

Date: 04 November 2020  
Our ref: 330409  
Your ref: Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan



Valerie Dobson  
Principal Planning Officer  
Planning Policy  
Chichester District Council

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

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

[vdobson@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:vdobson@chichester.gov.uk)

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Ms Dobson,

**Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan – Revised Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Matrix and Appropriate Assessment Statement and Addendum to SEA Environmental Report**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020 which was received by Natural England on the same day.

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.

**Addendum to SEA Environmental Report**

We welcome the production of the SEA Screening report and Addendum. Natural England notes and concurs with the screening outcome.

**Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening and Appropriate Assessment**

Natural England welcomes the consideration given to the Habitats Regulations. Natural England agrees with the report's conclusions that, subject to appropriate mitigation measures, the Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan would not result in a significant effect on the integrity of the Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA / Ramsar Site.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

Victoria Kirkham  
Consultations Team

**From:** [Cleaver, Elizabeth](#)  
**To:** [Neighbourhood Planning](#)  
**Cc:** [Planning SE](#)  
**Subject:** Highways England response: Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan – Revised HRA Screening Matrix & Appropriate Assessment Statement, Addendum to SEA Environmental Report  
**Date:** 13 November 2020 12:43:03

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**Consultation:** Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan – Revised Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Matrix and Appropriate Assessment Statement, and Addendum to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report  
**Highways England reference:** #11545

Dear Neighbourhood Planning Team,

Thank you for your email of 9 October 2020 inviting Highways England to comment on the Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan's Revised Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Matrix and Appropriate Assessment Statement and Addendum to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Environmental Report.

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 (SRN). The SRN 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. Accordingly, Highways England will be concerned with plans and/or proposals that have the potential to impact on the safe and efficient operation of the SRN. In the case of Westbourne Parish our interest is in any potential impact to the A27.

Highways England does not wish to submit representations.

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:** [Lloyd Sweet, Robert](#)  
**To:** [Valerie Dobson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Westbourne NP - Revised HRA Screening Matrix and AA Statement and Addendum to SEA Report - Consultation  
**Date:** 13 November 2020 17:46:05  
**Attachments:** [image001.gif](#)  
[image002.gif](#)  
[image003.gif](#)  
[imagea18a3c.JPG](#)

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Dear Valerie

Thank you for consulting Historic England on the Westbourne NP - Revised HRA Screening Matrix and Statement and Addendum to SEA Report. Having briefly reviewed the document I am satisfied that this is not a matter on which Historic England needs to comment.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries relating to our response.

Yours sincerely

Robert Lloyd-Sweet

**Rob Lloyd-Sweet | Historic Places Adviser | South East England | Historic England**  
Cannon Bridge House | 25 Dowgate Hill | London | EC4R 2YA

The monthly Historic England Planning Bulletin is now available online, for all your planning & heritage news. Read it and/or sign up here:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/planning-system/planning-bulletin/>

**From:** Valerie Dobson [mailto:[vdobson@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:vdobson@chichester.gov.uk)] **On Behalf Of** Neighbourhood Planning

**Sent:** 09 October 2020 13:58

**Subject:** Westbourne NP - Revised HRA Screening Matrix and AA Statement and Addendum to SEA Report - Consultation

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**Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan – Revised Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Matrix and Appropriate Assessment Statement and Addendum to SEA Environmental Report**

Following Natural England's assessments during 2019/20 suggesting that more than 3,000 hectares of the intertidal parts of Chichester Harbour is now classified in an "unfavourable - declining" condition, there has been a need to review the HRA Screening Matrix and AA Statement along with the SEA Environmental report for the Westbourne NP. Water quality is a contributing factor to the build-up of excess nutrients in the Harbour causing eutrophication (algal growth) which impacts on the Harbour's ecology and conservation.

Sewage from new development using waste water treatment works or an on-site package treatment plant that discharges to Chichester Harbour contributes to the excess nutrients in the Harbour (albeit in small amounts relative to other sources) and therefore needs to be considered in line with the Habitats Regulations. This means that before agreeing to a proposal (such as a planning application or a development plan) the authority needs to undertake a Habitats Regulations Assessment and be satisfied that the proposal will not have any adverse impact on the protected site or sites.

This process has now been completed and the Revised Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) and Appropriate Assessment Statement is published on the Council website page below along with an Addendum to the Environmental Report for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan to address nutrient neutrality. The two documents are published for a period of 5 weeks public consultation ending on **13 November 2020**.

<https://www.chichester.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplan>

Anyone wishing to submit representations should do so by emailing 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.

Representations received will then be forwarded along with the documents to the examiner.

**Valerie Dobson**



Principal Planning Officer  
Planning Policy  
Chichester District Council

Ext: 34594 | Tel: 01243534594 | [vdobson@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:vdobson@chichester.gov.uk) | Fax: 01243776766

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**From:** [Planning South](#)  
**To:** [Neighbourhood Planning](#)  
**Subject:** Westbourne NP - Revised HRA Screening Matrix and AA Statement and Addendum to SEA Report - Consultation  
**Date:** 06 November 2020 12:35:58

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Thank you for consulting Sport England on the above neighbourhood plan.

Government planning policy, within the **National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)**, identifies how the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. Encouraging communities to become more physically active through walking, cycling, informal recreation and formal sport plays an important part in this process. Providing enough sports facilities of the right quality and type in the right places is vital to achieving this aim. This means that positive planning for sport, protection from the unnecessary loss of sports facilities, along with an integrated approach to providing new housing and employment land with community facilities is important.

It is essential therefore that the neighbourhood plan reflects and complies with national planning policy for sport as set out in the NPPF with particular reference to Pars 96 and 97. It is also important to be aware of Sport England's statutory consultee role in **protecting playing fields** and the presumption against the loss of playing field land. Sport England's playing fields policy is set out in our Playing Fields Policy and Guidance document.

[https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing\\_fields\\_policy](https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#playing_fields_policy)

Sport England provides guidance on **developing planning policy** for sport and further information can be found via the link below. Vital to the development and implementation of planning policy is the evidence base on which it is founded.

[https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#planning\\_applications](https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport#planning_applications)

Sport England works with local authorities to ensure their Local Plan is underpinned by robust and up to date evidence. In line with Par 97 of the NPPF, this takes the form of **assessments of need and strategies for indoor and outdoor sports facilities**. A neighbourhood planning body should look to see if the relevant local authority has prepared a playing pitch strategy or other indoor/outdoor sports facility strategy. If it has then this could provide useful evidence for the neighbourhood plan and save the neighbourhood planning body time and resources gathering their own evidence. It is important that a neighbourhood plan reflects the recommendations and actions set out in any such strategies, including those which may specifically relate to the neighbourhood area, and that any local investment opportunities, such as the Community Infrastructure Levy, are utilised to support their delivery.

Where such evidence does not already exist then relevant planning policies in a neighbourhood plan should be based on a proportionate assessment of the need for sporting provision in its area. Developed in consultation with the local sporting and wider community any assessment should be used to provide key recommendations and deliverable actions. These should set out what provision is required to ensure the current and future needs of the community for sport can be met and, in turn, be able to support the development and implementation of planning policies. Sport England's guidance on assessing needs may help with such work.

<http://www.sportengland.org/planningtoolsandguidance>

If **new or improved sports facilities** are proposed Sport England recommend you ensure they are fit for purpose and designed in accordance with our design guidance notes.

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/>

Any **new housing** developments will generate additional demand for sport. If existing sports facilities do not have the capacity to absorb the additional demand, then planning policies should look to ensure that new sports facilities, or improvements to existing sports facilities, are secured and delivered. Proposed actions to meet the demand should accord with any approved local plan or neighbourhood plan policy for social infrastructure, along with priorities resulting from any assessment of need, or set out in any playing pitch or other indoor and/or outdoor sports facility strategy that the local authority has in place.

In line with the Government's NPPF (including Section 8) and its Planning Practice

Guidance (Health and wellbeing section), links below, consideration should also be given to how **any new development**, especially for new housing, will provide opportunities for people to lead healthy lifestyles and create healthy communities. Sport England's Active Design guidance can be used to help with this when developing planning policies and developing or assessing individual proposals.

Active Design, which includes a model planning policy, provides ten principles to help ensure the design and layout of development encourages and promotes participation in sport and physical activity. The guidance, and its accompanying checklist, could also be used at the evidence gathering stage of developing a neighbourhood plan to help undertake an assessment of how the design and layout of the area currently enables people to lead active lifestyles and what could be improved.

NPPF Section 8: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework/8-promoting-healthy-communities>

PPG Health and wellbeing section: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/health-and-wellbeing>

Sport England's Active Design Guidance: <https://www.sportengland.org/activedesign>  
(Please note: this response relates to Sport England's planning function only. It is not associated with our funding role or any grant application/award that may relate to the site.)

If you need any further advice, please do not hesitate to contact Sport England using the contact details below.

Yours sincerely,

Planning Administration Team

E: [Planning.south@sportengland.org](mailto:Planning.south@sportengland.org)

**PLEASE NOTE, Sport England offices are now CLOSED. We currently have no access for the foreseeable future due to Covid 19.**

**Please send any planning applications/strategic consultations & planning general enquiries via email only to:**

**[Planning.south@sportengland.org](mailto:Planning.south@sportengland.org)**

**We will endeavor to respond within our usual timescales. We thank you for your patience.**

**Sport England**



This girl can



Sport Park, 3 Oakwood Drive, Loughborough, Leicester, LE11 3QF

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**From:** [Eloise Short](#) on behalf of [Planning Policy](#)  
**To:** [Neighbourhood Planning](#)  
**Cc:** [Tracey Flitcroft](#); [Caroline West](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Westbourne NP - Revised HRA Screening Matrix and AA Statement and Addendum to SEA Report - Consultation  
**Date:** 13 October 2020 11:50:47  
**Attachments:** [image001.gif](#)  
[image002.gif](#)  
[image003.gif](#)

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Hi Valerie,  
Thank you for consulting us on this, I can confirm we have no comments to make.

Kind regards,

The Planning Policy and Infrastructure Team

Planning Policy and Infrastructure

Planning Services

West Sussex County Council

**Location:** Ground Floor, Northleigh, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1RH

**E-mail:** [planning.policy@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:planning.policy@westsussex.gov.uk)

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**From:** Valerie Dobson <[vdobson@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:vdobson@chichester.gov.uk)> **On Behalf Of** Neighbourhood Planning

**Sent:** 09 October 2020 13:58

**Subject:** Westbourne NP - Revised HRA Screening Matrix and AA Statement and Addendum to SEA Report - Consultation

**Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan – Revised Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Matrix and Appropriate Assessment Statement and Addendum to SEA Environmental Report**

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**Valerie Dobson**



Principal Planning Officer  
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