone: 033022 27805  
Email: [eloise.short@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:eloise.short@westsussex.gov.uk) | Web: [www.westsussex.gov.uk](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk)

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