

Spratton Neighbourhood Plan 2014-2029

Screening Report for:

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment

November 2014

Prepared on behalf of Spratton Parish Council by Daventry District Council- Local Strategy team



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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 To meet the ‘basic conditions’ which are specified by law a Neighbourhood Development Plan must be compatible with EU obligations. This screening report is designed to determine whether or not the content of the emerging Spratton Neighbourhood Plan (draft 8 dated October 2014, Appendix B) requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC and associated Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004; and/or a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) in accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU habitats Directive and with Regulation 61 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended). This screening report has formed the basis of seeking advice from the relevant statutory bodies; Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency as to whether the plan requires a full SEA and/or HRA assessment. Their response is summarised in section 5 and set out in full in Appendix E.
- 1.2 The report is broken down into the following four sections;
- Section 2 outlines the legislative background to SEA and HRA
 - Section 3 provides some background to the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan and the wider Development Plan context
 - Section 4 provides a screening assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan for SEA and HRA and also considers In combination effects for HRA.
 - Section 5 considers the findings from section 4 and provides a conclusion on the need, or not for a full SEA and/or HRA and the responses received from the statutory bodies.

2.0 Requirement for SEA/Legislative Background

- 2.1 A Neighbourhood Development Plan must meet the basic conditions¹. This includes demonstrating that the plan does not breach and is compatible with EU obligations.
- 2.2 The basis for Strategic Environmental Assessments and Sustainability Appraisal legislation is European Directive 2001/42/EC and was transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, or SEA Regulations. Detailed

¹ Basic Conditions as set out in Para 065 of the National Planning Practice Guidance available at <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/neighbourhood-planning/the-basic-conditions-that-a-draft-neighbourhood-plan-or-order-must-meet-if-it-is-to-proceed-to-referendum/>

Guidance of these regulations can be found in the Government publication 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' (ODPM 2005).

- 2.3 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 required Local Authorities to produce Sustainability Appraisals (SA) for all local development documents to meet the requirement of the EU Directive on SEA. It is considered best practice to incorporate requirements of the SEA Directive into an SA. This is also discussed in paragraph 165 of the National Planning Policy Framework in paragraph 165.
- 2.4 However, the 2008 Planning Act amended the requirement to undertake a Sustainability Appraisal so that they are only required for Development Plan Documents (DPD's). However the Act did not remove the requirement to produce a Strategic Environmental Assessment. A Neighbourhood Plan is not a development plan document (also known as a Local Plan) and therefore it does not legally require a Sustainability Appraisal. Where appropriate, however, an SEA assessment may need to be undertaken, specifically where a neighbourhood plan could have significant environmental effects.
- 2.5 Whether a neighbourhood plan requires a strategic environmental assessment, and (if so) the level of detail needed, will depend on what is proposed in the draft neighbourhood plan. A strategic environmental assessment may be required, for example, where:
- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development;
 - the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan;
 - the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.
- 2.6 Consequently to establish whether the plan might give rise to significant environmental affects it is necessary to screen the plan against the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. This process is carried out in Section 4 of this report.

2.7 Requirement for HRA / legislative Background

- 2.8 Article 6 (3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) and regulation 61 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) requires that an appropriate assessment of plans and programmes is carried out with regard to the conservation objectives of European Sites (Natura 2000 sites) and that other plans and projects identify any significant effect that is likely for any European Site. In the context of neighbourhood planning, a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) is required where a Neighbourhood Plan is deemed likely to result in significant negative effects occurring on protected European Sites (Natura 2000 sites) as a result of the plan's implementation.
- 2.9 As illustrated on the map in appendix C, Spratton Neighbourhood Area is 10 km from the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits pSPA/RAMSAR and 37km from Rutland Water SPA/RAMSAR. Consequently the impact on these sites will need to be considered. Further commentary on this is set out in section 4.

3.0 Spratton Neighbourhood Plan

3.1 Spratton Neighbourhood Area was designated on 6th December 2012. The village is situated towards the middle of Daventry District. A map showing the designated area is set out in appendix D. Following designation the Steering group carried out various stages of consultation with the community.

3.2 This has led to the formulation of an initial draft plan which is set out in full in appendix B. However to assist with this screening report a summary of the plan is provided below.

3.3 The Vision for Spratton is set out on page 12, it states that;

“In 2029, Spratton Parish will be a thriving rural community with a strong agricultural base but will have adapted to the changing needs of the community through the provision of new housing and opportunities for local employment and businesses to thrive. Development will respect the local historic built form and architecture and will ensure that Spratton Village retains its position in a highly attractive landscape setting”

3.4 The vision is followed by 8 objectives;

- Objective One: Protect agricultural land in order to increase sustainability of food supplies
- Objective Two: Protect the landscape and heritage of Spratton village
- Objective Three: Protect and enhance the green spaces of value to the community
- Objective Four: Developments should meet the needs of the local community and be designed to be in keeping with the existing built form
- Objective Five: Increase local employment and opportunities for local business to thrive
- Objective Six: Address traffic, parking and pedestrian movement issues in Spratton village
- Objective Seven: Provide new community facilities to address identified needs of the community
- Objective Eight: Ensure that new development minimises its impact on the environment

3.5 The delivery of the vision and objectives is governed by a number of policies which are summarised as follows;

Policy SB1: Village Settlement Boundary

This focuses development within or adjacent to the village boundary and restricts development that is separate from the village to uses that are appropriate in the countryside.

HS1: Housing Development

This directs residential development within or adjacent to the village settlement boundary subject to a number of criteria which include providing; up to 10 dwellings, a mix of homes, affordable housing, respecting and where possible enhancing the natural, built and historic environment and maintaining Spratton's sense of place.

HS2: Infill Development

This sets a number of criteria for development within the village settlement boundary which include avoiding over-crowding, respecting the character, protecting amenity and avoiding additional on-street parking.

CM1: Provision of Incubator Space

This supports the provision of space for start-up and micro-businesses within the settlement boundary but limits the floorspace to 250m².

CM2: Protecting and enhancing existing employment areas

Seeks to protect and enhance existing employment areas but allows some minor extensions subject to criteria which includes the extension being minor, it being adjacent to the existing curtilage and it not encroaching on the open countryside.

LG1: Local Green Spaces

Designates 4 areas as Local Green Spaces, the Recreation Ground, The pocket park, Jubilee Wood and the Millennium Garden.

LG2: Protection of allotment space

This seeks to protect the existing allotments unless alternative provision is made subject to a number of criteria which include it being an equivalent scale, quality and appropriately accessible by foot.

LG3: Other green spaces

Seeks to resist development which could significantly impact on a number of green spaces within the Parish.

LD1: Landscape and Views

Seeks to protect and enhance a number of key views in and out of the village and provides some design guidance on massing of buildings.

LD3: Special Landscape Area

Restricts development in the Special Landscape Area (as defined by the Daventry District Local Plan) with the exception of development adjacent to the village, it being appropriate if it is in open countryside or it consists of minor extensions to B-class employment areas.

LD4: Light Pollution

Seeks to minimise light pollution from new development

LD5: Enhancing Woodland Areas

Protects and enhances existing wooded areas

HD1: Building Design

Sets out a number of design guidelines.

HP1: Parking Standards

Sets out parking standards for residential development

HP4: Provision of new or improved pavement space and footpaths

Supports the provision of new or improved pavement access in particular that which improves access to the Brampton Valley Way.

RE1: Use of renewable energy in buildings

Proposals should provide appropriate renewable energy and CO2 reduction measures

CF1: Provision of a new village hall

Supports the provision of a new village hall at the recreation ground, if an alternative location is proposed this must be accessible for the majority of the community by car and particularly by walking.

- 3.6 To fulfil one of the basic conditions these policies are required to be in general conformity with strategic policies in the development plan for the local area. This currently comprises the saved policies of the Daventry District Local Plan. The West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, at the time of writing this report has not been adopted and therefore is not the development plan. However the Inspectors report has been published which concluded that subject to a number of modifications which have previously been consulted on the plan forms a sound basis for planning of the area up to 2029. It is anticipated that the West Northants Joint Core Strategy (WNJCS) will be adopted before the end of 2014, prior to the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan being submitted and then examined and consequently the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan will have to be in general conformity with it.
- 3.7 Whilst this condition will be examined more thoroughly when the plan reaches the submission stage it has implications for the screening assessment because the WNJCS was subject to full SEA/SA and Appropriate Assessment where, subject to some modifications (which have been implemented) it was concluded that there would be no adverse significant adverse impact on the environment or on a protected site. Therefore it is considered that the conformity of the policies set out above with the policies in the WNJCS is a useful starting point for this screening assessment. This has been carried out in detail in the table in appendix A which has informed the assessment in table 1 on page 10. For the purposes of informing this screening assessment it is not considered necessary to assess conformity with the Daventry District Local Plan as this has not been subject to full SEA/SA however this will need to be carried out when the basic conditions are assessed in more detail when the plan is submitted.

4.0 SEA & HRA Screening: Assessment

4.1 The criteria for determining the likely significant effects referred to in Article 3 (5) of Directive 2001/42/EC are set out in figure 1 below;

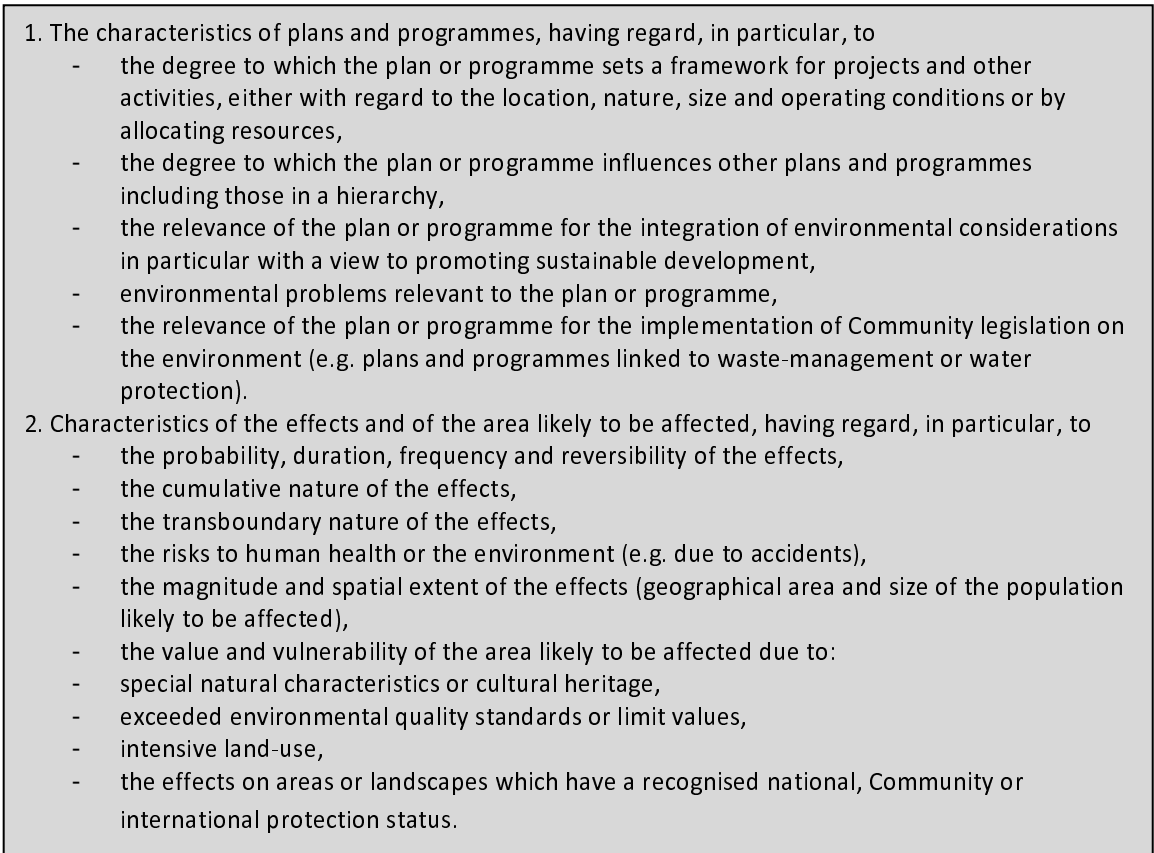
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1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to
 - the degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources,
 - the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy,
 - the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development,
 - environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme,
 - the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection).
 2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to
 - the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects,
 - the cumulative nature of the effects,
 - the transboundary nature of the effects,
 - the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents),
 - the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected),
 - the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:
 - special natural characteristics or cultural heritage,
 - exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values,
 - intensive land-use,
 - the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

Figure 1: Criteria for Assessing the Effects of WHNDP (Source Annex II of SEA directive)

4.2 Figure 2 (below) illustrates the process for screening a planning document to ascertain whether a full SEA is required:

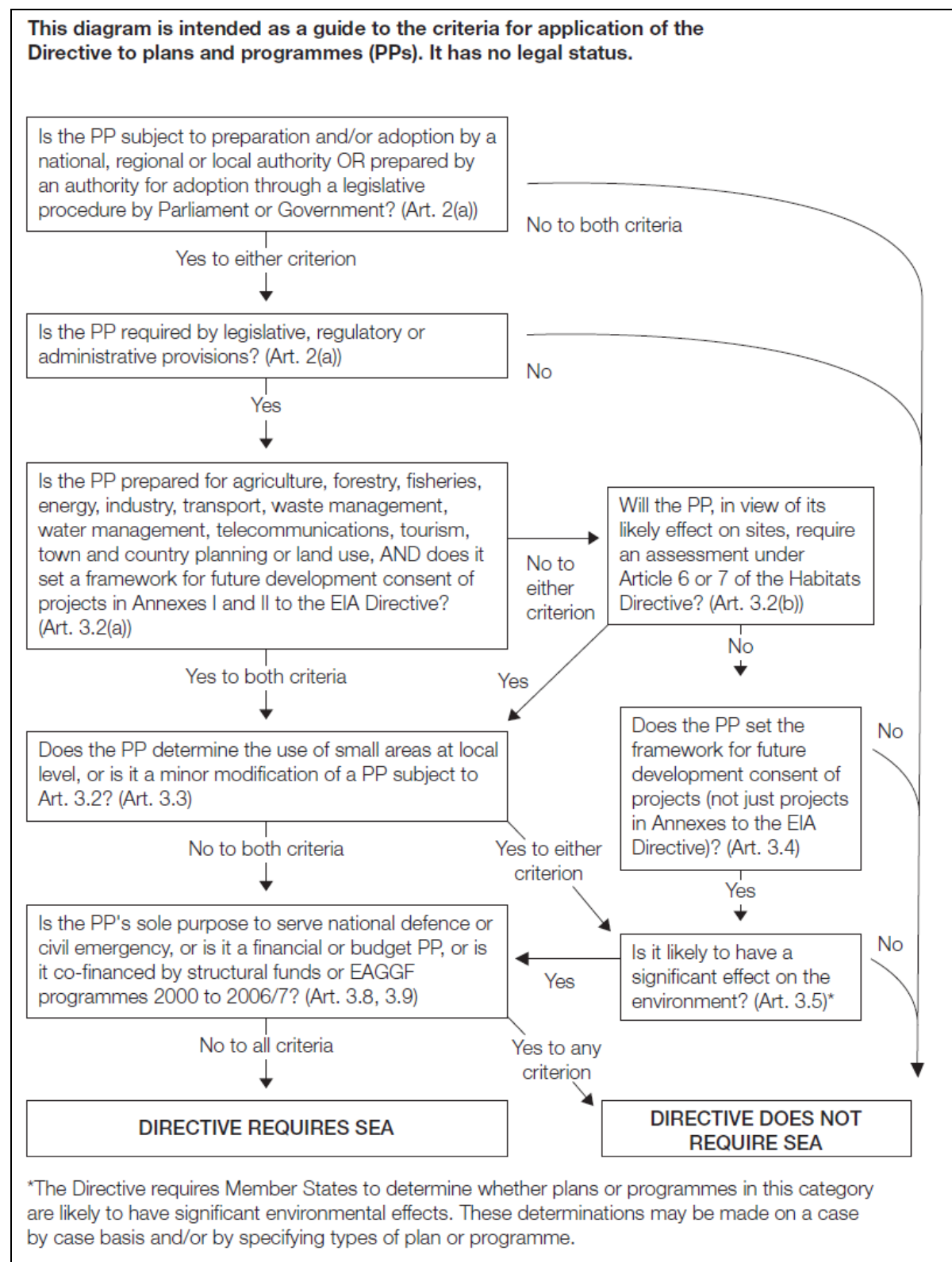


Figure 2. Application of the SEA Directive to plans and programmes

- 4.3 In the context of the above guidance and considering the findings of the assessment in the table in appendix A, table 1 below shows the assessment of whether or not the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan will require a full SEA. Furthermore stage 4 of the assessment also considers the impact on European sites in the context of HRA:

Stage	Y/ N	Reason
1. Is the NP subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government? (Art. 2(a))	Y	The Spratton Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared by a steering group with the involvement of Spratton Parish Council and not by a national, regional or local authority. However if the plan receives 50% or more votes through a referendum it will be 'made' by Daventry District Council.
2. Is the NP required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))	Y	As a qualifying body, Spratton Parish Council (DPC) has the right to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan on behalf of the local community but this is not required by the relevant legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions (The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011) However, if 'made', the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan would form part of the statutory development plan for Daventry District. It is therefore considered necessary to answer the following questions to determine if an SEA is required.
3. Is the NP prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, AND does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II (see Appendix 2) to the EIA Directive? (Art 3.2(a))	N	The Spratton Neighbourhood Plan is prepared for town and country planning and land use however as illustrated by the summary of policies set out above it does not set the framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II of the EIA directive .
4. Will the NP, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment for future development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Art. 3.2 (b))	N	The appropriate assessment for the Joint Core Strategy identified that the nearest designated sites (Natura 2000 sites) which could be affected were Rutland Water SPA and Ramsar site and the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits pSPA and pRAMSAR site. As illustrated on the map at appendix C, Spratton Neighbourhood Area is just under 10 km from the Upper Nene Valley and 37 km from Rutland Water. Through the appropriate assessment for the West Northants Joint Core Strategy² it was concluded that there would be no adverse effect on site integrity for both of these sites as any affect was mitigated through modifications to the plan. Consequently the conformity of the policies in the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan has implications for the impact on these protected sites alongside any site specific impacts that may arise. A detailed assessment of the policies was carried out as part of this assessment (appendix A) and has demonstrated that there will be not

² Appropriate Assessment for the West Northants Joint Core Strategy available from <http://www.westnorthamptonshirejpu.org/connect.ti/website/view?objectId=6373413>

		be a significant negative effect on either the Rutland Water SPA and Ramsar site or the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits pSPA and pRAMSAR sites.
5. Does the PP Determine the use of small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to Art. 3.2? (Art. 3.3)		Not Applicable because of answer to 4.
6. Does the NP set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art 3.4)	Y	The Spratton Neighbourhood Plan, once adopted, will be used as part of the Development Plan for determining planning applications.
7. Is the NP's sole purpose to serve the national defence or civil emergency, OR is it a financial or budget PP, OR is it co financed by structural funds or EAGGF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Art 3.8, 3.9)		Not Applicable because of answer to 6.
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5 set out in figure 1 above)	N	The West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy was subject to full Sustainability Appraisal which included SEA assessment. This ensured that no significant effects are expected to arise from the implementation of the JCS. As set out in para 3.7 above, the conformity of the Spratton neighbourhood Plan with the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy has important implications for its likely significant effect on the environment. Consequently as, demonstrated in the table in Appendix A, as the policies of the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan are considered to be in general conformity at this stage with the strategic policies of the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy it is not considered that the plan will have a significant effect on the environment.

Table 1 Establishing the need for SEA and HRA

4.4 Screening Outcome

4.5 As a result of the assessment in table 1 which has been informed by the assessment in appendix A, it is considered unlikely that any significant environmental effects will occur from the implementation of the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan that were not considered and dealt with by the Sustainability Appraisal of the emerging West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy. As such the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan does not require a full SEA to be undertaken.

4.6 With regards Habitat Regulations Assessment, the table above, in particular question 4, it is not considered that the implementation of the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan, by virtue of its scale and distance, will result in any likely significant effects upon the Upper Nene Gravel Pits site or the Rutland Water site. This is demonstrated in the table in appendix A.

4.7 Habitats Regulations Assessment: In combination effects

4.8 Existing plans and proposals must be considered when assessing new plans or programmes for likely significant effects as they may create ‘in combination’ effects.

4.9 For reference the relevant plans or programmes which should be considered when reviewing in combination effects are listed below:

- West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy DPD;
- Daventry District Local Plan (saved policies)
- South Northamptonshire Local Plan (saved policies)
- Northampton Local Plan (saved policies);
- Northamptonshire Local Transport Plan;
- Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Core Strategy;
- Locations for Waste and Minerals Development DPD;
- North Northamptonshire Core Spatial Strategy DPD;
- Rugby Core Strategy DPD.
- Harborough District Council Core Strategy
- Harborough Local Plan Saved Policies
- Stratford on Avon District Local Plan
- Stratford on Avon Proposed Submission Core Strategy
- National Planning Policy Framework

4.10 As the plan is required to be in general conformity and will contribute to delivering the growth identified in the WNJCS rather than exceeding it, it is not considered that it will lead to any significant ‘in combination effects’.

5.0 Conclusions and recommendations of the Screening Assessments

5.1 SEA

5.2 A screening assessment to determine the need for a SEA in line with regulations and guidance was undertaken and can be found in section 4 of this report. The assessment finds that no negative significant effects will occur as a result of the implementation of the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan. The assessment also finds many of the policies are in conformity with the policies of the emerging West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy which have been subject to a full SA/SEA where no significant effects were identified.

5.3 Consequently from the findings of the screening assessment it is recommended that a full SEA does not need to be undertaken for the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan. This has been confirmed through the responses from English Heritage, Natural England and the Environment Agency set out in Appendix E.

5.4 HRA

5.5 A screening assessment to determine the need for HRA in line with regulations and guidance was undertaken and is set out in appendix A of this report and summarised in response to question 4 in table 1. It has found that many of the policies are in conformity with the policies of the emerging West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy which was subject to full HRA which found no significant or in combination effects. It is considered that due to the plan demonstrating conformity with the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy and it promoting growth to assist with delivering that strategy, that it will not result in any significant effects, alone or in combination, upon the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits pSPA/pRAMSAR or the Rutland Water SPA/RAMSAR sites. This has been confirmed through the responses from English Heritage, Natural England and the Environment Agency set out in Appendix E.

Appendix A: Assessment table of general conformity of policies against the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, the potential for significant effects on the environment and the likely significant effects upon the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits pSPA/pRAMSAR and Rutland Water SPA/RAMSAR sites.

Spratton Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Relevant Policy in emerging WNJCS	Conformity/conflict between Spratton NP policies & WNJCS policies	Conclusions re SEA	Potential for likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites (Upper Nene Valley Gravel pits pSPA and pRAMSAR and Rutland Water Spa and Ramsar)	Conclusions re HRA
Policy SB1: Village settlement boundary	S1: Distribution of Development S10: Sustainable Development Principles R1: Spatial Strategy for the Rural Areas	Policy SB1 which seeks to restrict growth to being within or adjacent to the village and not in Open Countryside is considered to be in general conformity with JCS policies.	No significant effects are identified	None	Enabling policy that seeks to protect development of the open countryside. Therefore it is not considered it will lead to a negative effect on protected sites.
HS1: Housing Development	S1: Distribution of Development S10: Sustainable Development Principles H1: Housing Density and Mix and Type of Dwellings H2: Affordable Housing BN5: The Historic Environment and Landscape R1: Spatial Strategy for the Rural Areas	Policy HB1 which sets criteria for assessing residential development including a restriction of development to a maximum of 10 dwellings. This is considered to be in general conformity with JCS policies in particular restricting significant growth of rural areas.	No significant effects are identified	None	Enabling policy which seeks to control the scale of development therefore considered it will not lead to a negative effect on protected sites.

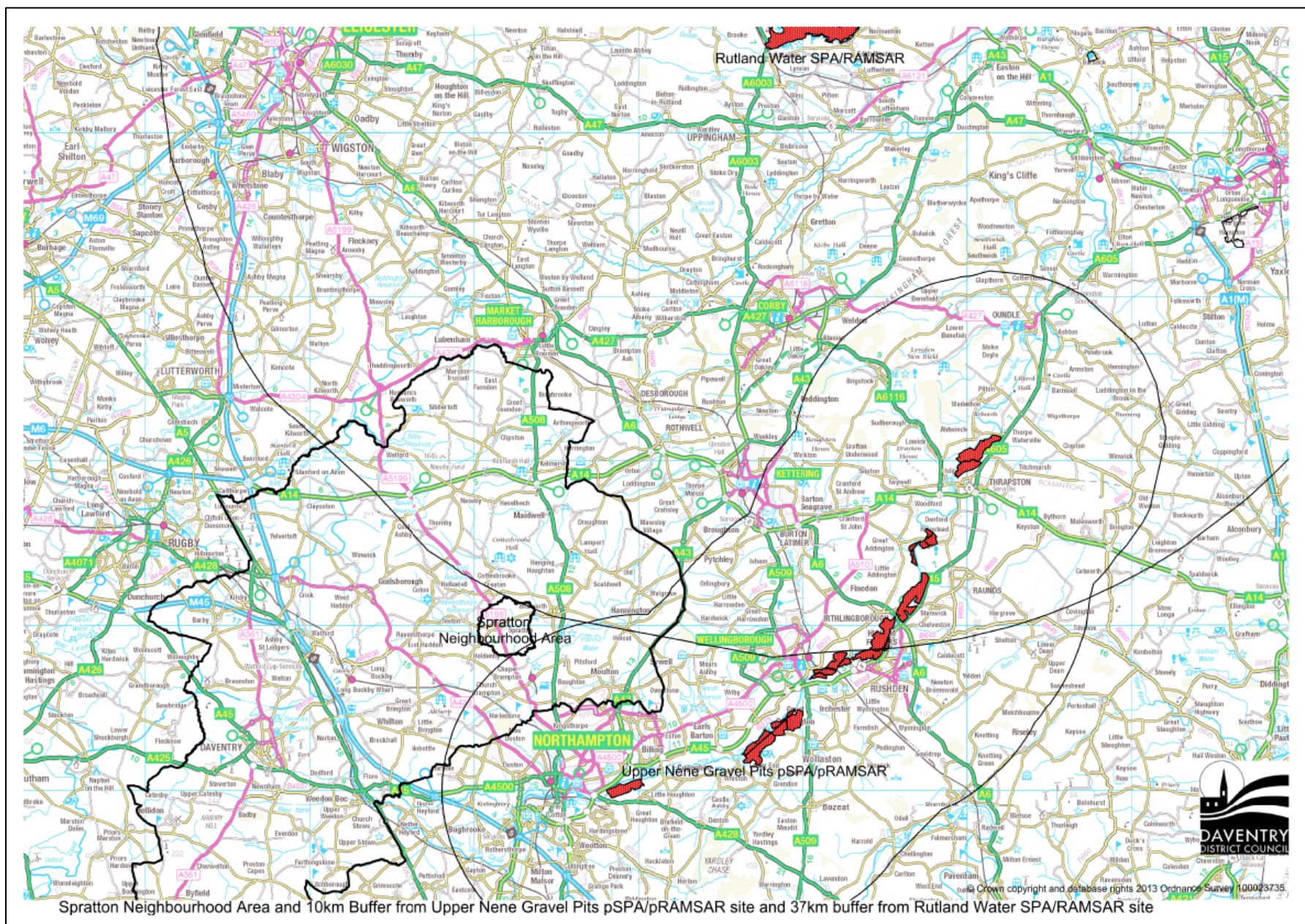
HS2: Infill Development	S1: Distribution of Development S10: Sustainable Development Principles H1: Housing Density and Mix and Type of Dwellings H2: Affordable Housing BN5: The Historic Environment and Landscape R1: Spatial Strategy for the Rural Areas	This criteria based policy is considered to be in conformity with the policies in the JCS in particular that it closely follows the guidelines set out in policy R1.	No significant effects are identified	None	Enabling policy which allows for small scale development within the village confines subject to a number of criteria, therefore considered it will not lead to a negative effect on protected sites.
CM1: Provision of Incubator Space	S10: Sustainable Development Principles R2: Rural Economy	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS in particular policy R2, Rural Economy.	No significant effects are identified	None	Policy supports new start-up businesses in the village and by virtue of their scale it's not considered it will lead to a negative effect on protected sites.
CM2: Protecting and enhancing existing employment areas	S10: Sustainable Development Principles R2: Rural Economy	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS in particular policy R2, Rural Economy.	No significant effects are identified	None	Policy supports small scale expansion but not into Open Countryside. It is therefore not considered that it will lead to negative effect on protected sites.
LG1: Local Green Spaces	S10: Sustainable Development Principles	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS	No significant effects are identified	None	No negative effect, policy seeks to protect

	RC2: Community Needs				existing open spaces.
LG2: Protection of allotment space	S10: Sustainable Development Principles RC2: Community Needs	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS	No significant effects are identified	None	No negative effect, policy seeks to protect existing allotments.
LG3: Other green spaces	S10: Sustainable Development Principles RC2: Community Needs	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS	No significant effects are identified	None	No negative effect, policy seeks to protect other green spaces not designated as local green space.
LD1: Landscape and Views	S10: Sustainable Development Principles BN5: The Historic Environment and Landscape	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS in particular protecting existing valued landscapes and designated and non-designated heritage assets.	No significant effects are identified	None	No negative effect, policy seeks to protect the landscape.
LD3: Special Landscape Area	S10: Sustainable Development Principles BN5: The Historic Environment and Landscape	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS in particular protecting existing valued landscapes	No significant effects are identified	None	No negative effect, policy seeks to protect the Special Landscape Area.
LD4: Light Pollution	R1: Spatial Strategy for the Rural Areas	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS	No significant effects are identified	None	No negative effect due to the nature of the policy.
LD5: Enhancing Woodland Areas	BN3: Woodland Enhancement and Creation	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS	No significant effects are identified	None	No negative effect, seeks to enhance existing woodland.

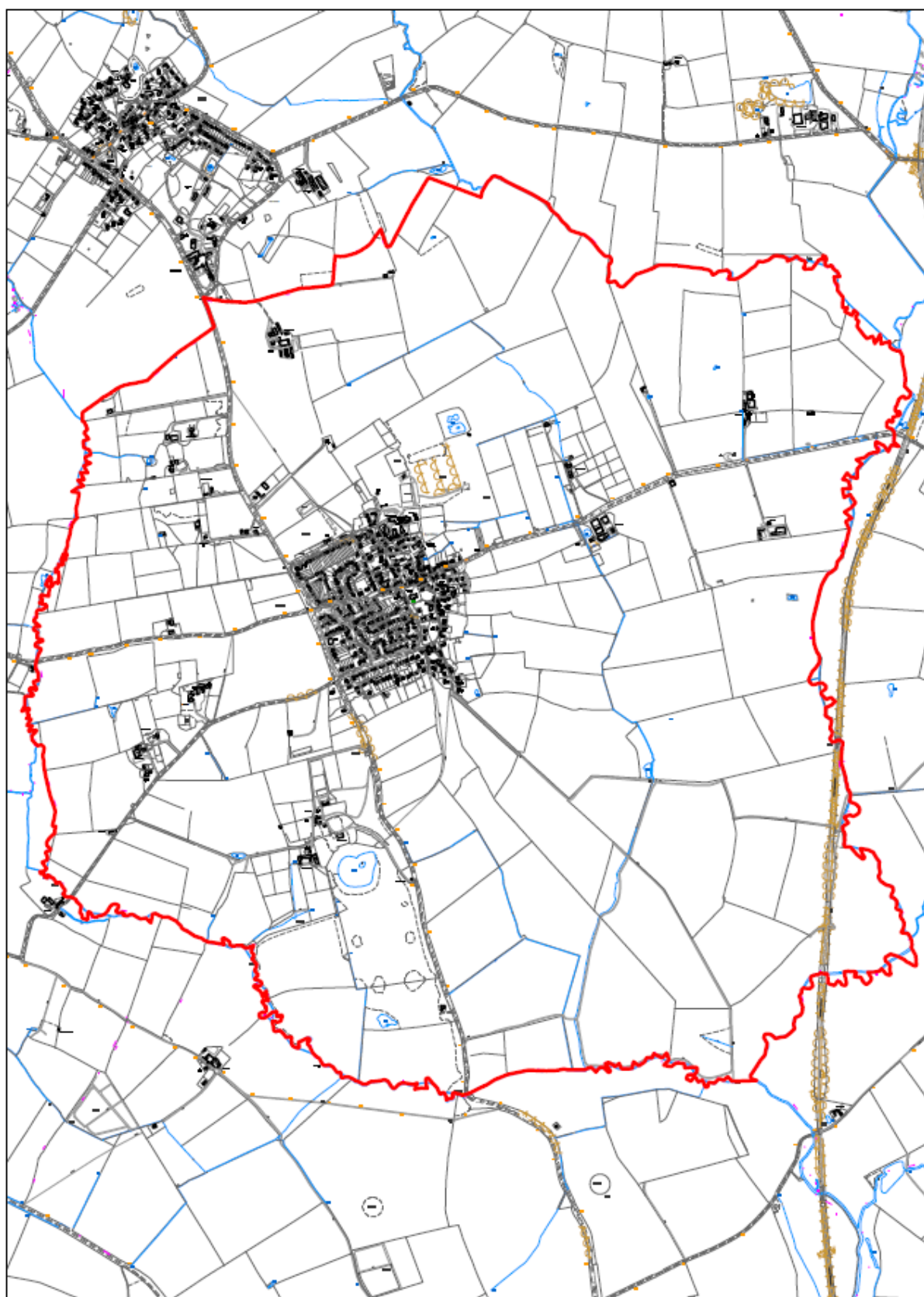
HD1: Building Design	BN5: The Historic Environment and Landscape R1: Spatial Strategy for the Rural Areas	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS in particular the criteria which provides further local detail to policy R1.	No significant effects are identified	None	No negative effect, seeks to protect the historic environment.
HP1: Parking Standards	R3: A Transport Strategy for the Rural Areas	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS	No significant effects are identified		No negative effect, seeks to address issue of on-street parking in the village.
HP4: Provision of new or improved pavement space and footpaths	S10: Sustainable Development Principles R3: A Transport Strategy for the Rural Areas	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS in particular improving walking connectivity within the village.	No significant effects are identified		No significant negative effect from this policy, seeks to promote more sustainable patterns of development.
RE1: Use of renewable energy in buildings	S10: Sustainable Development Principles S11: Low Carbon and Renewable Energy	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS most notably policy S11 regarding zero carbon standards.	No significant effects are identified		No negative effect, policy seeks to reduce the impact on the environment.
CF1: Provision of a new village hall	RC1: Delivering Community Regeneration R3: A Transport Strategy for the Rural Areas	This policy is considered to be in general conformity with the JCS in particular promoting improvements to existing community facilities.	No significant effects are identified		No significant negative effect, provision of new village hall at the existing recreation ground is not considered to have an impact on protected sites.

Appendix B: Spratton Neighbourhood Plan Draft- version 8 October 2014 (separate document)

Appendix C: Map showing distances from Rutland Water SPA/RAMSAR and Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pits SPA/RAMSAR sites



Appendix D: Map of Spratton Neighbourhood Area



Spratton Neighbourhood Area
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Appendix E: Responses from Statutory Bodies



ENGLISH HERITAGE

EAST MIDLANDSHD/P/ 5324/01

BY EMAIL: tjames@daventrydc.gov.uk

Our Ref: HD/P/5342/01

Your Ref:

Telephone: 01604 735450

19th November 2014

Dear Mr James

SEA and HRA Screening for Spratton Neighbourhood Plan

Thank you for your email dated 22nd October 2014 concerning the above consultation.

Our comments are as follows.

For the purposes of this consultation, English Heritage will confine its advice to the following criteria for determining the likely significance of effects (Schedule 1 of SEA Regulations) in respect of our area of concern, cultural heritage:

'The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;'

English Heritage notes that in the Council's Assessment, the answer to the question 'Is Stubton NDP likely to have a significant environmental effect?' with regard to this criteria is 'No.'

We are in agreement with the assessment in Appendix A that the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan Policy HD1 Building design is in general conformity with the policies of the emerging West Northamptonshire Core Strategy; policies BN5: The Historic Environment and Landscape and R1: Spatial Strategy for the Rural Areas and that these policies seek to protect the historic environment elements of Spratton's cultural heritage.

4.4 Screening Outcome

We are in agreement with Daventry District Council that it is unlikely that there will be any significant environmental effects that will occur from the implementation of the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan that were not considered and dealt with by the

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*Please note that English Heritage operates an access to information policy.
Correspondence or information which you send us may therefore become publicly
available*



Sustainability Appraisal of the emerging West Northamptonshire Core Strategy. As such, we also agree with the council that the Neighbourhood Plan does not require a full SEA to be undertaken.

5.0 Conclusions and recommendations of the screening assessments

In view of the comments above, we also agree with the recommendation of the Council that, from the findings of the screening assessment that a full SEA does not need to be undertaken for the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan.

We would request that we are fully consulted on future iterations of the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan; English Heritage wishes to ensure that an understanding of historic environment, including designated heritage assets and locally important assets, and the contribution that the historic environment makes to local character, is fully considered when Neighbourhood Plans are being prepared.

On the basis of the information supplied, and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], English Heritage concurs with the Council that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required; we agree with the conclusions of the Screening Report.

The views of the other three statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for an SEA is made.

I should be pleased if you could send a copy of the determination as required by REG 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss any of these comments.

Yours sincerely



Mark White
Historic Environment Planning Adviser
E-mail: mark.white@english-heritage.org.uk

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*Please note that English Heritage operates an access to information policy.
Correspondence or information which you send us may therefore become publicly
available*



Tom James
Daventry District Council
Planning Policy
Lodge Road
Daventry
Northamptonshire
NN11 4FP

Our ref: AN/2012/115155/OR-03/IS1-L01

Your ref:

Date: 26 November 2014

Dear Tom

SEA and HRA screening for Spratton Neighbourhood Plan

Thank you for referring the SEA and HRA screening Report for the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan, which was received on 22 October 2014.

We have reviewed the information submitted and consider the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to result in significant environmental impacts.

As the plan is required to be in general conformity with the West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy, we do not consider that we are able to provide you with further advice at this stage until we are consulted on individual planning applications by your Authority. However, we can offer the following comments which may be of use.

Plan Area Constraints

The Plan area falls mostly within Flood Zone 1, defined by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as having a low probability of flooding. Drainage from new development must not increase flood risk either on-site or elsewhere. Government policy strongly encourages a sustainable drainage system (SuDS) approach to achieve these objectives. Guidance on how to address specific local surface water flood risk issues may also be available through the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment or Surface Water Management Plans produced by your Authority.

Preliminary Opinion

We are able to provide a free preliminary opinion to a developer/applicant per site. This will outline our position and highlights any key environmental risks that we are concerned about as a statutory consultee and provide developers with an idea of what we would expect to receive within a planning application.

Charged Service for Planning Advice

If further bespoke advice is required outside of a formal planning application then this will form part of our charged for planning advice service.

Please note that this response is based on the information provided at this time and if this changes in the future we would need to consider our position again. We trust that the above information is of assistance.

If you would like to discuss our response further, or would like more information about our charged for planning advice service, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Kerrie Ginns

Sustainable Places - Planning Adviser

Direct dial 01536 385159

Direct e-mail kerrie.ginns@environment-agency.gov.uk



The Government Standard

Awarded to the Environment, Planning and Engagement
Department, Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire

Date: 10 November 2014
Our ref: 135329
Your ref: None



Tom James
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BY EMAIL ONLY

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T 0300 060 3900

Dear Tom

Planning consultation: Spratton Neighbourhood Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report

Thank you for your consultation on the above document which was received by Natural England on 23 October 2014

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.

Natural England welcomes the Screening Report which assesses the requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitat Regulations Assessment HRA for the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan.

I can confirm that we concur with the Council that it is considered unlikely that any significant environmental effects will result from the implementation of the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan that were not considered and dealt with by the Sustainability Appraisal of the emerging West Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy.

I can also confirm that Natural England agrees with the report's conclusions that the Spratton Neighbourhood Plan would not be likely to result in a significant effect on any European Site, in particular the Upper Nene Valley Gravel Pit Special Protection Area (SPA) and Ramsar and the Rutland Water SPA and Ramsar, either alone or in combination and therefore no further assessment work would be required.

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 queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Roslyn Deeming on 0300 060 1524. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely

Roslyn Deeming
Adviser
Sustainable Development Team
East Midlands Area