This screening report is an assessment of whether the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment or a Habitats Regulations Assessment

Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

1st November 2019



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1. Introduction

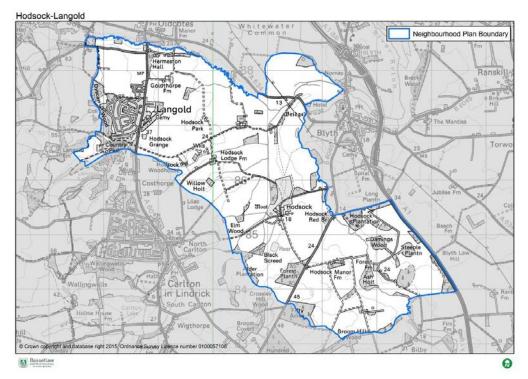
The Purpose of this Report

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

- 2. The Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan
 Name of Qualifying Body and Local Planning Authority
- 2.1 The qualifying body preparing the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan is Hodsock Parish Council. The Local Planning Authority is Bassetlaw District Council.

Location and spatial extent of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan

2.2 The Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan covers the <u>Hodsock Neighbourhood Area</u>, comprising the parish of Hodsock in Nottinghamshire.



2.3 The parish of Hodsock is located in north-western Bassetlaw, close to the borders with Rotherham and Doncaster. The parish includes the two settlements of Hodsock and Langold and has a population of 2,472 (2011 Census). The Parish has an area of 1,650.62 hectares. Hodsock is a small settlement in the centre of the parish focussed on Hodsock Priory in the middle of the 800-acre (3.2 km²) Hodsock Estate. Langold was built between 1923 and 1927 to provide housing for miners of Firbeck Colliery in Costhorpe. The housing is similar to other local coalfield communities, in the form of a 'model village'. Langold straddles the A60 between Costhorpe and Oldcotes.

Timeframe of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan 2.4 2019 to 2035.

Main aims of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan

2.5 The vision of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan is as follows:

In 2035, the Parish of Hodsock will grow sustainably to allow appropriately designed housing development that cater for local people needs in terms of type and tenure. The village of Langold and the wider parish of Hodsock will be a thriving and vibrant working community that provides access to local employment and training opportunities to all its residents.

A strong and supportive Community spirit will be evident in the Parish as the long-lasting legacy of the Big Local activities and investment will have been achieved. The parish will be a place that can be enjoyed and local people will be proud of, with excellent facilities and activities for people of all ages. Hodsock Parish will be a great place to live, work, play and raise a family.

The local environment including the Country Park with continue to be a visitor attraction and destination. Local people will be part of the Country Parks heritage and future enhancement to ensure the area continues to be an enjoyable, prospering public open space for everyone to enjoy.

Relationship with the Bassetlaw Local Plan

- Only a draft neighbourhood plan that meets each of a set of basic conditions can be put to a referendum and be made. One of these basic conditions requires the making of the neighbourhood plan to be in general conformity with the strategic policies contained in the development plan for the area.
- 2.7 For the purposes of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan, the relevant part of the Local Plan (formerly Local Development Framework) is the Bassetlaw Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD).
- 2.8 The Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD was adopted in December 2011. It sets out a vision for change in Bassetlaw to 2028, along with the place-specific policy approaches to be taken in order to achieve this vision. A small number of more detailed development management policies on key issues that will need to be addressed when delivering new development, are also included.
- 2.9 Langold is considered a "Local Service Centre" within the existing Bassetlaw Core Strategy and falls under Core Strategy Policy C5 "Carlton in Lindrick and Langold". This policy only supports very limited residential development due to existing commitments at that time. Hodsock is identified as an 'All Other Settlements' where development is limited to that which meets identified social, economic and environmental needs within the rural community. A parallel process of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) was undertaken alongside the plan-making process for the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD.
- 2.10 Given the importance of having an up-to-date local plan, Bassetlaw District Council is currently in the process of preparing the <u>Bassetlaw Local Plan</u> that will include strategic policies for the period 2018 to 2035. Consultation on the Draft Local Plan commenced on 14 January 2019 and ends on 10 March 2019 in accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) 2012. Upon adoption, the Bassetlaw Local Plan will replace the 2011 Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD. A

<u>Sustainability Appraisal Report</u> has been prepared as part of the integrated SA and SEA of the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan. <u>Habitats Regulations Assessment screening</u> of the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan has also been undertaken.

Does the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan propose allocations?

- 2.11 A neighbourhood plan can allocate sites for development, including housing. Where they do contain policies relevant to housing supply, these policies should take account of latest and up-to-date evidence of housing need.
- 2.12 The strategic policies of the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan have been informed by an up-to-date local housing need assessment, conducted using the standard method in national planning guidance. Rural settlements will accommodate a minimum of 1,777 new dwellings and deliver the necessary associated infrastructure from 2018 to 2035. This will be delivered through existing planning permissions and sites allocated through the Neighbourhood Plan process and Local Plan site allocation process. Where neighbourhood plan groups choose to take forward a neighbourhood plan, the Draft Local Plan sets out the housing requirement to be met.
- 2.13 For the Hodsock Neighbourhood Area, the housing requirement 2018 to 2035 is 118 dwellings, representing a 10% increase in the number of dwellings in the settlement as at August 2018. Growth is capped at 227 dwellings- 20% of existing dwellings in the settlement.
- 2.14 Since April 2018, outline planning permission has been granted for residential development of up to 165 Dwellings on land east of Doncaster Road, Langold (17/01462/OUT) and some 300 dwellings north and west of Chestnut Road, Langold (15/01605/OUT). With the emerging housing requirement already met, the Draft Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan makes no residential allocations.

3. Legislative Background

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

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

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

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

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

Recent Case Law

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4. SEA Screening

When is SEA Required?

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

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

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

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

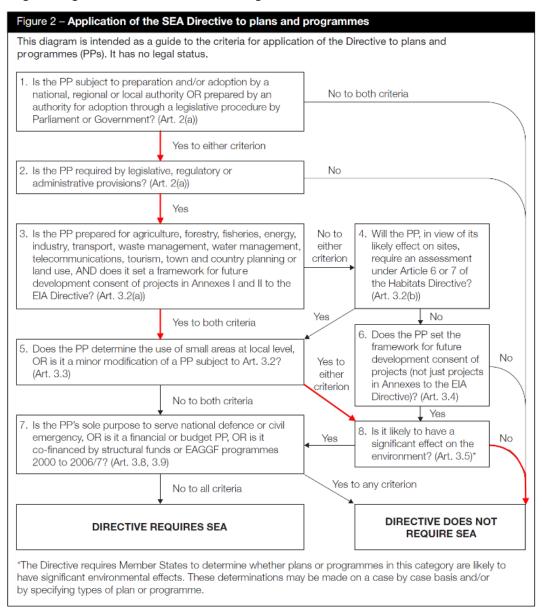
To decide whether a draft neighbourhood plan might have significant environmental effects, it must be assessed (screened) at an early stage of the plan's preparation according to the requirements set out in regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. These include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

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

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

Assessment

4.2 This diagram shows the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive's field of application in the form of a diagram. The original diagram is from 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Objective'. The red arrows indicate the process route for the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening Assessment.



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

1. Is the Neighbourhood Plan	Yes	The preparation of and adoption of the
subject to preparation and/or		Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood
adoption by a national, regional or		Plan is allowed under The Town and
local authority OR prepared by an		Country Planning Act 1990 as amended
authority for adoption through a		by the Localism Act 2011. The Hodsock
legislative procedure by		and Langold Neighbourhood Plan will

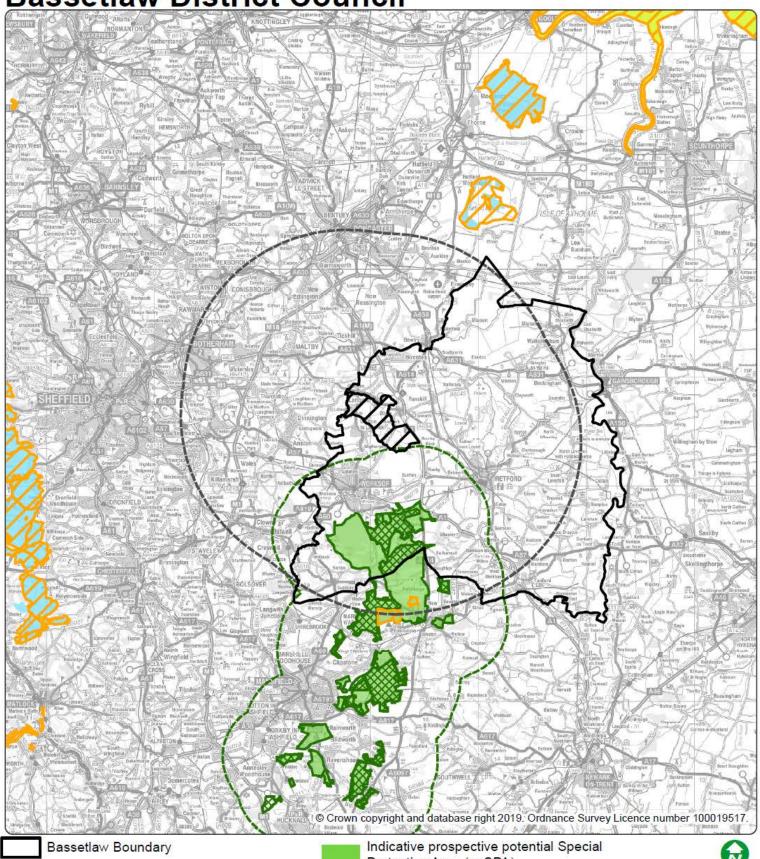
Stage		Reason
Parliament or Government? (Art. 2(a))		be prepared by Hodsock Parish Council (as the 'relevant body') and will be 'made' by Bassetlaw Council as the local authority.
2. Is the Neighbourhood Plan required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))	Yes	Whilst the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan is not a requirement and is optional under the provisions of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011, it will if 'made', form part of the Development Plan for the District. It is therefore important that the screening process considers whether it is likely to have significant environmental effects and hence whether SEA is required under the Directive.
3. Is the Neighbourhood Plan prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, AND does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II (see Appendix 4) to the EIA Directive (Art 3.2(a))	Yes	The Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan covers a range of land use issues and allocations. Although the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan is a non-strategic scale document, focused solely upon the Parish of Hodsock, it can set the framework for future development consent of some of the projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive (see Appendix 4 for list).
5. Does the Neighbourhood Plan determine the use of small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to Art. 3.2 (Art. 3.3)	Yes	Determination of small sites at local level only.
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)	No	Appendix 1 presents the environmental effects that have the potential to arise as a result of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan.

5. HRA Screening

The requirement to undertake HRA

- The requirement to undertake HRA of development plans was confirmed by the amendments to the Habitats Regulations published for England and Wales in July 2007 and updated in 2010 and again in 2012. These updates were consolidated into the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
- 5.2 The HRA refers to the assessment of the potential effects of a development plan on one or more European Sites, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs):
 - SPAs are classified under the European Council Directive "on the conservation of wild birds" (79/409/EEC; 'Birds Directive') for the protection of wild birds and their habitats (including particularly rare and vulnerable species listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive, and migratory species);
 - SACs are designated under the Habitats Directive and target particular habitats (Annex 1) and/or species (Annex II) identified as being of European importance.
- 5.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (paragraph 176) also expects potential SPAs (pSPAs), possible SACs (pSACs) and Ramsar sites to be included within the assessment.
 - Ramsar sites support internationally important wetland habitats and are listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention, 1971).
- 5.4 Candidate SACs (cSACs) and Sites of Community Importance (SCIs), which are sites that have been adopted by the European Commission but not yet formally designated by the government, should also be considered.
- 5.5 For ease of reference during HRA, these designations are collectively referred to as European sites, despite Ramsar designations being at the wider, international level.
 - Identification of European sites which may be affected by the Neighbourhood Plan
- 5.6 In order to initiate the search of European sites that could potentially be affected by a neighbourhood plan, it is established practice in HRAs to consider European sites within the area covered by the plan, and other sites that may be affected beyond this area.
- 5.7 Bassetlaw District Council has adopted a methodology that uses a 15km area of search to identify European sites that may be affected by plans and projects within Bassetlaw, therefore this distance has been applied in this HRA.
- 5.8 Although there are no European Sites within Bassetlaw District, four sites have been identified that lie within 15km of the boundary:
 - Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC
 - Hatfield Moor SAC
 - Thorne Moor SAC
 - Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA

Bassetlaw District Council



Langold Boundary

15km from Langold Boundary

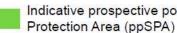
Special Area of Conservation

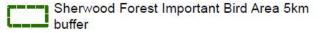
Ramsar

Special Protection Area

Sherwood Forest Important Bird Area*

Indicative core area of breeding of Nightjar and Woodlark





Source: Natural England, NWT

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



- 5.9 Of these, part of the Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC lies within 15km of the Hodsock Neighbourhood Area boundary.
- 5.10 European sites outside the 15km zone may need to be considered in exceptional circumstances and therefore each plan subject to HRA should consider whether there are any pathways by which effects could occur on more distant European sites:

Possible Sherwood Forest pSPA

- 5.11 Although not formally a pSPA, Natural England has advised that there is a possibility of a Sherwood Forest pSPA being designated in the future on account of supporting populations of breeding nightjar and woodlark. In a note to Local Planning Authorities dated March 2014, Natural England advocates a precautionary approach to any plans or projects which could affect such a site. No formal assessments of the boundary of any future SPA have been made; therefore, it is not possible to definitively identify whether individual sites would fall inside or outside any possible future designated area. However, the Natural England note encloses a map that highlights the areas of greatest ornithological interest for breeding nightjar and woodlark. The Hodsock Neighbourhood Area boundary lies less than 15km away from these areas.
- 5.12 The locations of the European sites are shown below.

Ecological attributes of the European sites

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

Assessment of 'likely significant effects' of the Neighbourhood Plan

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

Red	There are likely to be significant effects (Appropriate Assessment required				
Amber	There may be significant effects, but this is currently uncertain (Appropriate				
	Assessment required).				

Green	There are unlikely to be significant effects (Appropriate Assessment not
	required).

Interpretation of 'likely significant effect'

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

Assessment

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

Physical damage/loss of habitat

- 5.21 Any development resulting from the Neighbourhood Plan will be located within Hodsock Neighbourhood Area. Loss of habitat from within the boundaries of a European site can be ruled out as there are no European sites within the Neighbourhood Area.
- 5.22 Loss of habitat from outside the boundaries of a European site could still result in likely significant effects if that habitat supports qualifying species from within the European sites, for example habitat that is used for foraging by birds.
- 5.23 The Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC is over 10km away and the possible Sherwood Forest pSPA is over 5km from Langold village. There is intervening infrastructure and the town of Worksop between the European sites and Langold village. There are no housing or employment allocations in the Draft Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan and it

would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the Langold village footprint.

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

Non-physical disturbance (noise, vibration and light)

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

Air pollution

- 5.28 Air pollution is most likely to affect European sites where plant, soil and water habitats are the qualifying features, but some qualifying animal species may also be affected, either directly or indirectly, by any deterioration in habitat as a result of air pollution. Deposition of pollutants to the ground and vegetation can alter the characteristics of the soil, affecting the pH and nitrogen availability that can then affect plant health, productivity and species composition.
- 5.29 In terms of vehicle traffic, nitrogen oxides (NOx, i.e. NO and NO2) are considered to be the key pollutants. Subsequent deposition of nitrogen compounds may lead to both soil and freshwater acidification, and eutrophication of soils and water.
- 5.30 Based on the <u>Highways Agency Design Manual for Road and Bridges (DMRB) Volume 11,</u>
 <u>Section 3, Part 1</u> (which was produced to provide advice regarding the design, assessment and operation of trunk roads (including motorways)), it is assumed that air pollution from roads is unlikely to be significant beyond 200m from the road itself.
- 5.31 Based on the DMRB guidance, affected roads which should be assessed are those where:
 - Daily traffic flows will change by 1,000 AADT (Annual Average Daily Traffic) or more; or
 - Heavy duty vehicle (HDV) flows will change by 200 AADT or more; or
 - Daily average speed will change by 10 km/hr or more; or
 - Peak hour speed will change by 20 km/hr or more; or
 - Road alignment will change by 5 m or more.
- 5.32 It has been assumed that only those roads forming part of the primary road network (motorways and primary 'A' roads) are likely to experience any significant increases in vehicle traffic as a result of development (i.e. greater than 1,000 AADT). As such, where a

- site is within 200m of only minor roads, no significant effect from traffic-related air pollution is considered to be the likely outcome.
- 5.33 The A60, A1, A57 and A614 all pass through and/or within 200m of the Sherwood Forest ppSPA. However, with no housing or employment allocations in the Draft Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan, the potential for it to lead to increased air pollution on roads within 200m of the Sherwood Forest ppSPA is not significant.
- 5.34 All other European sites lie outside of the Hodsock Neighbourhood Area boundary and are located over 200m from the primary road network. They have therefore been screened out in relation to air pollution.

Impacts of recreation

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

Cat predation

- 5.39 Cat predation due to an increase in residential populations and cat ownership can result in likely significant effects on European sites where ground nesting bird species are the qualifying features. Nightjar are ground nesting species, and therefore these birds and their nests are vulnerable to predation by domestic cats.
- 5.40 As described above, the increased risk of cat predation associated with residential schemes in relation to the TBH SPA resulted in the adoption of a 400m development exclusion zone, together with pressure associated with recreational access. NE specifies that at distances of less than 400m avoidance measures are likely to be ineffective at reducing the risks associated with predation.

5.41 The European sites assessed in this screening are over 400m from Hodsock Neighbourhood Area boundary and therefore do not need further consideration.

Water quantity and quality

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

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

- 5.45 Regulation 105 of the Amended Habitats Regulations 2017 requires an Appropriate Assessment where "a land use plan is likely to have a significant effect on a European site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) and is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site". Therefore, it is necessary to consider whether there may be significant effects from the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan in combination with other plans or projects.
- 5.46 The first stage in identifying 'in-combination' effects involves identifying which other plans and projects in addition to the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan may affect the European sites that were the focus of this assessment. There are a large number of potentially relevant plans and projects that could be considered; therefore, the review focused on planned spatial growth within Bassetlaw District.
- 5.47 The Habitats Regulations Assessment of the Bassetlaw Local Plan (January 2019) concluded that the Local Plan does not result in likely significant effects upon Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC, Hatfield Moor SAC, Thorne Moor SAC and Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA either alone or in combination.
- 5.48 With no housing or employment allocations in the Draft Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan, in combination effects upon Sherwood Forest ppSPA can be ruled out.
- 5.49 The scale of development planned by the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan is in conformity with the Bassetlaw Local Plan.

6. Conclusions

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- The Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared for town and country planning purposes and sets a framework for future development consent. The policies of the Neighbourhood Plan determine the use of small areas at local level commensurate with their status in determining local planning applications.
- 6.2 The potential for significant effects on the natural and historic environment are not likely to be significant and the application of specific thematic policies could minimise or prevent any possible negative impacts. The content of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Development Plan is therefore screened out for the requirement for a Strategic Environmental Assessment in line with Directive 2001/42/EC.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

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

Consultation

- 6.4 The environmental consultation bodies (Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency) have been consulted during the preparation of this Screening Assessment. Their responses are summarised below:
 - Historic England On the basis of the information supplied and in the context of the
 criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations, Historic
 England is of the view that the preparation of a SEA is not likely to be required.
 - Environment Agency Concurs with the conclusions of the screening report; a full SEA is not required.
 - Natural England Agrees that the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan is screened out and that a full SEA is not required, and that a HRA is not required as the proposals are unlikely to have any significant effect upon European designated sites.
- 6.5 A full copy of the responses received are attached as Appendix 5.

Overall

- 6.6 Following consideration of the anticipated scope of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan, the relevant environmental issues locally, and following consultation with Historic England, the Environment Agency, and Natural England, it is concluded that the potential for significant effects to arise as a result of the Plan is unlikely. Consequently, it is considered that a formal SEA is not required.
- 6.7 It is also concluded that the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan would not be likely to have significant effects on European sites either alone or in-combination with any other plan or project and therefore Appropriate Assessment (Stage 2 of the Habitat Regulation Assessment process) is not required.

6.8	Please note this determination is based upon the draft Hodsock and Langold
	Neighbourhood Plan. The Council reserves the right, pending future iterations of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan, to undertake further screening determinations.
	Troubout and Langua treignout not a native and training determinations.

Appendix 1: Assessment of potential environmental effects

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

SEA Topic			Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
Biodiversity, flora and fauna (Including biodiversity habitats and species, biodiversity sites, areas of geological interest)	N	Without mitigation and enhancement measures, the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to lead to effects on biodiversity, including through loss of habitat, disturbance, effects on ecological connections and indirect effects such as from impacts on water quality and quantity. Dyscarr Wood is a SSSI that comprises one of the best examples of a calcareous ash-wych elm wood in Nottinghamshire and is representative of semi-natural woodland on limestone soils in the English North Midlands. Langold Country Park, which is owned and managed by Bassetlaw District Council, covers an area of 300 acres of parkland. Designated as a Local Nature Reserve, the park links into Dyscarr Wood the Site of Special	No Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are present within the Neighbourhood Area. The only SSSI is the Chesterfield Canal which supports a nationally uncommon aquatic plant community characteristic of the brackish, eutrophic (nutrient-rich) water. There are four local wildlife sites within the Neighbourhood Area (including the River Trent). The polices of the Neighbourhood Plan are not predicted to have any likely significant effect on the SAC or SPA, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects.

SEA Topic			
		Scientific Interest (SSSI). The park itself comprises of varies woodlands, wildlife and butterfly meadows, open grassed areas, a large fishing lake, play areas and much more for families and visitors to enjoy throughout the year.	
Population (Including residents' quality of life, accessibility to services and facilities, deprivation and similar)	N	The Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to have a range of benefits for the quality of life of residents. There are 1,455 (17.8%) children under the age of 16 and 1,640 (20.15%) aged 65+, which is above the national average. 72.9% of the working age population are economically active (76.7% being the national average). 44.5% of employed people have no qualifications at all and 40.7% have lower level qualifications. An average of 10.4% across the local area have a recognised higher-level qualification, compared with the national average of 20.4%. 29.5% of pupils achieved 5 or more GCSE passes in 2010 at grade A*-C (Including Maths and English), this is well below the national average of 55.1% for the same year.	Whilst the benefits for residents of Hodsock Parish from a well-designed neighbourhood plan have the potential to be wideranging, these are not significant in the context of the SEA Directive.

SEA Topic			
		17.7% aged 0-64 have a limiting long-term illness. 24.8% of children live in out of work families, 17% being the national average. The Parish is identified as one of the most deprived within the area and falls within the 10% most deprived communities.	
Human Health (Incorporating residents' health and wellbeing)	N	The Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to have a range of benefits for residents' health and wellbeing through promoting healthier lifestyles and supporting accessibility to services and facilities. The health and wellbeing of residents causes concern with higher than average rates of heart disease, type 2 diabetes, strokes and obesity. In fact, the adult obesity levels are among some of the highest in Nottinghamshire and significantly higher than the England average.	Whilst the health and wellbeing benefits for residents of the Neighbourhood Area from a well-designed neighbourhood plan have the potential to be wide-ranging, these are not significant in the context of the SEA Directive. Likely effects from noise quality are also not significant.
Soil (Including agricultural land, soil erosion, soil quality)	N	Policy 1 seeks to limit development outside of the Hodsock and Langold Development Boundary.	Due to the relatively limited area of land likely to be developed through the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan, effects on the soils resource are unlikely to be significant .
Water	N	The Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan has the	Potential effects on water availability will be limited by the relatively small-scale of proposals likely to be facilitated by the

SEA Topic			Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
(Including water quality and availability)		potential to lead to a small-scale increase in water demand in the Neighbourhood Area through supporting the delivery of the two permitted housing sites.	Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan. Effects unlikely to be significant .
Air (Including air quality)	N	Bassetlaw District Council currently has no Air Quality Management Areas.	No existing air quality issues exist and there are no Air Quality Management Areas within the Neighbourhood Area. Any effects on air quality are not significant in the context of the SEA Directive.
Climatic Factors (Including relating to climate change mitigation (limiting greenhouse gas emissions) and adaptation (adapting to the anticipated effects of climate change, including flood risk)	N	In terms of climate change mitigation, the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan actively seeks to locate new housing development within or adjoining the existing village, where the majority of the local services and facilities are located. This will help limit potential increases in greenhouse gas emissions from an increase in the built footprint of the Neighbourhood Area.	Due to the small scale, local scope of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan, the nature and magnitude of effects directly arising as a result of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.
Material Assets (Including minerals resources, waste considerations)	N	The Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan may lead to small increases in the Neighbourhood Area's waste management requirements through supporting the delivery of new housing. No mineral sites or resources are likely to be affected as	Potential increases in waste as a direct result of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan will be managed through statutory requirements regarding waste management. Due to their limited magnitude, effects are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.

SEA Topic			
		a result of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan.	
Cultural Heritage (Including historic environment, cultural heritage, historic settings)	N	Development undertaken in accordance with the policies of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to have effects on the fabric and setting of historic environment assets. These include designated and non-designated heritage assets. Neighbourhood Plan Policy 3 requires development to demonstrate a high design quality that will contribute to the character of the village. Particular reference is made to the Hodsock and Langold Character Study and Design Guide 2018.	Designated Heritage Assets: there are no World Heritage Sites or Conservation Areas in the Neighbourhood Area. There is a Scheduled Monuments- the standing cross on Hodsock and Langold village green. There are nine buildings and structures in Hodsock Parish listed by Historic England for their special architectural or historic interest. They include the Grade I Church of St Mary Magdalene, Hodsock and Langold. There are no Grade II* listed buildings and the remainder are designated as Grade II listings. There are a number of non-designated heritage assets which need to be considered as designated by Bassetlaw District Council. The likelihood of significant effects on the listed buildings present in the parish is also likely to be limited by the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan's focus on the protection of its historic character and local heritage assets. There is also the statutory protection of designated heritage assets that will run alongside any neighbourhood plan policy. Therefore, effects are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.
Landscape (Including landscape and townscape quality)	N	Direct effects from the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan on landscape and townscape character have the potential to take place. Neighbourhood Plan Policy 2 requires new development to contribute to the distinctive character of the area.	In terms of landscape quality, no 'sensitive areas' as defined by the NPPG are present in the Neighbourhood Area. Furthermore, the likelihood of significant effects on the integrity of the landscape and townscape are likely to be limited by the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan's focus on protecting its landscape and heritage assets and the guidance set out in its supporting Character Study and Design Guide.

SEA Topic		Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
	The Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment provides a study of the District in terms of landscape condition and sensitivity, identifying Policy Zones (based on recommended landscape actions). Policy Zones where landscape needs to be conserved are the most sensitive to the potential impacts of new development, whereas areas that need new landscape character creating are least sensitive (and may benefit from appropriately designed schemes that could introduce new or enhanced landscape character features. In Hodsock and Langold there are three policy zones (shown on the map below): Idle Lowlands 01 – Conserve Mid Notts Farmlands MN02 – Create.	Overall, the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan's focus on protecting and enhancing the landscape/townscape of the Neighbourhood Area and protecting key features of importance for the historic environment will deliver positive effects on landscape and townscape quality and facilitate enhancements. Therefore, potential effects on landscape character and townscape quality are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.

Appendix 2: Ecological attributes of the European sites

Birklands and Bilhaugh Special Area of Conservation

Description

Covering an approximate area of 271.84 hectares, Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC is a landscape-remnant of the historic Sherwood Forest, which is of World renowned cultural significance due to the high concentration of ancient oak trees and associated folklore. The trees and open woodland- pasture habitat have been utilised over the centuries as a medieval Royal hunting forest, as a source of timber for the construction of cathedrals and English naval fleets, and more recently for public amenity, recreation and tourism. There is high public usage across the SAC supported by a network of Public Rights of Way and permissive paths. Part of the SAC forms part of the Sherwood Forest National Nature Reserve.

The site lies on freely-draining, acidic, sandy soils and is notable for its rich invertebrate fauna, particularly spiders, and for a diverse fungal assemblage, including *Grifoa suphurea* and *Fistulina hepatica*. The oak population consists of approximately equal numbers of the pedunculate oak *Quercus robur* and the sessile oak *Q. petraea* covering a wide range of size and age, including an exceptional population of ancient standing oaks. Although birch (mainly *Betula verrucosa*) forms groves between the oaks the canopy is, over large areas, still rather open allowing a dense bracken field layer to develop. A wide variety of fungi are present. Within the woodland occur glades of acid grassland dominated by the tussock-forming wavy-hair grass *Deschampsia flexuosa* and which contain such characteristic herbs as heath bedstraw *Galium saxatile* and *tormentil Potentilla erecta*.

Area	270.5ha		
Qualifying Featu	ures		
H9190	Old acidophilous oak woods with Quercus robur on sandy plains		
Site status*	96.87% in unfavourable (recovering) condition		
	3.13% in unfavourable (no change) condition		

Special Area of Conservation objectives

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats

The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and, The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely.

Site Improvement Plan: pressures, threats and related development

The main pressures and threats to this site include public access and disturbance in that the current visitor's centre complex that is located within the SAC, is preventing the necessary restoration of the full extent of the oak woodland. The visitor centre complex needs to be physically removed and the area restored, but planning permission is proving problematic. Other issues include change in land management which has created a large age gap between the ancient trees, physical modification, impact of atmospheric nitrogen deposition, disease and invasive species.

*Site status is an assessment by Natural England of the status of the SSSIs within the SAC

Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area

Description

As the Sherwood Forest prospective potential SPA (ppSPA) is not currently designated as a European Site, there is no Standard Data form or SIP for it. However, the Sherwood Forest Important Bird Area is being used as a proxy for the purposes of this assessment, and the indicative core areas for breeding for nightjar and woodlark as identified by Natural England, are likely to be the most sensitive areas.

The Sherwood Forest IBA covers 7,320 ha and consists of several geographic sites stretching from south of Worksop to north of Nottingham. Once part of the 10,000 acre Royal Forest of Sherwood, the woodland is dominated by native oaks and other native trees such as silver birch, rowan, holly and hawthorn. It has been continuously forested since the end of the Ice Age. Approximately 424.75ha of the Sherwood Forest ppSPA is also a designated National Nature Reserve (NNR). The reserve contains more than a thousand ancient oaks most of which are known to be more than 500 years old.

Sherwood Forest has the highest concentration of ancient trees in Europe and provides habitat for very rare invertebrates, particularly beetles, flies and spiders, many of which rely on the decaying and ageing timber of the veteran trees. Budby South Forest, in the northern half of the site, is dominated by link heather and supports a diverse range of insects and ground nesting birds such as woodlark, nightjar and tree pipit.

In 2004, it was estimated that there were approximately 63 male European Nightjar (females unknown) within in the IBA and approximately 25 breeding pairs of Woodlark.

Qualifying Features

The primary reasons for potential designation of this site are that the population of *Caprimulgus europaeus*; European nightjar represents 1.88% of the total UK breeding population and the population of *Lullula arborea*; Woodlark, is 2.51% of the total UK breeding population.

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7116	SIAH	15

The condition of the site was not assessed in the most recent IBA monitoring assessment. However, the IBA factsheet states that the mixed woodland habitat is in 'very unfavourable' condition, but the conditions of the nightjar and woodlark populations are favourable.

Prospective potential Special Protection Area objectives

As this area does not relate to an existing designated site, no conservation objectives have been established for it. However, it is anticipated that, were the site to be designated, any conservation objectives would reflect those for other SPAs, as follows:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring:

The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features

The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features

The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely

The population of each of the qualifying features, and,

The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.

Site Improvement Plan: pressures, threats and related development

The main current threats to the site include logging and wood harvesting, climate change, changes in land use for energy production, housing and economic development, tourism and recreation and air pollution. War, civil unrest and military exercises are identified as a past threat, which is unlikely to return.

These threats have been rated low to very high, depending on the proportion of the area and/or population they are likely to affect and the severity of the threat. Recreational activities are identified as being the highest level of threat, followed by logging and wood harvesting and

residential and commercial development. The IBA factsheet also identifies 'other threat' as being a high threat, but no details are given.

*Site status is an assessment by Natural England of the status of the SSSIs within the SAC

Appendix 3: HRA Screening Matrix

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

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
Policy 1: Housing Requirement in Langold	None- with the emerging housing requirement already met, the Draft Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan makes no residential allocations.	None	Not applicable	No
Policy 2: Additional Residential Development within Langold Village	Residential development within footprint of Langold village. Increase in vehicle traffic Increase in recreation pressure	Physical loss and damage Air pollution Disturbance from recreation	Birklands and Bilhaugh Special Area of Conservation Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area	Physical loss and damage is not possible as the European sites do not lie within the Neighbourhood Area. The SAC is over 10km away and the ppSPA is over 5km from Langold village. There is intervening infrastructure and the town of Worksop between the European sites and Langold village. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the Langold village footprint.

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
				Given the small number of houses involved, the distance involved, and the intention to focus development on the existing built area of Langold, it is considered unlikely this policy would impact upon the SAC or ppSPA as a result of increased population and recreation. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic in the area and therefore air pollution.
Policy 3: Design Codes for Sites 1 and 2	None – this policy sets principles for the design of new development, it will not result in new development.	None	Not applicable	No
Policy 4: Housing Mix	None – this policy sets out the requirement to consider an appropriate mix of housing for local people's needs. It will not itself result in new development.	None	Not applicable	No
Policy 5: Langold Country Park	None – this policy sets out the matters to be taken into account when considering	None	Not applicable	No

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
	development proposals at Langold Country Park. It will not itself result in new development.			
Policy 6: Local Green Space	None – this policy requires new development to protect Local Green Space, it will not itself result in development or an increase traffic or visitor numbers.	None	Not applicable	No
Policy 7: Settlement Breaks	None – this policy protects open land between Langold and Costhorpe; and between Langold and Oldcotes to prevent settlement coalescence. It will not result in new development.	None	Not applicable	No
Policy 8: Neighbourhood Centre	None- Policy aims to ensure that Langold's neighbourhood centre continues to retain its primary purpose of providing a range of shops and services, including containing an appropriate concentration of hot food takeaways, and to ensure the amenity of surrounding residential properties are	None	Not applicable	No

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
	protected from the adverse impacts from hot food takeaways.			
Policy 9: Employment Development inside the development footprint	Employment development within footprint of Langold village. Increase in vehicle traffic	Physical loss and damage Air pollution	Birklands and Bilhaugh Special Area of Conservation Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area	Physical loss and damage is not possible as the European sites do not lie within the Neighbourhood Area. The SAC is over 10km away and the ppSPA is over 5km from Langold village. There is intervening infrastructure and the town of Worksop between the European sites and Langold village. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the Langold village footprint. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic in the area and therefore air pollution.
Policy 10: Employment Development outside the development footprint	Employment development outside footprint of Langold village. Increase in vehicle traffic	Physical loss and damage Air pollution	Birklands and Bilhaugh Special Area of Conservation Sherwood Forest prospective potential Special Protection Area	Physical loss and damage is not possible as the European sites do not lie within the Neighbourhood Area.

Policy	Likely activities (operation) to result as a consequence of the proposal	Likely effects if proposal implemented	European site(s) potentially affected	Could the proposal have likely significant effects on European sites?
				The SAC is over 10km away and the ppSPA is over 5km from most of the Neighbourhood Area. There is intervening infrastructure and the town of Worksop between the European sites and Langold village. It would not be expected for birds to be dependent on the habitat within the Langold village footprint. This policy alone would not be expected to cause a significant increase in traffic in the area and therefore air pollution.
Policy 11: Historic Environment	None – this policy aims to ensure that heritage assets are safeguarded or enhanced	None	Not applicable	No

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

Annex I Projects, EIA Directive

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

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

Annex II Projects, EIA Directive

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

- 1. Agriculture, silviculture and aquaculture
 - a. Projects for the restructuring of rural land holdings;
 - b. Projects for the use of uncultivated land or semi-natural areas for intensive agricultural purposes;
 - c. Water management projects for agriculture, including irrigation and land drainage projects;
 - d. Initial afforestation and deforestation for the purposes of conversion to another type of land use;
 - e. Intensive livestock installations (projects not included in Annex I);
 - f. Intensive fish farming;
 - g. Reclamation of land from the sea.

2. Extractive Industry

- a. Quarries, open-cast mining and peat extraction (projects not included in Annex I);
- b. Underground mining;
- c. Extraction of minerals by marine or fluvial dredging;
- d. Deep drillings, in particular: (i) geothermal drilling; (ii) drilling for the storage of nuclear waste material; (iii) drilling for water supplies; with the exception of drillings for investigating the stability of the soil;
- e. Surface industrial installations for the extraction of coal, petroleum, natural gas and ores, as well as bituminous shale.

3. Energy industry

- a. Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (projects not included in Annex I);
- b. Industrial installations for carrying gas, steam and hot water; transmission of electrical energy by overhead cables (projects not included in Annex I);
- c. Surface storage of natural gas;
- d. Underground storage of combustible gases;
- e. Surface storage of fossil fuels;
- f. Industrial briquetting of coal and lignite;
- g. Installations for the processing and storage of radioactive waste (unless included in Annex I);
- h. Installations for hydroelectric energy production;
- i. Installations for the harnessing of power for energy production (wind farms) and
- j. Installations for the capture of CO2 streams for the purposes of geological storage, pursuant to Directive 2009/31/EC, from installations not covered by Annex I to this Directive.

4. Production and processing of metals

- a. Installations for the production of pig iron or steel (primary or secondary fusion) including continuous casting;
- b. Installations for the processing of ferrous metals: (i) hot-rolling mills; (ii) smitheries with hammers; (iii) application of protective fused metal coats;
- c. Ferrous metal foundries;

- d. Installations for the smelting, including the alloyage, of non-ferrous metals, excluding precious metals, including recovered products (refining, foundry casting, etc.);
- e. Installations for surface treatment of metals and plastic materials using an electrolytic or chemical process;
- f. Manufacture and assembly of motor vehicles and manufacture of motor-vehicle engines;
- g. Shipyards;
- h. Installations for the construction and repair of aircraft;
- i. Manufacture of railway equipment;
- j. Swaging by explosives;
- k. Installations for the roasting and sintering of metallic ores.

5. Mineral industry

- a. (a) Coke ovens (dry coal distillation);
- b. (b) Installations for the manufacture of cement;
- c. Installations for the production of asbestos and the manufacture of asbestos products (projects not included in Annex I); See under corresponding Annex I project category, Annex I (5) above;
- d. Installations for the manufacture of glass including glass fibre;
- e. Installations for smelting mineral substances including the production of mineral fibres;
- f. Manufacture of ceramic products by burning, in particular roofing tiles, bricks, refractory bricks, tiles, stoneware or porcelain.
- 6. Chemical industry (Projects not included in Annex I)
 - a. Treatment of intermediate products and production of chemicals;
 - b. Production of pesticides and pharmaceutical products, paint and varnishes, elastomers and peroxides;
 - c. Storage facilities for petroleum, petrochemical and chemical products

7. Food industry

- a. Manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats;
- b. Packing and canning of animal and vegetable products;
- c. Manufacture of dairy products;
- d. Brewing and malting;
- e. Confectionery and syrup manufacture;
- f. Installations for the slaughter of animals;
- g. Industrial starch manufacturing installations;
- h. Fish-meal and fish-oil factories;
- i. Sugar factories.
- 8. Textile, leather, wood and paper industries
 - a. Industrial plants for the production of paper and board (projects not included in Annex I);
 - b. Plants for the pre-treatment (operations such as washing, bleaching, mercerisation) or dyeing of fibres or textiles;
 - c. Plants for the tanning of hides and skins;
 - d. Cellulose-processing and production installations. Annex II
- 9. Rubber Industry Manufacture and treatment of elastomer-based products
- 10. Infrastructure projects
 - a. Industrial estate development projects
 - b. Urban development projects, including the construction of shopping centres and car parks.
 - c. Construction of railways and intermodal transhipment facilities, and of intermodal terminals (projects not included in Annex I);

- d. Construction of airfields (projects not included in Annex I) This project category could be interpreted as including heliports;
- e. Construction of roads, harbours, and port installations, including fishing harbours (projects not included in Annex I);
- f. Inland waterway construction not included in Annex I, canalisation and flood relief works;
- g. Dams and other installations designed to hold water or store it on a long-term basis (projects not included in Annex I);
- h. Tramways, elevated and underground railways, suspended lines or similar lines of a particular type, used exclusively or mainly for passenger transport;
- Oil and gas pipeline installations and pipelines for the transport of CO2 streams for the purposes of geological storage (projects not included in Annex I); Annex II (10)(f) Annex II (10)(h) 53;
- j. Installations of long-distance aqueducts;
- k. Coastal work to combat erosion and maritime works capable of altering the coast through the construction, for example, of dykes, moles, jetties and other sea defence works, excluding the maintenance and reconstruction of such works;
- I. Groundwater abstraction and artificial groundwater recharge schemes not included in Annex I;
- m. Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins not included in Annex I.

11. Other projects

- a. Permanent racing and test tracks for motorised vehicles;
- b. Installations for the disposal of waste (projects not included in Annex I);
- c. Wastewater treatment plants (projects not included in Annex I);
- d. Sludge-deposition sites; The treatment and disposal of sludge could be interpreted as being covered by this project category.
- e. Storage of scrap iron, including scrap vehicles;
- f. Test benches for engines, turbines or reactors;
- g. Installations for the manufacture of artificial mineral fibres; (h) Installations for the recovery or destruction of explosive substances; (i) Knackers' yards.

12. Tourism and leisure

- a. Ski runs, ski lifts and cable cars and associated developments;
- b. Marinas;
- c. Holiday villages and hotel complexes outside urban areas and associated developments;
- d. Permanent campsites and caravan sites;

13.

- a. Any change or extension of projects listed in Annex I or Annex II, already authorised, executed or in the process of being executed, which may have significant adverse effects on the environment;
- b. Projects in Annex I, undertaken exclusively or mainly for the development and testing of new methods or products and not used for more than two years.

Appendix 5: Consultation Responses



6870

BASSETLAW DISTRICT COUNCIL

QUEENS BUILDINGS Our ref: PL00600163

POTTER STREET

WORKSOP

S80 2AH 18 October 2019

Dear Mr Brown

HODSOCK AND LANGOLD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - SEA SCREENING REQUEST

Thank you for your consultation of 8 October 2019 and the request for a Screening Opinion in respect of the Hodsock and Langold Neighbourhood Plan.

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

On the basis of the information supplied and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], Historic England is of the view that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not likely to be required.

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







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

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

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

Yours sincerely,

Clive Fletcher

Principal Adviser, Historic Places clive.fletcher@HistoricEngland.org.uk

CC:





From: Millbank, Rob
To: Luke Brown

Subject: RE: 190719/keh02FW: Langold SEA Screening Report

Date: 30 July 2019 07:47:03

Morning Luke,

Thank you for sending this through. I can confirm that we have no objection to the content of the screening report, i.e. we are comfortable that an SEA is not required.

Kind regards,

Rob

Rob Millbank

Planning Specialist, Sustainable Places Team

Environment Agency | Trentside Office, Scarrington Road, Nottingham NG2 5FA

rob.millbank@environment-agency.gov.uk External: 020 3025 5036 | 07500 761448

From: Enquiries, Unit Sent: 19 July 2019 11:42

To: Planning, Lower Trent <planning.trentside@environment-agency.gov.uk>

Subject: 190719/keh02FW: Langold SEA Screening Report

Dear Luke,

Thank you for your pre-planning enquiry.

I have passed your enquiry to our Sustainable Places team for the relevant area and they will be in touch with you shortly.

The Freedom of Information Act and Environmental Information Regulations state that a public authority must respond to requests for information within 20 working days, but we aim to respond to all enquiries as quickly as we can.

You can find more information about our service commitment by clicking on the link below:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/environment-agency-customer-service-commitment

Should you wish to contact the Sustainable Places team directly, please use the contact details below. Please quote your Enquiry Reference 190719/keh02 in any correspondence with us regarding this matter.

Sustainable Places Environment Agency East Midlands Area Trentside Offices Scarrington Road West Bridgford NOTTINGHAM NG2 5FA

Kind Regards

Katherine Hughes National Customer Contact Centre Environment Agency Tel: 03708 506 506Internal: 53957

■ Web Site: www.gov.uk/environment-agency

From: Luke Brown [mailto:Luke.Brown@bassetlaw.gov.uk]

Sent: 18 July 2019 14:25

To: Enquiries, Unit <<u>enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk</u>>

Subject: Langold SEA Screening Report

Dear Consultee,

Please see the draft Langold/ Hodsock SEA Screening Report. We are seeking your opinion on the recommendations provided by Bassetlaw District Council in the Screening Report.

Could you please provide a response by the 28th August 2019.

Kind Regards,

Luke

	Luke Brown
	Neighbourhood Planning Officer
?	Bassetlaw District Council Queens Buildings, Potter Street,
	Worksop, Nottinghamshire, S80 2AH
	W: www.bassetlaw.gov.uk

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Date: 29 August 2019

Our ref: 289229



Luke Brown
Neighbourhood Planning Officer
Bassetlaw District Council
BY EMAIL ONLY

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

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Luke

Planning consultation: Langold/ Hodsock Neighbourhood Plan - Draft SEA Screening Report Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 18/07/2019

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.

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening

We welcome the production of this SEA Screening report. Natural England notes and concurs with the screening outcome i.e. that no SEA is required.

Further guidance on deciding whether the proposals are likely to have significant environmental effects and the requirements for consulting Natural England on SEA are set out in the <u>National Planning Practice Guidance</u>.

Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

Natural England notes the screening process applied to this Neighbourhood plan. We agree with the Council's conclusion of no likely significant effect upon the named European designated sites:

- Birklands and Bilhaugh SAC
- Hatfield Moor SAC
- Thorne Moor SAC
- Thorne and Hatfield Moors SPA
- Sherwood Forest ppSPA

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter <u>only</u> please contact me on 0208 026 8695. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to <u>consultations@naturalengland.org.uk</u>.

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

Yours sincerely

Felicity Bingham

Area Delivery

East Midlands Area Team

felicity.bingham@naturalengland.org.uk

Tel: 02082 256387