

3Bs Neighbourhood Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment Determination
September 2020

1. To determine whether the 3Bs Neighbourhood Plan required a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC and associated Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, a screening opinion was undertaken.
2. The report of the screening opinion can be viewed on Birmingham City Council's webpage for the 3Bs Neighbourhood Plan:

https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/info/20054/planning_strategies_and_policies/1032/beeches_booths_and_barr_3bs_neighbourhood_development_plan

3. Birmingham City Council, as the responsible authority, prepared a screening opinion in January 2020 and determined the plan required a SEA. Since January, the Neighbourhood Forum have amended the plan to respond to concerns raised and submitted an amended draft Neighbourhood Plan. The plan has since been re-screened and determined an SEA was not required. Responses to the consultation from Natural England, Historic England, and the Environment Agency are shown in Appendices A, B, and C respectively. These confirm that the 3Bs Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to give rise to any significant environmental effects and/or have significant effects on a European site.
4. On the basis of the screening report and responses from statutory agencies, Birmingham City Council has determined that a SEA is not required for the 3Bs Neighbourhood Plan.

Appendix A – Natural England response to consultation

Date: 26 August 2020
Our ref: 323501
Your ref: 3Bs Neighbourhood Plan



Birmingham City Council

BY EMAIL ONLY

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

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Ms Jones

3Bs Neighbourhood Plan - SEA re-screening

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 24th July 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.

Screening Request: 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 and we agree with your conclusions.

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 local landscape character, with its own ecological and/or landscapes advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local landscape and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by 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.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Rob Sargent on 02080 260872. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondence to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Rob Sargent
Consultations Team



Sir/Madam - -
3Bs Neighbourhood Planning Forum

Direct Dial: 0121 625 6887

Our ref: PL00655611
14 August 2020

Dear Sir/Madam -

BEECHES BOOTHS AND BARR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN- SEA RE-SCREENING

Thank you for your consultation and the invitation to comment again on the SEA and HRA Screening Document for the above 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 the 'SEA' Directive], Historic England concurs with your view that in light of the Plan revisions made the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not 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://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

I trust the above comments will be of help in taking forward the Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Boland
Historic Places Advisor
peter.boland@HistoricEngland.org.uk

cc:

Appendix C – Environment Agency response to consultation

Ms Alice Jones
Birmingham City Council
Lancaster House Lancaster Circus
Queensway
BIRMINGHAM
B4 7DJ

Our ref: UT/2006/000217/SE-
15/DS1-L01

Your ref:

Date: 29 July 2020

Dear Madam

**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) SCREENING REQUEST FOR - 3BS
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – 2020 – 2031**

Thank you for your email and the revised amended draft of the Neighbourhood Plan which was received on 24 July 2020.

After reviewing the Statement of reasons and 3Bs Neighbourhood Plan (NP). The Environment Agency does not consider there to be the potential for significant environmental impacts associated with this plan, therefore does not require an SEA

Yours sincerely

Ms Noreen Nargas
Senior Planning Advisor

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Direct fax

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