



# **Strategic Environmental Assessment & Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening**

Lound Neighbourhood Plan

01 February 2021

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# 1. Introduction

## The Purpose of this Report

- 1.1 This screening report is an assessment of whether the Lound Neighbourhood Plan requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the [European Directive 2001/42/ EC](#) and associated Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations. A SEA is required if the Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have a significant effect on the environment.
- 1.2 This report will also screen to determine whether the Neighbourhood Plan requires a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) in accordance with [Article 6\(3\) and \(4\) of the EU Habitats Directive](#) and with Regulation 63 of the [Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017](#). A HRA is required when it is deemed that likely adverse significant effects may occur on protected Habitats (Natura 2000) sites, as a result of the implementation of a plan or project.

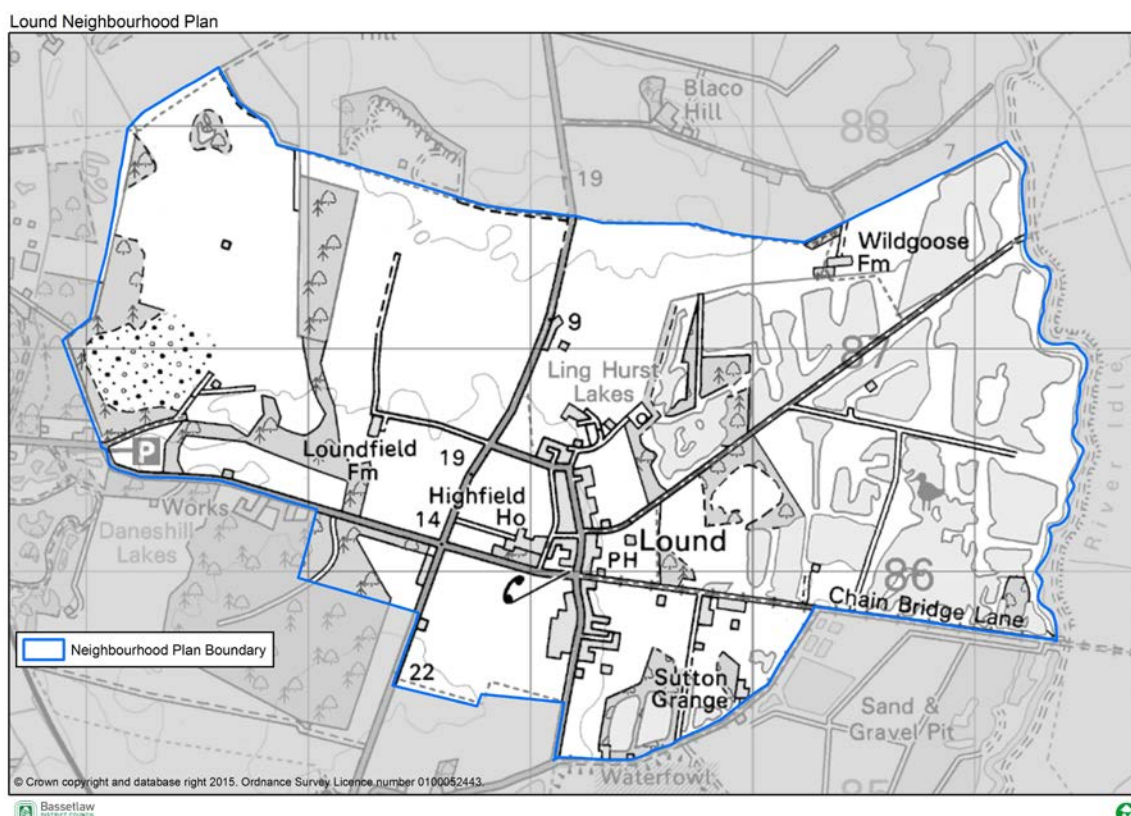
## 2. The Lound Neighbourhood Plan

### Name of Qualifying Body and Local Planning Authority

- 2.1 The qualifying body preparing the Lound Neighbourhood Plan is Lound Parish Council. The Local Planning Authority is Bassetlaw District Council.

### Location and spatial extent of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.2 The Lound Neighbourhood Plan covers the Lound Neighbourhood Area, comprising the parish of Lound in Nottinghamshire.



- 2.3 Lound Parish is located in the centre of Bassetlaw District, the northernmost part of the County of Nottinghamshire. The Parish has an area of 864 hectares and the village of Lound is located roughly at the centre. The village lies about 3.2 miles (5.2km) north of Retford.

- 2.4 The Parish is not intersected by major classified roads. Mattersey Road runs on a roughly north – south axis through the centre of the Parish, connecting to the neighbouring settlements of Mattersey and Sutton cum Lound, and south towards Retford. Daneshill Road provides a connection to the west, joining the A638 Great North Road at Torworth. Lound offers a limited range of services and facilities: a village hall, public house, and a limited Post Office service.

### Timeframe of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.5 To 2035.

### Main aims of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.6 The vision of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan is as follows:

*“Over the next 16 years Lound village will continue, relatively unchanged, to provide a safe, desirable place to live for parishioners of all ages. New housing development will be limited reflecting the sensitive historic and natural environment of the Parish”*

## Relationship with the Bassetlaw Local Plan

- 2.7 Only a draft neighbourhood plan that meets each of a set of basic conditions can be put to a referendum and be made. One of these basic conditions requires the making of the neighbourhood plan to be in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area.
- 2.8 For the purposes of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan, the relevant part of the Local Plan (formerly Local Development Framework) is the [Bassetlaw Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document \(DPD\)](#).
- 2.9 The Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD was adopted in December 2011. It sets out a vision for change in Bassetlaw to 2028, along with the place-specific policy approaches to be taken in order to achieve this vision. A small number of more detailed development management policies on key issues that will need to be addressed when delivering new development, are also included.
- 2.10 Lound is identified in the 'All Other Settlements' class of the spatial hierarchy, where development is limited to that which meets identified social, economic and environmental needs within the rural community. A parallel process of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) was undertaken alongside the plan-making process for the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD.
- 2.11 Given the importance of having an up-to-date local plan, Bassetlaw District Council is currently in the process of preparing the [Bassetlaw Local Plan](#) that will include strategic policies for the period 2018 to 2037. The most recent consultation on the Draft Local Plan commenced on 15 January 2020 and ended on 26 February 2020 in accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) 2012. Upon adoption, the Bassetlaw Local Plan will replace the 2011 Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD. A [Sustainability Appraisal Report](#) has been prepared as part of the integrated SA and SEA of the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan. [Habitats Regulations Assessment screening](#) of the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan has also been undertaken.

## Does the Lound Neighbourhood Plan propose allocations?

- 2.12 A neighbourhood plan can allocate sites for development, including housing. Where they do contain policies relevant to housing supply, these policies should take account of latest and up-to-date evidence of housing need.
- 2.13 The strategic policies of the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan have been informed by an up-to-date local housing need assessment, conducted using the standard method in national planning guidance. Small rural settlements, of which Lound has been identified as one, will collectively accommodate a minimum of 1,090 new dwellings and deliver the necessary associated infrastructure from 2018 to 2037. Growth will be capped at 20% of the existing number of dwellings in each settlement as of August 2018. This growth will be delivered through existing planning permissions and policies developed through the neighbourhood plan process. Where neighbourhood plan groups choose to take forward a neighbourhood plan, the Draft Local Plan sets out the housing requirement to be met.

- 2.14 For the Lound Neighbourhood Area, projected growth for the period 2018 to 2037 is capped at 42 dwellings, representing a 20% increase of the 208 dwellings in the settlement as at August 2018.
- 2.15 In developing the Draft Lound Neighbourhood Plan, the Lound Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group proactively responded to earlier, lower, housing requirement figures issued by Bassetlaw District Council in 2018, suggesting a minimum level of growth of 21 dwellings (10% of the number of dwellings in the parish) and a maximum figure of 42 dwellings. This figure was considered acceptable by local residents, and was assessed as achievable in respect of available sites. The Draft Lound Neighbourhood Plan accordingly allocates five specific sites for residential development, with a cumulative site capacity of 16 dwellings (Policies 11 – 15), alongside a windfall policy (Policy 2) to manage limited infill development beyond this.

### 3. Legislative Background

- 3.1 A neighbourhood plan or order must be compatible with European Union obligations, as incorporated into UK law, in order to be legally compliant. This assessment concerns two European Union directives:

#### Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 3.2 The Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive is a European Union requirement that seeks to provide a high level of protection of the environment by integrating environmental considerations into the process of preparing certain plans and programmes.
- 3.3 The aim of the Directive is “to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.”

#### Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

- 3.4 Under the provisions of the EU Habitats Directive and translated into English law by the Habitats Regulations (The Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012), a competent authority must carry out an assessment of whether a plan or project will significantly affect the integrity of any European Site, in terms of impacting the site’s conservation objectives. HRA is the assessment of the impacts of a land use proposal against the conservation objectives of Habitats (Natura 2000) sites. Specifically, it is to ascertain whether a proposal (either alone or in combination with other proposals) would potentially damage the internationally designated features of that site.

#### Recent Case Law

- 3.5 The ‘People over Wind, Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta’ (12 April 2018) judgement ruled that Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive should be interpreted as meaning that mitigation measures should be assessed as part of an Appropriate Assessment, and should not be taken into account at the screening stage. The precise wording of the ruling is as follows:

*Article 6(3) .....must be interpreted as meaning that, in order to determine whether it is necessary to carry out, subsequently, an appropriate assessment of the implications, for a site concerned, of a plan or project, it is not appropriate, at the screening stage, to take account of measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the plan or project on that site.*

- 3.6 In light of the above, the HRA screening stage has not relied upon avoidance or mitigation measures to draw conclusions as to whether the Neighbourhood Plan would result in likely significant effects.
- 3.7 The ‘Holohan v An Bord Pleanala’ (9 Nov 2018) CJEU judgement states:

*Article 6(3) of Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora must be interpreted as meaning that an ‘appropriate assessment’ must, on the one hand, catalogue the entirety of habitat types and species for which a site is protected, and, on the other, identify and examine both the implications of the proposed project for the species present on that site, and for which that site has not*



*been listed, and the implications for habitat types and species to be found outside the boundaries of that site, provided that those implications are liable to affect the conservation objectives of the site.*

*Article 6(3) of Directive 92/43 must be interpreted as meaning that the competent authority is permitted to grant to a plan or project consent which leaves the developer free to determine subsequently certain parameters relating to the construction phase, such as the location of the construction compound and haul routes, only if that authority is certain that the development consent granted establishes conditions that are strict enough to guarantee that those parameters will not adversely affect the integrity of the site.*

*Article 6(3) of Directive 92/43 must be interpreted as meaning that, where the competent authority rejects the findings in a scientific expert opinion recommending that additional information be obtained, the 'appropriate assessment' must include an explicit and detailed statement of reasons capable of dispelling all reasonable scientific doubt concerning the effects of the work envisaged on the site concerned.*

## 4. SEA Screening

### When is SEA Required?

- 4.1 Planning Practice Guidance – Strategic environmental assessment requirements for neighbourhood plans ([Paragraph: 026 Reference ID: 11-026-20140306](#)) states that,

*‘In some limited circumstances, where a neighbourhood plan is likely to have significant environmental effects, it may require a strategic environmental assessment. Draft neighbourhood plan proposals should be assessed to determine whether the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects. This process is commonly referred to as a “screening” assessment and the requirements are set out in regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.*

*If likely significant environmental effects are identified, an environmental report must be prepared in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3) of regulation 12 of those Regulations.*

*One of the basic conditions that will be tested by the independent examiner is whether the making of the neighbourhood plan is compatible with European Union obligations (including under the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive).*

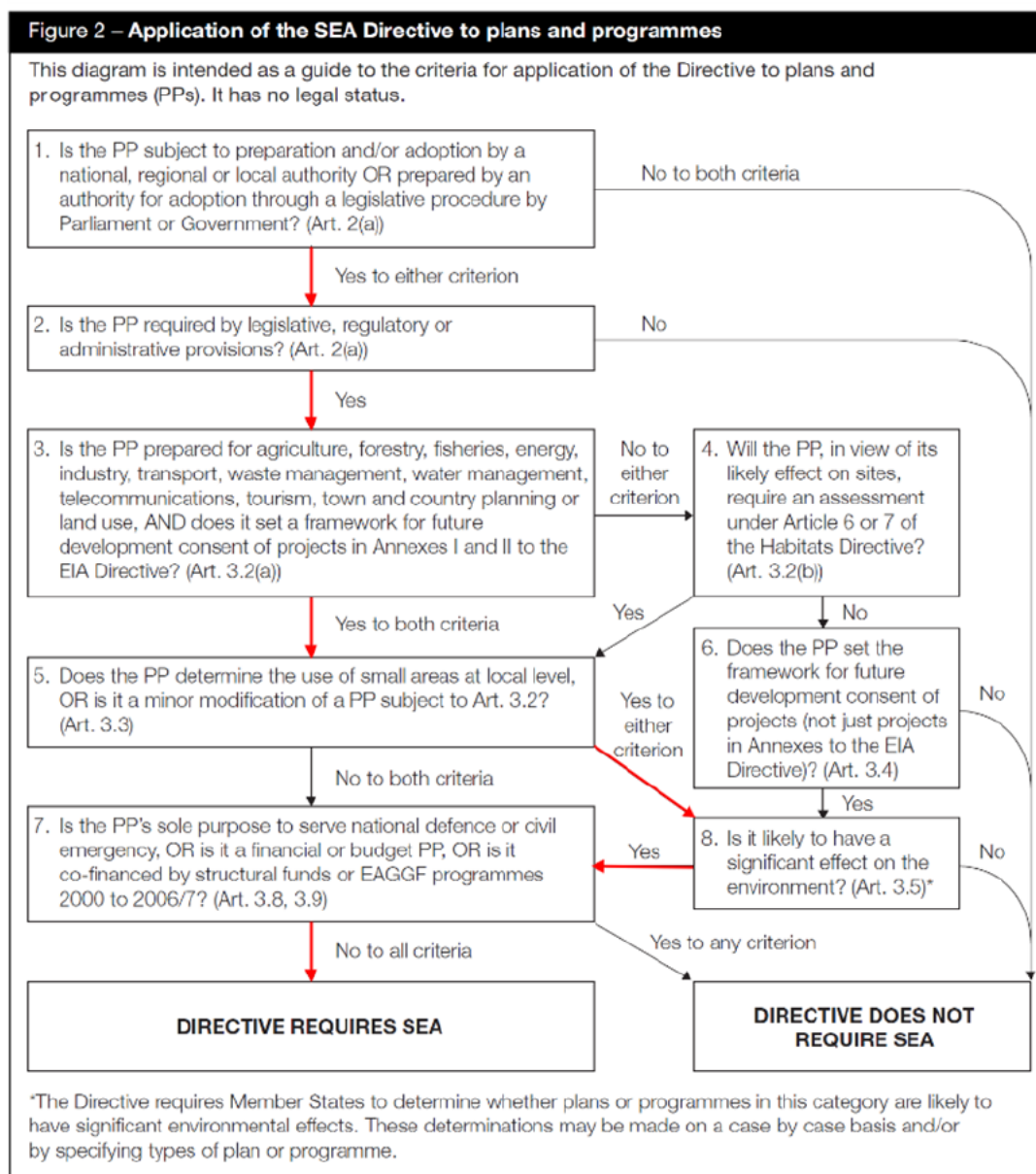
*To decide whether a draft neighbourhood plan might have significant environmental effects, it must be assessed (screened) at an early stage of the plan’s preparation according to the requirements set out in regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. These include a requirement to consult the environmental assessment consultation bodies.*

*Each consultation body will be able to advise on particular topics relevant to its specific area of expertise and responsibility, and the specific information that it holds.*

*Where it is determined that the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects (and, accordingly, does not require an environmental assessment), a statement of reasons for the determination should be prepared. A copy of the statement must be submitted with the neighbourhood plan proposal and made available to the independent examiner.’*

### Assessment

- 4.2 This diagram shows the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive’s field of application in the form of a diagram. The original diagram is from [‘A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Objective’](#). The red arrows indicate the process route for the Lound Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening Assessment.



4.3 The table below shows the assessment of whether the Lound Neighbourhood Plan will require a full SEA. The questions below are drawn from the diagram above which sets out how the SEA Directive should be applied.

Stage	Yes/No	Reason
<b>1. Is the Neighbourhood Plan 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))</b>	<b>Yes</b>	The preparation of and adoption of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan is allowed under The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011. The Lound Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared by Lound Parish Council (as the 'relevant body') and will be 'made' by Bassetlaw Council as the local authority.

Stage	Yes/No	Reason
<b>2. Is the Neighbourhood Plan required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))</b>	<b>Yes</b>	Whilst the Lound Neighbourhood Plan is not a requirement, and is optional under the provisions of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011, it will, if 'made', form part of the Development Plan for the District. It is therefore important that the screening process considers whether it is likely to have significant environmental effects and hence whether SEA is required under the Directive.
<b>3. Is the Neighbourhood Plan 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 4) to the EIA Directive? (Art 3.2(a))</b>	<b>Yes</b>	The Lound Neighbourhood Plan covers a range of land use issues and allocations. Although the Lound Neighbourhood Plan is a non-strategic scale document, focused solely upon the Parish of Lound, it can set the framework for future development consent of some of the projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive (see Appendix 4 for list).
<b>5. Does the Neighbourhood Plan 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)</b>	<b>Yes</b>	Determination of small sites at local level only.
<b>8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)</b>	<b>No</b>	Appendix 1 presents the environmental effects that have the potential to arise as a result of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan.

## 5. HRA Screening

### The requirement to undertake HRA

- 5.1 The requirement to undertake HRA of development plans was confirmed by the amendments to the Habitats Regulations published for England and Wales in July 2007 and updated in 2010 and again in 2012. These updates were consolidated into the [Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017](#).
- 5.2 The HRA refers to the assessment of the potential effects of a development plan on one or more European Sites, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs):

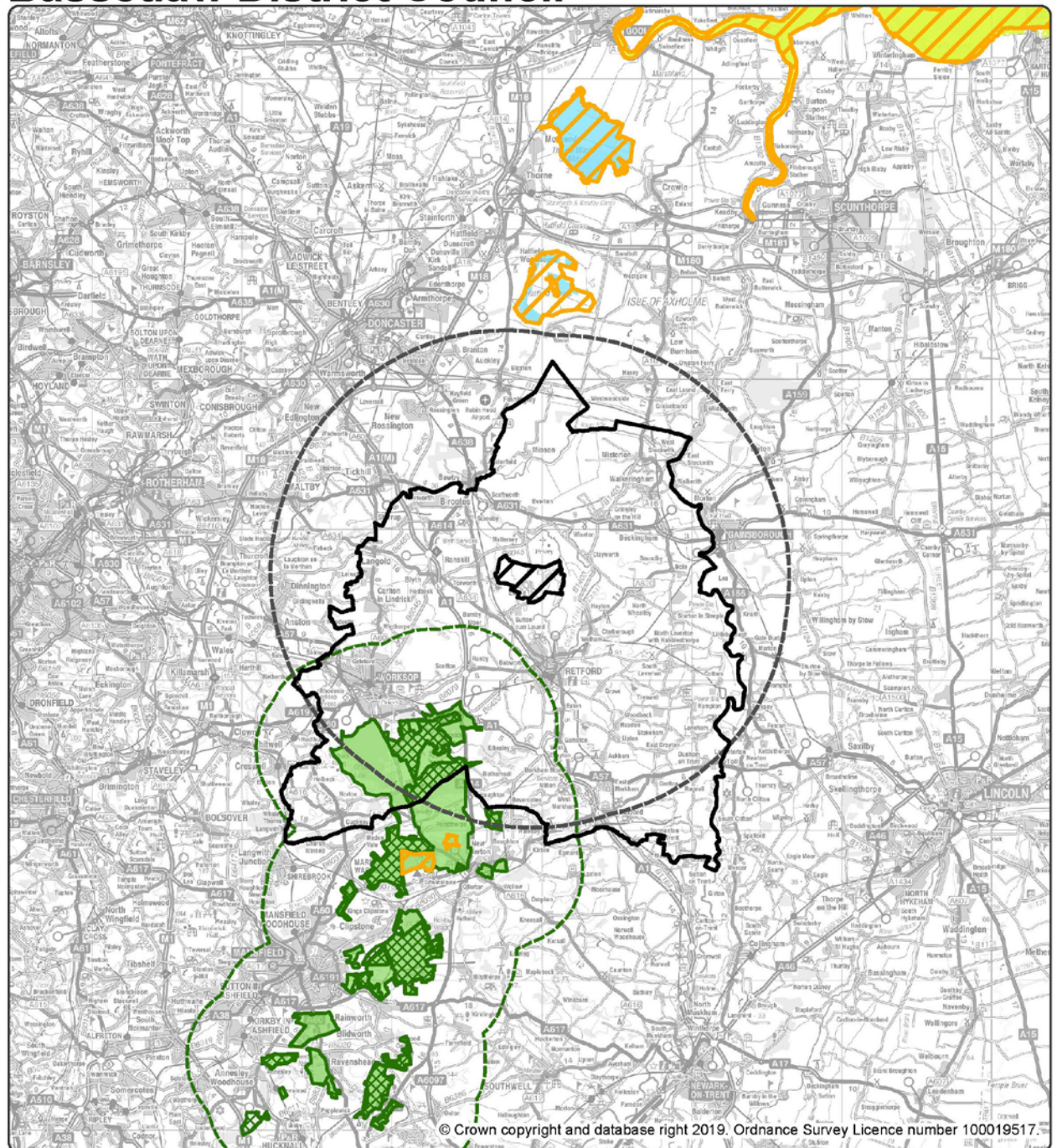
- SPAs are classified under the European Council Directive “on the conservation of wild birds” (79/409/EEC; ‘Birds Directive’) for the protection of wild birds and their habitats (including particularly rare and vulnerable species listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive, and migratory species);
  - SACs are designated under the Habitats Directive and target particular habitats (Annex 1) and/or species (Annex II) identified as being of European importance.
- 5.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (paragraph 176) also expects potential SPAs (pSPAs), possible SACs (pSACs) and Ramsar sites to be included within the assessment.
- Ramsar sites support internationally important wetland habitats and are listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention, 1971).
- 5.4 Candidate SACs (cSACs) and Sites of Community Importance (SCIs), which are sites that have been adopted by the European Commission but not yet formally designated by the government, should also be considered.
- 5.5 For ease of reference during HRA, these designations are collectively referred to as European sites, despite Ramsar designations being at the wider, international level.

### Identification of European sites which may be affected by the Neighbourhood Plan

- 5.6 In order to initiate the search of European sites that could potentially be affected by a neighbourhood plan, it is established practice in HRAs to consider European sites within the area covered by the plan, and other sites that may be affected beyond this area.
- 5.7 Bassetlaw District Council has adopted a methodology that uses a 15km area of search to identify European sites that may be affected by plans and projects within Bassetlaw, therefore this distance has been applied in this HRA.
- 5.8 The locations of the European sites in relation to the Lound Neighbourhood Area are shown on the following page.
- 5.9 Although there are no European Sites within Bassetlaw District, four sites have been identified that lie within 15km of the boundary:
- Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC
  - Hatfield Moor SAC
  - Thorne Moor SAC
  - Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA
- 5.10 None of the four identified sites is within 15km of the Lound Neighbourhood Area boundary.



# Bassetlaw District Council



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Bassetlaw Boundary

Lound Boundary

15km from Lound Boundary

Special Area of Conservation

Ramsar

Special Protection Area

Sherwood Forest Important Bird Area\*

Indicative core area of breeding of Nightjar and Woodlark

Indicative prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)

Sherwood Forest Important Bird Area 5km buffer



Source: Natural England, NWT

\* IBA boundary from 2010 is shown. IBAs outside of Sherwood Forest are not shown on this map as they have not been considered in the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) Screening.

1:350,000

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- 5.11 European sites outside the 15km zone may need to be considered in exceptional circumstances and therefore each plan subject to HRA should consider whether there are any pathways by which effects could occur on more distant European sites.

#### Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar

- 5.12 The Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar lies north of Lound Neighbourhood Area and has hydrological connectivity via the River Idle and River Trent. However, the SAC and Ramsar are beyond the 15km buffer in which effects are likely, and the SPA is over 25km north. In addition, the River Trent is a main river with several large settlements along it. Therefore, the Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to result in significant effects upon the Humber Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar and they have not been considered further in this HRA.

#### Sherwood Forest ppSPA

- 5.13 Although not formally a pSPA, Natural England has advised that there is a possibility of a Sherwood Forest pSPA being designated in the future on account of supporting populations of breeding nightjar and woodlark (referred to as a prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)). In a [note to Local Planning Authorities dated March 2014](#), Natural England advocates a precautionary approach to any plans or projects which could affect such a site. No formal assessments of the boundary of any future SPA have been made; therefore, it is not possible to definitively identify whether individual sites would fall inside or outside any possible future designated area. However, the Natural England note encloses a map that highlights the areas of greatest ornithological interest for breeding nightjar and woodlark. Parts of the Sherwood Forest Important Bird Area lie within 15km of the Lound Neighbourhood Area boundary. Therefore, likely significant effects upon the possible Sherwood Forest ppSPA are considered in this HRA.

#### Ecological attributes of the European sites

- 5.14 The attributes that contribute to and define the integrity of the European site considered in this HRA has been described in Appendix 2. Such attributes were identified using the Conservation Objectives for each site, Standard Data Forms for SACs and SPAs, as well as Natural England's Site Improvement Plans (SIPs). This information is used to inform the assessment of how the potential impacts of the Neighbourhood Plan may affect the integrity of the site.

#### Assessment of 'likely significant effects' of the Neighbourhood Plan

- 5.15 As required under Regulation 105 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (the 'Habitats Regulations'), an assessment has been undertaken of the 'likely significant effects' of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan. A risk-based approach involving the application of the precautionary principle has been adopted in the assessment, such that a conclusion of 'no significant effect' has only been reached where it is considered very unlikely, based on current knowledge and the information available, that a proposal in the Neighbourhood Plan would have a significant effect on the integrity of a European site.
- 5.16 A screening matrix has been prepared (Appendix 3), which considers the potential for likely significant effects resulting from each policy in the Draft Lound Neighbourhood Plan. A 'traffic light' approach has been used in the screening matrix to record the likely effects of the policies and site allocations on European sites and their qualifying habitats and species, using the colour categories shown below.

Colour	Description
Red	There are likely to be significant effects (Appropriate Assessment required).
Amber	There may be significant effects, but this is currently uncertain (Appropriate Assessment required).
Green	There are unlikely to be significant effects (Appropriate Assessment not required).

### Interpretation of 'likely significant effect'

- 5.17 Relevant case law helps to interpret when effects should be considered as a likely significant effect, when carrying out HRA of a land use plan.
- 5.18 In the Waddenzee case, the European Court of Justice ruled on the interpretation of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (translated into Reg. 105 in the Habitats Regulations), including that:
- An effect should be considered 'likely', "if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that it will have a significant effect on the site" (para 44);
  - An effect should be considered 'significant', "if it undermines the conservation objectives" (para 48); and
  - Where a plan or project has an effect on a site "but is not likely to undermine its conservation objectives, it cannot be considered likely to have a significant effect on the site concerned" (para 47).
- 5.19 A relevant opinion delivered to the Court of Justice of the European Union commented that:
- The requirement that an effect in question be 'significant' exists in order to lay down a de minimis threshold. Plans or projects that have no appreciable effect on the site are thereby excluded. If all plans or projects capable of having any effect whatsoever on the site were to be caught by Article 6(3), activities on or near the site would risk being impossible by reason of legislative overkill.*
- 5.20 This opinion (the 'Sweetman' case) therefore allows for the authorisation of plans and projects whose possible effects, alone or in combination, can be considered 'trivial' or de minimis; referring to such cases as those "that have no appreciable effect on the site". In practice such effects could be screened out as having no likely significant effect; they would be 'insignificant'.

### Assessment

- 5.21 A detailed Screening matrix is presented in Appendix 3, and the findings are described below in relation to each type of potential impact that the Local Plan could give rise to.

#### Physical damage/loss of habitat

- 5.22 Any development resulting from the Neighbourhood Plan will be located within the Lound Neighbourhood Area. Loss of habitat from within the boundaries of a European site can be ruled out as there are no European sites within the Neighbourhood Area.
- 5.23 Loss of habitat from outside the boundaries of a European site could still result in likely significant effects if that habitat supports qualifying species from within the European sites, for example, habitat that is used for foraging by birds. However, the European sites lying beyond the boundary of Lound Neighbourhood Area have no notable ecological connectivity and are of a distance that loss or damage to habitat within the area is unlikely



to impact upon them. Sherwood Forest ppSPA is sensitive to impacts of damage or loss of off-site habitat due to their qualifying features including nightjar and woodlark, mobile bird species which will forage within off-site habitats. However, the ppSPA has no notable ecological connectivity to the Lound Neighbourhood Area, with intervening infrastructure, and is of a distance that it would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the allocations. Furthermore, the area of land potentially to be lost to residential development is only 2.55 hectares in total.

- 5.24 Likely significant effects on all European sites can be screened out in relation to physical damage or loss of off-site habitat.

#### Non-physical disturbance (noise, vibration and light)

- 5.25 Noise and vibration effects, e.g. during the construction of new housing or employment development, are most likely to disturb bird species and are thus a key consideration with respect to European sites where birds are the qualifying features, although such effects may also impact upon some mammals and fish species. Artificial lighting at night (e.g. from street lamps, flood lighting and security lights) is most likely to affect bat populations and other nocturnal animals, and therefore have an adverse effect on the integrity of European sites where bats or nocturnal animals are a qualifying feature.
- 5.26 It has been assumed that the effects of noise, vibration and light pollution are most likely to cause an adverse effect if development takes place within 500m of a European site with qualifying features sensitive to these disturbances, or known off-site breeding, foraging or roosting areas.
- 5.27 The European site lies outside of the Lound Neighbourhood Area boundary and is well over 500m from new development allocations, therefore likely significant effects as a result of non-physical disturbance are not expected to occur.

#### Air pollution

- 5.28 Air pollution is most likely to affect European sites where plant, soil and water habitats are the qualifying features, but some qualifying animal species may also be affected, either directly or indirectly, by any deterioration in habitat as a result of air pollution. Deposition of pollutants to the ground and vegetation can alter the characteristics of the soil, affecting the pH and nitrogen availability that can then affect plant health, productivity and species composition.
- 5.29 In terms of vehicle traffic, nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>, i.e. NO and NO<sub>2</sub>) are considered to be the key pollutants. Subsequent deposition of nitrogen compounds may lead to both soil and freshwater acidification, and eutrophication of soils and water.
- 5.30 Based on the Highways Agency Design Manual for Road and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11, Section 3, Part 1 (which was produced to provide advice regarding the design, assessment and operation of trunk roads (including motorways)), it is assumed that air pollution from roads is unlikely to be significant beyond 200m from the road itself.
- 5.31 Based on the DMRB guidance, affected roads which should be assessed are those where:
- Daily traffic flows will change by 1,000 AADT (Annual Average Daily Traffic) or more; or
  - Heavy duty vehicle (HDV) flows will change by 200 AADT or more; or
  - Daily average speed will change by 10 km/hr or more; or

- Peak hour speed will change by 20 km/hr or more; or
  - Road alignment will change by 5 m or more.
- 5.32 It has been assumed that only those roads forming part of the primary road network (motorways and primary 'A' roads) are likely to experience any significant increases in vehicle traffic as a result of development (i.e. greater than 1,000 AADT). As such, where a site is within 200m of only minor roads, no significant effect from traffic-related air pollution is considered to be the likely outcome.
- 5.33 All European sites lie outside of the Lound Neighbourhood Area boundary. The A1, A57, A60, and A614 all pass through and/or within 200m of the Sherwood Forest ppSPA. However, traffic conditions on these roads are unlikely to change significantly as a result of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan. This is due to the limited scale of development proposed by the Neighbourhood Plan and the distances involved. All other European sites lie outside of the District boundary and are located over 200m from major roads. The European sites have therefore been screened out in relation to air pollution.

#### Impacts of recreation

- 5.34 Recreational activities can result in likely significant effects on European sites as a result of erosion, trampling, and nutrient enrichment of habitats, and disturbance of species resulting in a compromised ability to breed or survive. Where Local Plan policies are likely to result in an increase in the local population, or where an increase in visitor numbers to the European site is considered likely, there may be potential for associated recreational impacts.
- 5.35 A well-established approach to avoiding recreational pressures has been developed as part of planning decisions which involve the [Thames Basin Heaths SPA](#) (TBH SPA). The TBH SPA, located in southern England, is designated for ground nesting heathland birds including nightjar. The TBH Delivery Framework – which is endorsed by Natural England, and which was scrutinised for robustness and appropriateness by the Technical Assessor of the South East Plan – suggests that at distances between 400m and 5 km, residential housing is likely to result in significant effects associated with recreation and other urban edge effects such as cat predation. Beyond this distance, the Assessor recommended that larger developments (above 50 dwellings) between 5 and 7 km from the SPA be assessed and may be required to provide appropriate mitigation.
- 5.36 Beyond 7km the effect of recreational pressures on a heathland and woodland site are likely to be minimal. This distance is reduced to 5km for smaller developments of below 50 dwellings.
- 5.37 The Sherwood Forest ppSPA is 8km from the nearest proposed residential development site in the Lound Neighbourhood Plan (Policy 15), and the other European sites are more distant, meaning that they do not need further consideration.

#### Cat predation

- 5.38 Cat predation due to an increase in residential populations and cat ownership can result in likely significant effects on European sites where ground nesting bird species are the qualifying features. Nightjar are ground nesting species, and therefore these birds and their nests are vulnerable to predation by domestic cats.

- 5.39 As described above, the increased risk of cat predation associated with residential schemes in relation to the TBH SPA resulted in the adoption of a 400m development exclusion zone, together with pressure associated with recreational access. NE specifies that at distances of less than 400m avoidance measures are likely to be ineffective at reducing the risks associated with predation.
- 5.40 The European sites assessed in this screening are significantly beyond 400m from the Lound Neighbourhood Area boundary and therefore do not need further consideration.

#### Water quantity and quality

- 5.41 An increase in demand for water abstraction and treatment resulting from the growth proposed in the Lound Neighbourhood Plan could result in changes in hydrology at European sites, specifically a decrease in water quality or changes to water levels. Depending on the qualifying features and particular vulnerabilities of the European sites, this could lead to likely significant effects on the sites qualifying features.
- 5.42 All of the European sites included within this HRA are outside the Lound Neighbourhood Area. They are not hydrologically connected to the Neighbourhood Area and can therefore be screened out given the lack of impact pathways.
- 5.43 Likely significant effects associated with changes in water quality and quantity can be screened out in relation to all European sites included in this HRA.

#### Identification of other plans and projects which may have 'incombination' effects

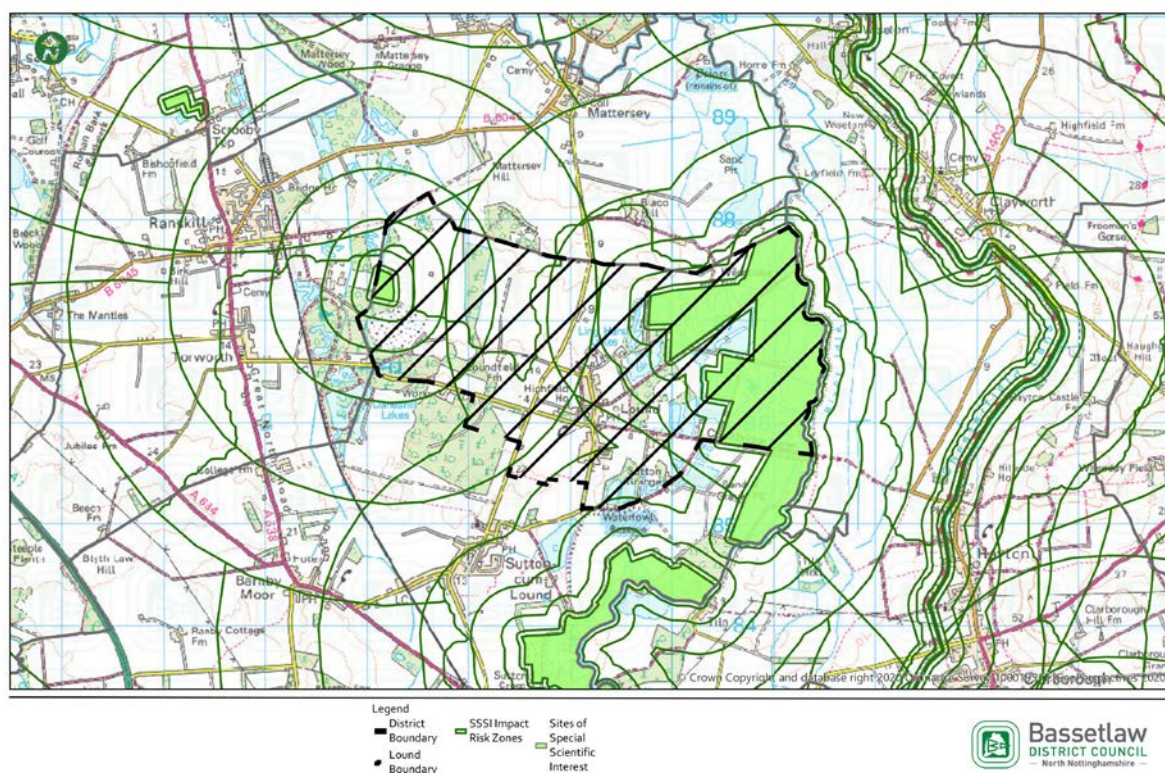
- 5.44 Regulation 105 of the Amended Habitats Regulations 2017 requires an Appropriate Assessment where "a land use plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site". Therefore, it is necessary to consider whether there may be significant effects from the Lound Neighbourhood Plan in combination with other plans or projects.
- 5.45 The first stage in identifying 'in-combination' effects involves identifying which other plans and projects in addition to the Lound Neighbourhood Plan may affect the European sites that were the focus of this assessment. There are a large number of potentially relevant plans and projects which could be considered; therefore, the review focused on planned spatial growth within Bassetlaw District.
- 5.46 The Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Bassetlaw Local Plan (January 2019) concluded that the Local Plan does not result in likely significant effects upon Hatfield Moor SAC or Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA either alone or in combination. However, the Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Bassetlaw Local Plan was unable to rule out the potential for the Local Plan to result in likely significant effects on the Sherwood Forest ppSPA as a result of air pollution. This is principally because of the then Draft Local Plan's strategic growth plans (2018-2035) for housing (6,630 dwellings) and employment (136 hectares).
- 5.47 The scale of development planned by the Lound Neighbourhood Plan is in conformity with the Bassetlaw Local Plan and does not exceed the maximum allowance of 42 dwellings for the Parish, representing 0.4% of the Draft Local Plan's housing growth. This scale of housing development, together with the area's distance from the Sherwood Forest ppSPA, means that its 'incombination' effect is insignificant.

## 6 Impact Risk Zones for Sites of Special Scientific Interest

- 6.1 Sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs) conserve and protect the best of our wildlife, geological and physiographical heritage for the benefit of present and future generations, under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
- 6.2 Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) are a GIS tool developed by Natural England to make a rapid initial assessment of the potential risks to SSSIs posed by development proposals. They define zones around each SSSI which reflect the particular sensitivities of the features for which it is notified and indicate the types of development proposal which could potentially have adverse impacts, generally decreasing in sensitivity with distance from the site.
- 6.3 There are two SSSIs located within the Plan area, as listed and depicted below:
- Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits ([Natural England description](#))
  - Mattersey Hill Marsh ([Natural England description](#))

### Bassetlaw District Council

### Lound: SSSI and Impact Risk Zones



- 6.4 The sites proposed for allocation in policies 11 to 15 of the Plan, alongside Policy 2 (infill development) have been assessed to determine if they fall within any SSSI Impact Risk Zones. Following this, it is possible to determine whether a proposed development is likely to affect a SSSI using criteria provided by Natural England.
- 6.5 As depicted in the map above, the entire Plan area is covered by Impact Risk Zones associated with the two identified SSSI. This includes the sites proposed for allocation in

Policies 11 to 15. However, the Risk Zones in question are not triggered by the type and scale of development allocated in these Policies. Specifically, none of the sites is proposed to deliver more than 10 dwellings outside existing settlements. This is also true of any development that could come forward under Policy 2, which limits infill development to one or two dwellings per site. As a consequence, it is deemed that the impact of developing these sites will not negatively impact upon either of the SSSI. Natural England are invited to comment on this position.

## 7 Conclusions

### Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 7.1 The Lound Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared for town and country planning purposes and sets a framework for future development consent. The policies of the Neighbourhood Plan determine the use of small areas at local level commensurate with their status in determining local planning applications.
- 7.2 It is concluded that the Lound Neighbourhood Plan will not have significant environmental effects in relation to any of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations and, therefore, **does not need to be subject to a full SEA.**

### Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

- 7.3 Subject to Natural England's review, this HRA Screening report indicates that the Lound Neighbourhood Plan is **not predicted to have any likely significant effect on any European** site, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. The Plan can, therefore, be **screened out** from further assessment.

### Consultation

- 7.4 The environmental consultation bodies (Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency) have been consulted during the preparation of this Screening Assessment. Their responses are summarised below:
- Historic England – On the basis of the information supplied and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, Historic England is of the view that the preparation of a SEA is not likely to be required.
  - Environment Agency – Has no specific comments to make, but recommends seeking the views of Natural England due to the proximity of two SSSI (Mattersey Hill Marsh and Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits).
  - Natural England – Agrees that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects from the proposed plan, meaning that a full SEA is not required, and that a HRA is not required, as the proposals are unlikely to have any significant effect upon European designated sites either alone or in combination.

- 7.5 Copies of the responses received are detailed in full in Appendix 5.

### Overall

- 7.6 Following consideration of the anticipated scope of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan, the relevant environmental issues locally, and following consultation with Historic England, the

Environment Agency, and Natural England, it is concluded that the potential for significant effects to arise as a result of the Plan is unlikely. Consequently, it is considered that **a formal SEA is not required.**

- 7.7 It is also concluded that the Lound Neighbourhood Plan would not be likely to have significant effects on European sites either alone or in-combination with any other plan or project and, therefore, **Appropriate Assessment (Stage 2 of the Habitat Regulation Assessment process) is not required.**
- 7.8 This determination is based upon the Draft Lound Neighbourhood Plan, dated August 2020). The Council reserves the right, pending future iterations of the Neighbourhood Plan, to undertake further screening determinations as required.
- 7.9 In spite of the above, it is notable that work to refine the Lound Neighbourhood Plan has commenced subsequent to the publication of the draft version of this screening assessment. This is in response to comments received during the Regulation 14 consultation, and a revised, lower housing requirement issued by the District Council in November 2020. The latter will facilitate the number of sites proposed to be allocated in the Lound Neighbourhood Plan for residential development to be reduced (the requirement is now 10 dwellings, as opposed to 42), further reducing the likelihood of significant effects. On this basis, the conclusions of this report remain valid, and it is anticipated that further assessment will not be required.

## Appendix 1: Assessment of potential environmental effects

The following table presents the environmental effects which have the potential to arise because of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan. This is accompanied by a commentary on whether these effects are likely to be significant. The environmental effects have been grouped by the SEA 'topics' suggested by Annex I(f) of the SEA Directive.

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
<b>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</b> (Including biodiversity habitats and species, biodiversity sites, areas of geological interest)	Y	Combined, Lound Neighbourhood Plan Policies 1, 2, and 11 – 15 provide for the development of up to 21 new dwellings within and adjoining the existing developed footprint of Lound Village. Policy 4 seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity, identifying measures that should be incorporated into development proposals. The aims of Policy 4 are also complimented by Policy 5 (protection and enhancement of landscape character, including identification of Significant Green Gaps), and Policy 6 (Local Green Space designations). Policy 7 (energy efficiency and design) includes recognition of the value of natural features. Policy 8 (heritage assets) identifies the value of gardens and open spaces alongside the built fabric. Policies 11 – 15 (site-specific housing allocations) all contain stipulations about the need to respect the value of existing trees and hedges.	No Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are present within the neighbourhood area. There are two SSSI in the neighbourhood area; Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits (extensive areas of open water and margins which support an exceptionally rich assemblage of breeding wetland birds and a nationally important population of wintering gadwall), and Mattersey Hill Marsh (one of the best examples of mixed marsh in Nottinghamshire, representative of marsh communities in Central and Eastern England). There are three local wildlife sites within the neighbourhood area, and a further five adjoining. None of these sites lie within or adjoining the developed footprint of Lound village.  The policies of the Neighbourhood Plan are predicted to have <b>no significant effect on biodiversity</b> and the SAC or SPA, SSSIs, or Local Wildlife Sites in particular, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.
<b>Population</b> (Including residents')	Y	The Lound Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to have a range of benefits for the	Whilst the benefits for residents of Lound Parish from a well-designed neighbourhood plan have the



SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
quality of life, accessibility to services and facilities, deprivation and similar)		quality of life of residents and for accessibility to services, facilities and opportunities. The 2011 Census recorded 210 dwellings and a population of 471. At this time Lound was recorded as having a higher proportion of people aged 45 – 74 compared to the national average. The potential development of new dwellings in Lound (Policies 1, 2, and 11 – 15) should provide greater choice, and help to support the viability of services. Policy 10 seeks to improve the provision of community services and facilities.	potential to be wide-ranging, these are <b>not significant</b> in the context of the SEA Directive.
<b>Human Health</b> (Incorporating residents' health and wellbeing)	Y	The Lound Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to have a range of benefits for residents' health and wellbeing through promoting healthier lifestyles and supporting accessibility to services and facilities. This includes the protection of local green spaces (Policy 6), the provision of improved community services and facilities (Policy 10), and the recognition of the value of high quality design (Policy 7).	Whilst the health and wellbeing benefits for residents of the neighbourhood area from a well-designed neighbourhood plan have the potential to be wide-ranging, these are not significant in the context of the SEA Directive. Likely effects from noise quality are also <b>not significant</b> .
<b>Soil</b> (Including agricultural land, soil erosion, soil quality)	Y	The Neighbourhood Area is predominantly Agricultural Land Grade 3 with a swathe of Grade 2 to the west, and a narrow strip of Grade 4 to the extreme east, parallel to the River Idle. Collectively, Lound Neighbourhood Plan Policies 1, 2, and 11 - 15 provide for up to 21 new dwellings within and adjoining the existing	Due to the relatively limited area of land likely to be developed through the Lound Neighbourhood Plan, effects on the soils resource are <b>unlikely to be significant</b> .



SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
		developed footprint of Lound Village. Consequently, development is unlikely to involve the loss of land classified as the best and most versatile agricultural land.	
<b>Water</b> (Including water quality and availability)	Y	The Lound Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to lead to a very small-scale increase in water demand in the neighbourhood area through supporting the delivery of up to 21 new dwellings.	Potential effects on water availability will be limited by the relatively small-scale of proposals likely to be facilitated by the Lound Neighbourhood Plan. Effects are <b>unlikely to be significant</b> .
<b>Air</b> (Including air quality)	Y	Bassetlaw District Council currently has no Air Quality Management Areas. Lound Neighbourhood Plan Policies 1, 2, and 11 – 15 collectively allow for the development for up to 21 new homes. This policy would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic in the area and therefore air pollution.	No existing air quality issues exist and there are no Air Quality Management Areas within the neighbourhood area. Any effects on air quality are <b>not significant</b> in the context of the SEA Directive.
<b>Climatic Factors</b> (Including relating to climate change mitigation (limiting greenhouse gas emissions) and adaptation (adapting to the anticipated effects of climate change, including flood risk))	Y	In terms of climate change mitigation, the Lound Neighbourhood Plan actively seeks to locate new housing development within the existing village, where the majority of the local services and facilities are located. This will help limit potential increases in greenhouse gas emissions from an increase in the built footprint of the Neighbourhood Area. Policy 7 includes specific support for sustainable construction methods and measures to reduce emissions and improve energy efficiency in new and existing dwellings.	Due to the small scale and local scope of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan, the nature and magnitude of effects directly arising from it are <b>unlikely to be significant</b> in the context of the SEA Directive.
<b>Material Assets</b>	Y	The Lound Neighbourhood Plan may lead to small increases in the neighbourhood area's	Potential increases in waste as a direct result of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan will be managed through

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
(Including minerals resources, waste considerations)		waste management requirements, through supporting the delivery of new housing. Mineral extraction, including sand and gravel, was previously a key industry in the neighbourhood area, although this ceased in the mid-1990s. No mineral sites or resources are likely to be affected as a result of the Lound Neighbourhood Plan as development is focussed on the existing built area. A former landfill site is located at Daneshill in the west of the neighbourhood area, with current proposals to re-activate the site, but this is outside the jurisdiction of the Neighbourhood Plan.	statutory requirements regarding waste management. Due to their limited magnitude, effects are <b>unlikely to be significant</b> in the context of the SEA Directive.
<b>Cultural Heritage</b> (Including historic environment, cultural heritage, historic settings)	Y	The Lound Neighbourhood Plan provides a comprehensive approach to balancing limited future development with the protection and enhancement of the cultural heritage of the neighbourhood area, adding to the existing protections afforded by the Lound Conservation Area. In particular, Policy 8 serves to identify and protect heritage assets. Maps included to support the site-specific housing allocations clearly identify heritage assets and designations, and are reflected in the respective policies. The Lound Design Code 2018 that accompanies the Neighbourhood Plan is a notably effective means of documenting the important features of the neighbourhood area, and provides an	Designated Heritage Assets: there are no World Heritage Sites, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Park and Gardens, Registered Battlefields, or Scheduled Monuments designated in the Neighbourhood Area. There are 6 Listed Buildings, all Grade II. Lound Conservation Area was designated in 1973, and covers the central and southern portion of the village, and includes 16 unlisted positive conservation area buildings. There are also five non-designated heritage assets in the neighbourhood area.  The site-specific housing allocations (Policies 11 – 15) direct the mainstay of residential development potential onto sites that have been carefully assessed, are subject to prescriptive criteria, and located outside of Lound Conservation Area.

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
		invaluable point of reference for Policies 7 (Design) and Policies 11 – 15 (Sites).	Therefore, it is considered that effects are <b>unlikely to be significant</b> in the context of the SEA Directive.
<b>Landscape</b> (Including landscape and townscape quality)	Y	<p>Direct effects from the Lound Neighbourhood Plan on landscape and townscape character have the potential to take place.</p> <p>The main source of potential effects is the development of new dwellings associated with Policies 1, 2, and 11 – 15. The Neighbourhood Plan does, however, include clear consideration of how these potential effects should be managed. Neighbourhood Plan Policy 7 (Design) requires new development to contribute to the distinctive character of the area, supported by stipulations in the site-specific allocations (Policies 11 – 15). Policy 5 (Landscape) provides added stipulations in respect to natural environments, open space, and key views, supported by content in the Lound Design Code 2018.</p> <p>The Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment provides a study of the District in terms of landscape condition and sensitivity, identifying Policy Zones (based on recommended landscape actions). Policy Zones where landscape needs to be conserved are the most sensitive to the potential impacts of new development, whereas areas that need new landscape character creating are least sensitive. In Lound there is one main policy</p>	<p>In terms of landscape quality, no 'sensitive areas' as defined by the NPPG are present in the neighbourhood area.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plan Policies 1, 2, and 11 – 15, collectively, provide for up to 21 new homes within and adjoining the existing developed footprint of Lound, thereby limiting the impact of housing development on the wider landscape. The likelihood of significant effects on the integrity of the landscape and townscape are also likely to be limited by the Lound Neighbourhood Plan's focus on protecting its landscape and heritage assets.</p> <p>Therefore, potential effects on landscape character and townscape quality are <b>unlikely to be significant</b> in the context of the SEA Directive.</p>

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
		zone: Idle Lowlands 07 – Conserve and Reinforce.	

## Appendix 2: Ecological attributes of the European sites

<b>Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)</b>	
<b>Description</b>	
<p>As the Sherwood Forest prospective potential SPA (ppSPA) is not currently designated as a European Site, there is no Standard Data form or SIP for it. However, the Sherwood Forest Important Bird Area is being used as a proxy for the purposes of this assessment, and the indicative core areas for breeding for nightjar and woodlark as identified by Natural England, are likely to be the most sensitive areas.</p> <p>The Sherwood Forest IBA covers 7,320 ha and consists of several geographic sites stretching from south of Worksop to north of Nottingham. Once part of the 10,000 acre Royal Forest of Sherwood, the woodland is dominated by native oaks and other native trees such as silver birch, rowan, holly and hawthorn. It has been continuously forested since the end of the Ice Age. Approximately 424.75ha of the Sherwood Forest ppSPA is also a designated National Nature Reserve (NNR). The reserve contains more than a thousand ancient oaks most of which are known to be more than 500 years old.</p> <p>Sherwood Forest has the highest concentration of ancient trees in Europe and provides habitat for very rare invertebrates, particularly beetles, flies and spiders, many of which rely on the decaying and ageing timber of the veteran trees. Budby South Forest, in the northern half of the site, is dominated by link heather and supports a diverse range of insects and ground nesting birds such as woodlark, nightjar and tree pipit.</p> <p>In 2004, it was estimated that there were approximately 63 male European Nightjar (females unknown) within in the IBA and approximately 25 breeding pairs of Woodlark.</p>	
<b>Qualifying Features</b>	
<p>The primary reasons for potential designation of this site are that the population of <i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>; European nightjar represents 1.88% of the total UK breeding population and the population of <i>Lullula arborea</i>; Woodlark, is 2.51% of the total UK breeding population.</p>	
Site status*	<p>The condition of the site was not assessed in the most recent IBA monitoring assessment. However, the IBA factsheet states that the mixed woodland habitat is in 'very unfavourable' condition, but the conditions of the nightjar and woodlark populations are favourable.</p>
<b>Prospective potential Special Protection Area objectives</b>	
<p>As this area does not relate to an existing designated site, no conservation objectives have been established for it. However, it is anticipated that, were the site to be designated, any conservation objectives would reflect those for other SPAs, as follows:</p> <p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring:</p> <p>The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features</p> <p>The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features</p> <p>The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely</p> <p>The population of each of the qualifying features, and,</p> <p>The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.</p>	
<b>Site Improvement Plan: pressures, threats and related development</b>	
<p>The main current threats to the site include logging and wood harvesting, climate change, changes in land use for energy production, housing and economic development, tourism and recreation and air pollution. War, civil unrest and military exercises are identified as a past threat, which is unlikely to return.</p>	

<b>Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)</b>
These threats have been rated low to very high, depending on the proportion of the area and/or population they are likely to affect and the severity of the threat. Recreational activities are identified as being the highest level of threat, followed by logging and wood harvesting and residential and commercial development. The IBA factsheet also identifies 'other threat' as being a high threat, but no details are given.
*Site status is an assessment by Natural England of the status of the SSSIs within the SAC

## Appendix 3: HRA Screening Matrix

The screening matrix below shows which types of impacts on European sites could potentially result from each of the policies and sites allocated in the Lound Neighbourhood Plan. Where a site is not expected to have a particular type of impact, the relevant cell is shaded **green**. Where a site could potentially have a certain type of impact, this is shown in **orange**. The final column sets out the screening conclusions.

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
Policy 1: Sustainable Development and the Development Boundary	Residential development.  Economic development.  Increase in vehicle traffic.  Increase in recreation pressure.	Physical loss and damage  Air pollution  Disturbance from recreation	Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)	Physical loss and damage is not possible as the European site does not lie within the Neighbourhood Area. The ppSPA is at least 8km away from where development could occur with intervening infrastructure. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the existing developed footprint of Lound Village. Given the small number of houses involved, the distance involved, and the intention to focus development within and immediately adjoining the existing built area of Lound, it is considered unlikely this policy would impact upon

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
				the possible pSPA as a result of increased population and recreation. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic in the area and therefore air pollution.
Policy 2: Infill Development	<p>Residential development.</p> <p>Increase in vehicle traffic.</p> <p>Increase in recreation pressure.</p>	<p>Physical loss and damage</p> <p>Air pollution</p> <p>Disturbance from recreation</p>	Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)	<p>Physical loss and damage is not possible as the European site does not lie within the Neighbourhood Area. The ppSPA is at least 8km away from where development could occur, with intervening infrastructure. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the existing developed footprint of Lound Village.</p> <p>Given the small number of houses involved, the distance involved, and the intention to focus development within and immediately adjoining the existing built area of Lound, it is considered unlikely this policy would impact upon</p>



Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
				the possible pSPA as a result of increased population and recreation. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic in the area and therefore air pollution.
Policy 3: Density	None – this policy aims to ensure that residential development facilitated by other policies is of an appropriate density for its location in the settlement. It will not in itself result in new development.	n/a	n/a	No
Policy 4: Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity	None – this policy will not itself result in new development. It is intended to ensure that any new development facilitated by other policies is designed to protect and enhance biodiversity.	n/a	n/a	No
Policy 5: Protecting and Enhancing the Landscape Character	None – this policy aims to ensure that any development facilitated by other policies in the Plan respects local landscape character. It will not itself result in new development.	n/a	n/a	No

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
Policy 6: Designation of Local Green Spaces	None – this policy requires new development to protect Local Green Space, it will not itself result in development or increase traffic or visitor numbers.	n/a	n/a	No
Policy 7: The importance of Energy Efficiency and High-Quality Design	None – this policy sets principles for the design of new development and retrofit of measures to existing developments. It will not itself result in new development.	n/a	n/a	No
Policy 8: Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets	None – the policy serves to provide protection to heritage assets. It will not itself result in new development.	n/a	n/a	No
Policy 9: A Mix of Housing Types	None – this policy is designed to ensure that any residential development facilitated by other policies reflects the needs of potential occupants. It will not itself result in new development.	n/a	n/a	No
Policy 10: Protecting and Enhancing the Provision of Community Facilities	Development of community facilities. Increase in vehicular traffic.	Physical loss and damage. Air pollution.	Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)	Physical loss and damage is not possible as the ppSPA does not lie within the Neighbourhood Area, being

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
				at least 8km away from where development could occur, with intervening infrastructure. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the Lound neighbourhood area. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic in the area and therefore air pollution.
Policy 11: Development of NP02	Residential development.  Increase in vehicle traffic.  Increase in recreation pressure.	Physical loss and damage.  Air pollution.  Disturbance from recreation.	Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)	Physical loss and damage is not possible as the European sites do not lie within the Neighbourhood Area. The ppSPA is at least 8km away from where development could occur, with intervening infrastructure. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the Lound Neighbourhood Area. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic and air pollution in the area,

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
				and should help to deliver development in the most sustainable locations.
Policy 12: Development of NP12	Residential development.  Increase in vehicle traffic.  Increase in recreation pressure.	Physical loss and damage.  Air pollution.  Disturbance from recreation.	Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)	Physical loss and damage is not possible as the European sites do not lie within the Neighbourhood Area. The ppSPA is at least 8km away from where development could occur, with intervening infrastructure. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the Lound Neighbourhood Area. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic and air pollution in the area, and should help to deliver development in the most sustainable locations.
Policy 13: Development of NP19	Residential development.  Increase in vehicle traffic.  Increase in recreation pressure.	Physical loss and damage.  Air pollution.  Disturbance from recreation.	Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)	Physical loss and damage is not possible as the European sites do not lie within the Neighbourhood Area. The ppSPA is at least 8km away from where development could occur,

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
				with intervening infrastructure. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the Lound Neighbourhood Area. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic and air pollution in the area, and should help to deliver development in the most sustainable locations.
Policy 14: Development of NP21 (north)	Residential development.  Increase in vehicle traffic.  Increase in recreation pressure.	Physical loss and damage.  Air pollution.  Disturbance from recreation.	Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)	Physical loss and damage is not possible as the European sites do not lie within the Neighbourhood Area. The ppSPA is at least 8km away from where development could occur, with intervening infrastructure. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the Lound Neighbourhood Area. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic and air pollution in the area,

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
				and should help to deliver development in the most sustainable locations.
Policy 15: Development of NP21 (south)	Residential development.  Increase in vehicle traffic.  Increase in recreation pressure.	Physical loss and damage.  Air pollution.  Disturbance from recreation.	Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area (ppSPA)	Physical loss and damage is not possible as the European sites do not lie within the Neighbourhood Area. The ppSPA is at least 8km away from where development could occur, with intervening infrastructure. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the Lound Neighbourhood Area. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic and air pollution in the area, and should help to deliver development in the most sustainable locations.

## Appendix 4: Annex I and Annex II Projects, EIA Directive

### Annex I Projects, EIA Directive

All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an Environmental Impact Assessment. The listed projects are summarised as follows:

1. Crude oil refineries, coal or shale gasification liquefaction installations
2. Thermal power stations, nuclear power stations, other nuclear reactors etc
3. Installations for the processing, reprocessing, final disposal or storage of irradiated nuclear fuel, or the production or enrichment of nuclear fuel
4. Integrated works for the initial smelting of cast-iron and steel, and the production of non-ferrous crude metals from ore
5. Installations for the extraction, processing and transforming of asbestos
6. Integrated chemical installations for the industrial scale manufacture of basic organic and inorganic fertilisers, plant health products and biocides, pharmaceuticals, and explosives
7. Construction of long-distance railway lines. Airports with a basic runway length run of 2,100 metres or more. Construction of motorways and express roads. New roads of four or more lanes and roads which have been improved so as to convert two lanes or fewer to four lanes or more, where such road would be 10 kilometres or more in continuous length
8. Inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic, trading ports and piers
9. Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment of hazardous waste
10. Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment of non-hazardous waste
11. Groundwater abstraction or artificial groundwater recharge schemes
12. Water transfer schemes between river basins
13. Waste water treatment plants
14. Commercial extraction of petroleum and natural gas
15. Dams and water storage installations
16. Gas, oil or chemical pipelines and pipelines used for the transport of carbon dioxide for geological storage

## Annex II Projects, EIA Directive

For the projects listed in Annex II the national authorities have to decide whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is needed. The projects listed in Annex II are in general those not included in Annex I but also other types such as urban development projects and flood-relief works. The listed projects are summarised as follows:

1. Agriculture, silviculture and aquaculture
  - a. Projects for the restructuring of rural land holdings;
  - b. Projects for the use of uncultivated land or semi-natural areas for intensive agricultural purposes;
  - c. Water management projects for agriculture, including irrigation and land drainage projects;
  - d. Initial afforestation and deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use;
  - e. Intensive livestock installations (projects not included in Annex I);
  - f. Intensive fish farming;
  - g. Reclamation of land from the sea.
2. Extractive Industry
  - a. Quarries, open-cast mining and peat extraction (projects not included in Annex I);
  - b. Underground mining;
  - c. Extraction of minerals by marine or fluvial dredging;
  - d. Deep drillings, in particular: (i) geothermal drilling; (ii) drilling for the storage of nuclear waste material; (iii) drilling for water supplies; with the exception of drillings for investigating the stability of the soil;
  - e. Surface industrial installations for the extraction of coal, petroleum, natural gas and ores, as well as bituminous shale.
3. Energy industry
  - a. Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (projects not included in Annex I);
  - b. Industrial installations for carrying gas, steam and hot water; transmission of electrical energy by overhead cables (projects not included in Annex I);
  - c. Surface storage of natural gas;
  - d. Underground storage of combustible gases;
  - e. Surface storage of fossil fuels;
  - f. Industrial briquetting of coal and lignite;
  - g. Installations for the processing and storage of radioactive waste (unless included in Annex I);
  - h. Installations for hydroelectric energy production;
  - i. Installations for the harnessing of power for energy production (wind farms) and
  - j. Installations for the capture of CO<sub>2</sub> streams for the purposes of geological storage, pursuant to Directive 2009/31/EC, from installations not covered by Annex I to this Directive.
4. Production and processing of metals
  - a. Installations for the production of pig iron or steel (primary or secondary fusion) including continuous casting;
  - b. Installations for the processing of ferrous metals: (i) hot-rolling mills; (ii) smitheries with hammers; (iii) application of protective fused metal coats;



- c. Ferrous metal foundries;
  - d. Installations for the smelting, including the alloyage, of non-ferrous metals, excluding precious metals, including recovered products (refining, foundry casting, etc.);
  - e. Installations for surface treatment of metals and plastic materials using an electrolytic or chemical process;
  - f. Manufacture and assembly of motor vehicles and manufacture of motor-vehicle engines;
  - g. Shipyards;
  - h. Installations for the construction and repair of aircraft;
  - i. Manufacture of railway equipment;
  - j. Swaging by explosives;
  - k. Installations for the roasting and sintering of metallic ores.
5. Mineral industry
- a. (a) Coke ovens (dry coal distillation);
  - b. (b) Installations for the manufacture of cement;
  - c. Installations for the production of asbestos and the manufacture of asbestos products (projects not included in Annex I); See under corresponding Annex I project category, Annex I (5) above;
  - d. Installations for the manufacture of glass including glass fibre;
  - e. Installations for smelting mineral substances including the production of mineral fibres;
  - f. Manufacture of ceramic products by burning, in particular roofing tiles, bricks, refractory bricks, tiles, stoneware or porcelain.
6. Chemical industry (Projects not included in Annex I)
- a. Treatment of intermediate products and production of chemicals;
  - b. Production of pesticides and pharmaceutical products, paint and varnishes, elastomers and peroxides;
  - c. Storage facilities for petroleum, petrochemical and chemical products
7. Food industry
- a. Manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats;
  - b. Packing and canning of animal and vegetable products;
  - c. Manufacture of dairy products;
  - d. Brewing and malting;
  - e. Confectionery and syrup manufacture;
  - f. Installations for the slaughter of animals;
  - g. Industrial starch manufacturing installations;
  - h. Fish-meal and fish-oil factories;
  - i. Sugar factories.
8. Textile, leather, wood and paper industries
- a. Industrial plants for the production of paper and board (projects not included in Annex I);
  - b. Plants for the pre-treatment (operations such as washing, bleaching, mercerisation) or dyeing of fibres or textiles;
  - c. Plants for the tanning of hides and skins;
  - d. Cellulose-processing and production installations. Annex II
9. Rubber Industry Manufacture and treatment of elastomer-based products
10. Infrastructure projects
- a. Industrial estate development projects
  - b. Urban development projects, including the construction of shopping centres and car parks.
  - c. Construction of railways and intermodal transshipment facilities, and of intermodal terminals (projects not included in Annex I);

- d. Construction of airfields (projects not included in Annex I) This project category could be interpreted as including heliports;
  - e. Construction of roads, harbours, and port installations, including fishing harbours (projects not included in Annex I);
  - f. Inland waterway construction not included in Annex I, canalisation and flood relief works;
  - g. Dams and other installations designed to hold water or store it on a long-term basis (projects not included in Annex I);
  - h. Tramways, elevated and underground railways, suspended lines or similar lines of a particular type, used exclusively or mainly for passenger transport;
  - i. Oil and gas pipeline installations and pipelines for the transport of CO<sub>2</sub> streams for the purposes of geological storage (projects not included in Annex I); Annex II (10)(f) Annex II (10)(h) 53;
  - j. Installations of long-distance aqueducts;
  - k. Coastal work to combat erosion and maritime works capable of altering the coast through the construction, for example, of dykes, moles, jetties and other sea defence works, excluding the maintenance and reconstruction of such works;
  - l. Groundwater abstraction and artificial groundwater recharge schemes not included in Annex I;
  - m. Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins not included in Annex I.
11. Other projects
- a. Permanent racing and test tracks for motorised vehicles;
  - b. Installations for the disposal of waste (projects not included in Annex I);
  - c. Wastewater treatment plants (projects not included in Annex I);
  - d. Sludge-deposition sites; The treatment and disposal of sludge could be interpreted as being covered by this project category.
  - e. Storage of scrap iron, including scrap vehicles;
  - f. Test benches for engines, turbines or reactors;
  - g. Installations for the manufacture of artificial mineral fibres; (h) Installations for the recovery or destruction of explosive substances; (i) Knackers' yards.
12. Tourism and leisure
- a. Ski runs, ski lifts and cable cars and associated developments;
  - b. Marinas;
  - c. Holiday villages and hotel complexes outside urban areas and associated developments;
  - d. Permanent campsites and caravan sites;
- 13.
- a. Any change or extension of projects listed in Annex I or Annex II, already authorised, executed or in the process of being executed, which may have significant adverse effects on the environment;
  - b. Projects in Annex I, undertaken exclusively or mainly for the development and testing of new methods or products and not used for more than two years.

## Appendix 5: Consultation Responses

(See overleaf)

**From:** [Wakefield, Nick](#)  
**To:** [Will Wilson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: EMD-189697 - No response required to C&E  
**Date:** 09 December 2020 17:15:12  
**Attachments:** [image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)  
[image010.png](#)  
[image011.png](#)  
[image012.png](#)  
[Lound NP - SEA HRA Screening Report \(Draft\).pdf](#)  
**Importance:** High

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External Message - Be aware that the sender of this email originates from outside of the Council. Please be cautious when opening links or attachments in email

Dear Will,

Thank you for your email and I sincerely apologise for the delay in replying.

We note that the Local Plan area is in reasonably close proximity of two SSSI's (Mattersey Hill Marsh to the West and Sutton and Lound Gravel Pits to the East). Whilst we have no specific comment to make on this from the remit of the Environment Agency we recommend you seek the views of Natural England with regards to whether a full SEA and HRA can be screened out.

Again, I do apologise for the delay in replying.

Regards

Nick

**Nick Wakefield**

Planning Specialist, Sustainable Places Team

**Environment Agency** | Trentside Offices, Scarrington Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5BR

☎ Direct [REDACTED]  
☎ Mobile [REDACTED]



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for people and wildlife



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- GOV.UK/coronavirus





Historic England

Mr Will Wilson  
Bassetlaw District Council  
Queen's Buildings  
Potter Street  
Worksop  
S80 2AH

Direct Dial: 0121 625 6870

Our ref: PL00720002

9 November 2020

Dear Mr Wilson

### **LOUND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - SEA SCREENING REQUEST**

Thank you for your consultation of 15 October 2020 and the request for a Screening Opinion in respect of the *Lound Neighbourhood Plan*.

For the purposes of consultations on SEA Screening Opinions, Historic England confines its advice to the question, "Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?" in respect of our area of concern, cultural heritage. Our comments are based on the information supplied with the screening request.

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], Historic England is of the view that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not likely to be required.

The views of the other statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for a SEA is made. If a decision is made to undertake a SEA, please note that Historic England has published guidance on Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Historic Environment that is relevant to both local and neighbourhood planning and available at:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

Should it be concluded that, overall, a SEA will be required for the Plan, Historic England would be pleased to discuss the scope of the assessment in relation to the historic environment in due course.

I hope that this information is of use to you at this time. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.



THE AXIS 10 HOLLIDAY STREET BIRMINGHAM B1 1TF

Telephone 0121 625 6888  
[HistoricEngland.org.uk](http://HistoricEngland.org.uk)



*Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any Information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.*



Historic England

Yours sincerely,

Clive Fletcher

Clive Fletcher  
Principal Adviser, Historic Places



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Date: 19 November 2020  
Our ref: 330903  
Your ref: n/a



Bassetlaw District Council

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

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

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Will Wilson

**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)  
Screening of the emerging Lound Neighbourhood Plan.**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 15 October 2020 which was received by Natural England on 15 October 2020.

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.

**Strategic Environmental Assessment**

It is our advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that, in so far as our strategic environmental interests (including but not limited to statutory designated sites, landscapes and protected species, geology and soils) are concerned, that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects from the proposed plan.

**Habitats Regulations Assessment**

Where a neighbourhood plan could potentially affect a '[habitats site](#)', it will be necessary to screen the plan in relation to the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017), as amended (the 'Habitats Regulations'). Where likely significant effects are identified, it will be necessary to undertake an appropriate assessment of the neighbourhood plan and, if needed, identify and secure appropriate mitigation measures to ensure the plan does not result in an adverse effect on the integrity of the habitats site.

**In accordance with Schedule 2 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), a neighbourhood plan cannot be made if it breaches the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).**

A screening exercise should be undertaken if there is any doubt about the possible effects of the plan on the habitats site(s). This will be particularly important if a neighbourhood plan is to progress **before** a local plan and/or the neighbourhood plan proposes development which has not been assessed and/or included in the Habitats Regulations Assessment for the local plan. Where mitigation is necessary to ensure no effects then this will need to be properly assessed via an appropriate assessment.

Natural England agree with the conclusion in paragraph 7.4 of Lound NP SEA & HRA Screening Assessment that Lound NP.

**Neighbourhood Plan**

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in light of the Environmental Assessment of

Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended), is contained within the [National Planning Practice Guidance](#). The guidance highlights three triggers that may require the production of an SEA, for instance 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.

We have checked our records and based on the information provided, we can confirm that in our view the proposals contained within the plan will not have significant effects on sensitive sites that Natural England has a statutory duty to protect.

We are not aware of significant populations of protected species which are likely to be affected by the policies / proposals within the plan. It remains the case, however, that the responsible authority should provide information supporting this screening decision, sufficient to assess whether protected species are likely to be affected.

Notwithstanding this advice, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all potential environmental assets. As a result the responsible authority should raise environmental issues that we have not identified on local or national biodiversity action plan species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites or local landscape character, with its own ecological and/or landscape advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local landscape and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by this plan, before determining whether an SEA is necessary.

Please note that Natural England reserves the right to provide further comments on the environmental assessment of the plan beyond this SEA screening stage, should the responsible authority seek our views on the scoping or environmental report stages. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact me on 02080 266680. 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

Caolan Gaffney  
Planning Lead Adviser  
East Midlands Area Delivery Team