

**Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal and
Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Determination**

Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan

Prepared on behalf of Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

by

Cheshire West and Chester Council

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Contents

Contents

1.0	Introduction.....	3
2.0	Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening.....	6
3.0	Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening.....	9
	Appendix 1: SEA Screening - Overview of policies and identified effects of the Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan (January 2019)	17
	Appendix 2: SEA Screening - Assessment of significant environmental effects of the Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan	35
	Appendix 3: SEA Screening - Characteristics of the plan's effects and of the area likely to be affected.....	39
	Appendix 4: European sites relevant to the Draft Neighbourhood Plan	44
	Appendix 5: HRA Screening of Neighbourhood Plan policies for Likely Significant Effect.....	47
	Appendix 6: Comments received during consultation on Screening Opinion	55

1.0 Introduction

In accordance with European Directive 2001/42/EC and the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended), this document is the screening determination of the need for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan. This document also sets out the decision on whether separate screening and a Habitats Regulations Assessment is required under European Directive 92/43/EEC and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.

Under the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, the responsible authority (i.e. the Local Planning Authority) must carry out an environmental assessment for any plan or programme that is prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, which sets the framework for future development consents of projects listed in Annex I or II of Council Directive 83/337/EEC. It is likely that Development Plan Documents (DPDs), such as the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies and Neighbourhood Plans will require SEA as they will contain planning policies that influence the above list of topics, and which will be used to determine planning applications.

However, the regulations state that an environmental assessment need not be carried out for a plan or programme which determines the use of a small area at a local level unless it has been determined that the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects.

The regulations advise that a screening process is used to determine whether or not a plan is likely to have a significant effect on the environment. This process should use a specified set of criteria (set out in Schedule 1 of the regulations). The results of this process must be summarised in a SEA screening opinion, which is then sent to the statutory consultation bodies for comment. Once comments have been taken into account a screening determination is prepared setting out whether SEA is required and reasons for the decision and this must be made publicly available.

This screening opinion has been prepared by Cheshire West and Chester Council, on behalf of the Neighbourhood Plan qualifying body and is based upon the policies set out in the draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan (September 2019) to inform the regulation 15 Publicity consultation.

A Draft Screening Opinion was produced in January 2019 and consultation took place with the statutory consultees; Natural England, Historic England, Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales and Cadw. The comments are set out in Appendix 6. Responses from Natural England and Natural Resources Wales agreed

with the outcome of the initial screening exercise. No comments were received from the Environment Agency. Historic England provided comments on the draft Neighbourhood Plan in relation to safeguarding and enhancing both designated and non-designated heritage assets. Changes to the Plan were recommended to ensure that potentially negative effects upon the historic environment would be avoided or mitigated. Historic England advised that providing these changes are made then SEA would not be required. The Neighbourhood Plan has been amended to address the comments from Historic England, with an Appendix to the Plan included setting out the history of Clotton and Hoofield and information on designated and non-designated heritage assets. Historic England were re-consulted September 2019, and confirmed that on the basis of the information provided, SEA would not be required.

Location and geographical scope of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan

Clotton Hoofield is situated approximately two miles north west of Tarporley and is a civil Parish in Cheshire West and Chester. The neighbourhood area includes the settlements of Clotton, Clotton Common and Hoofield, with a population of 425 for the Parish (2011 census). The plan covers an area of approximately 797ha.

The Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Area is shown in Map 1 below



Relationship to other plans and programmes

Once made the Neighbourhood Plan will form part of development plan for Cheshire West and Chester. The policy framework once made will not work in isolation. The Neighbourhood Plan will work alongside the adopted Local Plan policies in place at the time it is made.

The Neighbourhood Plan must have regard to national policy; be in general conformity with the strategic policies in the adopted Local Plan; must contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and meet EU obligations and human rights requirements.

The current adopted Local Plan for the area is Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies (adopted January 2015) and the Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies (adopted July 2019). The Part One plan sets out the overall vision, strategic objectives, spatial strategy and strategic planning policies for the borough to 2030, with supporting policies in Part Two.

The Local Plan policy framework has been taken into account when carrying out the screening exercise. This forms the baseline for the SEA and HRA screening assessment. It has considered the potential effects of the Neighbourhood Plan over and above the current adopted Local Plan (Part One) and the Local Plan (Part Two).

Scope of Neighbourhood Plan

The vision for the neighbourhood plan is:

“By 2030 Clotton and Hoofield will be a vibrant rural community encouraging prosperity for both local residents and businesses alike. The Neighbourhood plan will support sustainable development and, as a priority, encourage and support infrastructure improvements to mitigate the severe impacts of through traffic and the severance of the Parish by the A51 Trunk Road. Agriculture will remain a valued feature of local life and the Plan will support high quality affordable housing to meet local needs in keeping with the rural character of the area. The health and well-being of the community will benefit from access to local community facilities and to the surrounding countryside.”

The topic areas include: Roads and Transport, Housing, Local Economy, Landscape and Historic Environment, Design and Community Facilities. The objectives for the plan, arising from the consultation with the local community include;

- Reducing the impact of traffic on the local community
- To provide some housing to meet local needs

- To accommodate new development that responds positively to the character of the area
- Protect the characteristics of the landscape and built environment most special to the community and contribute to quality of the area.
- Protect the natural environment from harm and supporting opportunities to increase biodiversity
- Encourage the provision of public transport,
- Encourage and facilitate farm diversification
- Ensure a thriving local economy.
- Provide a community hub within the area

The Parish is located in the rural area of the borough and does not include any key service centres or local service centres defined through the Local Plan. It is a countryside location and new development is restricted to specific types set out in Local Plan (Part One) policy STRAT9, to protect the intrinsic character and beauty of the Cheshire countryside.

The Draft Neighbourhood Plan does not propose land allocations for development. There are some policies that support small scale housing development in the countryside, which goes slightly higher than the level established in the Local Plan settlement hierarchy. The SEA Screening Opinion only considers the likelihood of a significant environmental effect resulting from the draft policies, rather than general conformity with strategic policies which is a matter for the Examination.

2.0 Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening

Legislative background and methodology

European Directive 2001/42/EC (the SEA Directive) requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be carried out for certain plans and programmes to assess their effects on the environment. This Directive was transposed in law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

The Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan falls within the scope of this legislation as it is a plan prepared for town and country planning or land use and will set the framework for future development consent of projects, in accordance with Part 3(2) of the SEA Directive. However, Neighbourhood Plans are land use

planning documents prepared at the local level to determine land use in a small area.

Under Article 3(3) of the SEA Directive and Part 5(6) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, SEA is only required for documents that determine land use of a small area at local level and minor modifications to plans and programmes where it is considered that it is likely to have significant environmental effects. Assessment of whether the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects is carried out through the screening process.

If SEA is required, the assessment is usually incorporated into a Sustainability Appraisal, which includes environmental factors as required under the SEA Directive, along with social and economic factors.

Screening methodology

The role of the screening exercise is to determine whether the implementation of a plan or programme is likely to have a significant effect on the environment.

The criteria for assessing whether a plan or programme is likely to have a significant environmental effect are set out in Annex II of the SEA Directive and Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

The assessment criteria used to determine whether a plan or programme will have significant environmental effects are separated into two categories:

- those relating to the characteristics of the plan; and
- those relating to the characteristics of the plan's effects and the area likely to be affected.

In order to undertake the identification of the likely significance of effects, an assessment has been undertaken of each policy in the Neighbourhood Plan, its potential effects and its relationship to Local Plan (Part One) strategic policies and the emerging Local Plan (Part Two). This helps to assess the impact that the Neighbourhood Plan will have above and beyond the impact of existing Local Plan policies. This assessment is set out in the table at Appendix 1.

The assessment of the significant environmental effects of the draft Neighbourhood Plan is set out in Appendix 2. The characteristics of the plans effects and the area likely to be affected are set out in Appendix 3.

Conclusion

As a result of the SEA screening assessment, Cheshire West and Chester Council consider that it is unlikely there will be any significant environmental effects arising from the Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan. As such, a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan is not required.

3.0 Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

Legislative background

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 transposed the requirements of the European Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC into UK law. The Habitats Directive and Regulations afford protection to plants, animals and habitats that are rare and vulnerable in a European context.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) is a systematic process through which the performance of a plan or project can be assessed for its likely impact on the integrity of a European Site. European sites, also referred to as Natura 2000 sites, consist of Special Protection Areas (SPA), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC); Potential Special Protection Areas and candidate Special Areas of Conservation (pSPA and cSAC); and listed or proposed Ramsar sites.

Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive states that any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives.

The first stage of HRA is to screen a plan or programme to identify if there are likely to be any significant effects on the European sites. This will indicate whether a full Appropriate Assessment is required. The regulations require that the impacts and effects of any land use plan being assessed, are considered in combination with other plans and projects that may also be affecting the relevant European site(s).

Inter-relationship with the Local Plan HRA

The Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies has already been through the HRA process, and the results detailed in the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan Publication Draft (Part 1) Strategic Policies Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening Report.

The HRA for the Local Plan (Part One) identified 12 European sites to include within the HRA: Oak Mere SAC; Midlands Meres and Mosses Ramsar site; West Midlands Mosses SAC; River Dee and Bala Lake SAC; Mersey Estuary SPA and Ramsar; Dee Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar; Liverpool Bay SPA; Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains SAC; Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Ramsar and SPA; Sefton Coast SAC; Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site; and River Eden SAC.

Map 2 shows the European sites that are within 15km of the Neighbourhood Plan area. All of the other European sites have been screened out from this assessment as impacts would not occur due to the distance or would be so small and insignificant in scale that they would not have a Likely Significant Effect, even when combined with other plans or projects. The following sites have been screened out as they are outside the 15km radius for the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Area:

- Liverpool Bay SPA;
- Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains SAC
- Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Ramsar and SPA
- Sefton Coast SAC
- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site
- River Eden SAC

Due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan, it is not considered relevant to include these sites in the HRA Screening of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan.

The European protected sites that fall within a 15km radius of the Neighbourhood Area (as shown on Map 2) are all initially included within the HRA Screening and are included in Appendix 4. Due to the pathways of impact on these sites, the scale and location of the Neighbourhood Plan area and the scale of potential future developments, some of the European sites can be screened out and do not require further assessment. The Mersey Estuary SPA and Ramsar, the Dee Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar and River Dee and Bala Lake SAC are each screened out as there are unlikely to be any direct impacts due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan.

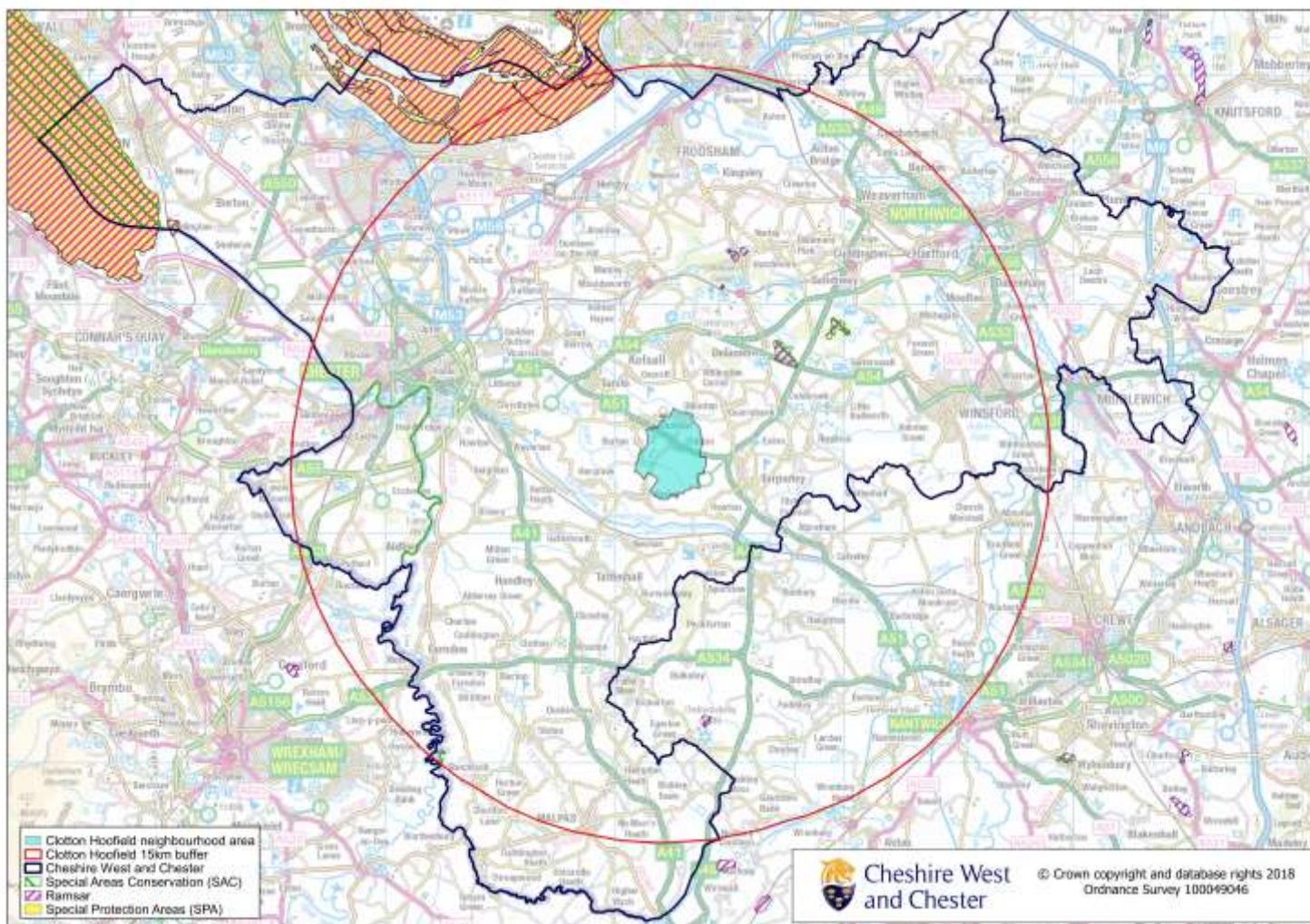
Appendix 4 identifies whether there could be potential impacts arising from the policies in the Neighbourhood Plan, on the European protected sites and their reasons for designation.

The conservation objectives of the European sites are taken into account. These include maintaining or restoring:

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely
- The populations of qualifying species
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

The HRA undertaken for the Local Plan (Part One) and (Part Two) forms part of the baseline for the HRA screening assessment of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan. The potential effects of the Neighbourhood Plan over and above those already assessed for the Local Plan have been considered. The Local Plan (Part One) was identified through the HRA process, as not leading to a Likely Significant Effect on European Sites. The HRA of the Local Plan (Part Two) concluded that, in the context of the over-arching strategic policies contained within the Local Plan (Part One) comprises a sufficient policy framework to enable the subsequent delivery of necessary measures that would avoid or adequately mitigate adverse effects on internationally designated sites and thus enable a conclusion of no adverse effect on integrity.

Map 2- European Designations within a 15km distance of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood area



The European sites are also subject to certain pressures that are outside the scope of the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans and therefore have not been included in the table above. Table 1 below identifies the potential pressures (which may be relevant to one or several of the European sites) and explains why it is not considered relevant to the HRA of the Neighbourhood Plan.

Table 1: Potential pressures outside the scope of the HRA

Pressure	Reasons outside scope of this HRA
Disturbance of sediment releasing legacy heavy metal pollution that is bound into the sediment.	The policies within the Neighbourhood Plan relate to land-based uses and operations, which will not disturb sediment within European sites.
Pollution via commercial shipping by chemical or noise pollution and dumping of litter at sea	The policies within the Neighbourhood Plan will not have a significant impact on commercial shipping.
Navigational / aggregate dredging resulting in physical loss and alteration of coastal processes or damage of marine benthic habitat	The policies within the Neighbourhood Plan will not have a significant impact on navigational or aggregate dredging.
Overfishing of particular species	Fishing levels are not controlled through Neighbourhood Plans.
Overgrazing of ungrazed / little grazed saltmarsh	Grazing levels are not controlled through Neighbourhood Plans.
Damage of marine benthic habitat directly from fishing methods	Commercial fishing methods and levels are not controlled through Neighbourhood Plans.
The need to manage continuing coastal erosion at protected sites outside CWaC	Neighbourhood Plans within CWaC will not impact on management of coastal erosion in areas outside CWaC.
The need to develop and maintain management practices which sustain the conservation value of the area for protected sites outside CWaC.	Neighbourhood Plans cannot influence management practices for protected sites outside CWaC.
Loss or damage of habitat as a result of increasing off-shore exploration and production activity associated with oil and natural gas on protected sites outside CWaC.	Neighbourhood Plans within CWaC cannot control oil and gas exploration and production activity outside CWaC.
Coastal squeeze from land reclamation and coastal flood defences and drainage in European sites outside CWaC.	Neighbourhood Plans within CWaC will not have a significant impact on coastal squeeze resulting from land reclamation, coastal flood defences and drainage in areas outside CWaC.

HRA screening

The Neighbourhood Plan is not directly connected with, or necessary to the management of a European site for nature conservation and therefore needs to be assessed for Likely Significant Effects.

It is considered that as long as the proposed policies of a Neighbourhood Plan do not alter the strategic policy framework assessed in the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two) HRA Screening Report and do not have Likely Significant Effects beyond this, then Appropriate Assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan will not be required. The Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate sites for development, which makes it less likely to have significant effects resulting from specific development supported through the Plan.

Appendix 5 identifies whether the Neighbourhood Plan alters the policy position for the area. It also assesses whether each policy has a Likely Significant Effect alone. If a Likely Significant Effect is identified, the policy would be taken forward for further investigation through Appropriate Assessment. If there is no Likely Significant Effect when considering the policy alone, the final column assesses whether the policy could have a Likely Significant Effect when combined with the effects of other relevant policies, plans or projects.

Conclusion

The Neighbourhood Plan will not work in isolation and will be used alongside other development plan policies including the Local Plan Part One and Local Plan (Part Two) for determining planning applications for new development. The quantum of development to come forward in Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Area in the future will be set by Local Plan policy. The Neighbourhood Plan will guide how this should come forward locally.

There are no specific issues highlighted in the HRA of the emerging Local Plan in relation to Clotton Hoofield, although there are other more general potential impacts highlighted as a result of the quantum and location of development proposed for the borough as a whole in the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two). However, it is considered there are sufficient mitigation and control measures in the policy framework of the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two) to avoid and mitigate any of these adverse effects on the integrity of a European site in the emerging Local Plan.

Therefore, it is considered that any proposals coming forward for Clotton Hoofield in accordance with the Neighbourhood Plan would not result in a Likely Significant Effect on a European site than already identified and assessed through the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two) Habitats Regulation Assessment Report.

The Screening opinion made by Cheshire West and Chester Council is that the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have an adverse effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d), alone or in combination with other plans and projects. As such, Appropriate Assessment is not considered to be required.

Appendix 1: SEA Screening - Overview of policies and identified effects of the Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan (January 2019)

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
RT1 Traffic and Environment	<p>To ensure highway safety, air quality and quality of life.</p> <p>To take measures to reduce the impact of volume, speed, severance, vibration and noise of traffic.</p>	<p>Population and health – protecting residential amenity can have a positive effect on health and well being</p> <p>Population and health – improving highway/community safety could have a positive effect on population and health.</p> <p>Protect and improve air quality, by reducing travel demand and managing traffic impacts</p> <p>Address climatic factors, by reducing the impact of heavy goods vehicles on the environment</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - STRAT10 Transport and Accessibility - STRAT11 Infrastructure - SOC5 health and well being <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - T1 local road network improvement schemes - DM2 impact on residential amenity - DM30 Noise - DM31 Air quality

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
RT2 Footpaths, cycleways and bridleways	<p>To protect the character of Public Rights of Way (PROW) regarding safety, directness, attractiveness and convenience.</p> <p>Support extensions to the PROW network, integrating with the local and national networks.</p> <p>Construction and appearance of paths must be appropriate to the area.</p> <p>Minimise crossings and level changes</p> <p>Ensure accessibility for wheelchairs, buggies and a range of users.</p>	<p>Effect on population and health - improving access to open space, positive effect on health and well being.</p> <p>Population and health – improved accessibility for a range of users</p> <p>Protect and enhance cultural heritage and landscape</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - STRAT10 Transport and Accessibility - SOC5 health and well being - SOC6 open space, sport and recreation <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM3 design, character and visual amenity - DM37 recreational routeways
RT3 Improving air quality	<p>Protect and improve air quality.</p> <p>Demonstrate traffic impacts would not</p>	<p>Protect and improve air quality, by reducing travel demand and managing</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p>

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	<p>decrease air quality.</p> <p>Encourage the take up of sustainable transport including electric charging points for cars.</p> <p>Reduce travel demand and encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport.</p>	<p>traffic impacts</p> <p>Reduce the potential impacts of climate change, by reducing car based travel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - STRAT1 Sustainable development - STRAT10 Transport and accessibility - SOC5 health and well being - SOC6 open space, sport and recreation <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM31 Air quality - T1 local road network improvement schemes - DM2 impact on residential amenity
RT4 creation of new access	<p>Protect rural character when new access is created or widened.</p> <p>Boundary treatment should be</p>	Protect cultural heritage and landscape	Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	consistent with surrounding scale, materials and height (subject to safety).		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV2 Landscape - ENV3 green infrastructure - ENV6 high quality sustainable design and construction <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM3 design, character and visual amenity - DM46 development in conservation areas
H1 scale of new housing development	<p>Objective provides the opportunity for some housing to meet local needs where this integrates with the character of the area.</p> <p>Allows for new development, that is small in scale and falling within the following categories;</p>	<p>The policy could promote a slightly higher level of development in the rural area/countryside, than provided for through the Local plan (Part One) and Local Plan (Part Two).</p> <p>Providing sufficient housing to meet needs (No direct SEA topic)</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - STRAT2 Strategic Development - STRAT8 Rural area - STRAT9 Green belt and

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Infill - Rural exception sites - Brownfield land - Redundant buildings - Essential agricultural workers dwellings. 	<p>Effect on land and resources (Soil) from new development</p> <p>Effect on cultural heritage and landscape.</p>	<p>Countryside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SOC1 affordable housing - SOC2 rural exception sites - ENV5 Historic Environment <p>The policy does not fully accord with STRAT 9, STRAT8, STRAT9 or SOC2. The settlements within the Neighbourhood Area are not defined as Local Service Centres, and located within the countryside.</p> <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - R1 development in the rural area - DM1 development of previously developed land - DM19 Proposals for residential

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
			<p>development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM22 Change of use of dwelling houses to residential conversions - DM23 Affordable housing - DM24 Rural exception sites - DM46 Development in conservation areas - DM47 listed buildings - DM48 Non-designated heritage assets <p>The policy does not fully accord with DM19, DM23 and DM24 as Clotton Hoofield is not an identified settlement (local service centre). Infill and rural exception sites could result in a small increase of development in the countryside compared to that set out</p>

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
			<p>in the Local Plan.</p> <p>The NP takes account of local consultation and evidence and advises the policy is intended to limit development to around 10 new units over the life of the plan. It is clear the intention is to limit the scale of development within the neighbourhood area. The Plan also proposes to monitor the plan and assess the impact of allowing very limited infill.</p>
H2 type and size of new housing	Provides for a mix of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom homes, semi detached and detached to contribute to a balanced and inclusive community.	<p>The policy could promote a slightly higher level of development in the rural area/countryside, than provided for through the Local plan (Part One) and Local Plan (Part Two).</p> <p>Providing sufficient housing to meet needs (no direct SEA topic)</p> <p>Population and health – supports social inclusion within the community, providing</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - STRAT2 strategic development - STRAT9 countryside - SOC3 housing mix and type <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p>

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
		access to services in the rural area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM20 mix and type of new housing development
H3 extensions and alterations to existing dwellings	<p>Extensions should reflect the size and scale of surrounding properties, using complementary materials and reflect and enhance the existing dwelling.</p> <p>Proposals should retain sufficient garden space, taking account of the prevailing pattern of development.</p>	<p>Population and human health - protecting residential amenity can have a positive effect on health and well being</p> <p>Protect and enhance cultural heritage and landscape</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV2 Landscape - ENV3 green infrastructure - ENV5 historic environment - ENV6 high quality sustainable design and construction <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM2 impact on residential amenity - DM3 design, character and visual amenity - DM21 development within the

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
			curtilage of a dwelling house
D1 design of new development	<p>Development should demonstrate high quality design, respond to and integrate with surroundings, landscape and built environment.</p> <p>Good design means complementing and enhancing existing development through size, height, scale, mass, rural skyline, materials, layout, access and density.</p>	Protect and enhance cultural heritage and landscape	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV2 landscape - ENV5 historic environment - ENV6 high quality design and sustainable construction <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM3 design, character and visual amenity
D2 environmental sustainability and adapting to climate change	<p>New development should have high standards of sustainability.</p> <p>Sustainable drainage schemes should be used to create new wildlife areas.</p> <p>May include ponds, swales and</p>	<p>Reduce the potential impacts of climate change</p> <p>Water - Minimise flood risk through sustainable drainage schemes</p> <p>Protect and enhance biodiversity, flora and</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV1 flood risk and water management - ENV4 biodiversity and

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	<p>permeable paving to reflect rural character.</p> <p>Reference to guidance in relation to the historic environment</p>	<p>fauna</p> <p>Protect and enhance cultural heritage and landscape</p>	<p>geodiversity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV5 Historic Environment - ENV6 high quality design and sustainable construction <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM4 Sustainable construction
LE1 new business	<p>Support proposals that extend or promote new small scale employment and tourism opportunities.</p> <p>Provide opportunities for local employment and training.</p> <p>Proposals for new employment or an extension to an existing facility should not have an adverse effect on amenity from noise, smell, smoke or dust.</p>	<p>Supporting the economy (no direct SEA Topic)</p> <p>Protect and improve air quality, resulting from employment developments</p> <p>Effect on land and resources (Soil) from new development</p> <p>Population and human health - protecting residential amenity can have a positive effect on health and well being.</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - STRAT2 strategic development - STRAT8 rural area - STRAT9 countryside - ECON1 economic growth, employment and enterprise - ECON3 Visitor Economy

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SOC5 health and well being <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM7 rural diversification of land based business - DM9 Visitor accommodation - DM10 Caravan and camping sites
LE2 use of rural buildings	<p>Support the conversion of permanent, structurally sound rural buildings for small business, farm diversification, recreation or tourism.</p> <p>The proposed use is appropriate to the area.</p> <p>The proposal respects the character of surrounding buildings and local area.</p>	<p>Protect cultural heritage and landscape</p> <p>Supporting the economy (no direct SEA Topic)</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - STRAT9 countryside - ECON1 economic growth, employment and enterprise - ECON3 Visitor economy - ENV2 landscape

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	<p>The highway network is capable of accommodating traffic generated and provides car parking.</p> <p>The conversion of any designated or non-designated historic building or structure is sympathetic to the historic fabric and character.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV5 Historic Environment <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM9 Visitor accommodation - DM3 design, character and visual amenity
LE3 loss of employment sites and community facilities	<p>Loss of employment sites and community facilities will only be supported where it has not been in active use for 12 months and there is no potential for reoccupation for an employment use, following results of valuation report and marketing campaign for 6 months.</p>	<p>Population and health – supports social inclusion within the community, providing access to services in the rural area.</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ECON1 economic growth employment and enterprise. - SOC5 health and well being <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM5 Protection and refurbishment of employment land and premises - DM39 Culture and community

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
			<p>facilities.</p> <p>Local Plan (Part Two) policy DM 5 seeks a 12 month marketing period.</p>
LHE1 landscape quality and open countryside	<p>Landscape Quality</p> <p>Development should respect village character, local topography and contribute to local distinctiveness.</p> <p>New buildings or extensions should not damage existing local views and visual connections with sight lines should be maintained.</p> <p>Proposals are supported that provide or retain views along roads and open spaces into the countryside from the development.</p> <p>Maintain local views and vistas, enhance and protect from development.</p>	<p>Protect cultural heritage and landscape</p> <p>The policy could promote a slightly higher level of development in the rural area/countryside, than provided for through the Local plan (Part One) and Local Plan (Part Two).</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV2 landscape <p>The policy is currently not fully in line with Local Plan (Part One) Policies STRAT9 or SOC2 regarding rural exception sites.</p> <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - R1 Development in the rural area - DM19 proposals for residential development - DM23 Affordable housing

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	<p>Countryside</p> <p>Development within the countryside would only be acceptable in exceptional circumstances such as rural exceptions sites or agricultural dwellings and where the development enhances the area by sensitive siting, landscaping, planting and design.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM24 Rural exception sites - DM25 Essential Rural Workers dwellings
LHE2 woodland, trees, hedgerows and walls	<p>Protection of local woodland, trees, hedgerows, verges, walls and boundary treatment from loss or damage where they contribute to character.</p> <p>Where features are impacted by development then appropriate planting of native species and reconstruction of walls and/or fences will be required.</p> <p>Development adjacent to existing mature trees would be expected to</p>	<p>Protection of biodiversity, flora and fauna</p> <p>Enhancement and creation of habitats, including trees/woodlands</p> <p>Protection and enhancement of landscape character</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV2 landscape - ENV3 green infrastructure <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM3 design character and visual amenity - DM45 Trees, woodland and

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	have an aboricultural method statement to BS5837 standard before work commences.		hedgerows
LHE3 Wildlife corridors	<p>Existing woodland, wildlife sites, drainage ditches, brooks and culverts in the plan area will be maintained and enhanced.</p> <p>New buffer zones and wildlife corridors will be created to increase biodiversity.</p> <p>Need for appropriate mitigation and avoidance measures to lessen any impact on wildlife. There should be no net loss (ideally net gain) of biodiversity.</p>	<p>Protection of biodiversity, flora and fauna</p> <p>Enhancement and creation of habitats, including trees/woodlands</p>	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV3 green infrastructure - ENV4 biodiversity and geodiversity <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM44 natural environment - DM45 Trees, woodlands and hedgerows
LHE4 Biodiversity	Proposals that affect areas of high or medium distinctiveness require comprehensive surveys to evaluate the biodiversity present.	Protection and enhancement of biodiversity, flora and fauna	<p>The policy is in line with Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV4 biodiversity and

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
	<p>Mitigation measures will be used to facilitate on site enhancements.</p> <p>Development adjacent to areas of high distinctiveness should demonstrate substantial mitigation and avoidance measures to lessen impacts on wildlife.</p> <p>There should be no net loss of biodiversity.</p>		<p>geodiversity</p> <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM44 Natural environment
LHE5 historic environment	<p>Any designated historic assets and their setting, above and below ground, will be protected and enhanced for their historic significance and their importance to local distinctiveness, character and sense of place.</p> <p>Appendix included to provided further information on designated heritage assets.</p>	Protect and enhance cultural heritage and landscape	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENV5 historic environment <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM46 development in conservation areas - DM47 listed buildings

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM48 non-designated heritage assets - DM49 registered parks, gardens and battlefields - DM50 Archaeology
C1 community facilities	<p>Proposals that retain and/or enhance the provision, quality and accessibility of existing uses, buildings or land for public or community use will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals for new community uses should be in accessible locations, of an appropriate scale and flexible design for multiple uses and not impact on residential amenity or neighbouring uses.</p>	Population and human health – improve access to rural services	<p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - STRAT1 sustainable development - STRAT2 strategic development - SOC5 health and well being <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM39 Culture and community facilities.
C2 existing	The retention, continued use,	Population and human health – improve	Cheshire West and Chester Local

Policy reference	Summary of policy	Identified potential effects of policy (taking into account SEA topics of biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape)	Relationship to Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies
community facilities	<p>refurbishment or improvement of existing community facilities will be supported.</p> <p>Loss of facilities will be resisted unless it is demonstrated the replacement is of equal or greater benefit to the community.</p>	access to rural services	<p>Plan (Part One) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - STRAT1 sustainable development - STRAT2 strategic development - SOC5 health and well being <p>Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part Two) policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DM39 Culture and community facilities.

Appendix 2: SEA Screening - Assessment of significant environmental effects of the Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan

SEA Directive	Characteristics of the plan	Significant environmental effect?
<p>The degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan is a local level land use planning document to determine land use in a small area. Once made, it will work within the planning policy framework of the Local Plan for the borough.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan will provide a local planning policy framework for the Parish of Clotton Hoofield that will become part of the development plan for Cheshire West and Chester. It is required to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the adopted Local Plan. The Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan will not impact on the strategic location, nature, size and operating conditions of new development over and above that set by the adopted Local Plan for the borough.</p> <p>The draft policies allow for a slight increase in housing development established through the Local plan, as they allow for infill and rural exception sites. This is unlikely to result in a significant increase in housing above existing levels. The NDP takes account of local consultation and evidence and advises the policy is intended to limit development to around 10 new units over the life of the plan. It is clear the intention is to limit the scale of development within the neighbourhood area. The Plan also proposes to monitor the plan and assess the impact of allowing very limited infill. The Plan will provide local level</p>	<p>No</p>

SEA Directive	Characteristics of the plan	Significant environmental effect?
	<p>guidance within the strategic framework on the nature of development in the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Area.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan policies will work alongside the strategic policies in the Local Plan, other development management measures and environmental protection legislation.</p>	
The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan has to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the adopted Local Plan and must contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It will therefore have limited influence over changing the policies in plans at the higher strategic level or lead to the development of further plans below it.</p>	No
The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan is required, as one of the basic condition tests, to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. The framework for the promotion of sustainable development is set by the Government's Strategy for Sustainable Development, the National Planning Policy Framework and the policies in the adopted Local Plan for the borough. The Neighbourhood Plan will have limited influence over changing the sustainable development policies in plans and policies at the higher strategic level.</p>	No

SEA Directive	Characteristics of the plan	Significant environmental effect?
Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan will operate within the framework of national planning policy and the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan. The Local Plan (Part One) and Local Plan (Part Two) were accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating SEA) which provides a comprehensive overview of the issues in Cheshire West and Chester. There are no specific additional environmental problems identified for the Clotton Hoofield neighbourhood area.</p> <p>Some of the environmental issues for Clotton Hoofield include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the impact of traffic, particularly HGVs, on the local community • Protect the landscape and built environment that contribute to the quality of the plan area • Protect the natural environment from harm, preserve habitats and increase biodiversity • Provide for some housing to meet local needs, that integrates positively with the character of the area • Support a community hub • Encourage public transport provision • Facilitate farm diversification and a thriving economy. <p>The Neighbourhood Plan will seek to address these issues.</p>	<p>No</p>
The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community	<p>The Neighbourhood Development Plan will have no direct role in the delivery of community legislation on the environment. It does not include policies on these matters.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan has been subject to Habitats Regulation Assessment</p>	<p>No</p>

SEA Directive	Characteristics of the plan	Significant environmental effect?
legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection)	screening as set out in part 2 of this document.	

Appendix 3: SEA Screening - Characteristics of the plan's effects and of the area likely to be affected

Identified effects of the proposed policies	(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	(b) the cumulative nature of the effects	(c) the trans-boundary nature of the effects ¹	(d) the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)	(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	(f) value and vulnerability of effect on on (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage	(ii) effect on environmental quality standards or limit values	(iii) effect on intensity of land-use	(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status	Significant environmental effect?
Protect and enhance cultural heritage and landscape	High probability as policies support the protection and enhancement of heritage and landscape. Long term over the plan period.	Potential small scale positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None – policy aims to protect and enhance heritage and landscape. The plan includes policies relating to designated and non-designated historic assets.	None	None	None identified	No
Protection and enhancement of biodiversity, flora and fauna	High probability, as applications come forward. Policies support habitat creation and no net loss of biodiversity. Effects short, medium and long term.	Potential small scale positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA Screening	No
Reduce the potential impacts of climate change	Low infrequent probability, reducing the impact of traffic. Long term.	None	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified	No
Protect and improve air quality, by reducing travel demand and managing traffic impacts	High probability. Policy supports accessibility by sustainable transport modes. Effects likely to be long term.	None	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening	No

¹ The assessment here has considered whether the effect of the policy goes beyond the UK and impacts upon other EU territories. Given scale and nature of Neighbourhood Plan the effects are not considered to be transboundary.

Identified effects of the proposed policies	(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	(b) the cumulative nature of the effects	(c) the trans-boundary nature of the effects ¹	(d) the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)	(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	(f) value and vulnerability of effect on on (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage	(ii) effect on environmental quality standards or limit values	(iii) effect on intensity of land-use	(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status	Significant environmental effect?
Protect and improve air quality, resulting from employment developments	High probability. Policy supports accessibility by sustainable transport modes. Effects likely to be long term.	Cumulative effects are dependent on the precise nature and location of new developments coming forward.	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening	No
Population and human health – improve access to rural services	Dependant on the scale and nature of development proposed. The NDP provides a positive framework to support facilities, but does not allocate specific sites/schemes.	Dependant on the nature and location of development.	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified	No

Identified effects of the proposed policies	(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	(b) the cumulative nature of the effects	(c) the trans-boundary nature of the effects ¹	(d) the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)	(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	(f) value and vulnerability of effect on on (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage	(ii) effect on environmental quality standards or limit values	(iii) effect on intensity of land-use	(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status	Significant environmental effect?
Providing sufficient housing to meet needs (no direct SEA topic)	<p>Dependant on the nature and location of development.</p> <p>High probability as NDP policies support housing to meet specific local needs. Effects would be short, medium and long term through the plan period.</p> <p>The draft NDP proposes a slight increase in the overall level of development established through Local plan (Part One) STRAT8/STRAT9 and Local Plan (Part Two). It does not allocate specific sites. Policies allow for infill and rural exception sites. This is unlikely to result in a significant increase in housing above existing levels and it clear the intention is to limit the scale of development over the plan period.</p>	<p>Dependant on the nature and location of development.</p> <p>The draft NDP proposes a slight increase in the overall level of development established through Local plan (Part One) STRAT8/STRAT9 and Local Plan (Part Two). This could result in a cumulative impact of new housing development in the countryside. The NDP proposes to monitor these policies to ensure effectiveness.</p>	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	Dependant on the location and scale of development. Unlikely to be an effect.	None	None	None identified	No – the Neighbourhood Plan will be read alongside relevant policies in the Local Plan. It is clear the intention is to limit the scale of new housing development over the plan period.
Population and health –protection of residential amenity can have a positive effect on health and well being	<p>High probability as development takes place. Short, medium and long term positive effects for residents.</p>	None	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified	No

Identified effects of the proposed policies	(a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	(b) the cumulative nature of the effects	(c) the trans-boundary nature of the effects ¹	(d) the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)	(e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	(f) value and vulnerability of effect on on (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage	(ii) effect on environmental quality standards or limit values	(iii) effect on intensity of land-use	(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status	Significant environmental effect?
Population and health – measures to improve highway/community safety could have a positive effect on population and health.	High probability as development takes place. Short, medium and long term positive effects for residents.	Potential for small scale positive cumulative effects.	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified	No
Population and human health - Improving access to open space, positive effect on health and well being.	High probability, short, medium and long term through the plan period. Potential for positive effects at the neighbourhood scale.	Potential for small scale positive effects.	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified	No
Population and health – improving accessibility for a range of users	High probability as development takes place. Short, medium and long term positive effects for residents.	Potential for small scale positive effects.	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified	No
Effect on land and resources (Soil) from new development	Medium probability, depending on scale and type of employment development proposed. Potential for long term permanent effects, although likely to be small scale.	Potential for small scale cumulative effects, depending on nature and location of development proposed.	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified	No
Supporting the economy (no direct SEA topic)	Medium probability, depending on scale and type of employment development proposed. Potential for long term permanent effects, although likely to be small scale.	Potential for small scale cumulative effects, depending on nature and location of development proposed.	None	None	Local, small scale impact at the neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None	No

Appendix 4: European sites relevant to the Draft Neighbourhood Plan

European site	Reason for inclusion	Reason for designation	Existing pressures and potential impacts	Relevance to the Neighbourhood Area
Oak Mere SAC	Located within Cheshire West and Chester	Water body with clear water of low nutrient status characteristics of oligotrophic waters and a marginal zone of shoreweed (<i>Littorella uniflora</i>). Site supports an assemblage of plants that are rare in the lowlands of England, including bog moss (<i>Sphagnum</i> spp) and the scarce narrow small-reed (<i>Calamagrostis stricta</i>).	Water pollution / enrichment. Hydrological changes - reduction in size of the mere due to natural lowering of the local water table caused by successive droughts, resulting in threat to shoreline communities from desiccation and invasion by birch and willow. Atmospheric pollution from nearby roads.	The site falls within the 15km radius of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Area. However, it does not fall within the Neighbourhood Area and is unlikely to be directly affected by the policies of the plan. The pressures and potential impacts to consider in the screening are: - Water pollution - Atmospheric pollution.
Midlands Meres and Mosses Ramsar site Phase 2	Located within Cheshire West and Chester	Series of open water and peatland sites supporting a diverse range of habitats from open water to raised bog. This includes natural dystrophic lakes and ponds and transition mires and quaking bogs with floating bog moss. Site supports a number of rare plant species associated with wetlands and an assemblage of rare wetland invertebrates.	Water pollution / enrichment. Hydrological changes. Despite number of visitors to some of the meres and mosses, interest features are resilient to recreational pressure and off-track trampling is not a significant issue due to the hazardous nature of the sites away from designated tracks and boardwalks.	The site falls within the 15km radius of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Area. However, it does not fall within the Neighbourhood Area and is unlikely to be directly affected by the policies of the plan. The pressures and potential impacts to consider in the screening are: - Water pollution
West Midlands Mosses SAC	Located partly within Cheshire West and Chester		Due to distance to major roads, changes in local air quality are not an issue requiring investigation.	The site falls within the 15km radius of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Area. However, it does not fall within the Neighbourhood Area and is unlikely to be directly affected by the policies of the plan. The pressures and potential impacts to consider in the screening are: - Water pollution
River Dee and Bala Lake SAC	Identified as a source of potable water for Cheshire West and Chester and also the receiving watercourse for waste water treatment works discharge	The site contains the following Annex 1 habitats: - Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Renunculon fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation The site contains the following Annex II species: - Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) - Floating water-plaintain (<i>Luronium natans</i>) - Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) - Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) - Bullhead (<i>Cottus gobio</i>) - Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)	Recreational activities, specifically fishing. Risk of excessive abstraction resulting in a decrease in freshwater flows and an increase in sediment loading of water such that dehydration of interest features may occur. Fish entrainment associated with abstraction. Deterioration in water quality and changes in flow rates dues to ex-industrial runoff, discharge of treated sewage effluent and agricultural runoff.	Part of the River Dee SAC falls within the 15 km radius from the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Area. The pressures and potential impacts to consider in the screening are: - Water Quality Due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan, it is not considered relevant to the HRA Screening of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan.

European site	Reason for inclusion	Reason for designation	Existing pressures and potential impacts	Relevance to the Neighbourhood Area
			Introduction of invasive species.	
Dee Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar	Downstream of the River Dee which is identified as a source of potable water for Cheshire West and Chester. Development in the Borough also creates potential water quality pathways.	<p>The site includes the following Annex I habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Renunculon Fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation. - Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide. - Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand. - Atlantic salt meadows. <p>The site contains the following Habitats Directive Annex II habitats and species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Estuaries - Annual vegetation of drift lines - Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts - Embryonic shifting dunes - Shifting dunes along the shoreline with marram - Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation - Humid dune slacks - Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) - River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) - Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) <p>It also supports:</p> <p>During the breeding season –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Little tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>) - Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) <p>On passage –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>) <p>Over winter –</p> <p>Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>)</p> <p>The site also supports populations of European importance of the following migratory species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Black-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>) - Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) - Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>) - Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) - Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) - Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) - Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) - Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) - Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>) - Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) <p>The estuary also regularly supports 130,408 individual waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1995-99).</p> <p>It also meets several Ramsar criteria as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Extensive intertidal mud and sand flats with large expanses of saltmarsh towards the head of the estuary. - Supporting an overall bird assemblage of international importance. 	<p>Recreational disturbance from abrasion from recreational pressures on the upper shore, dredging operations and fisheries.</p> <p>Disturbance from commercial / industrial developments.</p> <p>Selective extraction of species (bait digging and shellfishing).</p> <p>Deterioration in water quality.</p> <p>Coastal squeeze from land reclamation, coastal flood defences and drainage.</p> <p>Air quality.</p> <p>Excessive abstraction resulting in decrease in freshwater flows into the estuary.</p> <p>Introduction of non-native species.</p>	<p>The Dee Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar is outside the 15km radius for the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Area. However, the site is included within the screening alongside the River Dee in relation to potential impacts from water supply.</p> <p>Due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan, it is not considered relevant to the HRA Screening of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan.</p>

European site	Reason for inclusion	Reason for designation	Existing pressures and potential impacts	Relevance to the Neighbourhood Area
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting the following species at levels of international importance: Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>), Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>), Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>), Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>), Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>), Pintail (<i>Anas Acuta</i>), Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>), Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>), Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>), Bar-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>), Black-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>) and Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>). 		
Mersey Estuary SPA and Ramsar	Located partially within Cheshire West and Chester	<p>Designated for over-wintering and on passage birds.</p> <p>Over winter – Golden plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>), Redshank (<i>Tringa tetanus</i>), Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>), Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>), Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>), Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>), Wigeon (<i>Anas Penelope</i>), Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>), Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>), Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>), Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>).</p> <p>On passage – Ringed plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>).</p> <p>It also contains internationally important populations of Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>), Black-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>), Redshank (<i>Tringa tetanus</i>), Eurasian teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>), Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>) and Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>).</p> <p>It also has a 5 year peak mean (1998/99-2002/3) of 89,576 waterfowl.</p>	<p>Recreational disturbance from abrasion (boating, anchoring, trampling).</p> <p>Selective extraction of species (harvesting, bait digging, recreational fishing)</p> <p>Visual presence of recreational activity.</p> <p>Disturbance to birds from increased recreational pressure and wildfowling.</p> <p>Coastal squeeze and loss of supporting habitat.</p> <p>Deterioration in water quality.</p> <p>Deterioration in air quality.</p> <p>Introduction of non-native species.</p>	<p>Part of the Mersey Estuary/SPA falls within the 15 km radius from the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Area.</p> <p>Due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan, it is not considered relevant to the HRA Screening of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan.</p>

Appendix 5: HRA Screening of Neighbourhood Plan policies for Likely Significant Effect

The pressures and issues to consider, as identified in Appendix 4, are Likely Significant Effects on water pollution and atmospheric pollution (Oak Mere SAC) and water quality (Midlands Meres and Mosses Ramsar site Phase 2 and West Midlands Mosses SAC).

Policy	Neighbourhood Plan policy summary	Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?	LSE in combination?
RT1 Traffic and Environment	To ensure highway safety and protect residential amenity. To take measures to increase highways capacity, traffic management and traffic calming.	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Oak Mere SAC has the potential to be effected from atmospheric pollution from nearby roads. The policy is intended to relate to public safety and residential amenity, to address existing traffic problems. The measures aim to reduce the impact of heavy goods vehicles and traffic speeds, to improve safety and environmental impact. This is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the SAC or qualifying features.</p> <p>No links with water quality.</p>	No
RT2 Footpaths, cycleways and bridleways	<p>Ensure existing and new footpaths and bridleways are well maintained and signposted.</p> <p>To protect the character of Public Rights of Way (PROW) regarding safety, directness, attractiveness and convenience.</p> <p>Support extensions to the PROW network,</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No

Policy	Neighbourhood Plan policy summary	Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?	LSE in combination?
	<p>integrating with the local and national networks.</p> <p>Materials used are suitable for the intensity of use and compatible with surrounding character.</p> <p>Minimise crossings and level changes</p> <p>Ensure accessibility for wheelchairs, buggies and a range of users.</p>		
RT3 Improving air quality	<p>Protect and improve air quality.</p> <p>Demonstrate traffic impacts would not decrease air quality.</p> <p>Reduce travel demand and encourage walking, cycling and the use of public transport.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Oak Mere SAC has the potential to be effected from atmospheric pollution from nearby roads. The policy is intended to protect and improve air quality where possible. This is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the SAC or qualifying features.</p> <p>No links with water quality.</p>	No
RT4 creation of new access	<p>Protect rural character when new access is created or widened.</p> <p>Boundary treatment should be consistent with surrounding scale, materials and height (subject to safety).</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No
H1 scale of new housing	Provides the opportunity for some housing to meet local needs where this integrates with the	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Oak Mere SAC has the potential to be</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Housing development would</p>

Policy	Neighbourhood Plan policy summary	Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?	LSE in combination?
development	<p>character of the area.</p> <p>Allows for new development, that is small in scale and falling within the following categories;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Infill - Rural exception sites - Brownfield land - Redundant buildings - Essential agricultural workers dwellings. 	<p>effected from atmospheric pollution from nearby roads.</p> <p>The effect of additional housing development on air pollution, will depend on the scale of development and associated traffic generated, although this is likely to be small scale appropriate to the neighbourhood area. Due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan development would be unlikely to lead to LSE on the Oak Mere SAC or qualifying features.</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality.</p>	<p>be small scale appropriate to the rural area, in line with the levels established in Local Plan (Part One) and (Part Two). The Draft Neighbourhood Plan allows for a slightly higher level of development (through exception sites and infill). Due to the scale of likely development and distance from the Oak Mere SAC, an LSE is unlikely.</p>
H2 type and size of new housing	<p>Provides for a mix of 2, 3 and 4 bedroom homes, semi-detached and detached to contribute to a balanced and inclusive community.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No
H3 extensions and alterations to existing dwellings	<p>Extensions should reflect the size and scale of surrounding properties, using complementary materials and reflect and enhance the existing dwelling.</p> <p>Proposals should retain sufficient garden space, taking account of the prevailing pattern of development.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No
H4 conversion of	<p>Conversions should reflect the character and</p>	No LSE	No

Policy	Neighbourhood Plan policy summary	Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?	LSE in combination?
outbuildings to residential use	<p>appearance of existing buildings and be inkeeping with surrounding development.</p> <p>Conversion of traditional farm buildings should preserve the character and relationship with other buildings on site and not suburbanise the rural character.</p>	No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.	
LE1 new business	<p>Support proposals that extend or promote new small scale employment and tourism opportunities.</p> <p>Provide opportunities for local employment and training.</p> <p>Proposals for new employment or an extension to an existing facility should not have an adverse effect on amenity from noise, smell, smoke or dust.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Oak Mere SAC has the potential to be effected from atmospheric pollution from nearby roads.</p> <p>The effect of additional employment development on air pollution, will depend on the type of employment use and associated traffic generated. The scale and type of use would be small scale appropriate to the neighbourhood area. Due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan development would be unlikely to lead to LSE on the Oak Mere SAC or qualifying features.</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Employment development would be small scale appropriate to the rural area, in line with Local Plan (Part One) and (Part Two). Due to the scale of likely development and distance from the Oak Mere SAC, an LSE is unlikely.</p>
LE2 use of rural buildings	Support the conversion of permanent, structurally sound rural buildings for small business, farm	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Oak Mere SAC has the potential to be</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Employment development</p>

Policy	Neighbourhood Plan policy summary	Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?	LSE in combination?
	<p>diversification, recreation or tourism.</p> <p>The proposal respects the character of surrounding buildings and local area.</p> <p>The highway network is capable of accommodating traffic generated and provides car parking.</p>	<p>effected from atmospheric pollution from nearby roads.</p> <p>The effect of additional employment development on air pollution, will depend on the type of employment use and associated traffic generated. The scale and type of use would be small scale appropriate to the neighbourhood area. Due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan development would be unlikely to lead to LSE on the Oak Mere SAC or qualifying features.</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality.</p>	<p>would be small scale appropriate to the rural area, in line with Local Plan (Part One) and (Part Two). Due to the scale of likely development and distance from the Oak Mere SAC, an LSE is unlikely.</p>
LE3 loss of employment sites and community facilities	<p>Loss of employment sites and community facilities will only be supported where the existing use is not viable and has been marketed for 2 years.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No
LHE1 landscape quality and open countryside	<p>Landscape Quality</p> <p>Development should respect and enhance landscape quality.</p> <p>Maintain local views and vistas, enhance and protect from development.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No

Policy	Neighbourhood Plan policy summary	Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?	LSE in combination?
	<p>Countryside</p> <p>Development within the countryside would only be acceptable in exceptional circumstances such as rural exceptions sites or agricultural dwellings and where the development enhances the area by sensitive siting, landscaping, planting and design.</p>		
LHE2 woodland, trees, hedgerows and walls	<p>Protection of local woodland, trees, hedgerows, verges, walls and boundary treatment from loss or damage where they contribute to character.</p> <p>Where features are impacted by development then appropriate planting of native species and reconstruction of walls and/or fences will be required.</p> <p>Development adjacent to existing mature trees would be expected to have an arboricultural method statement to BS5837 standard before work commences.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No
LHE3 Wildlife corridors	<p>Existing woodland, wildlife sites, drainage ditches, brooks and culverts in the plan area will be maintained and enhanced.</p> <p>New buffer zones and wildlife corridors will be created to increase biodiversity.</p> <p>Need for appropriate mitigation and avoidance measures to lessen any impact on wildlife. There</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Policy protects and enhances the natural environment. There are no links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution that could lead to an adverse LSE.</p>	No

Policy	Neighbourhood Plan policy summary	Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?	LSE in combination?
	should be no net loss (ideally net gain) of biodiversity.		
LHE4 Biodiversity	<p>Proposals that affect areas of high or medium distinctiveness require comprehensive surveys to evaluate the biodiversity present.</p> <p>Mitigation measures will be used to facilitate on site enhancements.</p> <p>Development adjacent to areas of high distinctiveness should demonstrate substantial mitigation and avoidance measures to lessen impacts on wildlife.</p> <p>There should be no net loss of biodiversity.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Policy protects and enhances the natural environment. There are no links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution that could lead to an adverse LSE.</p>	No
LHE5 historic environment	Any designated historic assets and their setting, above and below ground, will be protected and enhanced for their historic significance and their importance to local distinctiveness, character and sense of place.	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No
D1 design of new development	<p>Development should demonstrate high quality design, respond to and integrate with surroundings, landscape and built environment.</p> <p>Good design means complementing and enhancing existing development through size, height, scale, mass, rural skyline, materials,</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No

Policy	Neighbourhood Plan policy summary	Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?	LSE in combination?
	layout, access and density.		
D2 environmental sustainability and adapting to climate change	<p>New development should have high standards of sustainability.</p> <p>Sustainable drainage schemes should be used to create new wildlife areas.</p> <p>May include ponds, swales and permeable paving to reflect rural character.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>Policy protects and enhances the natural environment and makes provision for sustainable drainage schemes. Due to the scale of development and distance from the European sites, there is unlikely to be links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution that could lead to an adverse LSE.</p>	No
C1 community facilities	<p>Proposals that retain and/or enhance the provision, quality and accessibility of existing uses, buildings or land for public or community use will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals for new community uses should be in accessible locations, of an appropriate scale and flexible design for multiple uses and not impact on residential amenity or neighbouring uses.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No
C2 existing community facilities	<p>The retention, continued use, refurbishment or improvement of existing community facilities will be supported.</p> <p>Loss of facilities will be resisted unless it is demonstrated the replacement is of equal or greater benefit to the community.</p>	<p>No LSE</p> <p>No links/pathways with water quality or atmospheric (air) pollution.</p>	No

Appendix 6: Comments received during consultation on initial SEA Screening Opinion (January 2019)

Statutory consultee	Date Consulted	Consultee Response	CWAC response
Environment Agency	25 th January 2019	<p>29th January 2019</p> <p>We no longer comment on screening opinions should any scoping comments be required please let me know.</p>	Thank you for your response to the Draft Screening Opinion. Comments noted.
Historic England	25 th January 2019	<p>26th February 2019</p> <p>As the Neighbourhood Plan is currently drafted, I believe it is not in accordance with the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan Historic Environment Policy ENV5, in that the plan does not set out a positive strategy to safeguard and enhance both designated and non-designated heritage assets. I appraised the policies proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan and submitted my comments via email on 22nd February 2019 (Ref no. PL00539602). I feel that should my comments inform changes to the Neighbourhood Plan, that any potentially negative effects upon the historic environment would be avoided or mitigated and therefore I would agree with</p>	<p>Thank you for your response to the Draft SEA Screening Opinion for the Draft Clotton Neighbourhood Plan (January 2019), together with your response to the Draft Clotton Neighbourhood Plan (January 2019).</p> <p>The initial screening opinion was based on an early draft of the Neighbourhood Plan, prior to the Regulation 14 consultation. Following the pre-submission consultation stage, the Neighbourhood Plan has been amended to take account of comments received including those from Historic England. An Appendix has been included within the Neighbourhood Plan, to provide further information on the History of Clotton and Hoofield and information on designated</p>

Statutory consultee	Date Consulted	Consultee Response	CWAC response
		<p>your assessment that a SEA is not required.</p> <p>Historic England strongly advises that you engage conservation, archaeology and urban design colleagues at the local and county level to ensure you are aware of all the relevant features of the historic environment and that the historic environment is effectively and efficiently considered as part of the Local Plan, the allocation of any site and in the preparation of the SEA. They are also best placed to advise on local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the HER (formerly SMR). They will be able to provide you with the Historic Environment Records for the area including any relevant studies, and ensure a joined-up and robust approach is undertaken.</p> <p>Finally, we should like to stress that this opinion is based on the information provided by you with your email of 25th January 2019. To avoid any doubt, this does not affect our obligation to provide further advice and, potentially, object to</p>	<p>and non-designated heritage assets.</p> <p>The policies and/or explanations have been amended to take account of the comments received. Links to the Historic England Guidance documents have been included to inform decision makers on specific planning applications.</p> <p>The Draft SEA Screening Opinion has been amended to take account of the revised version of the Plan for submission to CWAC for the publicity consultation.</p> <p>Cheshire West and Chester provide support to Neighbourhood Plan groups preparing their plan. We seek advice from our historic environment officers on the content of the emerging plan, together with other relevant officers.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Plan will be required to meet the basic conditions, including general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan to proceed to referendum. The Neighbourhood Plan, once made, will be read alongside the historic environment policies within the Local Plan (Part One) Strategic Policies</p>

Statutory consultee	Date Consulted	Consultee Response	CWAC response
		specific proposals which may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the Plan) where we consider that, despite the SA/SEA, this would have an adverse effect upon the historic environment.	and Local Plan (Part Two) Land Allocations and Detailed Policies. As a result of the amended SEA screening assessment, Cheshire West and Chester Council consider that it is unlikely there will be any significant environmental effects arising from the Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan (September 2019). As such, a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Draft Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan is not required.
Historic England	25 th January 2019	<p>Comments on the Draft Neighbourhood Plan (as referred to in the SEA Screening Opinion response) – sent 22nd February 2019.</p> <p>Summary - Draft Neighbourhood Plan falls within the boundary of the Clotton Conservation Area and includes a number of nationally designated grade II listed buildings, the details of which are listed below and should be included in an Appendix accompanying the Neighbourhood Plan. It will be important that the strategy you put together for this area safeguards those elements which</p>	Please see above.

Statutory consultee	Date Consulted	Consultee Response	CWAC response
		<p>contribute to the importance of those historic assets. This will assist in ensuring they are enjoyed by future generations of the area and make sure it is in line with national planning policy.</p> <p>Detailed comments are provided on draft policies H1, LE2, LHE5 and D2, together with links to Historic England Guidance.</p>	
Natural England	25 th January 2019	<p>31st January 2019</p> <p>SEA - it is our advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that, in so far as our strategic environmental interests are concerned (including but not limited to statutory designated sites, landscapes and protected species, geology and soils) are concerned, that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects from the proposed plan.</p> <p>HRA - Natural England agrees with the report's conclusions that the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan would not be likely to result in a significant effect on any European Site, either alone or in combination and therefore no further</p>	Thank you for your response to the Draft Screening Opinion. Comments noted.

Statutory consultee	Date Consulted	Consultee Response	CWAC response
		assessment work would be required.	
Natural Resources Wales	25 th January 2019	<p>21st February 2019</p> <p>The advice below relates to the Habitats Regulations Assessment only. Our Strategic Assessment Team will be providing their advice on the SEA Screening Opinion separately.</p> <p>Based on the material supplied with the consultation, in so far as Natura 2000 sites in Wales are concerned, it is our advice that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects from the proposed plan.</p>	Thank you for your response to the Draft Screening Opinion. Comments noted.

Comments from Historic England on amended Clotton Hoofield NDP (September 2019)

Statutory consultee	Date Consulted	Consultee Response	CWAC response
Historic England	5 th September 2019	<p>18th September 2019</p> <p>Historic England will confine its advice to 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</p>	<p>Thank you for your response to the Draft Screening Opinion. Comments noted.</p> <p>Further consultation will take place with Historic England on the submission draft</p>

Statutory consultee	Date Consulted	Consultee Response	CWAC response
		<p>supplied in the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>The Draft Neighbourhood Plan indicates that within the Plan area there are several designated cultural heritage assets. There are also likely to be other features of local historic, architectural or archaeological value, and consideration should also be given to the wider historic landscape.</p> <p>On the basis of the information supplied, in the context of the criteria set out in schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations (Annex II of the SEA Directive), Historic England concurs with your conclusion that as a result of the policies contained within the draft Neighbourhood Plan that “it is unlikely there will be any significant environmental effects”. Therefore the preparation of Strategic Environmental <u>Assessment is not required</u> for the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>The views of the other two statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision for SEA is made. We should like to stress</p>	<p>plan in due course.</p>

Statutory consultee	Date Consulted	Consultee Response	CWAC response
		<p>that this opinion is based on the information available in the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>To avoid any doubt, this does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on later stages of the SEA process and, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the plan/guidance) where we consider that, despite SEA, these would have an adverse effect on the environment.</p> <p>We would be pleased if you can send a copy of the determination as required by REG 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plan and Programmes Regulations 2004.</p> <p>Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of the West Cheshire Council and the Cheshire Archaeology Planning Advisory Service are closely involved throughout the preparation of the plan and its assessment. They are best placed to advise on; local historic environment</p>	

Statutory consultee	Date Consulted	Consultee Response	CWAC response
		<p>issues and priorities, including access to data held in the HER (formerly SMR); how the policy or proposal can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any mitigation measures and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of historic assets.</p> <p>We look forward to receiving a consultation on the submission draft of the Clotton Hoofield Neighbourhood Plan in due course.</p>	

