

Strategic Environmental
Assessment Screening
and Habitats Regulation
Assessment Screening
Report

Dinnington St John's
Neighbourhood Plan 2016 -
2028

February 2019

Contents

1.0	Introduction.....	3
1.1	This Report.....	3
1.2	Legislative Background.....	3
1.3	Planning Context.....	5
1.4	The Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Plan.....	6
2.0	The Screening Process.....	8
2.1	SEA Screening.....	8
2.2	SEA Screening Conclusion.....	15
2.3	HRA Screening	16
3.0	Conclusion.....	17
	Appendix A: Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Plan Policies.....	18
	Appendix B: Annex 1 and Annex II of the EIA Directive.....	28
	Appendix C: Statutory Consultee and Rotherham MBC Comments.....	34
Figures		
Fig 1	Application of criteria of the SEA Directive to plans.....	4
Fig 2	Dinnington St John’s Neighbourhood Area.....	7
Fig 3	Establishing whether there is a need for an SEA.....	8
Fig 4	Dinnington St John’s Neighbourhood Plan and SEA Directive.....	11

1.0 Introduction

1.1 This report

1.1.1 A neighbourhood plan must meet a set of basic conditions. This includes demonstrating that the plan does not breach and is compatible with EU obligations.

1.1.2 The screening report seeks to determine whether the draft Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Plan ('the Plan') is likely to have significant environmental effects and will require a formal strategic environmental assessment (SEA). Secondly, it assesses the likelihood of the proposals within the Plan having an adverse impact upon a European site through a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA).

1.1.3 This SEA and HRA screening document is being undertaken on the pre-submission draft of the Plan (Jan 2019).

1.1.4 The screening report is structured as follows:

- Section 1.0 outlines the legislative background to SEA and HRA and an overview of the Plan
- Section 2.0 provides screening assessments of the likely significant environmental effects of the Plan for SEA and likely significant effects of the Plan on a European Site.
- Section 3.0 provides a conclusion as to whether a formal SEA and/or Appropriate Assessment (HRA) is required.

1.1.5 In forming its determinations, consultation will be undertaken with the three statutory consultation bodies designated in the regulations (Historic England, Natural England and Environment Agency) as well as Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council on whether a SEA and HRA is required.

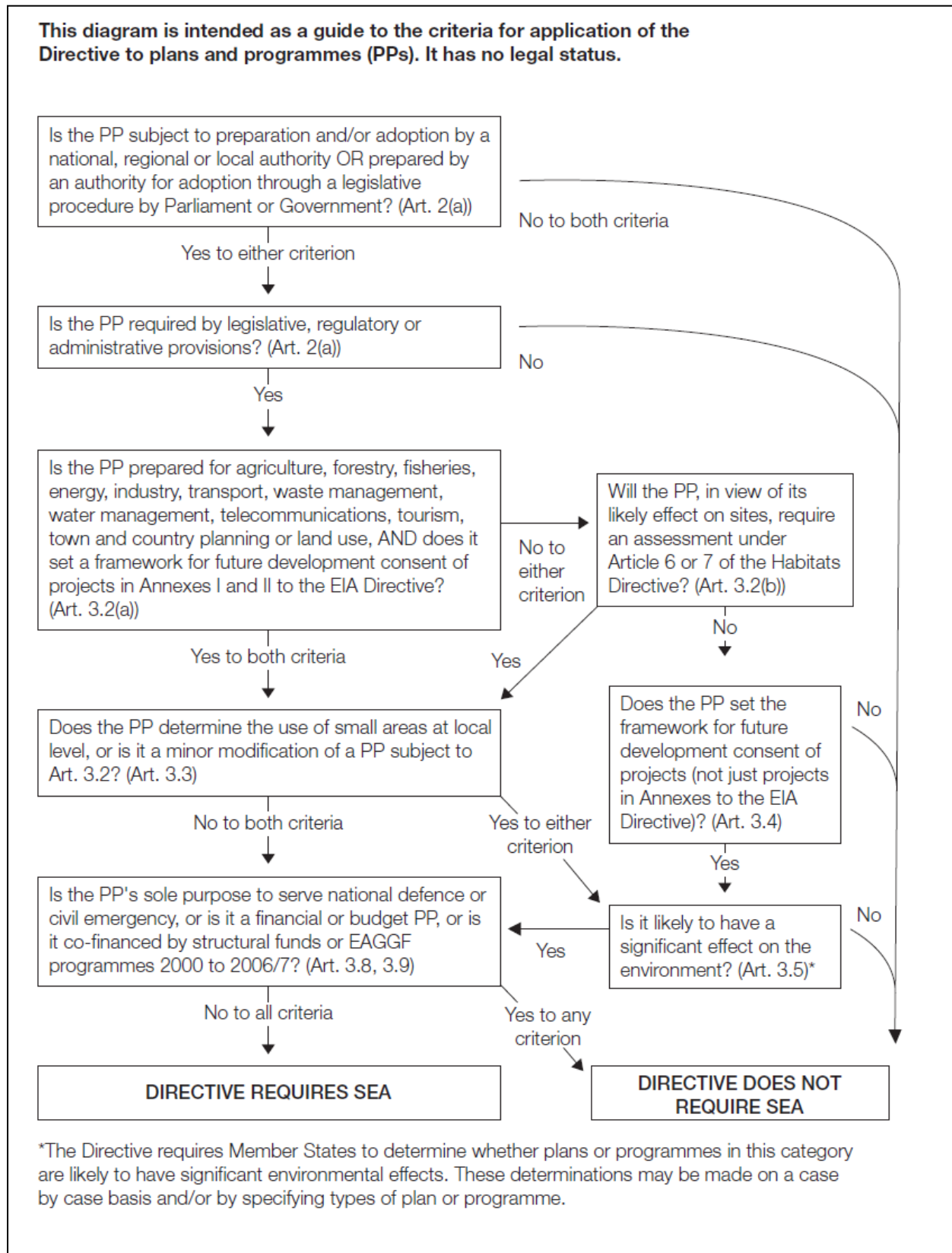
1.2 Legislative Background

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

1.2.1 The need for environmental assessment of Neighbourhood Plans stems from the European Directive 2001/42/EC and was transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (EAPP) 2004, or SEA Regulations.

1.2.2 The SEA Directive aims to ensure a high level of protection for the environment and to integrate environmental considerations into the preparation of plans. The screening procedure is based on criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the EAPP Regulations 2004. The report assesses the Plan against the criteria, and on that basis, sets out whether an SEA is required. Figure 1 sets out the basic framework for establishing whether an SEA will be required.

Figure 1: Application of criteria of the SEA Directive to Plans



Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 1.2.3 Schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 makes provision in relation to the Habitats Directive. 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 programs 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.
- 1.2.4 The HRA will consider relevant European Sites which consist of:
- Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) – sites designated to provide increased protection to habitats and species considered to be most in need of conservation at a European level (excluding birds).
- Special Protection Area (SPA) - sites designated for the breeding, feeding, wintering or the migration of rare and vulnerable species of birds found within EU countries.
- 1.2.5 It is also government policy for sites designated under the Convention of Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar sites) to be treated as having equivalent status to European Sites.
- 1.2.6 The legislation requires that, where there is a risk of a significant effect on a European Site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects then the plan should progress from HRA screening to an Appropriate Assessment.
- 1.2.7 On 13th April the Court of Justice of the European Union published its ruling regarding the ‘People Over Wind’ legal judgement on Habitats Regulations Assessment & the Habitats Directive. The Court of Justice clarified that it is not appropriate to take account of mitigation measures when screening plans and projects for their effects on European protected habitats under the Habitats Directive. Therefore, if a likely significant effect is identified at the screening stage of a habitats assessment, an ‘Appropriate Assessment’ must be undertaken.

1.3 Planning Context

- 1.3.1 The Plan, once adopted, will form part of the planning policy framework for the Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Plan Area. In accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012), the Plan will need to be in general conformity with the strategic policies which are adopted by the relevant local authority (Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council).
- 1.3.2 The adopted local plan for the local authority area is the Rotherham Local Plan 2011-2028. This along with the Rotherham Sites and Policies Development Plan

and Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Development Plan constitutes Rotherham's Development Plan.

1.4 The Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan

1.4.1 The Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan Area was designated in July 2016. It covers the area of Dinnington St John's Parish as identified in figure 2.

1.4.2 The Parish is located towards the south edge of the administrative area of Rotherham Metropolitan borough Council and is in the County of South Yorkshire. Dinnington is the principal and most populous settlement of the Parish, which includes the small satellite hamlets of Throapham and St John's.

1.4.3 The landscape of the Parish is largely rural and typified by gently rolling countryside that surrounds and provide an important context and setting for Dinnington Town. Much of the countryside surrounding Dinnington is designated as Green Belt and incorporates land of a high agricultural value classified as Grade 2 (very good).

1.4.4 Whilst there are no statutory environmental designations, the Parish encompasses a diversity of habitat and wildlife including five Local Wildlife Sites. There are a number of priority habitats, notably deciduous woodland, ancient and semi-natural woodland and good quality semi-improved grassland.

1.4.5 Dinnington has retained many of its old buildings and structures including stately homes and terraced housing built to house those working at the Dinnington Colliery at the turn of the century. There are 16 heritage assets listed in the South Yorkshire's Historic Environment Record¹. These include the site of the former pithead baths, post-medieval ridge and furrow and the site of the Roman Coin hoard, reflecting the Dinnington's rich industrial and social past.

1.4.6 There are 9 Listed Buildings (in 2017) within the Parish that have been identified as being of national significance and importance in view of their special architectural and historic interest. Notable examples include the Church of St John's which dates from the late 12th century, and Dinnington Hall, a large former stately home which dates from the 17th Century.

1.4.7 The purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan is to provide a set of statutory planning policies to guide development within the Plan area over the period to 2028 and has been prepared by a steering group on behalf of the qualifying body, Dinnington St John Town Council.

1.4.8 The vision of the Plan is

To actively improve the wellbeing of residents of Dinnington St John's Parish through the implementation of the following key strategies:

Housing that meets the needs of the local community and changing needs

¹ <http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/chr/herdetail.aspx?crit=&ctid=92&id=4734>

Health, leisure and community facilities accessible to all

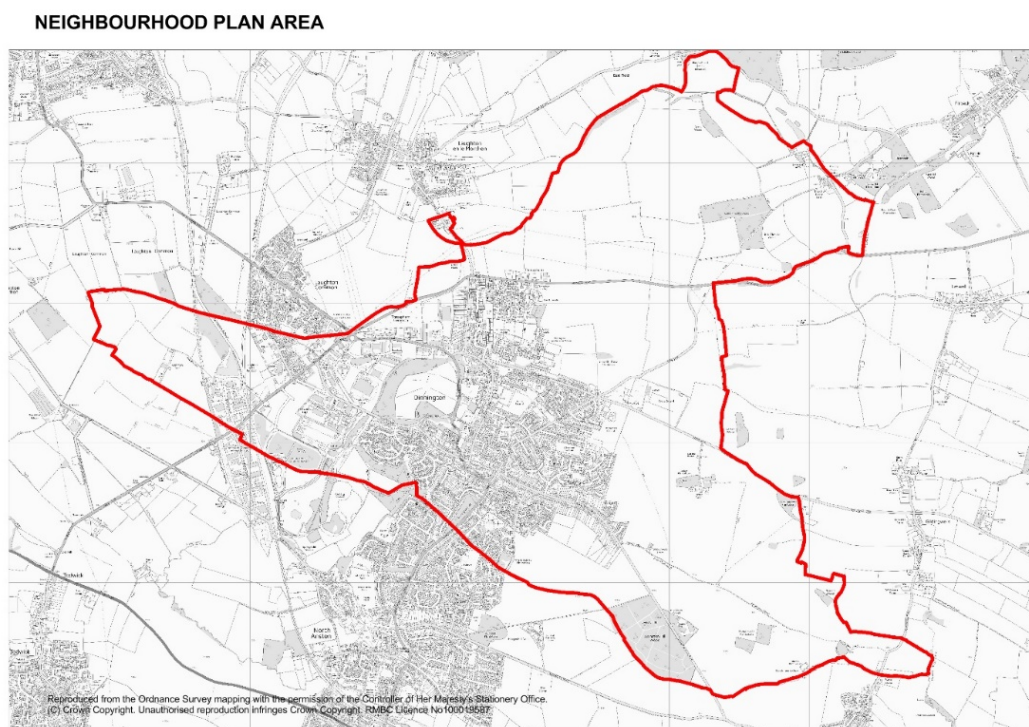
Local education, employment and skills opportunities for all

Vibrant shops and attractive Town Centre

High quality Built Environment and supporting infrastructure

- 1.4.9 In order to work towards achieving this vision, the Plan sets out a number of planning policies. These indicate how new development proposals will be assessed in order to ensure that any future housing is sustainable, meets local need and does not have a detrimental impact upon the Parish. Policies also seek to ensure development proposals recognise the historic character of the area and provide protection for important environments and natural assets, including local green spaces.

Figure 2: Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Area



2.0 The Screening Process

2.1 SEA Screening

2.1.1 The process for determining whether or not an SEA is required is called screening. The SEA screening is a two stage process:

Stage 1 considers the Plan generically against the SEA Assessment criteria specified in the national guidance (A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment; Fig 1). Where it is determined that there is a potential for a Neighbourhood Plan to have a significant effect on the environment, it will be necessary to progress to Stage 2.

Stage 2 involves testing the Plan against the criteria set out in the SEA Directive Article 3 (5) Annex II, to determine the likely significance of environmental effects.

2.1.2 Figure 3 provides a generic assessment of the Plan against the SEA Assessment criteria.

Figure 3: Establishing whether there is a need for an SEA

Stage	Y/N	Reason
1. Is the plan or programme 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	Neighbourhood plans may be prepared under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, as amended by the Localism Act 2011. They are drawn up by a qualifying body, which, in the case of Dinnington St John, is the Town Council. It is subject to examination and referendum. If the Plan receives 50% or more affirmative votes at referendum, it will be 'made' by the local planning authority (Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council).
2. Is the PP required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))	N	The preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan is optional. Once 'made', it will form part of the statutory Local Plan for the area and should continue to be screened under the SEA Directive.
3. Is the Plan prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste	Y	The Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared for town and country planning and land use and sets out a framework for

Stage	Y/N	Reason
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 Annex I and II to the EIA Directive? (Article 3.2 (a))		future development in Dinnington. Once 'made', it would form part of the statutory development plan and will be used when making decisions on planning applications that could include development that may fall under Annex I and II of the EIA directive.
4. Will the Plan, in view of its likely effects on sites, require an assessment for future development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Article 3.2(b))	N	<p>The Plan does not allocate sites for housing or other forms of development, but instead provides further local criteria for proposals to meet in support of existing and local planning policies. It is unlikely therefore that the Plan will have a significant adverse effect upon any European (Natura 2000) Site.</p> <p>There is no European Site within the Parish. The nearest site; the Birklands and Bilaugh SAC is approximately 18km to the south east. There are no obvious impact pathways that would bring this or other sites beyond this into consideration.</p>
5. Does the Plan determine the use of small areas at local level OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to Article 3.2? (Article 3.3)	Y	<p>The draft Plan policies are set out in Appendix 1; they seek protection of; heritage assets and the historic character more broadly, the natural environment and community facilities and support a mix of good quality housing that meets the needs of the local community.</p> <p>Once 'made' the Plan would form part of the statutory development plan and be used when determining planning applications at the local level. However, the Neighbourhood Plan reflects the broader spatial framework laid out in the Erewash Core Strategy and Saved Local Plan policies in terms of the level and location of new development.</p>

Stage	Y/N	Reason
6. Does the Plan set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in	Y	A neighbourhood plan once 'made' forms part of the statutory development plan and will be used to assess planning applications and other planning decisions
annexes to the EIA Directive)? Article 3.4)		within the Plan Area. Therefore, in conjunction with the Rotherham Development Plan, the policies, set the framework for future developments at a local level.
7. Is the Plan'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? (Article 3.8, 3.9)	N	The Neighbourhood Plan does not have a sole purpose that falls within any of these categories.
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Article 3.5)	N	<p>A neighbourhood plan could potentially have an effect on the environment. However, whether this is significant depends on the proposals in the Plan.</p> <p>The focus of the Plan is to shape development to meet local needs and support sustainable development, so that any adverse impacts on the local environment are minimised.</p> <p>The Plan policies seek to conserve and enhance the natural and historic environment. It seeks, for example, to protect green infrastructure through support of the continued designation of the Green Belt and protection of Local Green Spaces and the Green Infrastructure Network.</p> <p>As the Plan, does not allocate sites for housing or other forms of development; does not amend or introduce Limits to Development and has proposed a suite of policies to protect and where possible enhance the built and natural environment,</p>

Stage	Y/N	Reason
		<p>it is considered that it is likely to have a positive impact on the environment.</p> <p>Any potential environmental effects of the Neighbourhood Plan will be determined through stage 2 of this screening assessment. (see figure 4).</p>

2.1.3 The results of the preceding assessment indicate that, depending upon the content of the Neighbourhood Plan, a Strategic Environmental Assessment may be required.

2.1.4 Question 8 in figure 2 refers to whether the Neighbourhood Plan would have a significant effect on the environment. The proposals within the Plan will thus be assessed against the criteria from Annex II of the SEA Directive and Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004)

Figure 4: Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Plan and the SEA Directive

Criteria	Assessment
(1) The characteristics of the plans, having regard to:	
(a) the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources;	<p>The Plan, if made, would form part of the statutory development plan. It would set a local policy framework for development proposals which are local in nature and which the community and stakeholders consider are important to the sustainable development of the Parish and on which the Plan can have the greatest impact.</p> <p>The Plan sets local criteria by which development proposals which may come forward, should be assessed. It will have a positive influence for the natural and historic environment of the Parish by highlighting those assets that should be protected from any future development and the quality of development expected.</p> <p>The Plan sits within a wider strategic framework set by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2018 and adopted Borough-wide development plan. It supports, and is in general conformity with, the strategic policies in the Rotherham Local Plan 2013-2028 and Rotherham Sites and Policies document (2018).</p>

Criteria	Assessment
(b) the degree to which the plan influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;	The Plan sits in the lower tier of the planning policy hierarchy and must be in conformity with the approved Rotherham Borough local planning policies and have regard to the NPPF. It, therefore, supports the implementation of higher tier policies at the neighbourhood level and, as such, is not considered likely to have a significant influence on other plans and programmes.
(c) the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;	<p>The Plan, as advocated by the NPPF, is underpinned by the principles of sustainable development.</p> <p>The Plan's Vision is to improve the wellbeing of residents of the Parish through sustainable growth and development that prioritises local community need for housing, education and health. The Plan recognises the important link between healthy communities and the environment including access to open space, active travel and improved access to healthy food</p> <p>The Plan is regarded as an opportunity to integrate health and environmental considerations into future planning and development decisions in the Parish.</p>
(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan; and	<p>The Plan will not introduce any environmental problems; rather it will seek to address and not further exacerbate environmental issues in the Parish. Potential environmental issues identified during the Neighbourhood Planning process include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increasing pressure nationally for the release of Green Belt sites for development; • identification of Dinnington St John in the Local Plan as a "Principal Settlement for Growth" • land of high agricultural value classified as Grade 2 (very good) within the Green Belt • fragmented habitats (including Priority habitats) • impact of new development on character • an historic environment, including a Conservation Area, 9 Listed Buildings and 16 heritage assets listed on the South Yorkshire Historic Environment Record. <p>The Plan contains measures to address current and potential environmental problems. These are notably in relation to supporting the continued designation of</p>

Criteria	Assessment
	the Green Belt, protection of Local Green Spaces and Green Infrastructure and protecting local heritage assets and character.
(e) the relevance of the plan for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans linked to waste-management or water protection).	It must be in general conformity with higher-level plans that comprise the Rotherham Local Plan 2013-2028, including the the Rotherham Sites and Policies Document (adopted 2018). These plans have been developed with regard to European Community legislation on the environment. Consequently, the policies of the Plan are not considered to be relevant to the implementation of EC legislation.
(2) Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to:	
(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;	<p>The Plan relates to specific, small scale issues ensuring that any future windfall development will deliver the maximum local benefits. It addresses specific local development management issues, complementing the higher level strategic policy framework already established through the adopted Local Plan and national policies (NPPF).</p> <p>The Plan policies are generally designed to minimise the environmental effects of any new development and to promote sustainable development.</p> <p>Given that the Plan; does not allocate sites for housing or other development and has proposed a suite of policies to protect and where possible enhance the built and natural environment, the probability of adverse environmental effects is highly unlikely. Overall, it is considered through the application of its policies, the Plan is likely to have neutral and in many cases, positive environmental effects.</p> <p>In particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Plan promotes the protection of the local natural environment through the protection of Local Green Spaces and Green Infrastructure • the Plan seeks to protect the local historic environment through the support of development that; demonstrates good quality design that

Criteria	Assessment
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • responds to local character and identification of local heritage assets. <p>There are no statutorily designated environmental assets within the Parish and the nearest European site, Birklands and Bilaugh SAC, lies 18kms from the boundary. Given the distance from the boundary, the nature of designation and the contents of the plan there are no likely significant effects.</p> <p>The duration of the positive effects outlined above are likely to be long term. However, due to the small scale and nature of the issues considered in the Plan, it is considered any effects will be low in frequency and reversible.</p>
(b) the cumulative nature of the effects;	<p>The effect of the Plan needs to be considered alongside the adopted Local Plan (including Rotherham Sites and Policies document). The Plan does not propose any development beyond that outlined in the aforementioned borough plans.</p> <p>The cumulative effects of proposals within the Parish are unlikely to be significant on the local environment. Any cumulative impacts are likely to be beneficial.</p>
(c) the transboundary nature of the effects;	<p>The Plan establishes locally distinct development management policies for Dinnington St John Parish and thus the majority of effects will be localised to the Plan area.</p> <p>The exception to this is the policy supporting ongoing designation of the Green Belt which has the potential for positive impacts beyond the Parish.</p>
(d) the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents);	<p>No significant risks to human health or the environment have been identified. The Plan seeks to create the conditions to improve human health by providing opportunities for recreation, socialising, active transport and access to healthy food.</p>
(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan is concerned with development within Dinnington St John Parish, which has a population of 9,077 (2011 Census and covers an area of 1,097 hectares.</p> <p>The potential for environmental impacts is likely to be minimal and limited to the Plan area.</p>

Criteria	Assessment
<p>(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; (iii) intensive land-use; and 	<p>Dinnington St John has important natural characteristics and cultural heritage. The Parish, incorporates ancient and semi-natural woodlands and has a rich cultural heritage linked more latterly to mining in the area. There is one Conservation Area and 9 Listed Buildings.</p> <p>Development presents the potential for effects upon heritage assets and their settings in the Plan area. However, no development is proposed, and the approach to managing effects on heritage is positive. The Plan recognises the value and vulnerability of the local historical character through the application of Policies BED1 and BED2 which require proposals to protect buildings and structures of local heritage interest and respond to local character through design,.</p> <p>There are no statutorily designated environmental sites. However, there are five Local Wildlife Sites, plus Priority habitats and species present in the Parish.</p> <p>The Plan highlights these environmental assets and their contribution to the broader ecological network and supports their protection</p> <p>The Plan will not create conditions for intensive land-use. Development likely to have a detrimental effect on natural and heritage assets will not be supported.</p>
<p>(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.</p>	<p>The Plan contains policies which seek to preserve and enhance the distinct character of the Parish.</p> <p>There are no areas or landscapes within the Parish with national or international protection status.</p> <p>The Plan does not allocate development, but instead seeks to protect and where applicable, enhance the environmental and historic character of the area.</p>

2.2 SEA Screening Conclusion

2.2.1 This screening report has explored the potential effects of the Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Plan with a view to determining the likely requirement for an environmental assessment under the SEA Directive. Based on the SEA Screening

Assessment set out in figure 3 above, it is concluded that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects.

- 2.2.2 The Plan is a lower tier plan in the hierarchy of planning documents for the area and therefore has limited influence on other plans or programmes.
- 2.2.3 The Plan does not allocate any development sites; but instead provides criteria based policies to help guide development that may come forward under the policies set out in the Borough Local Plan. The criteria set out for development in the Plan is likely to prove beneficial in terms of mitigating against possible adverse impacts of future development.
- 2.2.4 The Parish does contain potentially sensitive areas and assets including a Conservation Area, 9 listed buildings and five Local Wildlife Sites. However, no development is proposed that is likely to have any significant effect on any special areas. The Plan is likely to guard against any possible significant adverse impacts on the built environment arising from future development that might come forward.
- 2.2.5 Having taken all the policies in the Plan into account, in accordance with the topics cited in Annex 1(f) of the SEA directive, this screening opinion has concluded that a full SEA is not required.

2.3 HRA Screening

- 2.3.1 Alongside the SEA screening process there is a need to assess whether the Neighbourhood Plan would have an adverse impact upon internationally designated wildlife sites, as required by the European Habitats Directive.
- 2.3.2 The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) refers to the assessment required for any plan or project to assess the potential impacts against the conservation objectives of Natura 2000 wildlife sites. The assessment must determine whether the plans would adversely affect, or are likely to affect, the integrity of a site(s) in terms of its nature conservation objectives. Where negative effects are identified other options should be examined to avoid any potentially damaging effects.
- 2.3.3 The HRA process is generally divided into three stages. The initial stage of the HRA process is called the screening stage and determines if there are any likely significant effects or risk of significant effects possible as a result of the implementation of the plan. If there are significant effects the plan will need to undertake an Appropriate Assessment. The screening process should provide a description of the plan and an identification of the Natura 2000 sites which may be affected by the plan and assess the significance of any possible effects on the identified sites.
- 2.3.4 There is no pre-defined guidance that dictates the physical scope of a HRA of a Neighbourhood Plan. Therefore, in considering the physical scope of the assessment, we were guided primarily by the identified impact pathways rather

than by arbitrary 'zones'. This study therefore considers potential effects on all European sites within 15km of the Dinnington St John Parish boundary plus any sites linked to the area through a known 'pathway.'

- 2.3.5 There are no European sites within Dinnington St John Parish. The nearest European site, Birklands and Bilaugh SAC is located some 18kms to the south east of the parish.
- 2.3.6 A Habitats Regulations Screening was undertaken as part of the Rotherham Local Plan Sites and Policies (2018). The outcome of this work was that there were no likely effects on European sites and therefore an Appropriate Assessment was not required.
- 2.3.7 The Plan does not identify development beyond that outlined in the Rotherham Local Plan Sites and Policies document. The Plan provides criteria based policies to help guide development that might come forward in accordance with the borough plans.
- 2.5.8 It is not considered that the implementation of the Plan, by virtue of its scope, the nature of its policies and proximity will result in any likely significant effects upon qualifying features of a European site.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 The SEA screening finds that no significant effects are likely as a result of the implementation of the Plan. On this basis, a full SEA will not be required to be undertaken.
- 3.2 The HRA screening finds that no significant adverse effects are likely as the result of the implementation of the Plan. It is not necessary to prepare an Appropriate Assessment, as part of the Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Plan preparation.

Appendix A: Dinnington St John's Neighbourhood Plan Policies

POLICY H1: HOUSING REQUIREMENTS

New housing development proposals will only be supported on sites allocated for housing in the Local Plan or windfall sites.

POLICY H2: HOUSING MIX

New housing development will be required to demonstrate how it relates to the need identified in Appendix 1 for smaller homes (one or two bedrooms), especially for young families and young people and for older people who wish to downsize, or the needs identified in a more up to date assessment of housing need. At least a third of new homes in a development of more than two dwellings should have one or two bedrooms. No more than 50% of new homes in a development of more than one dwelling should have 4 or more bedrooms.

Housing for older people or those with a disability will be supported especially where; suitably located within walking distance, on a safe, level route or within easy reach of public transport to the town centre shops and services.

POLICY H3: IMPROVING THE EXISTING HOUSING STOCK

The Plan supports actions aimed at improving the condition of the housing stock, especially of the private rented sector, for the benefit of occupiers and Parishioners.

POLICY H4: HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Development proposals for the extension and change of use of a family house and other buildings to an HMO use (Sui Generis in the Use Class Order), will only be supported where:

- a) *it does not harm the visual character and appearance of the building, neighbourhood and street scene;*
- b) *the scale and intensity of the use proposed would not have an unacceptable impact on amenity for its occupiers and neighbouring residential amenities in terms of noise, outlook, light, privacy, parking, vehicular and pedestrian access, disturbance, and increased levels of activity;*
- c) *any associated extensions or external alterations required would not have an unacceptable impact on neighbouring residential amenities through reduced levels of daylight, sunlight, outlook or privacy; and*
- d) *amenity space refuse storage and car and bicycle parking are provided at an appropriate quantity and standard of design, and management arrangements for them are put into place.*

The Plan supports and urges the introduction of an Article 4 Direction by Rotherham MBC for all or part of the Parish that would require planning permission to convert a family home into a House of Multiple Occupation.

POLICY HLC 1: EXISTING IMPORTANT HEALTH, LEISURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Development proposals that result in the loss of, or have a significant adverse effect on, a community facility will not be supported, unless the building or facility is replaced by an equivalent or by better provision in terms of quantity and quality in an equally suitable location, or it can be clearly demonstrated to the satisfaction of Rotherham MBC in consultation with the Parish Council that the service or facility is unviable or is no longer required by the community. The following facilities are considered to be especially important to the community:

- *Athorpe Lodge Care Home.*
- *Church of St.John's, Throapham.*
- *Dinnington Group Surgery.*
- *Dinnington High School.*
- *Dinnington Methodist Church.*
- *Dinnington Primary School.*
- *Dinnington Resource Centre.*

- *Dinnington Rugby Club.*
- *High Nook Community Centre.*
- *Job Centre Building.*
- *Lyric Theatre.*
- *Market Area.*
- *Middleton Hall.*
- *Monksbridge Farm Public House.*
- *Squirrel Public House.*
- *St. Joseph's Catholic Church.*
- *St. Joseph's Primary School.*
- *St. Joseph's Court Community Centre*
- *St. Leonards Church.*
- *Ye Old Village Club.*

POLICY HLC 2: NEW HEALTH, LEISURE AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Development proposals involving the provision of a new or enhanced community facility will be supported where it can be demonstrated to Rotherham MBC in consultation with the Town Council that it contributes to the health and wellbeing of local communities. Where possible facilities should:

- 1. be co-located and seek where applicable, to integrate services including health, education, social services, arts and leisure;*
- 2. support public transport use or opportunities for active travel; enabling convenient, safe and attractive access;*
- 3. be of a siting, scale and design which respects the character of the surrounding area, including any historic and natural assets; and*
- 4. demonstrate that the local road network is capable of accommodating the additional movements.*

Development proposals involving the provision of new or enhanced medical facilities or a new leisure centre to the serve the Parish will be especially supported and encouraged.

POLICY HLC 3: ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE

Development proposals that support the longevity, appreciation and community value of an Asset of Community Value will be encouraged. Development proposals for a change of use that would result in the loss of an Asset of Community Value will not be supported unless it can be demonstrated that the existing use is not viable.

POLICY EES 1: FOSTERING ECONOMIC AND JOBS GROWTH

The Plan supports the retention of existing suitable sites and buildings for employment use. Their use for non-employment uses will only be permitted in special circumstances for example where there is no reasonable prospect of the site or buildings being used for employment purposes.

The Plan will support and encourage actions and development proposals which will create employment and business opportunities within the Parish. This especially includes, where appropriate:

- a) the promotion of local employment and training opportunities such as through local labour agreements, including as part of a Section 106 agreement or similar;*
- b) setting up or improving initiatives to develop skills and employment opportunities for local people, including the provision of small and starter units for new businesses;*
- c) the provision of employment units of varying sizes to meet the needs of a wide range of employers and;*
- d) the provision and enhancement of cycle, walking and public transport links to the main housing areas and the Town Centre.*

POLICY STC 1: MAINTAINING AND ENHANCING THE ROLE AND ATTRACTIVENESS OF DINNINGTON TOWN CENTRE

Development proposals that maintain and enhance the attractiveness, vitality and viability of Dinnington Town Centre as the primary local location for retail, leisure, community and other uses appropriate to a town centre will be supported.

POLICY STC 2: ENHANCING THE CHARACTER, ATTRACTIVENESS, SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF DINNINGTON TOWN CENTRE

Development proposals will be required to demonstrate how they contribute to enhancing the character, attractiveness, safety and accessibility of Dinnington Town Centre, especially by:

- a) ensuring that it is of an appropriate scale, is well designed and is of a mass, layout and materials that respond positively to the character of the town centre;*
- b) improving the public realm; and*
- c) improving the town centre environment and legibility for pedestrians, cyclists and car users.*

They should have regard to and respond positively to the general principles as outlined in the Dinnington Town Centre Design Guide (2017) and summarised above.

POLICY STC 3: SHOP FRONT DESIGN IN DINNINGTON TOWN CENTRE

Development proposals to alter, replace or introduce shop fronts will be required to be of high quality, contributing to an overall improvement in terms of urban design and architecture, by:

- a) being visually attractive;*
- b) enhancing streets and spaces through quality design and architecture;*
- c) promoting visual links between the interior of the shop and the street;*
- d) being suitable in terms of crime prevention, community safety and security;*
- e) conforming to the general principles and objectives as outlined in the Shop Front Design Guide Section of the Dinnington Town Centre Design Guide (2017); and;*
- f) having regard to the Rotherham Interim Planning Statement Shopfront Design Guidance (2016)*

POLICY STC 4: SHOPS OUTSIDE DINNINGTON TOWN CENTRE

Development proposals that would result in the loss of, or have a significant adverse effect on, neighbourhood shops outside of the defined Dinnington Town Centre will not be supported unless it can be demonstrated to Rotherham MBC in consultation with the Town Council that:

- In the case of an adverse impact, that the benefits of development outweigh the impact and that opportunities to mitigate the impact have been considered; or*
- in the case of a loss of use, that it can be demonstrated that the use is no longer viable, and the site has been actively and appropriately marketed for at least six months for shopping purposes at a price commensurate with market values.*

The development of local shopping facilities to serve the day-to-day needs of their immediate community will be supported subject to satisfying the sequential and, where appropriate, the impact test requirements set out in NPPF and Policy CS12, and satisfying other planning policy requirements including transport, environmental and amenity considerations.

POLICY STC 5: HOT FOOD TAKEAWAYS

Hot food takeaways (including A3 restaurants with takeaway facilities) will not be permitted where they are within 800 metres of a primary school, secondary school or college (measured in a straight line from any pedestrian access to the school or college), except where they are within a defined town, district or local centre as specified in the Rotherham Local and satisfy Rotherham Local Plan Policy SP22 Hot Food Takeaways.

POLICY NE 1: Green Belt

The Plan supports the continued designation of the open countryside outside of the built-up part of Dinnington as Green Belt. Within the Green Belt, there will be a strong presumption against development that would conflict with the purposes of the Green Belt or adversely affects its open character.

POLICY NE 2: Local Green Spaces

Development proposals that would result in the loss of an identified Local Green Space (as shown on the accompanying plans and identified below) will only be supported other than in very special circumstances:

- *Dinnington High School Playing Fields, Doe Quarry Lane.*
- *Leys Lane Pocket Park at the junction of Leys Lane and Lamb Lane.*
- *Former Miners Welfare Ground (that part not identified for housing in the approved Sites and Policies Document 2018).*
- *Lodge Lane Recreation Ground (home of Dinnington Rugby Union Football Club).*
- *Green Space on the corner of High Nook Road and Keats Drive.*
- *Green Space on the corner of High Nook Road, Byron Road and Shakespeare Drive.*

POLICY NE 3: Green Infrastructure

Development proposals should ensure that existing Green infrastructure is protected and, where appropriate, enhanced to provide a high quality and accessible network of well-connected multi-functional spaces for the benefit of wildlife, residents and visitors.

Development proposals will be supported where it can be demonstrated that they maintain the integrity of the Green Infrastructure network, and where appropriate, enhance, restore or create areas that contribute to the network.

Where new Green Infrastructure is proposed, the design should reflect and enhance the area's local character, including landscapes and habitats and where possible connect and enhance the existing network within the Parish.

POLICY BED 1: Dinnington Character Buildings and Structures of Local Heritage Interest

The Plan identifies the buildings and structures listed below as Dinnington Character Buildings and Structures of local heritage interest.

- *Dinnington Colliery Pit Wheel (Coronation Park).*
- *Gurnhill Trough (Coronation Park).*
- *Cenotaph (Coronation Park).*
- *Old Library (Laughton Road).*
- *Front of the Old Brewery (currently Panache Café and Fat Stan's Tattoos, Laughton Road).*
- *Handsworth Woodhouse Co-op Buildings (currently Dave's Computer Shop, Laughton Road).*
- *Old Dentists (Lidgett Lane).*
- *Croft Cottage (Barleycroft Lane).*
- *Middleton Institute (Barleycroft Lane).*
- *Silverdales Social Club (Lordens Hill).*
- *Carlisle Terrace (Last of "The Barracks").*
- *Remains of the Old Blacksmiths (Laughton Road next to Twibells).*
- *The Old Plant Workshop (Bottom of Church Lane).*
- *St Leonards Church (Anglican) (including Font, Lectern and Dinnington Miners Banner)*
- *St Josephs Church (Catholic).*
- *The Old Rectory (Currently Jobcentre Plus).*
- *The Older Rectory (Laughton Road)*

Development proposals will not be supported that harm the historic significance and setting of Dinnington Character Buildings and structures.

Development proposals will be required to take into account the character, context and setting of these locally important assets including important views towards and from them. Development will be required to be designed appropriately, taking account of local styles, materials and detail.

POLICY BED 2: Design and Infrastructure

1. The design and master planning of development proposals will embrace the role they can play in supporting inclusive and healthy communities. Development proposals, where appropriate, will be assessed against the following:

- a) design and layouts that maximise opportunities to integrate development physically and functionally into the Parish through, for example, creating new connections and improving existing ones, and which allow for easy and*

direct movement to and from the Town Centre and wider built-up part of Dinnington for all ages;

- b) provision of attractive, direct and integrated network of walking and cycling routes;*
 - c) provision of attractive, safe, secure and accessible buildings and spaces that “design out crime and anti-social behaviour”; and are easy to get around for all, particularly for older people and those with disabilities;*
 - d) maximises opportunities to enhance the role of Dinnington Town as the main shopping and service centre in the Parish;*
 - e) design of new buildings and the spaces they create help reinforce or enhance the character, legibility, permeability, and accessibility of the Parish;*
 - f) suitable infrastructure and services to address its needs and any impact it may have on local infrastructure and facilities, especially roads, health, policing and schools;*
 - g) adequate measures for the future maintenance of open spaces, hard and soft landscaping and other public spaces and facilities; and*
 - h) they conserve and enhance locally distinctive character having regard to scale, siting, layout, density, massing, height, landscape, appearance, material, details and access.*
- 2. Any identified additional infrastructure needs arising as a result of proposed new development should be identified and addressed before planning approval is granted. Approvals will be conditioned so that, where necessary, infrastructure is in place preferable prior to development taking place, but, at a minimum, at appropriate times in the phasing of the development.*

POLICY BED 3: Development Contributions

Within new developments, contributions towards infrastructure projects/types facilities identified above as local priorities will be sought through planning obligations, Community Infrastructure Levy receipts and similar sources, where appropriate and where in accordance with relevant national and local planning policies.

Developers are encouraged to engage with the Town Council prior to the preparation of any planning application to confirm what these local priorities are,

to ensure that where appropriate and viable, the facilities proposed to complement any development proposals reflect these aspirations.

Appendix B:

Annex I Projects

1. Crude-oil refineries (excluding undertakings manufacturing only lubricants from crude oil) and installations for the gasification and liquefaction of 500 tonnes or more of coal or bituminous shale per day.
2. Thermal power stations and other combustion installations with a heat output of 300 megawatts or more, and nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors (except research installations for the production and conversion of fissionable and fertile materials, whose maximum power does not exceed 1 kilowatt continuous thermal load).
3. (a) Installations for the reprocessing of irradiated nuclear fuel
(b) Installations designed:-
 - for the production or enrichment of nuclear fuel,
 - for the processing of irradiated nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste,
 - for the final disposal of irradiated nuclear fuel,
 - solely for the final disposal of radioactive waste,
 - solely for the storage (planned for more than 10 years) of irradiated nuclear fuels or
 - radioactive waste in a different site than the production site.
4. (a) Integrated works for the initial smelting of cast-iron and steel
(b) Installations for the production of non-ferrous crude metals from ore, concentrates or secondary raw materials by metallurgical, chemical or electrolytic processes.
5. Installations for the extraction of asbestos and for the processing and transformation of asbestos and products containing asbestos: for asbestos-cement products, with an annual production of more than 20 000 tonnes of finished products, for friction material, with an annual production of more than 50 tonnes of finished products, and for other uses of asbestos, utilization of more than 200 tonnes per year.
6. Integrated chemical installations, i.e. those installations for the manufacture on an industrial scale of substances using chemical conversion processes, in which several units are juxtaposed and are functionally linked to one another and which are:
 - i) for the production of basic organic chemicals;
 - ii) for the production of basic inorganic chemicals;
 - iii) for the production of phosphorous-, nitrogen- or potassium-based fertilizers (simple or compound fertilizers);
 - iv) for the production of basic plant health products and of biocides;
 - v) for the production of basic pharmaceutical products using a chemical or biological process;
 - vi) for the production of explosives.
7. (a) Construction of lines for long-distance railway traffic and of airports with a basic runway length of 2,100 m or more;
(b) Construction of motorways and express roads
(c) Construction of a new road of four or more lanes, or realignment and/or widening of an existing road of two lanes or less so as to provide four or more lanes, where such new road, or realigned and/or widened section of road would be 10 km or more in a continuous length.

8. (a) Inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic which permit the passage of vessels of over 1 350 tonnes;
(b) Trading ports, piers for loading and unloading connected to land and outside ports (excluding ferry piers) which can take vessels of over 1 350 tonnes.
9. Waste disposal installations for the incineration, chemical treatment as defined in Annex IIA to Directive 75/442/EEC (3) under heading D9, or landfill of hazardous waste (i.e. waste to which Directive 91/689/EEC (4) applies).
10. Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment as defined in Annex IIA to Directive 75/442/EEC under heading D9 of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 100 tonnes per day.
11. Groundwater abstraction or artificial groundwater recharge schemes where the annual volume of water abstracted or recharged is equivalent to or exceeds 10 million cubic metres.
12. (a) Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where this transfer aims at preventing possible shortages of water and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 100 million cubic metres/year;
(b) In all other cases, works for the transfer of water resources between river basins where the multi-annual average flow of the basin of abstraction exceeds 2 000 million cubic metres/year and where the amount of water transferred exceeds 5 % of this flow.
In both cases transfers of piped drinking water are excluded.
13. Waste water treatment plants with a capacity exceeding 150 000 population equivalent as defined in Article 2 point (6) of Directive 91/271/EEC (5).
14. Extraction of petroleum and natural gas for commercial purposes where the amount extracted exceeds 500 tonnes/day in the case of petroleum and 500 000 m³/day in the case of gas.
15. Dams and other installations designed for the holding back or permanent storage of water, where a new or additional amount of water held back or stored exceeds 10 million cubic metres.
16. Pipelines for the transport of gas, oil or chemicals with a diameter of more than 800 mm and a length of more than 40 km.
17. Installations for the intensive rearing of poultry or pigs with more than:
(a) 85 000 places for broilers, 60 000 places for hens;
(b) 3 000 places for production pigs (over 30 kg); or
(c) 900 places for sows.
18. Industrial plants for the
(a) production of pulp from timber or similar fibrous materials;
(b) production of paper and board with a production capacity exceeding 200 tonnes per day.
19. Quarries and open-cast mining where the surface of the site exceeds 25 hectares, or peat extraction, where the surface of the site exceeds 150 hectares.
20. Construction of overhead electrical power lines with a voltage of 220 kV or more and a length of more than 15 km.
21. Installations for storage of petroleum, petrochemical, or chemical products with a capacity of 200,000 tonnes or more

Annex II Projects

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:
 - geothermal drilling,
 - drilling for the storage of nuclear waste material,
 - drilling for water supplies;
- (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 wind power for energy production (wind farms).

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) smithies 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) Coke ovens (dry coal distillation);
- (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);
- (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, mercerization) or dyeing of fibres or textiles;
- (c) Plants for the tanning of hides and skins;

(d) Cellulose-processing and production installations.

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 trans-shipment facilities, and of intermodal terminals (projects not included in Annex I);
- (d) Construction of airfields (projects not included in Annex I);
- (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 (projects not included in Annex I);
- (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) Waste-water treatment plants (projects not included in Annex I);
- (d) Sludge-deposition sites;
- (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 camp sites and caravan sites;

(e) Theme parks.

13. 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; 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 C:

Date: 09 April 2019
Our ref: 274724



Rachel Robson
Andrew Towler on behalf of Dinnington St John Neighbourhood
Plan Steering Group
R.robson75@hotmail.com

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Crewe
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BY EMAIL ONLY

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Rachel Robson

Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Plan SEA and HRA Screening

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 21 February 2019.

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.

Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations 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.

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 SA/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/SA 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.

Where a neighbourhood plan could potentially affect a European protected 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').

In accordance with Schedule 2 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, a neighbourhood plan cannot be made if the likelihood of significant effects on any European Site, either alone (or in combination with other plans and projects) cannot be ruled out. Therefore, measures may need to be incorporated into the neighbourhood plan to ensure that any likely significant effects are avoided in order to secure compliance with the Regulations. A screening exercise should be undertaken if there is any doubt about the possible effects of the plan on European protected sites. This will be particularly important if a neighbourhood plan is to progress before a local plan has been adopted and/or the neighbourhood plan proposes development which has not been assessed and/or included in the Habitats Regulations Assessment for the local plan.

Natural England is satisfied with the conclusions of the Habitats Regulation Assessment Screening of no likely significant effects and agrees that it is not necessary to prepare an appropriate assessment as part of the Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Plan preparation.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter please contact Merlin Ash at Merlin.ash@naturalengland.org.uk. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Merlin Ash
Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire Team
Natural England



Historic England

YORKSHIRE

Ms. Rachel Robson,
Andrew Towler Associates,
5 Clifton Mount
Rotherham
South Yorkshire
S65 2AQ

Our ref: PL00552213
Your ref:
Telephone 01904 601 879
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19 March 2019

Dear Ms. Robson,

**Dinnington St. John Neighbourhood Development Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Opinion Consultation**

We write in response to your e-mail of Thursday 21 February 2019, seeking a Screening Opinion for the Dinnington St. John Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2028, February 2019.

For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine its advice to the question, "Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?" in respect to our area of concern, cultural heritage. Our comments are based on the information supplied within the Dinnington St. John Neighbourhood Plan 2016-2028, February 2019.

The Draft Neighbourhood Plan indicates that within the plan area there is a small range and number of designated cultural heritage assets. There are also likely to be other features of local historic, architectural or archaeological value, and consideration should also be given to the wider historic landscape.

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 concur with your conclusion that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required for the Dinnington St. John Neighbourhood Plan.

The views of the other two statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for an SEA is made. We should like to stress that this opinion is based on the information available in the Dinnington St. John Neighbourhood Plan.

To avoid any doubt, this does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on later stages of the SEA process and, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the plan/guidance) where we consider that, despite the SEA, these would have an adverse effect upon the environment.

We would be pleased if you can send a copy of the determination as required by REG 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of the Rotherham Council and the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service are closely involved throughout the preparation of the plan and its assessment. They are best placed to advise on; local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the HER (formerly SMR); how the policy or proposal can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of historic assets.

We look forward to receiving notification of the outcome of the Examination of and Referendum upon the Dinnington St. John Neighbourhood Development Plan in due course.

Yours sincerely



Craig Broadwith
Historic Places Adviser
E-mail: Craig.Broadwith@HistoricEngland.org.uk

From: Dennison, Claire <claire.dennison@environment-agency.gov.uk>
Sent: 18 June 2019 14:56
To: andrew.towlerton@andrewtowlertonassociates.co.uk
Subject: FW: Ref 190617/RM19 190419/AR13 190225/JW02 Dinnington St John Neighbourhood Plan SEA/HRA Screening Report

Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency regarding the above mentioned proposed draft plan. We have reviewed the information submitted and we wish to make the following comments

Strategic Environmental Assessment

We note that the Council has a responsibility to advise the Parish Council if there is a need for formal Strategic Environmental Assessment of the draft Neighbourhood Plan. You are seeking our views in order to inform the Council's decision on this matter.

We have considered the draft plan and its policies against those environmental characteristics of the area that fall within our remit and area of interest.

Having considered the nature of the policies in the Plan, we consider that it is **unlikely that significant negative** impacts on environmental characteristics that fall within our remit and interest will result through the implementation of the plan.

Draft Plan

We have **no objections** to the draft plan, we are pleased to see the protection of green spaces and green belt areas.

Following are other environmental issues you could look at putting into your plan.

Flood Risk

I note that the area has a risk of flooding (within Flood Zone 2.3) around the watercourses

We would like to see flood risk policies and that minimising the impact of flooding referred to in an 'Environmental' section. This is a key sustainability issue and will be exacerbated in the future due to climate change.

In terms of both policy and site selection, flood risk should be a major consideration in your plan. In drafting your flood risk policy, you should:

- Emphasise that inappropriate development will not be considered acceptable in areas of high flood risk.
- Highlight, where necessary, the need to undertake the sequential and exception tests.
- Promote a sequential approach to development layout, to ensure the highest vulnerability development is located in areas at lowest flood risk.
- Address the potential impacts of climate change on flood risk.
- Describe what is expected of developers in terms of surface water run-off rates (for both brownfield and Greenfield sites) and sustainable drainage systems.
- Where possible, expect development to result in a betterment to the existing flood risk situation.
- Ensure that new development does not increase flood risk to others

A sequential approach to flood risk will also need to be taken when allocating sites.

New development proposals should be encouraged to contribute either financially or through physical works to reduce the flood risk to the wider village. This would require a clear understanding of what the flood risk reduction strategy is. This should be reflected in this section/policy.

Surface Water

The Lead Local Flood Authority is now the responsible authority for commenting on the surface water drainage arrangements. We therefore recommend you consult your LLFA regarding the proposed management of surface water within the Plan.

Allocation of sites

We understand that the large allocation for over 500 houses is within the local plan, we should have made comment on this at this stage. This could be used as an opportunity for environmental gain for the area as an offset against the housing development.

Those that are not within the local plan we suggest any developer take the opportunity to have pre development advice from ourselves, so no unwanted surprises arise at planning stage.

Water quality

Proper management is important to protect water quality, both for groundwater and surface water resources.

Drainage misconnections can occur in new developments, redevelopments, extensions or through refurbishment. Developers must ensure that they do not connect any foul drainage (including sinks, showers, washing machine/dishwasher outlets and toilets) to a surface water sewer, as this can send polluted water into watercourses. Similarly, developers should ensure that they do not connect surface water drainage (e.g. roof gutter downpipes) into foul sewers as this can cause overloading of the foul sewer during heavy rainfall.

Polluted surface water flows from areas like car parks or service yards should always have sufficient pollution prevention measures in place to ensure the protection of groundwater and watercourses from specific pollutants like petrol (hydrocarbons) and suspended solids. Developers should follow appropriate pollution prevention guidance when designing formal drainage for large areas of hardstanding.

Ideally, applicants should introduce more 'surface' or 'green' drainage solutions to aid improvements in water quality, such as swales along hardstanding boundaries, or a more advanced reed bed system for larger sites. These solutions are easier to access and maintain than engineered solutions like petrol/oil interceptors, which require regular maintenance to ensure they operate correctly.

We would welcome a policy which requires a net gain in biodiversity through all development,

River restoration

We would welcome the inclusion of a specific river policy, addressing the following:

- Minimum of 8 metre (m) buffer zones for all watercourses measured from bank top to provide an effective and valuable river corridor and improve habitat connectivity. A 5m buffer zone for ponds would also help to protect their wildlife value and ensure that the value of the adjacent terrestrial habitat is protected.

- Development proposals to help achieve and deliver WFD objectives. Examples of the types of improvements that we may expect developers to make are: removal of obstructions (e.g. weirs), de-culverting, regrading banks to a more natural profile, improving in-channel habitat, reduce levels of shade (e.g. tree thinning) to allow aquatic vegetation to establish, etc. Proposals which fail to take opportunities to restore and improve rivers should be refused. If this is not possible, then financial or land contributions towards the restoration of rivers should be required.
- River corridors are very sensitive to lighting and rivers and their 8m buffer zones (as a minimum) should remain/be designed to be intrinsically dark i.e. Lux levels of 0-2.

It may be useful to include ownership information details for landowners, applicants or developers who have a watercourse running through or adjacent to their site. Many people believe that the Environment Agency own 'main rivers' which is not the case. Whilst we hold permissive powers to carry out maintenance on main rivers, the site owner is the 'riparian owner' of the stretch of watercourse running through their site (whole channel) or adjacent to their site (up to the centre line of the channel) – and this includes culverted watercourses. Our 'Living on the Edge' publication provides important guidance for riverside owners.

Applicants should remove watercourses from existing culverts where this is feasible. This will help to reduce flood risk from blocked or collapsed culverts, and open channels are significantly easier for the landowner to maintain. Culverts that cause blockages of the watercourse are the responsibility of the owner to repair. Additionally, we will usually object to planning applications that propose new culverts.

Your plan policy should also provide details of 'buffer zones' that are left adjacent to watercourses. We will always ask developers to maintain an undeveloped,

Naturalised, 8 metre buffer zone adjacent to main rivers. We ask that applicants do not include any structures such as fencing or footpaths within the buffer zone as this could increase flood risk - through the inclusion of close-board fencing for example. Any works or structures that applicants intend within 8m of a main river will require a flood defence consent from us, which is separate from and in addition to any planning permission granted.

Sustainable construction

You could also help your community save money through sustainable construction. Neighbourhood planning is an opportunity for communities to encouraging efficient water and waste management systems in new buildings, and use locally sourced wood fuel for heating. You could also help to promote the use of sustainable materials in construction, and encourage energy efficiency measures for new builds. These measures will reduce the cost of construction for developers and help to reduce utility bills for those using the building. This will also help the environment by reducing emissions and improving air quality.

We hope this response helps you develop your plan.

Kind Regards

Claire Dennison

Sustainable Places Planning Advisor

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Environment Agency, Lateral, 8 City Walk, Leeds, LS11 9AT

From: Godfrey, Andrew
Sent: 24 April 2019 11:26
To: Shepherd, Ryan
Subject: RE: Dinnington NP - SEA

Ryan,

Apologies, this got left because I tend to prioritise planning applications due of their three-week deadlines. My reply is very overdue, but in case you still need them, here are a few comments.

The Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2010 have been amended 10 times since they were introduced. Apparently, they are likely to remain in place for some time after the UK exits the EU. The legislation has been consolidated again in 2017 omitting obsolete parts and adding a few recent amendments. Apparently, the Regulations haven't changed much since 2010 so the amendments are probably not worth worrying about.

The nearest SACs and SPAs are Thorne Moor, Hatfield Moor, South Pennine Moors and Birklands and Bilhaugh (otherwise known as Sherwood Forest). None of these should be affected by developments in Dinnington. There may be small numbers of birds on passage to or from the SPAs and SACs that rest up at Local Wildlife Sites in Dinnington but as long as these are protected, the impacts from development should be minimal and I agree with the conclusions of the report.

Andy Godfrey

Ecological Development Officer – Leisure & Community Services

Culture, Heritage & Sports

Regeneration & Environment

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