

Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Plaistow and Ifold Neighbourhood Plan

Environmental Report to accompany the Submission
version of the Neighbourhood Plan

Further Addendum

October 2019

Quality information

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Revision History

Revision	Revision date	Details	Authorized	Name	Position
V1.0	23 rd October 2019	Draft for group comment	23 rd October 2019	Stuart Woodin	Technical Director
V2.0	28 th October 2019	Submission version	28 th October 2019	Stuart Woodin	Technical Director

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Table of Contents

1. Introduction	1
Purpose of this document	1
2. Appraising the updates to the Neighbourhood Plan	2
Methodology	2
Findings of screening exercise	2
Summary of findings	3

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1. Introduction

Purpose of this document

This document is a further addendum to the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report initially prepared for the Plaistow & Ifold Neighbourhood Plan (PIPNP) in summer 2018. This further addendum has been prepared in response to recent updates to the PIPNP made subsequent to the undertaking of a Habitat Regulations Assessment process for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Subsequent to submission of the PIPNP to Chichester District Council (CDC) in May 2019, CDC proposed a series of updates to the Neighbourhood Plan policies. This was in light of the findings of a Habitat Regulations Assessment process undertaken on the Neighbourhood Plan in early 2019.¹ This made recommendations to amend Neighbourhood Plan policies EH2, EH3 and EH5.

These recommendations were subsequently approved by the Parish Council. This further addendum therefore considers the implications of the updates for the SEA findings previously presented. As such it should be read alongside the SEA Environmental Report published in September 2018 and the subsequent SEA Report Addendum dated May 2019 accompanying the initial submission versions of the Neighbourhood Plan.

¹ CDC (June 2019) Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) Screening Matrix and Appropriate Assessment Statement

2. Appraising the updates to the Neighbourhood Plan

Methodology

The updates have been screened for potential significant effects. The purpose of this screening exercise is to establish whether the proposed updates are likely to lead to significant effects in relation to the findings previously presented in the Environmental Report.

The focus of the appraisal is on the proposed updates to the plan; however, explicit consideration is also given to the effects of the Neighbourhood Plan as updated (i.e. the cumulative effects of the updates and the rest of the Neighbourhood Plan as submitted).

Findings of screening exercise

The following table presents the findings of the screening of the updates to the three Neighbourhood Plan policies.

Table 2.1: Screening the updates to the Neighbourhood Plan for the purposes of the SEA

Update	Focus (changes in relation to...)	Screened in?	Rationale
Update to policy	Policy EH2 (Protection of Natural Environment) to policy wording. Additional policy wording in relation to the implementation of a potential Construction Environmental Management Plan to accompany new development.	No	The update to the policy seeks to ensure that, where on-site ecological surveys have highlighted a need, a Construction Environmental Management Plan is implemented alongside new development. The changes, whilst augmenting the policy, do not constitute a change in the overall aim and focus of the policy and does not impact on the overall Neighbourhood Plan strategy.
Update to policy	Policy EH3 (Protection of Trees, Woodlands and Natural Vegetation) to policy wording. Amended policy wording in relation to loss of key habitats in the Parish that support or are in proximity to commuting and foraging habitat.	No	The update to the policy includes additional provisions to prevent the loss of trees, woodlands, hedgerows and natural vegetation in the Parish that support or are in proximity to commuting and foraging habitat of protected species. It also seeks to ensure appropriate habitat buffers are included in new development areas. This is to support the integrity to the Ebernoe Common SAC and Mens SAC. The changes, whilst augmenting the policy, do not constitute a change in the overall aim and focus of the policy and does not impact on the overall Neighbourhood Plan strategy.

Update	Focus (changes in relation to...)	Screened in?	Rationale
Update to policy	Policy EH5 (Artificial Light Emissions) to policy wording. Amended policy wording in relation to light spill from internal lighting.	No	<p>The update to the policy includes additional provisions to augment existing policy wording, with a view to encouraging developers, architects, lighting designers and ecological consultants to provide non-obtrusive lighting designs when preparing proposals for any development which incorporates an element of artificial lighting outdoors, also to give consideration to light spill from internal sources. This is to support the integrity of the Ebernoe Common SAC and Mens SAC.</p> <p>The changes, whilst augmenting the policy, do not constitute a change in the overall aim and focus of the policy and does not impact on the overall Neighbourhood Plan strategy.</p>

Summary of findings

As highlighted by Table 2.1, the screening of the updates has not identified potential significant effects that should be further considered through detailed assessment.

