

**Strategic Environmental Assessment,**  
**Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats**  
**Regulations Assessment Screening**  
**Determinaton for Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan**

Prepared on behalf of Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group by

Cheshire West and Chester Council

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### **Appendix 1 – SEA Screening**

Overview of policies and identified effects of the Draft Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan (November 2018)

### **Appendix 2 – SEA Screening**

Assessment of significant environmental effects of the Draft Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan

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## 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 Tarvin 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.

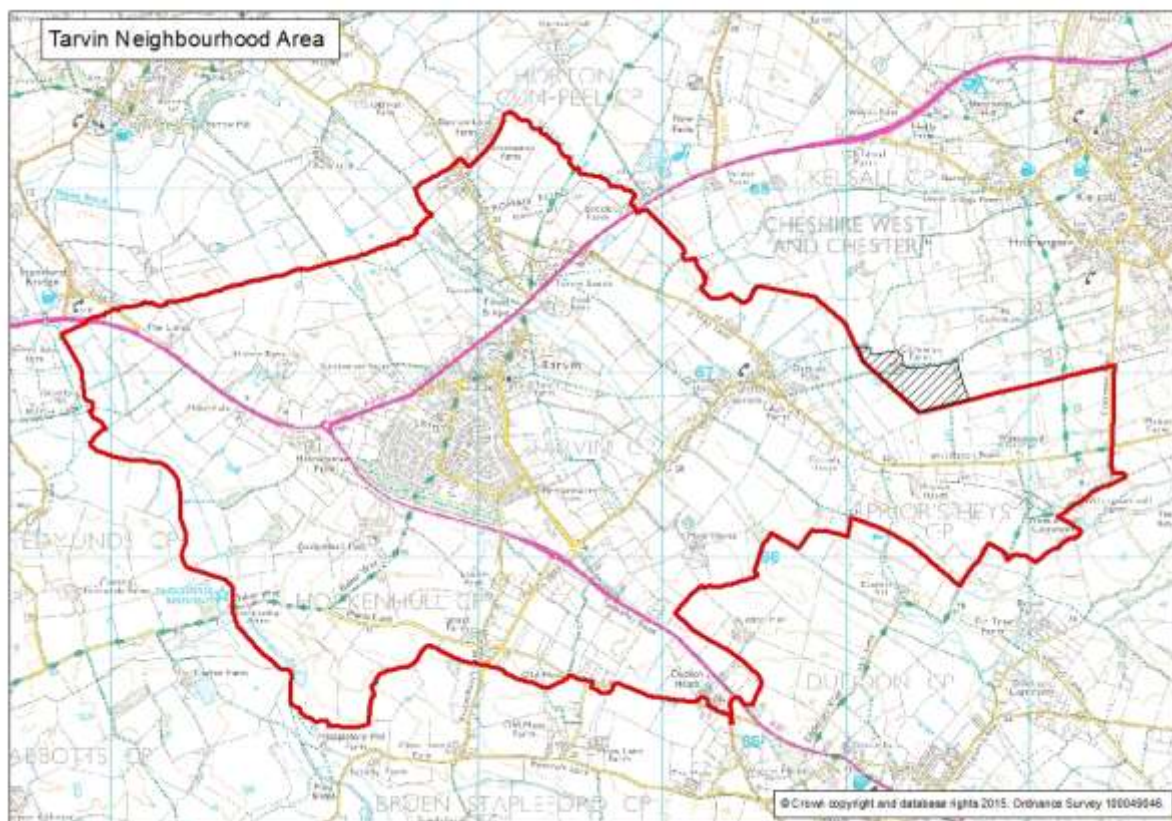
A draft screening opinion for Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan was produced in March 2018. The Council consulted with the statutory environmental bodies (Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency) on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2018. Responses were received from Historic England and Natural England, who agreed with the outcome of the initial screening exercise, that SEA is not required. This final screening statement takes account of comments made during the consultation. A summary of the consultation responses received is provided in Appendix 6.

## Location and geographical scope of the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan

The Tarvin plan area sites entirely within Tarvin parish. There are two other neighbourhood areas within the parish, namely Central Gowy South and Kelsall & Willington. The three neighbourhood areas do not overlap.

The Tarvin Neighbourhood plan area includes the settlement areas of Tarvin, Tarvin Sands, Oscroft and part of Duddon, with a population for the whole of the Tarvin parish of 2,728 (2011 census). The plan covers an area of approximately 979m<sup>2</sup>.

The Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan Area is shown in Map 1 below



## Relationship to other plans and programmes

Once made the Neighbourhood Plan will form part of the development plan for Cheshire West and Chester. The policy framework 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). This plan sets out the overall vision, strategic objectives, spatial strategy and strategic planning policies for the borough to 2030. Some of the policies in the adopted Chester District Local Plan (2006) and the Cheshire Replacement Minerals and Waste Local Plans have been retained alongside the Local Plan (Part One) until they are replaced by the Local Plan (Part Two). The Local Plan (Part Two) was submitted for examination on 12 March 2018. The hearing sessions took place during September 2018 and consultation on the main modifications is underway.

The existing and emerging 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 emerging Local Plan (Part Two).

### **Scope of Neighbourhood Plan**

The vision for the neighbourhood plan is:

*“Retain and enhance the character of Tarvin by ensuring that any further additional housing beyond the minimum specified in the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan, is appropriate and must not compromise the existing and proposed infrastructure needs of the community.”*

The plan includes policies relating to the following topic areas: Housing Growth, Leisure, Landscape/Environment, Transport, Economic Development and Health.

The views and aspirations of the community are summarised in the Neighbourhood Plan as follows:

- Preserving intact the Green Belt. The preservation of the surrounding open countryside, and ready access to it, is of primary importance;
- To respect the character of the local built environment, its history and surrounding natural landscape and to seek to reinforce this character through quality design;
- Traffic congestion in the village and the lack of public parking, which exacerbates this, are key issues – as is congestion driving towards Chester;
- Access to health services locally is a key issue;

- There is an aspiration for investment in community infrastructure for recreation because it has not kept pace with the impact of new housing; and
- No new significant housing before 2030 and only then if a way of overcoming critical infrastructure deficiencies referred to above has been implemented in a way which meets community needs.

The neighbourhood plan does not allocate sites for housing as the minimum requirement set in the Local Plan (Part One) has almost been achieved, although it does allocate sites for outdoor recreation and parking uses. The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan provide local level guidance on how the community wishes future development, as set by the Local Plan, to come forward.

## **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 Tarvin Neighbourhood Plans fall 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 of 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 of the Neighbourhood Plan, its potential effects and its relationship to Local Plan (Part One) strategic policies and the policies in the Local Plan (Part Two). This helps to assess the impact that the Neighbourhood Plan will have above and beyond the impact of existing and emerging Local Plan policies. This assessment is set out in the table in 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 area likely to be affected are set out in Appendix 3.

## **Conclusion**

As a result of the screening assessment, Cheshire West and Chester Council consider that it is unlikely there will be any significant environmental effects arising from the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan. In response to consultation on the screening assessment, Natural England and Historic England both confirmed that they agreed with this assessment. (No response was received from the Environment Agency).

As such, a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Tarvin 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 Natura 2000 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 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.

Information about all of these sites, the reasons for designation, pressures and pathways of impacts are provided in the HRA for the Local Plan (Part One and Part Two) and summarised in Appendix 4.

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:

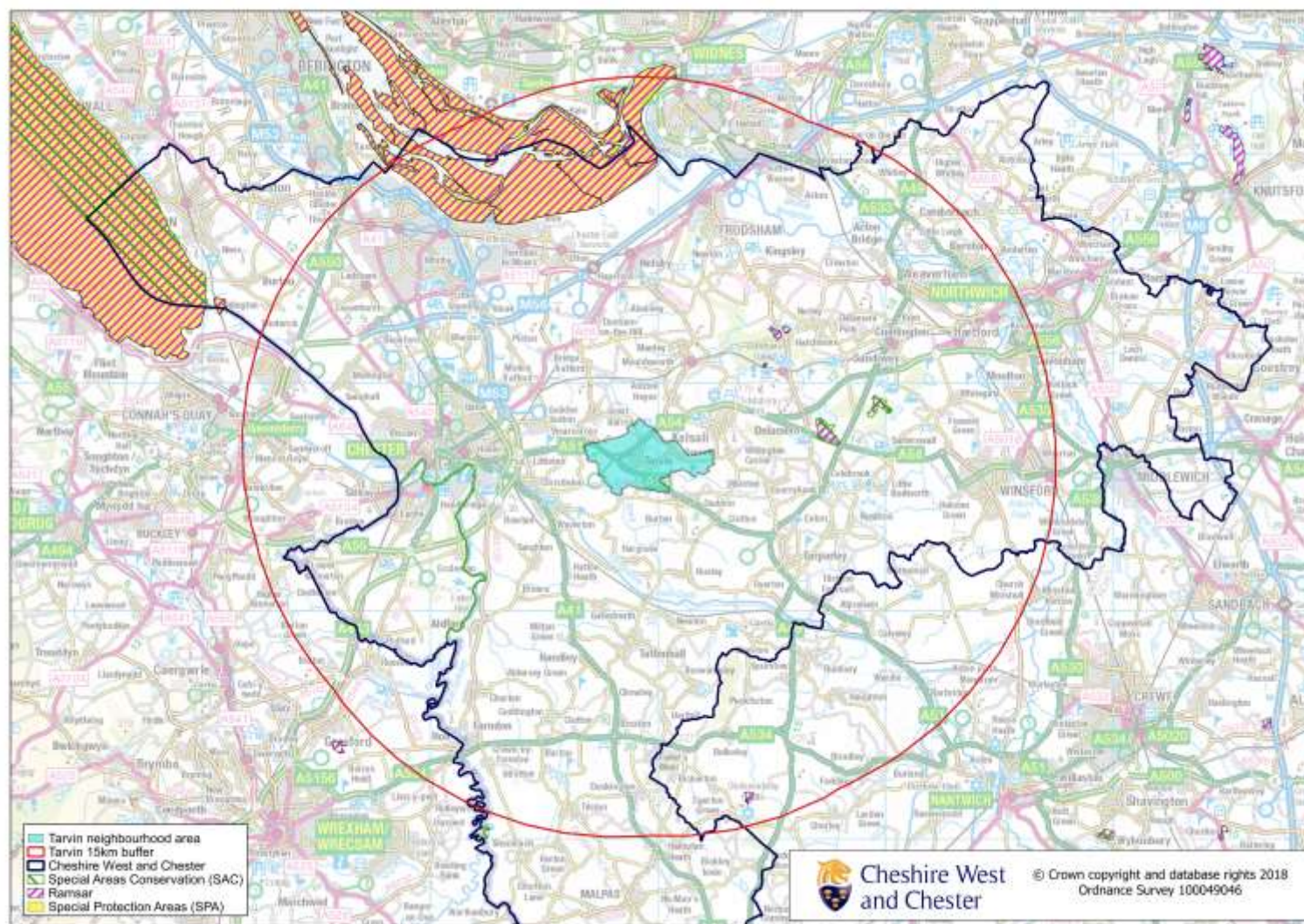
- Liverpool Bay SPA;
- Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains SAC
- Mersey Narrows and North Wirral Foreshore Ramsar and SPA
- Sefton Coast SAC
- Ribble and Alt Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site
- River Eden SAC

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 Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan.

The European protected sites that fall within a 15km radius of the Neighbourhood Area (as shown on Map 2) are included within the HRA Screening. 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 means that some of the European sites can be screened out and do not require further assessment. The Mersey Estuary SPA and Ramsar is screened out as there is unlikely to be any direct impacts due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan.

Appendix 5 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.

Map 2 - European Designations within a 15km distance of the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan



The conservation objectives of the European sites have been taken into account in the assessment. 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 Tarvin 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.

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**

<b>Pressure</b>	<b>Reasons outside scope of this HRA</b>
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 the Appropriate Assessment on the Neighbourhood Plan will not be required. The Neighbourhood Plan does allocate sites for development, which means that it could 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 Tarvin Neighbourhood Area in the future is set by Local Plan policy. The Neighbourhood Plan guides how this should come forward locally.

There are no specific issues highlighted in the HRA of the emerging Local Plan in relation to Tarvin, 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 (Parts One and Two). However, it is considered there are sufficient mitigation and control measures in the policy framework of the Local Plan (Parts One and 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 Tarvin 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. In responding to consultation on the SEA and HRA screening, Natural England confirmed that, based

on the information provided, the proposals contained within the plan will not have significant effects on sensitive sites that NE has a statutory duty to protect.

The screening determination made by Cheshire West and Chester Council is therefore that the Tarvin 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, a separate full screening exercise and Habitats Regulations Assessment is not considered to be required.

## Appendix 1: SEA Screening - Overview of policies and identified effects of the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan.

Policy	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 Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One)
<b>Policy HG1 Infill Housing</b>	Supports residential development in the settlement boundary subject to meeting other policy requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contributes to meeting the housing need</li> <li>- Promotes the re-use of previously developed land</li> <li>- Promoting sustainable locations</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 2</li> <li>- STRAT 8</li> </ul> <p>And the following policies in Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- R1</li> <li>- DM19</li> </ul>
<b>Policy HG2 Small scale development</b>	Proposals for small-scale residential development of previously developed sites outside the defined settlement boundary for Tarvin may be acceptable. Development may take the form of either new-build residential properties or conversion of existing structures to residential use. Sites are considered to be small-scale when amounting to less than 6 dwellings - having taken into account of related applications for different parts of the same site, or adjacent site/sites with a shared access point.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promotes the re-use of previously developed land</li> <li>- Contributes to meeting the housing need</li> <li>- Development outside the settlement boundary could impact biodiversity or geodiversity</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 1</li> <li>- ENV 1</li> </ul> <p>There is potential for some discrepancy between policy HG2 and Local Plan policy STRAT 9.</p> <p>It is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DM19</li> </ul>
<b>Policy HG3 Housing character</b>	<p>All residential development resulting in new or replacement dwellings should:</p> <p>be designed so as to respect and, where possible enhance the built environment;</p> <p>help to maintain character and sense of place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protecting local character</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ENV 2</li> <li>- ENV 6</li> </ul> <p>And the following policies in Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DM21</li> </ul>

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Summary of policy</b>	<b>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).</b>	<b>Relationship to Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One)</b>
<b>Policy HG 4 Availability of Recreation Facilities</b>	Larger areas of new housing development will not be permitted unless recreational facilities and highways improvements have been delivered. .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Development outside the settlement boundary could impact biodiversity or geodiversity</li> </ul>	<p>By supporting larger areas of housing which might be outside of the settlement boundary the policy has the potential to conflict with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 9</li> <li>- ENV 4</li> </ul>
<b>Policy HG5 Settlement Separation</b>	The undeveloped gap between Tarvin and Oscroft is important to the continued separation of the settlements and should not be diminished by new housing development or other built structures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protecting the openness of the countryside</li> <li>- Protecting the landscape and cultural heritage</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ENV 2</li> </ul>
<b>Policy HG6 Traffic Generation</b>	Proposals for development will need to assess the impact of additional traffic on the highway network. Provision should be made for pedestrians and cyclists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promoting sustainable modes of transport</li> <li>- Mitigation against impacts of traffic generation</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 10</li> </ul> <p>And the following policies in the Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- T5</li> </ul>
<b>Policy LS1 Leisure Site</b>	<p>Land to the east of Tarporley Road, is allocated for recreational facilities; to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Floodlit all-weather training pitch;</li> <li>- High quality changing facilities;</li> <li>- A full size grass pitch; and,</li> <li>- Adequate car parking.</li> </ul> <p>Development proposals that would compromise the future use of the site for sport and/or leisure will be considered unacceptable.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Positive impact on human health, through recreation activity</li> <li>- Small scale development in the countryside could impact rural character, biodiversity or geodiversity</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SOC 5</li> <li>- SOC 6</li> </ul> <p>The policy is not fully in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 9</li> </ul>
<b>Policy LS2 New Cycle</b>	Development proposals that would hinder or compromise the implementation of improvements to the identified cycle routes, will be unacceptable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promoting sustainable modes of transport</li> <li>- Promoting health and well being</li> </ul>	This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):



<b>Policy</b>	<b>Summary of policy</b>	<b>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).</b>	<b>Relationship to Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One)</b>
<b>Routes</b>	unless it can be demonstrated that the need for the routes will be met in an alternative manner		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 10</li> <li>- STRAT 11</li> <li>- SOC 5</li> </ul>
<b>Policy LS3 New Footpath Routes</b>	The highway verge on the south side of the A54 running east from the Tarvin roundabout as far as The Cottage, Holme Street, is identified as a footpath route. Any development that would prevent the future implementation of this route will not be permitted.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promoting sustainable modes of transport</li> <li>- Promoting health and well being</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 10</li> <li>- SOC 5</li> </ul>
<b>Policy LE1 Local Green Spaces</b>	Identifies areas of Local Green Space and protects them from development that would harm their form and function.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protecting existing open space</li> <li>- Promoting health and well-being</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SOC 6</li> <li>- ENV 2</li> </ul>
<b>Policy LE2 Sites of sport, recreation and amenity value</b>	The policy identifies four sites to be protected from built development that would compromise their role as locations of amenity value and for sport and recreation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protecting existing open space</li> <li>- Promoting health and well-being</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SOC 5</li> <li>- SOC 6</li> </ul>
<b>Policy LE3 Nature Conservation</b>	The policy identifies five sites that are important for wildlife that is in need of protection: Development that is likely to have an adverse impact on the wildlife in those locations will not be acceptable, except in exceptional circumstances.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protecting wildlife</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ENV 4</li> </ul> <p>And the following policy in the Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DM44</li> </ul>
<b>Policy LE4 Future extension of</b>	The policy identifies land that is to be protected from development that would prevent it from being brought forward as an extension to the existing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protecting biodiversity and geodiversity</li> <li>- Protection and promotion of new green infrastructure</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SOC 5</li> </ul>

Policy	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 Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One)
<b>Tarvin Community Woodland</b>	community woodland.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promoting health and well-being</li> <li>-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SOC 6</li> <li>- ENV 3</li> <li>- ENV 4</li> </ul>
<b>Policy LE5 Significant Views</b>	The policy identifies key views that should not be damaged by proposed new buildings or development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protecting rural character</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ENV 2</li> </ul>
<b>Policy LE6 Sites of Archaeological/Historical Significance</b>	In addition to sites that are already protected under statutory designations, the policy identifies two locations as being of local archaeological and/or historical interest and should be accorded significant protection from the potentially harmful effects of development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protect heritage assets and conservation sites</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ENV 5</li> </ul> <p>And the following policy in the Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DM48</li> </ul>
<b>Policy LE7 Landscape and Wildlife</b>	<p>Where possible, new development in Tarvin should seek to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Preserve and enhance the local character of buildings in the parish, by reference to the Village Design Statement;</li> <li>- Preserve existing green spaces that contribute to the local landscape identity;</li> <li>- Protect and enhance wildlife;</li> <li>- Conserve and enhance ponds, copses and significant individual trees;</li> <li>- Enhance access to the countryside through a wide range of properly maintained public footpaths and safe cycle routes;</li> <li>- Retain agricultural land in productive use</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protecting local character</li> <li>- Resisting the loss of landscape features</li> <li>- Protect and enhance wildlife</li> <li>- Protecting existing trees</li> <li>- Protecting landscape</li> <li>- Protection of green infrastructure</li> <li>- Promote other forms of transport</li> <li>- Positive impact on human health through recreation activities</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SOC 5</li> <li>- ENV 2</li> <li>- ENV 4</li> <li>- ENV 6</li> </ul> <p>And the following policies in the Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- DM3</li> </ul>

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Summary of policy</b>	<b>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).</b>	<b>Relationship to Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One)</b>
<b>Policy TR1 Parking (Garden Field)</b>	The site at Garden Field, adjacent to the Old Rectory and Glebe Cottage, on the east side of Church Street, is identified for off-street car parking. Development proposals that would prevent the future use of the site for that purpose will not be considered appropriate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase of car use</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 11</li> </ul> <p>And the following policies in Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- T5</li> </ul>
<b>Policy TR2 Other car parking proposals</b>	Development of off-road car parking to alleviate parking and traffic congestion in High Street, Lower High Street and Church Street will be acceptable provided that secure proposals are in place to ensure the long term management of the sites for public use and that the design, layout and landscaping of resultant areas of parking can be demonstrated to not detract from the character of Tarvin's built environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase of car use</li> <li>- Protecting the local character</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 11</li> </ul> <p>And the following policies in Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- T5</li> </ul>
<b>Policy TR3 Complementary funding</b>	Where development proposals in Tarvin that generate funds for expenditure on community infrastructure are approved, these should be, at least in part, directed towards major highway improvements within the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Improve air quality by reducing standing vehicles</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 11</li> </ul>
<b>Policy TR4 Adapting the Highway Network</b>	Proposals for minor adaptations to highways infrastructure that will smooth traffic flows and reduce congestion on the A51 within the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan area, including preparatory works to allow for future major highway changes, will be acceptable provided that they can be implemented without significant negative alterations to the built and natural environs of residential properties that are adjacent or nearby.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protecting residential amenity</li> <li>- Protecting landscape and townscape</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 11</li> </ul> <p>And the following policies in Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- T1</li> </ul>

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Summary of policy</b>	<b>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).</b>	<b>Relationship to Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One)</b>
<b>Policy TR5 Major Road Improvements</b>	Where land use changes are required to facilitate major improvements to the highway network in the Neighbourhood Plan Area, principally relating to the A51 and A55, these will be broadly acceptable provided that the detailed proposals limit the negative impacts on the built and natural environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protecting landscape and townscape</li> <li>- Protecting natural environment</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 11</li> </ul> <p>And the following policies in Local Plan (Part Two):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- T1</li> </ul>
<b>Policy TR6 Traffic Impact Assessment</b>	Proposals for significant new development must demonstrate that the anticipated increase in traffic flow can be accommodated by both the highway network and available parking opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increase in car use</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 10</li> </ul>
<b>Policy ED1 Change of Use</b>	<p>Change of use from residential to business will be supported where they provide additional work opportunities and do not compromise the rural setting or amenity of neighbours.</p> <p>Change of use from retail to other business uses will be permitted if the proposal does not result in a net reduction of employment opportunities.</p> <p>Change of use from retail or business to residential is not supported unless specific criteria are met.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support the rural economy</li> <li>- Re-use of brownfield</li> <li>- Protecting local character</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 8</li> </ul>
<b>Policy ED2 Existing Industrial Locations</b>	<p>On the existing industrial sites at ED2.1 and ED2.2, measures to improve the adaptability and marketability of the premises will be acceptable</p> <p>-</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support the rural economy</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 8</li> <li>- ECON 1</li> </ul>
<b>Policy ED3 Home based businesses</b>	Proposals for small-scale home-based businesses and live/work units will normally be acceptable subject to criteria which include protecting residential amenity and character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Reduce the need to travel</li> <li>- Protecting residential amenity</li> <li>- Contribute to the rural economy</li> <li>- Protecting local character</li> </ul>	<p>This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 9</li> </ul>

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Summary of policy</b>	<b>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).</b>	<b>Relationship to Cheshire West and Chester Local Plan (Part One)</b>
<b>Policy ED4 Communica- tions Infra- structure</b>	Proposals to facilitate expansion of high speed electronic communication networks and improvements to connectivity, which fully explore the opportunities to erect apparatus on or otherwise utilise existing buildings or other structures, will be broadly acceptable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Protect the local character</li> <li>- Reduce the need to travel</li> </ul>	This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- STRAT 11</li> </ul>
<b>Policy HP1 Existing Health Care Facilities</b>	The existing facility at Hallfields Road (HP1) is protected against loss to other uses unless an alternative location for health facilities is provided	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Positive impact on human health?</li> </ul>	This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SOC 5</li> </ul>
<b>Policy HP2 Additional Health Care Facilities</b>	The Meadow Close site (HP2) is safeguarded or non-residential health care and associated services. Other than in exceptional circumstances, development proposals that would prevent its future use for these purposes will not be acceptable. If the provisions of Policy HP1 for improved facilities have been met on a site other than HP2, then its continued use as office accommodation and/or for community use would be acceptable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Positive impact on human health?</li> </ul>	This policy is in line with the following policies in the Local Plan (Part One): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SOC 5</li> </ul>

## Appendix 2: SEA Screening - Assessment of the significant environmental effects of the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan

1. Characteristics of the plan		Significant environmental effect?
<b>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</b>	<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 Tarvin 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 Tarvin 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. It will however provide local level guidance within the strategic framework on the nature of development in the Tarvin Neighbourhood Area that should be brought forward and the mitigation and enhancement measures required in order to minimise impacts. The Neighbourhood Plan policies will work alongside the strategic policies in the development plan; other development management measures and environmental protection legislation.</p> <p>The figure of 200 residential units (minimum) within the Local Plan (Part One) has almost been met through sites granted planning permission. There is a very small requirement left to accommodate that is likely to come from windfall sites.</p>	No
<b>The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy</b>	The Neighbourhood Plan will be the lowest level of planning policy for the area. It 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.	No

<b>The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development</b>	The Neighbourhood Plan is required, as one of the basic condition tests, to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. Whether this basic condition is met will be tested during the examination of the Neighbourhood Plan. However, 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.	No
<b>Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme</b>	The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Reports for the Local Plan (Parts One and Two) are a comprehensive overview of the issues in Cheshire West and Chester. There are no specific additional environmental problems identified for the Tarvin area.	No
<b>The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection)</b>	The Neighbourhood Development Plan will have no direct role in the delivery of community legislation on the environment. It does include policies on these matters. The Neighbourhood Plan has been subject to Habitats Regulation Assessment screening as set out in part 2 of this document.	No

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

Identified effects of the proposed policies	Probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	Cumulative nature of the effects	Trans-boundary nature of the effects <sup>1</sup>	Risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)	Magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	Value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to the effect on special natural characteristics or cultural heritage	Value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to the effect on environmental quality standards or limit values	Value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to the effect on intensity of land-use	Effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status	Significant environmental effect?
<b>Contributes to meeting the housing need</b>	High probability as the policies allows for housing development. Existing permissions means the area has nearly met its minimum housing target; however specialist needs are still likely to remain. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential positive cumulative effect of providing the needed housing in the Parish.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No

<sup>1</sup> 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.



<b>Promotes the re-use of previously developed land/ brownfield</b>	High probability as the policies promotes the re-use of previously developed land. Low frequency as few available sites. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	Each new development has the potential to encouraging use of brownfield land. There is a potential small cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No
<b>Promoting sustainable locations</b>	High probability as the policy supports development within the settlement boundary. Low frequency as few available sites. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	Each new development within the settlement boundary has the potential to encourage new, and retain existing employment opportunities. There is a potential small cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No
<b>Reduce the need to travel</b>	High probability as the policy supports development within the settlement boundary. Low frequency as few available sites. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	Each new development has the potential to encourage new, and retain existing employment opportunities. There is a potential small cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbourhood level	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No

<b>Protection of the greenbelt and countryside including openness</b>	High probability as part of the policy supports development within the settlement boundary. However part of the policy also supports limited development outside the settlement boundary. Low frequency as only limited development is expected within the greenbelt and countryside. Impacts would be permanent and long - term	There is a potential small negative cumulative effect. However, development contrary to these policies could have a large negative cumulative effect..	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No
<b>Protect and enhance natural environment biodiversity and geodiversity</b>	High probability as the policy actively seeks to protect and enhance the natural environment and wildlife. Low frequency as little demand and few opportunities. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential small positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No
<b>Protection and promotion of new green infrastructure</b>	High probability as policy actively seeks to protect and promote green infrastructure. Low frequency as few opportunities. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential small positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No

<b>Protecting views</b>	High probability as policy actively seeks to protect views. Low frequency as few opportunities. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential small positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No
<b>Protecting existing open space</b>	High probability as policy actively seeks to protect open space. Low frequency as few opportunities. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential small positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No
<b>Protecting residential amenity</b>	High probability as policy actively seeks to protect residential amenity. Low frequency as few opportunities. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential small positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no negative impact on Conservation Area.	No
<b>Positive impact on human health, through recreational activities</b>	Medium probability as a small settlement with a number of recreation activities existing. Medium frequency as there is a number of recreation activities existing. Impacts would be permanent and long term.	There is a potential small positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No

<b>Protecting the local character, landscape, townscape and cultural heritage</b>	High probability as policy actively seeks to protect landscape, townscape and cultural heritage. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential small positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no negative impact on Conservation Area.	No
<b>Protect heritage assets and conservation sites</b>	High probability as policy actively seeks to protect heritage and conservation sites. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential small positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no negative impact on Conservation Area.	No
<b>Improve air quality by reducing standing vehicles</b>	High probability as policy actively seeks to improve road infrastructure. Low frequency as few opportunities. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential small positive cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area	No
<b>Increase of car use</b>	Low probability as unlikely to be a lot of new development outside settlement boundary. Low frequency as few opportunities for new development. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential small negative cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbour-hood level	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area	No

<b>Promoting sustainable modes of transport and reducing the need for a car</b>	High probability as policy actively seeks to promote walkways and cycle routes. High frequency as high demand and various opportunities for upgrades exist. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	There is a potential medium positive cumulative effect..	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbourhood level	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area	No
<b>Support the rural economy</b>	High probability as policy actively seeks to protect the rural economy. Low frequency as little demand and few opportunities. Impacts would be permanent and long-term.	Each new development has the potential to encouraging new, and retaining exiting employment opportunities. There is a potential small cumulative effect.	None	None	Local, small scale impact, at neighbourhood level.	None	None	None	None identified – see HRA screening and no impact on Conservation Area.	No

#### Appendix 4: SEA Screening - 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> ).	<p>Water pollution / enrichment.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Atmospheric pollution from nearby roads.</p>	<p>The site falls within the 15km radius of the Tarvin Neighbourhood Area. However, it does not fall within the Neighbourhood Area and is unlikely to be directly affected by the policies of the plan.</p> <p><b>The pressures and potential impacts to consider in the screening are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Water pollution</b></li> <li>- <b>Atmospheric pollution.</b></li> </ul>

European site	Reason for inclusion	Reason for designation	Existing pressures and potential impacts	Relevance to the Neighbourhood Area
Midlands Meres and Mosses Ramsar site Phase 2  West Midlands Mosses SAC	Located within Cheshire West and Chester  Located partly 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.  Due to distance to major roads, changes in local air quality are not an issue requiring investigation.	The sites fall within the 15km radius of the Tarvin Neighbourhood Area. However, it does not fall within the Neighbourhood Area and is unlikely to be directly affected by the policies of the plan.  <b>The pressures and potential impacts to consider in the screening are:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Water pollution</b></li> <li>- <b>Atmospheric pollution</b></li> </ul>
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Renunculon fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation</li> </ul> The site contains the following Annex II species: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar)</li> <li>- Floating water-plaintain (Luronium natans)</li> <li>- Sea lamprey (Petromyzon</li> </ul>	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.	Part of the River Dee SAC falls within the 15 km radius from the Tarvin Neighbourhood Area.  <b>The pressures and potential impacts to consider in the screening are:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Water Quality</b></li> </ul> Due to the distance and scale of anticipated development proposed through the Neighbourhood Plan, it is not considered relevant to the

European site	Reason for inclusion	Reason for designation	Existing pressures and potential impacts	Relevance to the Neighbourhood Area
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>marinus)</li> <li>- Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>)</li> <li>- Bullhead (<i>Cottus gobio</i>)</li> <li>- Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>)</li> </ul>	<p>Deterioration in water quality and changes in flow rates dues to ex-industrial runoff, discharge of treated sewage effluent and agricultural runoff.</p> <p>Introduction of invasive species.</p>	HRA Screening of the Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan.
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"> <li>- Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Renunculon Fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation.</li> <li>- Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide.</li> <li>- <i>Salicornia</i> and other annuals colonising mud and sand.</li> <li>- Atlantic salt meadows.</li> </ul> <p>The site contains the following Habitats Directive Annex II habitats and species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Estuaries</li> <li>- Annual vegetation of drift lines</li> <li>- Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts</li> <li>- Embryonic shifting dunes</li> <li>- Shifting dunes along the shoreline with marram</li> </ul>	<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</p>	<p>The Dee Estuary SAC, SPA and Ramsar is outside the 15km radius for the Tarvin 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 Tarvin 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"> <li>- Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation</li> <li>- Humid dune slacks</li> <li>- Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)</li> <li>- River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>)</li> <li>- Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>)</li> </ul> <p>It also supports:</p> <p>During the breeding season –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Little tern (<i>Sterna albifrons</i>)</li> <li>- Common tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>)</li> </ul> <p>On passage –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Sandwich tern (<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i>)</li> </ul> <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"> <li>- Black-tailed godwit (<i>Limosa limosa islandica</i>)</li> <li>- Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>)</li> <li>- Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina alpina</i>)</li> <li>- Grey plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>)</li> <li>- Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>)</li> <li>- Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>)</li> </ul>	species.	

European site	Reason for inclusion	Reason for designation	Existing pressures and potential impacts	Relevance to the Neighbourhood Area
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pintail (<i>Anas acuta</i>)</li> <li>- Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>)</li> <li>- Shelduck (<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>)</li> <li>- Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>)</li> </ul> <p>The estuary also regularly supports 130,408 individual waterfowl (5 year peak mean 1995-99). It also meets several Ramsar criteria as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Extensive intertidal mud and sand flats with large expanses of saltmarsh towards the head of the estuary.</li> <li>- Supporting an overall bird assemblage of international importance.</li> <li>- 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</i></li> </ul>		

European site	Reason for inclusion	Reason for designation	Existing pressures and potential impacts	Relevance to the Neighbourhood Area
		lapponica), 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 Tarvin 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 Tarvin Neighbourhood Plan.</p>

## Appendix 5: HRA Screening - 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?
<b>HG1 – Infill housing</b>	Housing development on infill and redevelopment on sites within the settlement boundary will be acceptable where it complies with other relevant policies.	No LSE. The policy promotes small scale development within the existing settlement. This is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the SAC or qualifying features.	No
<b>HG2 – Small Scale Development</b>	Large areas of housing development not permitted outside the settlement boundary. Small scale development of sustainably located previously developed sites may be acceptable where rural character can be protected. All new development should maximise the retention of surface water and minimise runoff.	No LSE. The policy restricts development to smaller schemes of 5 or less on previously developed sites outside of the settlement.	No
<b>HG3 – Housing Character</b>	New residential development should respect and where possible enhance the built environment and local character.	No LSE. Development is required be designed to respect the character of the area. This is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the SAC or qualifying features.	No
<b>HG4 – Availability of recreation facilities</b>	Larger areas of new housing will not be appropriate unless the development of recreation facilities and highways improvements have been implemented (policies LS1 and HG6)	No LSE. This policy restricts development of larger housing sites (6 or more) until recreation and highways infrastructure is provided. Once the infrastructure has been provided, other policies restrict development in the countryside. Development within the settlement is unlikely to impact on the SAC or its qualifying features.	No

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Plan policy summary</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?</b>	<b>LSE in combination?</b>
<b>HG5 – Settlement separation</b>	Protects the undeveloped gap between Tarvin and Oscroft from development	No LSE. This policy seeks to restrict development and is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the SAC or qualifying features.	No
<b>HG6 – Traffic generation</b>	Anticipated traffic generation from new development should be assessed. Developments should be accessed safely from the highway network with appropriate provision for pedestrians and cyclists.	No LSE. Policy seeks to ensure that appropriate mitigation is put in place to limit impacts of traffic from new development, and ensure access by walking and cycling is provided. This should work to reduce impacts on atmospheric pollution and pollution of surface water.	No
<b>LS1 – Leisure Site</b>	Land east of Tarporley Road is allocated for recreational facilities including an all weather pitch, changing facilities and parking.	No LSE. Whilst the proposed development is likely to have a local, site specific impact, the scale of the development and distance from the European sites means it is unlikely to impact on the SAC or its qualifying features.	No
<b>LS2 – New cycle routes</b>	Identifies potential routes for a safe cycle route between Tarvin and Oscroft	No LSE. The aim of the policy is to reduce road traffic and associated pollution to air and water by providing a cycle route between Tarvin and Oscroft. Any impacts of the route itself would be small scale and sufficiently far from the SAC to have any significant impact.	No
<b>LS3 – New footpath routes</b>	Identifies highway verge on the south side of the A54 as a footpath route	No LSE. The aim of the policy is to reduce road traffic and associated pollution to air and water by providing a footway between Tarvin and Oscroft. Any impacts of the route itself would be small scale and sufficiently far from the SAC to have any significant impact.	No

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Plan policy summary</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?</b>	<b>LSE in combination?</b>
<b>LE1 – Local Green Spaces</b>	Identifies 10 sites to be designated as Local Green Spaces and protects them from development	No LSE. The policy protects existing green spaces from development.	No
<b>LE2 – Sites of sport, recreation and amenity value</b>	Protects four sites from built development that would compromise their amenity and sport and recreation value	No LSE. The policy protects existing recreation facilities from development.	No
<b>LE3 – Nature conservation</b>	Identifies and protects important wildlife sites	No LSE	No
<b>LE4 – Future extension of Tarvin Community Woodland</b>	Identifies and protects land adjacent to the east of the A51 at Tarvin roundabout for an extension to the existing community woodland.	No LSE. Any impacts arising from the creation of a footpath will be small scale and site specific.	No
<b>LE5 – Significant views</b>	Identifies 12 significant views which should be protected from development which would damage them	No LSE	No
<b>LE6 – sites of archaeological / historical significance</b>	Identifies two locations of local archaeological and/or historical interest which should be protected from development	No LSE	No

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Plan policy summary</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?</b>	<b>LSE in combination?</b>
<b>LE7 – Landscape and wildlife</b>	Requires that new development preserves and enhances local character, green spaces, wildlife, access to the countryside	No LSE	No
<b>TR1 – Parking (Garden Field)</b>	Allocates land for off street parking at the Garden Field	No LSE. The proposal could result in local impacts on atmospheric pollution and water quality, however impacts would be small scale and sufficiently far from the SAC to have any significant impact.	No
<b>TR2 – Other car parking proposals</b>	Supports proposals for off road car parking to alleviate parking and traffic congestion in High St, Lower High St and Church St	No LSE. The proposal could result in local impacts on atmospheric pollution, although the overall aim is to reduce this. Impacts would be small scale and sufficiently far from the SAC to have any significant impact.	No
<b>TR3 – Complementary Funding</b>	Directs funding to highway improvements in the Tarvin NP area. Local funding should be used to deliver some of the aspirations identified in the plan.	No LSE. Spending on funds at borough level are outside of the scope of the policy. The implementation of local projects such as cycle routes and footpaths would have only small scale local impacts.	No
<b>TR4 – Adapting the highway network</b>	Proposals for minor adaptations to highways infrastructure will be acceptable provided they do not have significant negative impacts	No LSE. This policy is aiming to minimise any adverse impacts arising from minor changes to the highway. The scale of impacts would be small and localised, and would not have any significant impact on the SAC.	No

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Plan policy summary</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?</b>	<b>LSE in combination?</b>
<b>TR5 – Major road improvements</b>	Proposals for major improvements to highways infrastructure will be acceptable provided they do not have significant negative impacts	No LSE. This policy is concerned with limiting the impacts associated with improvements to the highway network which are supported through the Local Plan (Part One). There would therefore be no additional significant impact over and above that already assessed as part of the Local Plan HRA.	No
<b>TR6 - Traffic impact assessments</b>	Requires traffic impact assessments in proposals for significant housing development	No LSE. This policy aims to limit impacts arising from traffic from new development, which could include air and water impacts. The policy will have no significant impact on the SAC.	No
<b>ED1 - Change of use</b>	Relates to changes of use between residential, business and retail uses. Seeks to protect rural setting and amenity of neighbours as well as local employment opportunities.	No LSE. This policy relates to changes of use of existing buildings the impacts of which are likely to be small scale and localised.	No
<b>ED2 - Existing industrial locations</b>	Permits small scale measures to improve adaptability and marketability at two identified industrial locations	No LSE. This policy supports small scale changes at existing locations, the impact of which will be small scale and localised.	No
<b>ED3 -home based businesses and live/work</b>	Supports proposals for small scale home based businesses and live/work units subject to criteria	No LSE. This policy supports small scale changes at existing locations, the impact of which will be small scale and localised.	No



<b>Policy</b>	<b>Neighbourhood Plan policy summary</b>	<b>Likely Significant Effect (LSE) alone?</b>	<b>LSE in combination?</b>
<b>units</b>			
<b>ED4 – Communications infrastructure</b>	Supports proposals to facilitate expansion of high speed electronic communication networks	No LSE. This policy reflects strategic policy and encourages use of existing buildings and equipment which will limit the impacts of development. Impacts on the SAC are unlikely.	No
<b>HP1 – Existing health care facilities</b>	Protects existing health facility against loss to other uses unless satisfactory alternative provision is in place	No LSE. This policy relates to changes of use of existing buildings the impacts of which are likely to be small scale and localised.	No
<b>HP2 – Additional health care facilities</b>	Safeguards the office site on Meadow Close for non-residential health care and associated services	No LSE. This policy relates to changes of use of existing buildings the impacts of which are likely to be small scale and localised.	No

## Appendix 6 – Responses to consultation on SEA Screening Opinion

Respondent	Response date	Comment
Historic England	19 March 2018	<p>Having considered the plan we have no further comment to make prior to referendum.</p> <p>Note that the plan appears to propose no site allocations/policies which would have significant environmental effects upon the historic environment and as such we concur that in this regard Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.</p>
Natural England	16 March 2018	<p>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>We have checked our records and based on the information provided, we can confirm that in our view the proposals contained within the plan will not have significant effects on sensitive sites that Natural England has a statutory duty to protect.</p> <p>We are not aware of significant populations of protected species which are likely to be affected by the policies / proposals within the plan. It remains the case, however, that the responsible authority should provide information supporting this screening decision, sufficient to assess whether protected species are likely to be affected.</p>

