



Historic England

By email: woodfordneighbourhood@gmail.com

Our ref: PL00405522

Your ref:

Date: 23 May 2018

Dear Sir

Woodford Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening

Thank you for your email dated 11th May 2018 regarding the proposed SEA screening report for the Woodford Neighbourhood Plan.

Historic England is the Government's statutory adviser on all matters relating to the historic environment in England. We are a non-departmental public body established under the National Heritage Act 1983 and sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). We champion and protect England's historic places, providing expert advice to local planning authorities, developers, owners and communities to help ensure our historic environment is properly understood, enjoyed and cared for.

Historic England has produced a document, which you might find helpful in providing guidance on the effective assessment of the historic environment in Strategic Environmental Assessments. This can be found at <https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>.

In terms of our area of interest, we would concur with your assessment that the document is unlikely to result in any significant environmental effects and will simply provide additional guidance on existing policies which have already been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal. As a result, we would endorse the conclusions that it is not necessary to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the document.

It is worth pointing out that the scoping report appears to use different terminology and should for consistency ensure that where it seeks to reference the historic environment that it uses one term. For example, heritage assets (Part 6; Bullet 2), built environment and not heritage (Part 6; Bullet 4) and listed buildings (Part 6; Bullet 9).

Also, development affecting listed buildings are subject to the requirements of the NPPF and the 1990 Act. The proposed policy within the neighbourhood plan does not provide a criterion based policy as summarised in part 6 of the scoping report, the



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criteria provided is that to be used to decide what is for inclusion in a local list. Reference should be made to our response to the neighbourhood plan (see letter reference PL00405282) with regard to this matter.

If you have any queries or would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

E. Hrycan

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