

## Statement of Reasons - SEA screening for the 3Bs Neighbourhood Plan

Criteria (from Annex II of SEA Directive and Schedule I of Regulations)	Birmingham City Council's Response
<b>Characteristics of the plan or programme</b>	
(a) The degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources.	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan will, if successful at examination and referendum, form part of the statutory Development Plan, Birmingham Development Plan (BDP). Applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the adopted development plan, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. As a result, the Neighbourhood Plan will influence planning decisions in the area.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan will provide further guidance for the plan area, and will therefore supplement existing policies rather than set the framework. The BDP has been subject to a detailed Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) regulation requirements.</p>
(b) The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy.	In order to be successful at examination and referendum, the Neighbourhood Plan is required to be in general conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework and the BDP. As such, it will be influenced by higher level plans. The Neighbourhood Plan will be taken into account in the determination of planning applications and in the preparation of further lower level plans in the area. However, the BDP will have the most significant influence. This will limit the influence of the Neighbourhood Plan on other plans and programmes in the area.
(c) The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.	The Neighbourhood Plan promotes sustainable development in the area with particular reference to reducing the risk of flooding. The Neighbourhood Plan is considered to be in general conformity to the BDP, where environmental considerations on the sites were subject to Sustainability Appraisal.
(d) Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme.	Parts of the Neighbourhood Plan area falls within flood zone two and three. The BDP includes policy TP6 - Management of flood risk and water resources, to ensure flood risk is adequately addressed. The Neighbourhood Plan provides further details for flood management in the area.
(e) The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community (EU) legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to encourage the use of Sustainable Urban Drainage systems (SUDs) and this builds on BDP policies on SUDs to manage surface water.
<b>Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected</b>	
(a) The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects.	Policies and proposals set out in the Neighbourhood Plan will promote sustainable development and are deemed to be in general conformity with the BDP. As such, there is no mechanism for

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	<p>significant environmental effects to arise from the Neighbourhood Plan which have not already been considered as part of the production of the BDP, which met the requirements of the SEA.</p> <p>Future developments advocated within the Neighbourhood Plan may have the potential to generate environmental impacts. However, any future developments that require planning permission will be required to go through a separate approval process (e.g. planning applications subject to Environmental Impact Assessments, Flood Risk Assessments, and Sustainable Drainage Assessment etc.).</p>
b) The cumulative nature of the effects	As indicated within Section (a) above, there is no mechanism for significant environmental effects to arise from the Neighbourhood Plan. It is therefore unlikely that any cumulative impacts will arise. Where these effects are likely to arise, the City Council will, through the determination of planning applications, ensure such issues are appropriately addressed.
(c) The trans-boundary nature of the effects	The Neighbourhood Plan is not expected to have significant trans-boundary effects. Where effects are likely to arise, the City Council will, through the determination of planning applications, ensure such issues are appropriately addressed.
(d) The risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	<p>It is unlikely any significant risks of health hazards will arise as a direct result of the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>If these effects were likely to arise, the City Council will, through the planning process, ensure such issues are appropriately addressed, including public health, ecology, water quality, and flood risk assessments.</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 area covers approximately 470 hectares in the North West of Birmingham. It is located within the Perry Barr Ward and has a population of approximately 18,900.</p> <p>The policies and proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan are considered to be in general conformity with the BDP. It is therefore considered that any effects not previously considered as part of the BDP will be limited in magnitude.</p>
(f) The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: i) Special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; ii) Exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; iii) Intensive land-use.	i) Nationally listed heritage assets and historic environment record; ii) Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation (Perry Park Lake and Tame Valley Canal), SSI Impact Risk Zone National Character Area (Cannock Chase and Cank Wood and Arden), and flood zone 2 and 3; iii) None.

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	<p>Impact on important habitats and statutorily listed buildings are considered in the Neighbourhood Plan, in line with the policies contained within BDP. Furthermore, the Neighbourhood Plan does not replace other statutory considerations, such as the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.</p> <p>The impact of any special characteristics will be assessed through the relevant policies as set out in the NPPF, BDP, and other adopted planning policy.</p>
(g) The effects on areas or landscapes which have recognised national, Community or international protection status.	No significant effects are considered to arise from the Neighbourhood Plan.