

Strategic Environmental  
Assessment Screening  
and Habitats Regulation  
Assessment Screening  
Report

Huntington Parish  
Neighbourhood Plan 2017 –  
2032/33

July 2019

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## 1.0 Introduction

### 1.1 This report

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

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

1.1.3 This SEA and HRA screening document is being undertaken on the Submission draft version of the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan (July 2019).

1.1.4 The screening report is structured as follows:

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

1.1.5 In forming its determinations, consultation was undertaken with the three statutory consultation bodies designated in the regulations (English Heritage, Natural England and Environment Agency) as well as City of York Council on whether a SEA and HRA is required.

### 1.2 Legislative Background

#### **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**

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

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

## Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

- 1.2.3 The requirement for Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA) of Neighbourhood Plans is set through Schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and European Directive 92/43/EEC ('Habitats Directive'). These regulations require that the plan is screened for its potential significant effects on European designated Nature Conservation sites (Natura 2000 sites) alone and in-combination with other plans.
- 1.2.4 Following a notable legal judgment<sup>1</sup>, the process for HRA changed to disregard mitigation measures when carrying out HRA screening. Subsequently, the Conservation of Habitats and Species and Planning (Various Amendments) (England and Wales) Regulations 2018, which came into force on 28 December 2018, amend the basic condition relating to Neighbourhood Plans prescribed in Regulation 32 and Schedule 2 (Habitats) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended), substituting a new basic condition which states: "The making of the neighbourhood development plan does not breach the requirements of Chapter 8 of Part 6 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017."
- 1.2.5. Through the updated Regulations an HRA of a Neighbourhood Plan is allowed to progress from HRA screening to an Appropriate Assessment where there is a risk of a significant effect on a European site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects. In order for the Neighbourhood Plan to not breach these regulation, the HRA must screen out significant effects at either the Screening stage or as a result of the Appropriate Assessment. These amendments have been taken into consideration in this assessment.

## 1.3 Planning Context

- 1.3.1 The Plan, once adopted, will form part of the planning policy framework for the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan Area. In accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012), the Plan will need to be in general conformity with the strategic policies which are adopted by the relevant local authority (York City Council).
- 1.3.2 The current City of York draft Local Plan Fourth Set of changes was approved for Development Control Purposes in April 2005. The emerging new Local Plan, will when adopted, identify an appropriate level of housing and employment growth as well as establishing strategic sites to deliver its strategy.
- 1.3.3 Until such time as the City of York Local Plan is adopted, there is a range of relevant planning policy applicable. The saved Yorkshire and Humber RSS

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<sup>1</sup> CASE C 323/17 COURT OF JUSTICE OF THE EUROPEAN UNION – 'People over wind'.

policies referring to York's Green Belt, including the associated proposals map sets the strategic context for the general extent of the Green Belt around York to six miles from the city centre. As part of the new Local Plan, City of York will be defining the detailed Green Belt boundary around the city for the first time.

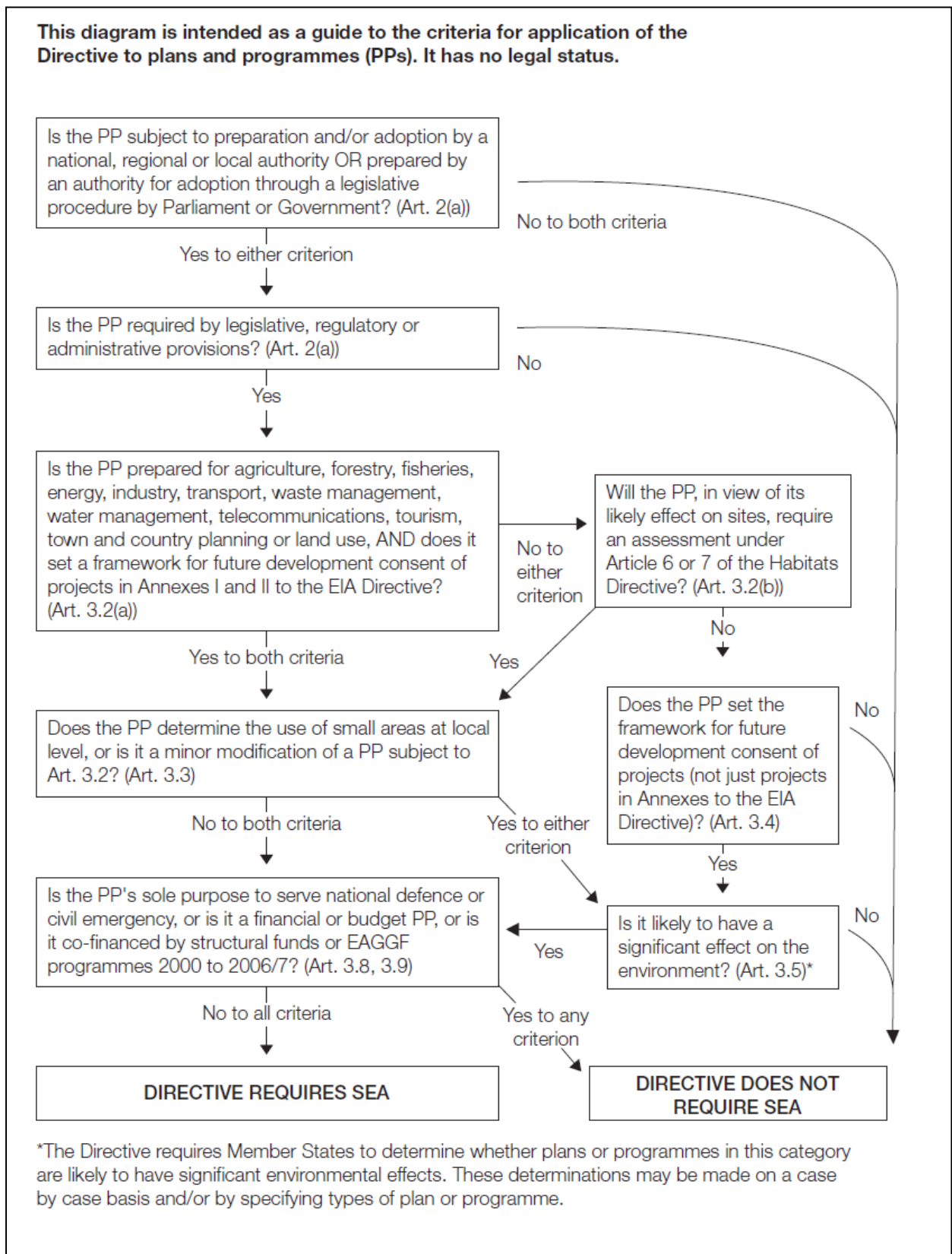
## 1.4 The Huntington Neighbourhood Plan

- 1.4.1 The Huntington Neighbourhood Plan Area was designated on 28 September 2015. It covers the whole of the Parish. A map showing the Neighbourhood Plan area (and that is subject to the SEA screening process) is shown in figure 1. It comprises the village of Huntington, in which the majority of the population and services of the Parish is concentrated, while within and surrounding it are large areas of open spaces and countryside.
- 1.4.2 The built environment is generally good and includes a number of assets of national and historic interest, including 13 Listed Buildings and one Scheduled Monument. There is a Conservation Area based on the historic core of Huntington.
- 1.4.3 The Parish has a good natural environment. There are a number of non-statutory designated Local Wildlife Sites and a Local Nature Reserve. Much of the open countryside surrounding the Parish is designated as Green Belt. Within the Green Belt development is strictly controlled and only allowed in exceptional circumstances. Parts of the Parish are at risk of flooding.
- 1.4.4 The purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan is to provide a set of statutory planning policies to guide development within the Parish over the period to 2032/2033 and has been prepared by a working party on behalf of the qualifying body, Huntington Parish Council.
- 1.4.5 The vision of the Plan is to *“sustain and where possible enhance what is best about Huntington Parish today; its green spaces, landscape, history, sense of place and community, while ensuring that it plans for the future to ensure the continuing health, happiness and well-being of all its residents”*.
- 1.4.6 Underpinning this vision are 11 principles:
- P1. Support the provision of housing that meets the future needs of the community and is of an appropriate scale, type, density and mix.
  - P2. Support local strategies to increase and improve infrastructure to accommodate additional housing.
  - P3. Protect the rural character and quality of life by, for example, prioritising the reuse of brownfield sites and conserving the Green Belt.
  - P4. Identify and protect important green spaces that are of importance to the community, the landscape and wildlife.

- P5. Protect and encourage the further provision of community facilities/assets to support the health and well-being of the whole community.
- P6. Encourage the most environmentally sustainable development.
- P7. Support a thriving local economy and support and enhance local shops and the Vangarde/Monks Cross Shopping Area.
- P8. Encourage development in the most sustainable locations.
- P.9 Manage future growth and change to protect and enhance cultural and heritage assets and its distinct history, identity and character.
- P.10 Maintain and, where possible, improve walking, cycling and vehicular routes to ensure that everyone is able to travel safely and conveniently to services and amenities within the Parish and surrounding areas.
- P.11 Addressing the problems of highway safety and traffic congestion on some of the roads in the Parish.

1.4.7 In order to deliver these objectives, the Plan sets out a number of Parish wide policies. These indicate how new development proposals will be assessed in order to ensure that any future housing is sustainable and does not have a detrimental impact upon the parish. Policies also provide protection for important environments and natural assets, including local green spaces, as well as supporting the provision of community infrastructure.

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



## 2.0 The Screening Process

### 2.1 SEA Screening

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

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

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

2.1.2 Figure 2 provides a generic assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA Assessment criteria.

**Figure 2: Establishing whether there is a need for an SEA**

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



Stage	Y/N	Reason
management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, AND does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annex I and II to the EIA Directive? (Article 3.2 (a))		future development in Huntington. Once 'made', it would form part of the statutory development plan and will be used when making decisions on planning applications that could include development that may fall under Annex I and II of the EIA directive.
4. Will the Plan, in view of its likely effects on sites, require an assessment for future development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Article 3.2(b))	?	<p>The Plan does not allocate sites for housing or other forms of development, but instead provides further local criteria for proposals to meet in support of existing and emerging local planning policies. It is unlikely therefore that the Plan will have a significant adverse effect upon any European (Natura 2000) site.</p> <p>However, given that the Plan area is within 10 kilometres of a European Site (Strensall Common SAC), a separate HRA screening assessment will ascertain whether an Appropriate Assessment is required under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, which relate to Articles 6 (3) and (4) of the Habitats Directives.</p> <p>See Section 6 for HRA Screening.</p>
5. Does the Plan determine the use of small areas at local level OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to Article 3.2? (Article 3.3)	Y	<p>The draft Plan policies are set out in the attached Plan; they encourage high quality design, designate areas of Local Green Space, protect the historic environment, protect pedestrian and cycle networks, support a mix of housing, protect existing employment sites, protect and enhance community facilities, support the provision of new community facilities and identify priorities for Developer Contributions.</p> <p>Once 'made' the Plan would form part of the statutory development plan and be used when determining planning applications at the local level. However, the Neighbourhood Plan reflects the broader spatial framework laid out in the emerging</p>

Stage	Y/N	Reason
		City of York Local Plan in terms of where new development can be located.
6. Does the Plan set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in annexes to the EIA Directive)? Article 3.4)	Y	A neighbourhood plan once 'made' forms part of the statutory development plan and will be used to assess planning applications and other planning decisions within the Plan Area. Therefore, it sets the framework for future developments at a local level.
7. Is the Plan's sole purpose to serve the national defence or civil emergency, OR is it a financial or budget PP, OR is it co-financed by structural funds or EAGGF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Article 3.8, 3.9)	N	The Neighbourhood Plan does not have a sole purpose that falls within any of these categories.
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Article 3.5)	?	<p>A neighbourhood plan could potentially have an effect on the environment. However, whether this is significant depends on the proposals in the Plan.</p> <p>The focus of the Plan is to shape development to meet local needs and support sustainable development, so that any adverse impacts on the local environment are minimised.</p> <p>The Plan policies seek to conserve and enhance the natural and built environment. It seeks, for example, to protect and enhance biodiversity and identifies Local Green Spaces for protection.</p> <p>As the Plan, does not allocate sites for housing or other forms of development; does not amend or introduce Limits to Development and has proposed a suite of policies to protect and where possible enhance the built and natural environment, it is considered that it is likely to have a positive impact on the environment.</p>

Stage	Y/N	Reason
		Any potential environmental effects of the Neighbourhood Plan will be determined through stage 2 of this screening assessment. (see figure 3).

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

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

**Figure 3: Huntington Neighbourhood Plan and the SEA Directive**

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

Criteria	Assessment
(b) the degree to which the plan influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan sits in the lower tier of the planning policy hierarchy and must be in conformity with approved City of York of local planning policies and have regard to the NPPF. It, therefore, supports the implementation of higher tier policies at the neighbourhood level and, as such, is not considered unlikely to have a significant influence on other plans and programmes.</p>
(c) the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan, as advocated by the NPPF, is underpinned by the principles of sustainable development.</p> <p>The Plan's Vision is to sustain the area's most valued attributes, whilst also ensuring it plans for the future to ensure the continuing health, happiness and well being of all residents. Similarly, the eleven principles that underpin the Plan strive to achieve this vision by ensuring housing meets the future needs of the community and development protects the character, local green spaces, community facilities, local economy and sustainable transport links.</p> <p>The following Plan policies in particular contribute to sustainable development at the local level:</p> <p><b>Policy H1</b>- seeks to ensure that the housing allocation on Land North of Monks Cross (proposed in the draft Local Plan) meets the needs of the local community in terms of housing type and design, integration with Huntington village, provision of community infrastructure including community facilities and sustainable transport options and protection and enhancement of the natural environment.</p> <p><b>Policies H2 and H3</b> – seek to create a sustainable, inclusive and mixed community by planning for a mix housing including affordable housing.</p> <p><b>Policy H4</b> – identifies the quality of development that is expected for the Plan area based on an understanding and evaluation of its defining characteristics. Good design is advocated by the Government as a key aspect of sustainable development.</p>

Criteria	Assessment
	<p><b>Policy H5</b> – seeks to sustain and enhance heritage assets identified as being important to the local community so that they may be continued to be enjoyed by future generations.</p> <p><b>Policy H6</b> – supports a prosperous economy by promoting the retention of existing employment land and buildings.</p> <p><b>Policies H7, H8 and H9</b> – support a prosperous economy and promote a healthy community through the protection and enhancement of community facilities including Assets of Community Value.</p> <p><b>Policy H13</b> – seeks to guide the location and number of hot food takeaways and in so doing ensure safe and attractive areas to visit and shop.</p> <p><b>Policy H14</b> – supports the continued designation of the Green Belt in the Plan area and its role in safeguarding the countryside and preserving the setting and special character of the area.</p> <p><b>Policy H15</b> – supports the protection of Local Green Spaces and in so doing ensures the continued access to open spaces important to the community because of its recreational value, beauty, historic significance, tranquillity or richness in wildlife.</p> <p><b>Policy H16</b> – seeks to protect not only local biodiversity but that beyond the boundary of the Plan area by minimising adverse development impacts on the River Foss (a pathway to the River Humber SPA, SAC and RAMSAR).</p> <p><b>Policy H17</b> – seeks to protect and where possible provide net gains in biodiversity and in so doing, conserving and enhancing the natural environment.</p> <p><b>Policy H18</b> – seeks ensure that development does not increase the risk of flooding in the area and in so doing aims to minimise vulnerability and provide resilience to the impacts of climate change.</p> <p><b>Policy H21</b> – seeks to ensure the integration of footpaths and cycleways into planning proposals, promoting sustainable transport and healthy communities.</p>

Criteria	Assessment
(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan; and	<p>The Plan will not introduce any environmental problems, rather it will seek to address environmental issues in the Plan Area. Potential environmental issues identified during the Neighbourhood Planning process include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the presence of SINCS and sites of local ecological value;</li> <li>• the River Foss and its relationship (as a pathway) to the Humber Estuary (SAC, SPA, RAMSAR) and proximity Strensall Common (SAC); and</li> <li>• the risk of flooding.</li> </ul> <p>The Plan contains measures to address environmental problems. These are notably in relation to protecting important ecological sites, Local Green Spaces, the River Foss, minimising the risk of flooding as well as conserving nature conservation sites and heritage assets (designated and non-designated).</p>
(e) the relevance of the plan for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans linked to waste-management or water protection).	<p>It must be in general conformity with higher-level plans that comprise the City of York Local Plan. This will be developed with regard to European Community legislation on the environment. Consequently, the policies of the Plan are not considered to be relevant to the implementation of EC legislation.</p>
<b>(2) Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to:</b>	
(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;	<p>The Plan relates to specific, small scale issues ensuring that any development coming forward through the Local Plan will deliver the maximum local benefits. It addresses specific local development management issues, complementing the higher level strategic policy framework already established through the adopted Local Plan and national policies (NPPF).</p> <p>Although the Plan does not allocate specific sites for development, the emerging Local Plan includes a proposed housing site for the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan area. The site has been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal through the 'Preferred Sites Consultation' process, July 2016. The Plan policies are generally designed to minimise the environmental effects of any new development and to promote sustainable development.</p>

Criteria	Assessment
	<p>Given that the Plan; does not allocate sites for housing or other development and has proposed a suite of policies to protect and where possible enhance the built and natural environment, the probability of adverse environmental effects is highly unlikely. Overall, it is considered through the application of its policies, the Plan is likely to have positive environmental effects.</p> <p>In particular, the Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• is likely to have a positive effect on biodiversity as a number of valued local green spaces and local sites of ecological sites have been identified for protection, in addition to those statutory sites protected through the Local Plan. The nearest European site lies some 10kms from the boundary of the Plan area. Given the distance from the boundary, the nature of designation and the contents of the plan there are no likely significant effects.</li> <li>• sets out policies to protect local amenity value and heritage and thus likely to have a long term positive effect on the built environment.</li> </ul> <p>The duration of the positive effects outlined above are likely to be long term. However, due to the small scale and nature of the issues considered in the Plan, it is considered any effects will be low in frequency and reversible.</p>
(b) the cumulative nature of the effects;	<p>The effects of the Plan need to be considered alongside the City of York adopted and emerging Local Plans. The Plan is required to be in general conformity with the adopted Local Plan. The Plan does not propose more development than the emerging Local Plan for the area.</p> <p>The cumulative effects of proposals within the Plan are unlikely to be significant on the local environment. Any cumulative impacts are likely to be beneficial.</p>

Criteria	Assessment
(c) the transboundary nature of the effects;	<p>The Plan establishes locally distinct development management policies for Huntington Parish and thus the majority of effects will be localised to the Parish.</p> <p>The exception to this is consideration for landscape and biodiversity, which is likely to have a positive impact beyond the Parish.</p>
(d) the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents);	<p>No significant risks to human health or the environment have been identified. The Plan seeks to create the conditions to improve human health by providing opportunities for recreation, socialising, active transport and facilitating a mix of housing, especially in response to an ageing population.</p>
(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan is concerned with development within Huntington Parish, which has a population of 12,108 (2011 Census) and covers an area of 741 hectares (2011 Census).</p> <p>The potential for environmental impacts is likely to be minimal and limited to the Plan area. The exceptions to these are the policies seeking to protect and enhance biodiversity including the River Foss which have the potential to contribute positively to the regional network of habitats. Addressing flood risk through the protection and extension of wetland habitats is also likely to contribute to the reduction of flood risk beyond the Plan area boundary.</p>
<p>(f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:</p> <p>(i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;</p> <p>(ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values;</p> <p>(iii) intensive land-use; and</p>	<p>Huntington has important natural characteristics and cultural heritage.</p> <p>The Plan area has a rich historical environment including sites and buildings of architectural and historic interest, some dating back to Roman times. Much of the traditional core of the village is protected by its designation as a Conservation Area.</p> <p>The Plan recognises the value and vulnerability of the local historical character through the application of Policy H4, which requires proposals to adhere to design principles including those set out in the City of York Character Area studies for Huntington Parish and Huntington Conservation Area Appraisal.</p>



Criteria	Assessment
	<p>The Plan area includes 14 nationally designated assets including Listed Buildings and a Scheduled Monument. Development presents the potential for effects upon heritage assets and their settings in the Plan area. However, no development as such is proposed, and the approach to managing effects on heritage is positive. In addition to highlighting the designated heritage assets, the Plan identifies a number of buildings and sites of local heritage interest for protection (Policy H5).</p> <p>There are 3 sites in the Parish, identified for their Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCS) and a number of Sites of Local Interest. The Plan supports the designation of the Sites of Local Interest as SINCS and the degree of protection and recognition this provides them.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Development Plan will not create conditions for intensive land-use. Development likely to have a detrimental effect on heritage assets will be refused and all development is expected to conserve and enhance the special qualities of the Green Belt</p>
<p>(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.</p>	<p>The landscape character is largely open and undeveloped, supported in part by the designation over half of the parish as draft Green Belt.</p> <p>The emerging Local Plan conserves areas important to York's historic character and setting as part of its strategy for locating development. Part of these areas fall within the Plan area, including 'areas preventing coalescence' (north west) and 'green wedge' (west).</p> <p>As no development is proposed as part of the Plan, direct effects are unlikely to occur. However, given the protective nature of the policies concerning the landscape, including support for the draft Green Belt and protection of the River Foss and its setting, the Plan is expected to have positive effects.</p>

## **2.2 SEA Screening Conclusion**

- 2.2.1 This screening report has explored the potential effects of the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan with a view to determining the likely requirement for an environmental assessment under the SEA Directive. Based on the SEA Screening Assessment set out in figure 3 above, it is concluded that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects.
- 2.2.2 The Huntington Neighbourhood Plan is a lower tier plan in the hierarchy of planning documents for the area and therefore has limited influence on other plans or programmes.
- 2.2.3 The Plan does not allocate any development sites; but instead provides criteria based policies to help guide development that is likely to come forward under the policies set out in the emerging Local Plan. The criteria set out for development in the Plan are likely to prove beneficial in terms of mitigating against possible impacts of the emerging Local Plan policies.
- 2.2.4 The Plan area does contain potentially sensitive areas and assets including listed buildings, conservation areas and 3 SINCS. However, no development is proposed that is likely to have any significant effect on any special areas. The Plan is likely to guard against any possible impacts on the built environment arising from development proposed in the emerging Local Plan. Policies H4 and H5 in particular address design quality and character.
- 2.2.2 Having taken all the policies in the Plan into account, in accordance with the topics cited in Annex 1(f) of the SEA directive, this screening opinion has concluded that a full SEA is not required.

## **2.3 HRA Screening**

- 2.3.1 Alongside the SEA screening process there is a need to assess whether the Neighbourhood Plan would have an adverse impact upon internationally designated wildlife sites, as required by the European Habitats Directive (as amended).
- 2.3.2 The Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) refers to the assessment required for any plan or project to assess the potential impacts against the conservation objectives of Natura 2000 wildlife sites. The assessment must determine whether the plans would adversely affect, or are likely to affect, the integrity of a site(s) in terms of its nature conservation objectives. Where negative effects are identified other options should be examined to avoid any potential damaging effects.
- 2.3.3 The HRA process is generally divided into three stages. The initial stage of the HRA process is called the screening stage and determines if there are any likely significant effects or risk of significant effects possible as a result of the implementation of the plan. If there are significant effects the plan will need to

undertake an Appropriate Assessment. The screening process should provide a description of the plan and an identification of the Natura 2000 sites which may be affected by the plan and assess the significance of any possible effects on the identified sites.

2.3.4 There is no pre-defined guidance that dictates the physical scope of a HRA of a Neighbourhood Plan. Therefore, in considering the physical scope of the assessment, we were guided primarily by the identified impact pathways rather than by arbitrary 'zones'. This study therefore considers potential effects on all European sites within 15km of the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan area boundary plus any sites linked to the area through a known 'pathway.'

2.3.5 The following European designated sites have been identified for consideration within the assessment:

<b>Site name</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Distance</b>
Strensall Common	SAC	1.3km
Humber Estuary	SPA, SAC and Ramsar	

2.3.6 Figure 4 outlines the qualifying features of the identified European Sites, their conservation objectives and vulnerabilities. Figure 5 is the screening assessment of the policies within the Neighbourhood Plan and their potential effect on the 'qualifying features' and vulnerabilities of each European Designated Site.

Figure 4: European Designated Sites

Name of Site	Qualifying Features	Conservation Objectives	Site Vulnerability
Strensall Common SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i>; Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath.</li> <li>• European dry heaths.</li> </ul>	<p>Ensuring 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;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats</li> <li>- The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats, and,</li> <li>- The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely.</li> </ul>	<p>Approximately 570ha site supporting extensive areas of wet and dry heath (M16 <i>Erica tetralix</i> – <i>Sphagnum compactum</i> wet heath and H9 <i>Calluna vulgaris</i> – <i>Deschampsia flexuosa</i> dry heath), with complex mosaics of wet heath and transition habitats.</p> <p>The site is used for training by the MOD, but this is not thought to compromise the interest of the site. The main issue currently affecting habitats is a lack of management and hence scrub encroachment; this is being controlled through management agreements with the MOD and their tenants.</p> <p>Public access via PRoWs and Permissive Paths is permitted when training is not taking place, and is subject to an integrated management plan agreed between the MOD, NE and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust; the absence of open access limits the exposure of the interest features to effects associated with visitor pressure.</p>
Humber Estuary SAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H1110. Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time; Subtidal sandbanks</li> <li>• H1130. Estuaries</li> <li>• H1140. Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; Intertidal mudflats and sandflats</li> <li>• H1150. Coastal lagoons*</li> </ul>	<p>Ensuring that, subject to natural change, the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;</p>	<p>The Humber is the second-largest coastal plain estuary in the UK, and the largest coastal plain estuary on the east coast of Britain. It is a muddy, macro-tidal estuary, fed by the <b>Rivers Ouse</b>, Trent and Hull, Ancholme and Graveney.</p> <p>The Estuary is subject to the impacts of human activities</p>

Name of Site	Qualifying Features	Conservation Objectives	Site Vulnerability
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H1310. <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand; Glasswort and other annuals colonising mud and sand</li> <li>• H1330. Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i>)</li> <li>• H2110. Embryonic shifting dunes</li> <li>• H2120. Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ("white dunes"); Shifting dunes with marram</li> <li>• H2130. Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation ("grey dunes"); Dune grassland*</li> <li>• H2160. Dunes with <i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i>; Dunes with sea-buckthorn</li> <li>• S1095. <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>; Sea lamprey</li> <li>• S1099. <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>; River lamprey</li> <li>• S1364. <i>Halichoerus grypus</i>; Grey seal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The extent and distribution of the qualifying natural habitats and habitats of the qualifying species</li> <li>- The structure and function (including typical species) of the qualifying natural habitats</li> <li>- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species</li> <li>- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely</li> <li>- The populations of qualifying species</li> <li>- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.</li> </ul>	<p>as well as ongoing processes such as sea level rise and climate change. Key vulnerabilities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water diversion/abstraction for irrigation, domestic and industrial uses which reduces freshwater input and leads to insufficient water in reedbed catchments.</li> <li>• Domestic sewage and agricultural fertiliser reducing the level of dissolved oxygen in the River Ouse and a barrier to fish migration.</li> <li>• Diffuse pollution including agriculture, transport infrastructure, urban and pesticide run-off.</li> <li>• Impacts on the sediment budget, and geomorphological structure and function of the estuary (due to sea level rise, flood defence works, dredging, and the construction, operation and maintenance of ports, pipelines and other infrastructure)</li> </ul>

Name of Site	Qualifying Features	Conservation Objectives	Site Vulnerability
Humber Estuary SPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A021 <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>; Great bittern (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A021 <i>Botaurus stellaris</i>; Great bittern (Breeding)</li> <li>• A048 <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>; Common shelduck (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A081 <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>; Eurasian marsh harrier (Breeding)</li> <li>• A082 <i>Circus cyaneus</i>; Hen harrier (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A132 <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>; Pied avocet (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A132 <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>; Pied avocet (Breeding)</li> <li>• A140 <i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>; European golden plover (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A143 <i>Calidris canutus</i>; Red knot (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A149 <i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>; Dunlin (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A151 <i>Philomachus pugnax</i>; Ruff (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A156 <i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>; Black-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A157 <i>Limosa lapponica</i>; Bar-tailed godwit (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A162 <i>Tringa totanus</i>; Common redshank (Non-breeding)</li> <li>• A195 <i>Sterna albifrons</i>; Little tern (Breeding)</li> </ul>	<p>Ensure that integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The extent and distribution of the habitats and qualifying features</li> <li>- The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features</li> <li>- The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely</li> <li>- The population of each of the qualifying features, and,</li> <li>- The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.</li> </ul>	

Name of Site	Qualifying Features	Conservation Objectives	Site Vulnerability
	<p>Criterion 1: Representative example of a near-natural estuary with dune systems and humid dune slacks, estuarine waters, intertidal mud and sand flats, saltmarshes, and coastal brackish/saline lagoons.</p> <p>Criterion 3: Supports second largest grey seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i> colony in England at Donna Nook. The dune slacks at Saltfleetby- theddlethorpe are the most northeasterly natterjack toad <i>Bufo calamita</i> breeding site in the UK.</p> <p>Criterion 5: 153,934 waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1996/97- 2000/01).</p> <p>Criterion 6: Species/ populations occurring at levels of international importance: Bartailed godwit; Golden plover; Shelduck; Dunlin; Knot; Black-tailed godwit; Redshank.</p> <p>Criterion 8: Important migration route for river lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> and sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> between coastal waters and their spawning areas.</p>		

## 2.4 HRA Screening of the Neighbourhood Plan

2.4.1 The next step of the screening is to assess the extent to which the Plan could have significant effect on the European Designated Sites identified in figure 4 and in particular the ‘qualifying features’ and ‘vulnerabilities.’ All proposed policies and site allocations included within the Huntington Neighbourhood Plan are appraised figure 5 below.

### Key to screening Assessment

No likely significant effect (NLSE) on the site’s qualifying features

Likely significant effect (LSE) on site’s qualifying features

Uncertain whether it is NSLE or LSE

**Figure 5: Assessment of Likely Environmental Impacts on European Sites**

Policy	Policy description	HRA implications
<b>Policy H1 Meeting housing need</b>	The Plan recognises that a major site (Land north of Monks Cross) is being considered for development as part of the preparation of the City of York Local Plan. The Plan does itself does not offer a view, whether or not the site should be allocated for housing (this is best determined through the Local Plan process) but does set out the community aspirations should the City of York Local Plan allocate it for housing.	This is a development management policy. The policy itself, does not allocate the site for development. Rather, the policy seeks to ensure a positive outcome for the local community and environment, should the site proposed in the draft Local Plan be allocated.
<b>Policy H2 Housing mix in new housing development proposals</b>	Supports a mix of housing types that help meet local need	This is a development management policy relating to housing mix. It does not identify a location or quantum of development.
<b>Policy H3 Affordable housing provision and mix</b>	Outlines a mix of housing types for affordable housing	This is a development management policy relating to affordable housing. It does not identify a location or quantum of development.



Policy	Policy description	HRA implications
<b>Policy H4 Design principles</b>	Seeks high quality design in development proposals that amongst other criteria, enhance and reinforce the local character of the area.	This is a development management policy relating to the principles of built design. It does not identify a location or quantum of development.
<b>Policy H5 Character buildings and sites of local heritage interest</b>	Seeks to conserve and enhance the site and setting of assets of local heritage interest.	This is a development management policy relating to local heritage buildings and structures.
<b>Policy H6 Business and Employment</b>	Supports the retention of suitable existing employment uses.	This is a development management policy relating to existing employment land and buildings. It does not identify any type, location or extent of development.
<b>Policy H7 Existing Community Facilities and Buildings</b>	Supports the retention of community facilities.	This is a development management policy relating to existing community facilities. It does not identify any type, location or extent of development.
<b>Policy H8 New and enhanced community facilities and buildings</b>	Supports the provision of new or improved community facilities subject to accessibility, amenity, landscape and environmental considerations.	This is a development management policy relating to new and enhanced community facilities. It does not identify any type, location or extent of development.
<b>Policy H9 Assets of community value</b>	Supports listing and protection of Assets of Community Value.	This is a development management policy relating to the listing and protection of Assets of Community Value.
<b>Policy H10 Vangarde/Monks Cross Shopping Park</b>	Supports the continued role and function of the shopping park as a major sub-regional shopping area.	This is a development management policy relating to the role and function of the main shopping centre. Whilst any increase in retail facilities has the potential to result in increased water use and effluent discharges, this policy does not identify any type, location or extent of development.
<b>Policy H11 Brockfield Park and North Moor Road neighbourhood shopping parades</b>	Identifies the two areas as neighbourhood parades, maintained predominately for shopping use.	This is a development management policy relating to neighbourhood shopping parades. This policy does not identify any type, location, quantum or extent of development.

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Policy description</b>	<b>HRA implications</b>
<b>Policy H12 Other shops</b>	Supports the retention of shopping use outside of the those identified in policies H10 and H11.	This is a development management policy relating to the retention of existing shopping use. This policy does not identify any type, location, quantum or extent of development.
<b>Policy H13 Hot food takeaways</b>	Supports the location of hot food takeaways in the sub-regional shopping area and neighbourhood parades subject to a number of provisions including the provision of a litter bin within the premises.	This is a development management policy relating to the provision of hot food takeaways. By requiring the provision of a litter bin within the premises, the policy reduces the likelihood of increased litter.
<b>Policy H14 Green Belt</b>	Supports the continued designation of the majority of Huntingdon Parish as Green Belt and supports the following development proposals provided that they preserve the openness of the general extent of the Green Belt: minerals extraction, engineering operations, local transport infrastructure, re-use of buildings and development brought forward under a Community Right to Build Order.	This is a development management policy relating to the ongoing retention of the draft Green Belt. The policy is likely to be positive for the landscape in the Plan area and have no likely effect on the qualifying features due to proximity.
<b>Policy H15 Local Green Spaces</b>	Seeks to protect important Local Green Spaces.	This is a positive development management policy relating to the retention of specific local green spaces. This is likely to have a positive effect within the Plan area but no likely effect on the any of the site's qualifying features due to proximity. Some minor positive effects may result from protecting green spaces adjacent to the River Foss, a pathway to the Humber Estuary.
<b>Policy H16 River Foss</b>	Seeks to protect and enhance the ecological and recreational value of the River Foss.	This is a positive development management policy relating to the protection and enhancement of the biodiversity and landscape value of the River Foss. The River Foss is a pathway to the River Humber (via River Ouse). Protecting the areas adjoining the River Foss in the Plan area, may result in minor positive effects on the Humber Estuary.

Policy	Policy description	HRA implications
<b>Policy H17 Biodiversity</b>	Seeks to protect and provide net gains in biodiversity through the requirement for development proposals to maintain and enhance existing ecological corridors and landscape features and demonstrate how adverse impacts will be mitigated. Incorporate into developments features that would lead to net gains in biodiversity and protect sites of local ecological value.	This is a positive development management policy relating to the protection and enhancement of biodiversity. The policy is not likely to affect the qualifying features of designated sites due to proximity.
<b>Policy H18 Flooding and water management</b>	Requires development proposals to consider their impact on surface water management and where possible incorporate sustainable drainage techniques. Supports the protection, creation and extension of existing wetland habitats to reduce downstream flooding.	This is a positive development management policy relating to the management of water and flood risk. Inappropriate drainage regimes have the potential to impact on rivers. The management of surface water run-off from new development may result in minor positive effects on the Humber Estuary.
<b>Policy H19 Transport and traffic management</b>	Supports the provision of traffic management solutions to address impacts arising from the expansion of the Vangarde/Monks Cross shopping park.	This policy is not likely to affect the qualifying features of designated sites.
<b>Policy H20 Car Parking</b>	Supports the incorporation of sufficient car parking in development proposals in accordance with City of York Standards. Further, it sets conditions by which development proposals that would result in the loss of car parking provision would be supported.	This is a development management policy relating to car parking. This policy is not likely to affect the qualifying features of designated sites.
<b>Policy H21 Walking and cycling</b>	Requires where relevant, development proposals to incorporate improvements to the network of footpaths and cycleways.	This is a positive development management policy relating to the incorporation of improvements to the network of footpaths and cycleways. These sustainable forms of transport can help reduce atmospheric pollution and greenhouse gases which will have positive effects for the Plan area but not likely to affect the qualifying features of the designated sites due to proximity.
<b>Policy H22 Developer Contributions</b>	Identifies priorities for developer contributions.	No HRA implications. This is a development management policy relating to the provision of community infrastructure.

## **2.5 In combination effects**

- 2.5.1 It is necessary to understand whether the Plan is likely to have significant effects in-combination with other relevant plan or programmes.
- 2.5.2 The City of York Council is currently preparing a Local Plan for the city. This will set out the policies and site allocations to meet the city's needs over the next 20 years. The latest document to be prepared was the Pre Publication Draft Regulation 18 Consultation 2017. The draft Local Plan identifies several 'potential strategic housing sites' which collectively should provide sufficient land to meet the housing requirements for the City. This includes one major site in the Plan area; 'ST8 Land North of Monks Cross'. Stretching over 52 hectares, it has the capacity to provide close to 1,000 new homes together with new community, recreational and facilities set within large areas of open space.
- 2.5.3 The Neighbourhood Plan does not identify development beyond that which has been outlined in the draft Local Plan. The Plan provides criteria based policies to help guide development that comes forward through the emerging Local Plan.
- 2.5.4 It is concluded that there are not likely to be that significant effects to the European designated sites as a result of in combination effects between the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan at this stage.

## **2.6 HRA Screening Conclusion**

- 2.6.1 There are no European sites within the boundaries of the Plan area. However, the Strensall Common SAC is located within 10 kilometres of the north-eastern boundary of the Neighbourhood Plan area. The Humber Estuary SPA, SAC and RAMSAR Site whilst located some considerable distance from the Plan area has also been considered in this assessment given that the River Foss, which runs through Huntington is an impact pathway.
- 2.6.2 It is not considered that the implementation of the Plan, by virtue of its scope and proximity will result in any likely significant effects upon qualifying features of Strensall Common or the Humber Estuary.
- 2.6.3 The report also identifies that there are no 'in combination' effects as a result of this Plan. The intent of the Plan is to ensure that development proposed through the emerging Local Plan protects the natural and built assets. The Plan is therefore unlikely to exacerbate vulnerabilities of the European sites through pollution, visitor disturbance and recreation.

## **3.0 Conclusion**

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

## Appendix A: Annex I Projects

1. Crude-oil refineries (excluding undertakings manufacturing only lubricants from crude oil) and installations for the gasification and liquefaction of 500 tonnes or more of coal or bituminous shale per day.
2. Thermal power stations and other combustion installations with a heat output of 300 megawatts or more, and nuclear power stations and other nuclear reactors (except research installations for the production and conversion of fissionable and fertile materials, whose maximum power does not exceed 1 kilowatt continuous thermal load).
3. (a) Installations for the reprocessing of irradiated nuclear fuel  
(b) Installations designed:-
  - for the production or enrichment of nuclear fuel,
  - for the processing of irradiated nuclear fuel or high-level radioactive waste,
  - for the final disposal of irradiated nuclear fuel,
  - solely for the final disposal of radioactive waste,
  - solely for the storage (planned for more than 10 years) of irradiated nuclear fuels or
  - radioactive waste in a different site than the production site.
4. (a) Integrated works for the initial smelting of cast-iron and steel  
(b) Installations for the production of non-ferrous crude metals from ore, concentrates or secondary raw materials by metallurgical, chemical or electrolytic processes.
5. Installations for the extraction of asbestos and for the processing and transformation of asbestos and products containing asbestos: for asbestos-cement products, with an annual production of more than 20 000 tonnes of finished products, for friction material, with an annual production of more than 50 tonnes of finished products, and for other uses of asbestos, utilization of more than 200 tonnes per year.
6. Integrated chemical installations, i.e. those installations for the manufacture on an industrial scale of substances using chemical conversion processes, in which several units are juxtaposed and are functionally linked to one another and which are:
  - i) for the production of basic organic chemicals;
  - ii) for the production of basic inorganic chemicals;
  - iii) for the production of phosphorous-, nitrogen- or potassium-based fertilizers (simple or compound fertilizers);
  - iv) for the production of basic plant health products and of biocides;
  - v) for the production of basic pharmaceutical products using a chemical or biological process;
  - vi) for the production of explosives.
7. (a) Construction of lines for long-distance railway traffic and of airports with a basic runway length of 2,100 m or more;  
(b) Construction of motorways and express roads  
(c) Construction of a new road of four or more lanes, or realignment and/or widening of an existing road of two lanes or less so as to provide four or more lanes, where such new road, or realigned and/or widened section of road would be 10 km or more in a continuous length.
8. (a) Inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic which permit the passage of vessels of over 1 350 tonnes;

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

## Annex II Projects

### 1. Agriculture, silviculture and aquaculture

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

### 2. Extractive industry

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

### 3. Energy industry

- (a) Industrial installations for the production of electricity, steam and hot water (projects not included in Annex I);
- (b) Industrial installations for carrying gas, steam and hot water; transmission of electrical energy by overhead cables (projects not included in Annex I);
- (c) Surface storage of natural gas;
- (d) Underground storage of combustible gases;
- (e) Surface storage of fossil fuels;
- (f) Industrial briquetting of coal and lignite;
- (g) Installations for the processing and storage of radioactive waste (unless included in Annex I);
- (h) Installations for hydroelectric energy production;
- (i) Installations for the harnessing of wind power for energy production (wind farms).

### 4. Production and processing of metals

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



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

#### 5. Mineral industry

- (a) Coke ovens (dry coal distillation);
- (b) Installations for the manufacture of cement;
- (c) Installations for the production of asbestos and the manufacture of asbestos-products (projects not included in Annex I);
- (d) Installations for the manufacture of glass including glass fibre;
- (e) Installations for smelting mineral substances including the production of mineral fibres;
- (f) Manufacture of ceramic products by burning, in particular roofing tiles, bricks, refractory bricks, tiles, stoneware or porcelain.

#### 6. Chemical industry (Projects not included in Annex I)

- (a) Treatment of intermediate products and production of chemicals;
- (b) Production of pesticides and pharmaceutical products, paint and varnishes, elastomers and peroxides;
- (c) Storage facilities for petroleum, petrochemical and chemical products.

#### 7. Food industry

- (a) Manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats;
- (b) Packing and canning of animal and vegetable products;
- (c) Manufacture of dairy products;
- (d) Brewing and malting;
- (e) Confectionery and syrup manufacture;
- (f) Installations for the slaughter of animals;
- (g) Industrial starch manufacturing installations;
- (h) Fish-meal and fish-oil factories;
- (i) Sugar factories.

#### 8. Textile, leather, wood and paper industries

- (a) Industrial plants for the production of paper and board (projects not included in Annex I);
- (b) Plants for the pre-treatment (operations such as washing, bleaching, mercerization) or dyeing of fibres or textiles;
- (c) Plants for the tanning of hides and skins;

(d) Cellulose-processing and production installations.

9. Rubber industry - Manufacture and treatment of elastomer-based products.

10. Infrastructure projects

- (a) Industrial estate development projects;
- (b) Urban development projects, including the construction of shopping centres and car parks;
- (c) Construction of railways and intermodal trans-shipment facilities, and of intermodal terminals (projects not included in Annex I);
- (d) Construction of airfields (projects not included in Annex I);
- (e) Construction of roads, harbours and port installations, including fishing harbours (projects not included in Annex I);
- (f) Inland-waterway construction not included in Annex I, canalisation and flood-relief works;
- (g) Dams and other installations designed to hold water or store it on a long-term basis (projects not included in Annex I);
- (h) Tramways, elevated and underground railways, suspended lines or similar lines of a particular type, used exclusively or mainly for passenger transport;
- (i) Oil and gas pipeline installations (projects not included in Annex I);
- (j) Installations of long-distance aqueducts;
- (k) Coastal work to combat erosion and maritime works capable of altering the coast through the construction, for example, of dykes, moles, jetties and other sea defence works, excluding the maintenance and reconstruction of such works;
- (l) Groundwater abstraction and artificial groundwater recharge schemes not included in Annex I;
- (m) Works for the transfer of water resources between river basins not included in Annex I.

11. Other projects

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

12. Tourism and leisure

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

(e) Theme parks.

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