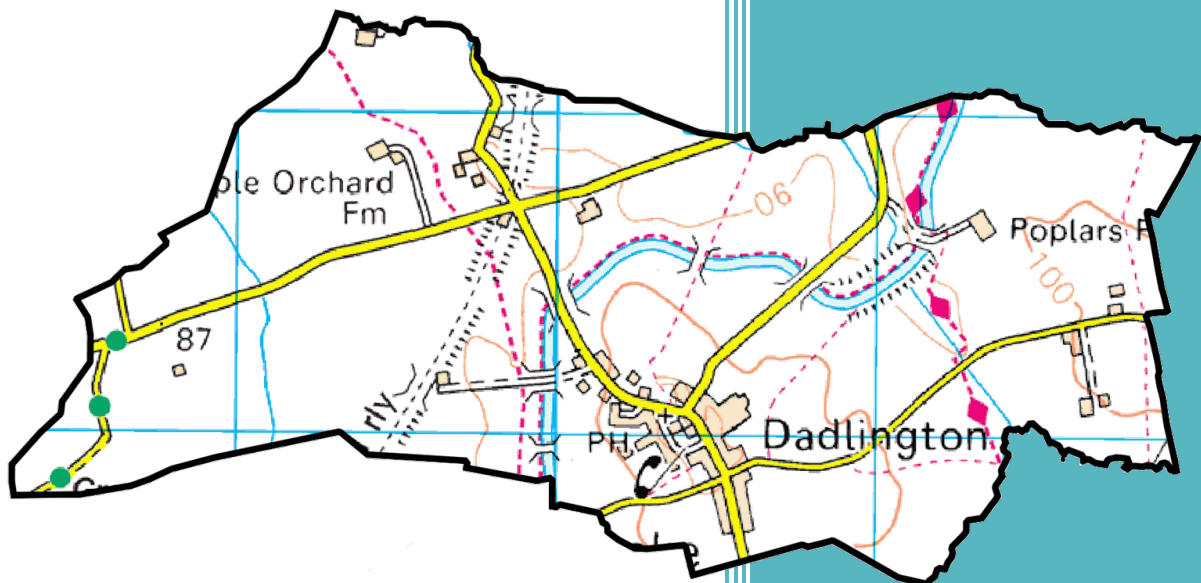


2020 to 2039

Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan: Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Statement



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Prepared by Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council, Jan 2023

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1. Introduction

This Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Statement has been prepared on behalf of Sutton Cheney Parish Council in relation to the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan (Pre-Submission version April 2022).

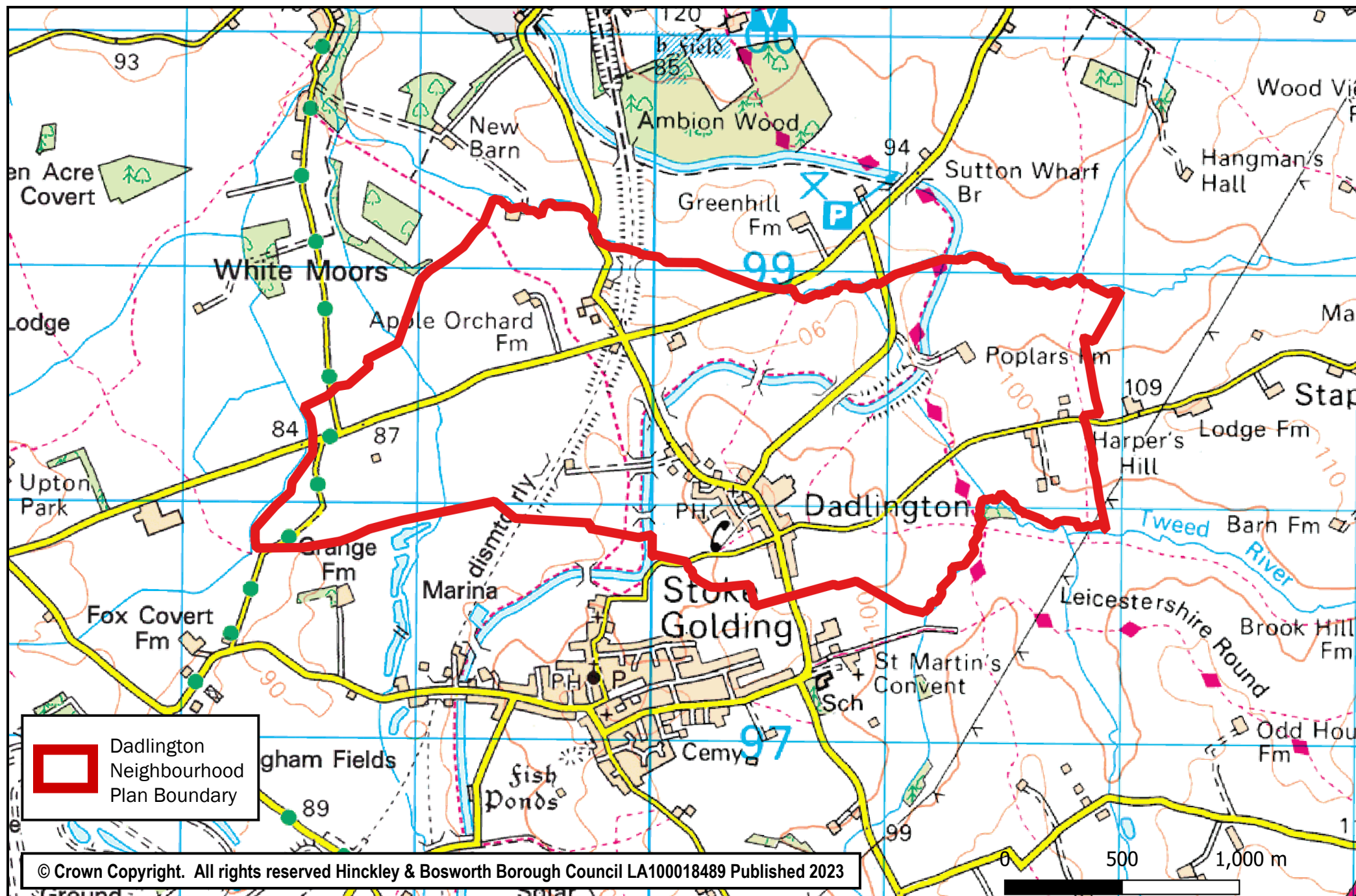
The purpose of the Screening Statement is to set out a screening opinion in relation to whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process is required to accompany the development of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan. This Screening Statement was provided to the statutory consultation bodies for SEA (Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England) for their opinion.

SEA is a systematic process undertaken to evaluate the likely significant environmental effects of plans. The requirement for SEA in England was introduced in 2004 through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulation 2004 ('The SEA Regulations'), which transposed the European SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)¹.

One of the 'Basic Conditions' that a Neighbourhood Plan is tested against is whether the making of the neighbourhood plan is compatible with obligations under the SEA Directive. Neighbourhood Plans only require SEA where they are likely to lead to significant environmental effects. To decide whether a proposed Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects, it should be screened against the criteria set out in Annex 2 of the SEA Directive. Where it is determined that the Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects (and, accordingly, does not require SEA), a statement of reasons for this determination should be prepared and published for consultation with the statutory consultation bodies (Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England). Where a Neighbourhood plan is likely to have a significant effect on the environment an SEA process must be carried out.

This Screening Statement therefore provides a screening opinion as to whether or not the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is likely to lead to significant environment effects, and as such requires a SEA process.

¹ The UK left the EU on 31st January 2020. Under the UK-EU withdrawal agreement, a transition period ended on 31st December 2020, during which time all EU law continued to apply to the UK. During the transition period the UK needed to continue following domestic law that implements EU law, or directly applicable EU law that is given effect through the EUWA 2018. Beyond the transition period, the SEA Regulations, which previously implemented the requirements of the SEA Directive in England, will continue to apply as before unless and until new legislation is introduced



2. Details of the Neighbourhood Plan

Title of the Plan:

Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan.

Name of Qualifying Body and Local Planning Authority:

The qualifying body preparing the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is Sutton Cheney Parish Council. The Local Planning Authority is Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council.

Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan contact point:

Parish Clerk
10 Little Mill Close
Barlestone
CV13 0HW

Email: suttoncheneypc@gmail.com

Location and spatial extent of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan:

The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan covers Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan Area, comprising the southern part of the parish of Sutton Cheney in south-west Leicestershire. It is a mostly rural area, crossed north to south by the by the Ashby-de-la-Zouch canal, located on the borders of Leicestershire and North Warwickshire. Its main settlement is Dadlington, with most available services located in nearby Stoke Golding. The remainder of the area contains a few scattered residential properties and farms. Information from the 2011 Census shows that the Plan Area was home to 281 people residing in 114 dwellings.

Timeframe of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan:

To 2039.

Main Aims of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan:

The main issues to be addressed in the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan have been identified as follows:

- Protecting green areas in the village
- Protecting the countryside
- Maintaining village character
- The impact of traffic
- Conserving local heritage
- Protecting important views
- Protecting and improving nature conservation
- Improving or retaining local services and facilities
- Climate change
- The design of new buildings
- Meeting local housing needs
- More employment opportunities for local people

Relationship with the Local Plan:

The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of the Hinckley and Bosworth Local Plan. For the purposes of the Dadlington

Neighbourhood Plan, the relevant parts of the Local Plan 2006-2026 (formerly LDF) are the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) and the Site Allocation and Development Management Policies DPD.

The Hinckley and Bosworth Core Strategy was adopted in December 2009. It provides the vision and spatial strategy for Hinckley and Bosworth Borough. It also identifies development requirements for key Rural Villages and Rural Hamlets. Dadlington is identified as a Rural Hamlet. There are limited services within Dadlington and the Core Strategy does not identify specific requirements for these small settlements and grouping of properties.

The Site Allocation and Development Management Policies DPD was adopted in 2016 and identifies sites for uses such as housing, employment, retail, open space and community facilities that will deliver the aims, vision and objectives of the Core Strategy. It also contains development management policies to be used to assess planning applications over the plan period.

A parallel process of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) was undertaken alongside the plan-making process for these two documents.

In early 2017 work on a new Hinckley and Bosworth Local Plan to set out the overall development strategy for the for the period up to 2039, including strategic policies, allocation of sites to meet identified development needs and policies and guidance by which to determine planning applications. The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan took account of the emerging Local Plan and is therefore aligned to cover the period to 2039.

Will the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan propose allocations? And if so, will these be over and above those likely to be included in the Local Plan?

The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan does not allocate any sites for development.

The Hinckley & Bosworth Local Plan Core Strategy identifies Dadlington as a 'Rural Hamlet' where, because of the limited services in these settlements, development will be confined to infill housing development, local choice schemes and conversion of agricultural buildings to employment uses. The Site Allocation and Development Management Policies DPD subsequently also does not allocate any sites for the development of housing in the village.

What are the key environmental assets (including 'sensitive areas') near the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan Area?

'Sensitive areas'

A key determinant of whether effects are likely to be significant is the sensitivity of the asset affected. In this context, the more environmentally sensitive a location, the more likely it is that potential environmental effects from a plan will be significant.

National Planning Practice Guidance provides guidance on this topic through providing a list of sites and areas which should be deemed as 'sensitive areas' for the purposes of environmental assessment. These comprise:

- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Areas (SPAs) – the National Site Network - formerly known as "Natura 2000" sites;
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);

- National Parks;
- Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty;
- World Heritage Sites; and
- Scheduled Monuments.

In the context of the categories of 'sensitive areas' described by the Planning Practice Guidance, the following sites and areas exist within or near the Neighbourhood Plan Area.

National Site Network

Within the Neighbourhood Plan Area:

None are present within the Neighbourhood Plan Area.

Within 10km of the Neighbourhood Plan Area

The nearest is Ensor's Pool Special Area of Conservation is located approximately 9.5km from the southern boundary of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan Area. This lowland site in Central England represents and qualifies as a SAC as it holds a large population of white-clawed crayfish in standing water. This waterbody is isolated from river systems and is a good example of a 'refuge' site.

All SCAs are also notified as SSSIs, being sites that are of specific biological or geological features.

The nearest SPA is at Rutland Water and is 46.5km east of the Neighbourhood Plan Area.

SSSIs

Within the Neighbourhood Plan Area

Kendall's Meadow: a traditionally managed hay meadow with a diversity and richness of plant life unmatched in the south-west of the County, an area otherwise sparse in interest. It is probably the best representative of this grassland community type in the central East Midlands. More than a dozen grass species have been found on this meadow which lies partly on alluvium and partly on boulder clay.

Within 10km of Neighbourhood Plan Area

Ashby Canal: located 5km from the Neighbourhood Plan Area the Ashby Canal supports communities of aquatic and emergent plants that are representative of eutrophic standing water bodies in the English lowlands. The diversity of aquatic plants and invertebrates makes this one of the most important water bodies of its type in the East Midlands. The submerged plant community is of particular interest and the floating plant community is also well developed. The canal also supports populations of the native freshwater crayfish and of the water shrew.

Sheepy Fields: comprises two hay meadows – 6.5km from the Neighbourhood Plan Area - developed on soils derived from post-glacial river terrace deposits. It contains some of the best remaining examples of neutral grassland in Leicestershire. It is representative of hay meadow plant communities developed on neutral soils in the East Midlands.

Bentley Park Wood: a large and important ancient woodland in north Warwickshire, 9km from the Neighbourhood Plan Area. There is an unusual and widespread juxtaposition of sessile oak and alder and there is a wider ecological range of alder woodland than possibly any other wood in Britain. The wood

supports a sizeable bird community and is one of the three localities in the county for breeding redstart.

Newton Burgoland Marshes: 9km from the Neighbourhood Plan Area, the site includes some of the best remaining examples of neutral alluvial grassland and marsh in Leicestershire. The vegetation of the site, located in two separate areas, has developed on alluvial soil. The northern area comprises marsh and wet grassland characteristics. The southern area of the site comprises grasslands representative of better drained alluvial soils.

National Parks

Within the Neighbourhood Plan Area

None

Near the Neighbourhood Plan Area

None- the closest National Park is the Peak District National Park (54km from the Neighbourhood Plan area).

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Within the Neighbourhood Plan Area

None

Near the Neighbourhood Plan Area

None- the closest AONB is the Cannock Chase AONB (35km from the Neighbourhood Plan Area).

World Heritage Sites

Within the Neighbourhood Plan Area

None.

Near the Neighbourhood Plan Area

None- the closest site is the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (located 49km from the Neighbourhood Plan Area).

Scheduled Monuments

Within the Neighbourhood Plan Area

None

Near the Neighbourhood Plan Area

Hlaew and medieval farm near Park House, Stoke Golding: laying 670m south of the Neighbourhood Plan Area it comprises the earthwork and buried remains of an Anglo-Saxon burial mound (a hlaew) and a medieval farmstead, including a slightly raised, square platform believed to represent the site of the medieval farmhouse (although the building itself is not visible on the surface).

Ambion deserted medieval village, Shenton: adjacent to the site of the battle of Bosworth, 800m north of the Neighbourhood Plan Area, and includes the earthwork remains of a deserted medieval village. A number of house platforms can be identified. Ambion Hill was the site of Richard III's camp before the Battle of Bosworth in 1485 but there is no archaeological evidence of this on the site.

Dovecote West of Shenton Hall, Shenton: an architecturally unusual dovecote (1100m north of the Neighbourhood Plan Area) of brick construction and having

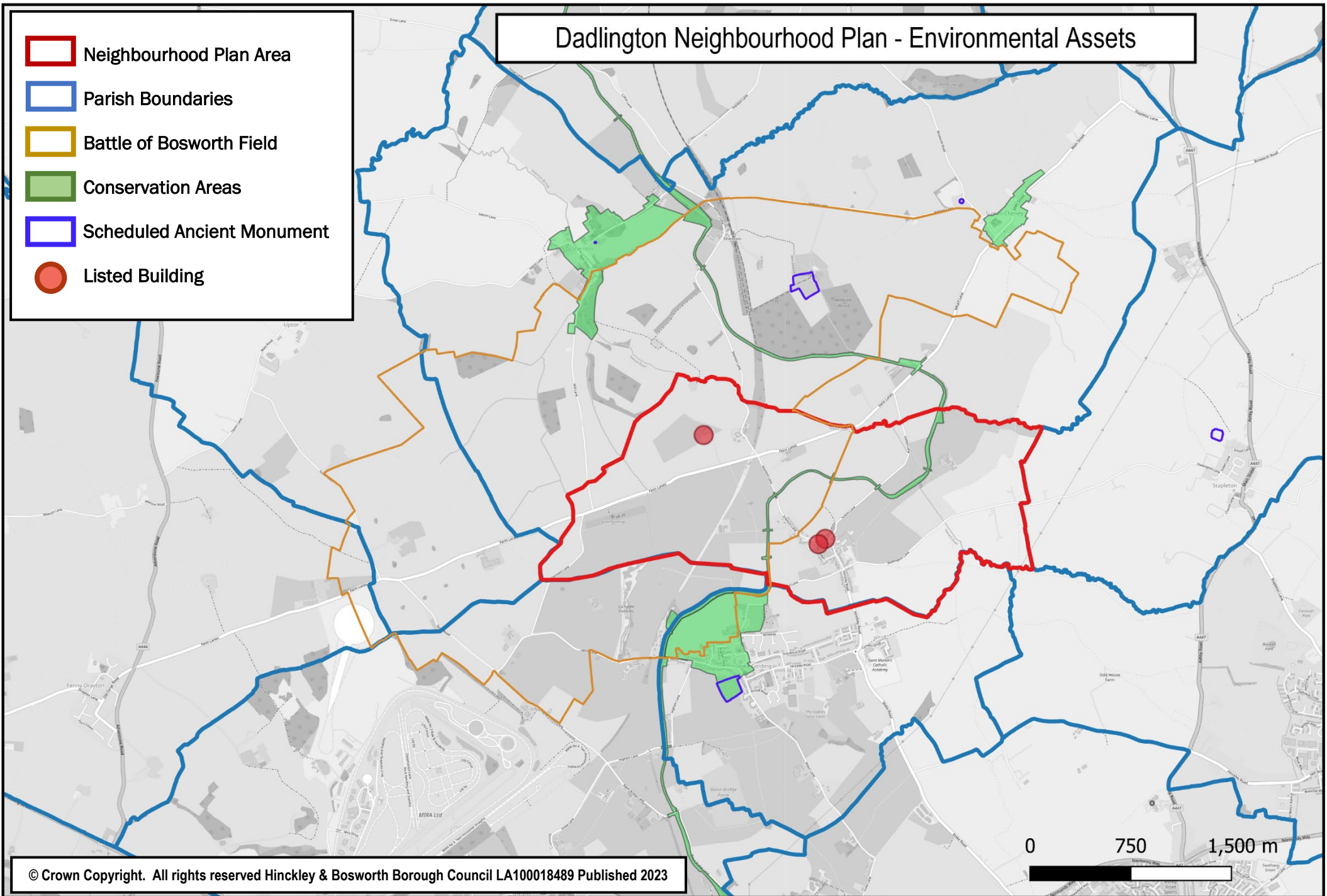
four gables; most other four gabled examples being both much earlier in date and built of either stone or wood. It has been subject to little disturbance or major alteration with the result that it retains most of its internal fixtures.

Moated Site, Stapleton: a square moated site with a ditch, water- filled to a shallow depth, located 1300m east of the Neighbourhood Plan Area. The moat was originally one of two, the second being close by to the north. It has suffered badly from ploughing activity and is not considered to be of national importance.

Bowl Barrow, Sutton Cheney: a flat-topped barrow about 2m high - 1500m north of the Neighbourhood Plan Area. The northern side has left the barrow with a square appearance measuring approximately 20m on each side but the original plan of the earthwork was circular. There is no indication of a surrounding ditch.

Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan - Environmental Assets

-  Neighbourhood Plan Area
-  Parish Boundaries
-  Battle of Bosworth Field
-  Conservation Areas
-  Scheduled Ancient Monument
-  Listed Building



Other key environmental assets

Other designated environmental assets located within the Neighbourhood Plan Area (i.e., those not defined as 'sensitive areas' as defined by the Planning Practice Guidance) include as follows:

Historic Park and Gardens

There are no Historic Parks or Gardens in Dadlington. The closest is Merevale Hall, a Grade II* Historic Park and Garden, 8km west of the Neighbourhood Plan Area.

Battlefields

The Battle of Bosworth (1485) registered battlefield site is located across five Parishes including Sutton Cheney. It occupies the western half of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan Area. It is registered due to its historical importance, topographic integrity and archaeological potential.

Conservation Areas

Stoke Golding

The Stoke Golding Conservation Area, which was designated by the council in June 2004, was reviewed and appraised in September 2013. Further details and documents relating to this review are available on the appraisal and review page. Stoke Golding dates from Saxon times and histories of the village show that the peak of its prosperity occurred during the 17th century. At this time, the village was self-contained with travel to Hinckley difficult and hazardous. The coming of the canal and the railway in the 18th century removed this isolation. The Ashby Canal borders the conservation area to the north and west and linked Moira with the Coventry Canal to transport coal. The railway was opened in 1873 to link the Birmingham/Leicester line through Stoke Golding to Ashby. The village is a ridge top settlement and the old core is still clearly defined. There are a number of important listed and unlisted buildings of historical and architectural interest within the area which can be divided into four distinct areas of different character:

- The Victorian commercial heart of the village
- St Margaret's Church and Blacksmith's Yard
- Former farmhouses and their yards
- The area centred on the Old Swan public house and the former Methodist Chapel

The settlement can be seen from all approach roads to the village with the spire of St Margaret's church dominating the view

Ashby Canal

From its junction with the Coventry Canal, close to Bedworth, the Ashby Canal travels northeast for about seven miles through the town of Hinckley. It then continues north through largely rural countryside for a further 15 miles until it reaches its terminus at Snarestone. Important features include the brick bridges, the Hinckley Wharf, the Port House and the Shackerstone and Shenton aqueducts. The part of the canal running through the Borough was designated by the Council as a Conservation Area

in December 1990. North West Leicestershire District Council designated the remaining watered section of the canal as a Conservation Area from the boundary with Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council to the present terminus north of Snarestone village in June 1992.

Sutton Cheney

The Sutton Cheney Conservation Area was designated by the Borough Council in June 1995. Sutton Cheney is a quiet Leicestershire village lying just off the main Ashby to Hinckley road. Its principal claim to fame is that it is where King Richard III camped and attended his first service, at the church of St James on the eve of the Battle of Bosworth (which took place to the west on Redmore Plain on 22 August 1485). As an architectural group the village is of great value, with: an ensemble of brick-built vernacular cottages straddling along Main Street each side of the Hall; the Church; and, its Alms houses.

Shenton

The Shenton Conservation Area was designated by the Borough Council in October 1992. The village lies in rolling countryside at the confluence of the River Sence and its tributary, The Tweed, where a three-arched bridge spanning the river was constructed in 1851 at the western end of the village. The eastern edge is defined by the massive blue brick aqueduct which carries the Ashby Canal over Bosworth Road. The character of the Shenton Conservation Area is derived from its agricultural origins of the settlement and its close links to the countryside. Buildings in the village reflect these rural connections and consist of the landowner's hall, the church, village farms and several farmworkers' cottages.

Listed buildings

There are three buildings in the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan Area listed by Historic England for their special architectural or historic interest. There are no Grade I listed buildings. Those designated Grade II and Grade II* are:

Church of St. James (Grade II*): a small Church; largely late C13 with some Victorian restoration. It is built of limestone, coursed and squared with some ashlar, but rendered on the south wall and has a plain tiled roof. Includes a half-timbered open work gabled porch on stone footing walls and angle buttresses to nave and side chapel. The north and south walls of the nave, which are rendered, have probably been either extensively repaired or rebuilt in brick

Apple Orchard Farm (Grade II): farmhouse, partially C17, extended in the later C18 or early C19. Original block is timber framed with brick nogging and plain tiled roof, later addition is brick with plain tiled roof. The original block is timber framed in small square panels, of three bays, with some arched bracing.

Home Farmhouse (Grade II): farmhouse - late C18 or early C19 - brick with Welsh slate roof; two storeyed, three bays with central doorway flanked by casement windows with wood mullions.

3. Legislative Background

The basis for Strategic Environmental Assessments and Sustainability Appraisal legislation is European Directive 2001/42/EC which was transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, or SEA Regulations. Detailed Guidance of these regulations can be found in the Government publication 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' (ODPM 2005).

Whilst the UK left the EU on 31st January 2020, under the UK-EU withdrawal agreement, a transition period ended on 31st December 2020, during which time all EU law continued to apply to the UK. During the transition period the UK needed to continue following domestic law that implements EU law, or directly applicable EU law that is given effect through the EUWA 2018. Beyond the transition period, the SEA Regulations, which previously implemented the requirements of the SEA Directive in England, will continue to apply as before unless and until new legislation is introduced.

Schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 makes provision in relation to the Habitats Directive. The Directive requires that any plan or project, likely to have a significant effect on a European site, must be subject to an appropriate assessment. To achieve this, paragraph 1 prescribes a basic condition that the making of a neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site. Paragraphs 2 to 5 of the Schedule amend the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 so as to apply its provisions to neighbourhood development orders and neighbourhood plans. In particular, paragraph 4 inserts new regulation 78A which provides that a neighbourhood development order may not grant planning permission for development which is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site.

Schedule 3 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 makes provision in relation to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive. The Directive requires that

EIA development must be subject to a development consent process. To enable this, Schedule 3 prescribes a basic condition that applies where development which is the subject of a proposal for a neighbourhood development order is of a type caught by the EIA Directive, and applies the relevant provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011(3) ("the EIA Regulations") with appropriate modifications (regulation 33 and paragraphs 1 to 4 and 6 of Schedule 3). Paragraphs 5 and 7 to 13 of Schedule 3 correct errors in the EIA Regulations.

It may be appropriate, and in some cases a requirement, that the statutory environmental bodies of Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England be consulted, for example, a draft neighbourhood plan proposal must be assessed to determine whether it is likely to have significant environmental effects.

There is no legal requirement for a neighbourhood plan to have a sustainability appraisal as set out in section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. However, a qualifying body must demonstrate how its plan or order will contribute to achieving sustainable development.

This report focuses on screening for SEA and the criteria for establishing whether a full assessment is needed considering the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment undertaken for the Hinckley and Bosworth Core Strategy 2006-2026 in 2010 and the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies 2006-2026 in 2014 and 2016.

4. Criteria for Assessing the Effects of Neighbourhood Plans (the ‘Plan’)

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5) of Directive 2001/42/EC² are set out below:

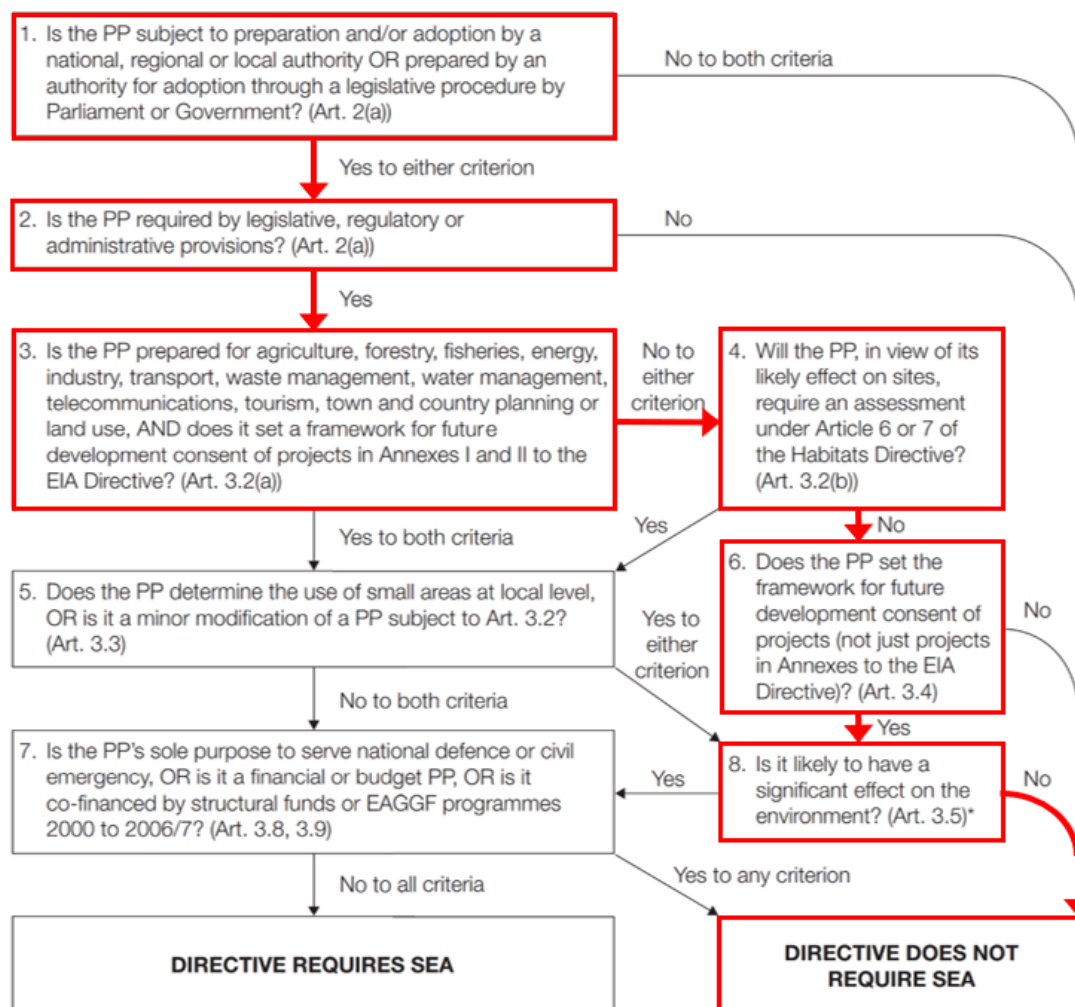
1. The characteristics of neighbourhood plans (“plan”), having regard, in particular, to - the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources, - the degree to which the plan influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy, - the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development, - environmental problems relevant to the plan, - the relevance of the plan for the implementation of community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection).
2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to - the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects, - the cumulative nature of the effects, - the trans boundary nature of the effects, - the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents), - the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected), - the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: - special natural characteristics or cultural heritage, - exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values, - intensive land-use, - the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

² Source: Annex II of SEA Directive 2001/42/EC

5. Assessment

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

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



*The Directive requires Member States to determine whether plans or programmes in this category are likely to have significant environmental effects. These determinations may be made on a case by case basis and/or by specifying types of plan or programme.

Stage	Yes/No	Reason
1. Is the Neighbourhood Plan subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government? (Art. 2(a))	Yes	The preparation of and adoption of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is allowed under The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011. The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared by Sutton Cheney Parish Council (as the 'relevant body') and will be 'made' by Hinckley and Bosworth Council as the local authority. The preparation of neighbourhood plans is subject to the following regulations: The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and The Neighbourhood Planning (referendums) Regulations 2012.
2. Is the Neighbourhood Plan required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))	Yes	Whilst the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is not a requirement and is optional under the provisions of The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011, it will if 'made', form part of the Development Plan for Hinckley and Bosworth Borough. It is therefore important that the screening process considers whether it is likely to have significant environmental effects and hence whether SEA is required under the Directive.
3. Is the Neighbourhood Plan prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, AND does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II (see Appendix 2) to the EIA Directive? (Art 3.2(a))	No	The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan does not set the framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive (see Appendix 2 for list). Instead, the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is a nonstrategic scale document, focused solely upon the part of Parish of Sutton Cheney.
4. Will the Neighbourhood Plan, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment for future	No	The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have a substantial effect on the National Site Network of protected sites.

Stage	Yes/No	Reason
development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Art. 3.2 (b))		<p>The nearest SAC - Ensors Pools to the south-west of the Parish – is within 10km of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan Area. There are no SPAs within 10km of the Neighbourhood Plan Area.</p> <p>The Hinckley and Bosworth Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report 2017 confirms there is no physical connection between the Borough and The Ensor's Pool SAC. From this it is considered that activities within the Borough – and indeed the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan Area - would not have implications for this site.</p>
5. Does the Neighbourhood Plan determine the use of small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to Art. 3.2? (Art. 3.3)	Yes	Determination of small sites at local level only.
6. Does the Neighbourhood Plan set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art 3.4)	Yes	The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is to be used for determining future planning applications
7. Is the Neighbourhood Plan's sole purpose to serve the national defence or civil emergency, OR is it a financial or budget PP, OR is it co-financed by structural funds or EAFF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Art 3.8, 3.9)	No	N/A
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)	No	Appendix 1 presents the environmental effects that have the potential to arise as a result of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan.

6. Summary of screening determination

This determination has considered whether the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is likely to lead to significant environmental effects as defined by Directive 2001/42/EC, the 'SEA Directive' and the transposing regulations. In particular, the review has considered sensitive areas located in the vicinity of the Neighbourhood Plan Area and the potential environmental effects on these areas that may arise as a result of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan.

Whilst environmental effects have the potential to take place as a result of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan, including in relation to the majority of the SEA 'topics', it is considered that these are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive. This SEA screening opinion provides the necessary analysis relating to the potential for negative effects on the nearby SSSIs, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas.

Habitats Regulation Assessment

It is the opinion of Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council that a full Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is not required, as it is unlikely to have a significant effect on any designated sites.

Conclusion

This screening opinion has been prepared in order to fulfil the statutory SEA requirements, as set out in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The environmental consultation bodies Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency have been consulted during the preparation of the SEA Screening Statement. Their responses are summarised below (the bodies were invited to comment on the draft SEA Screening on the basis that if no response was received by the indicated date it would be assumed that the draft screening opinion is correct and Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan can proceed on that basis):

- **Natural England** agrees with the report's conclusion that it is not likely there will be significant environmental effects arising from the policies in the plan, which have not already been accounted for within the adopted local plan. Therefore, the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan does not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to be undertaken. It also agrees that the Plan would be unlikely to result in any significant effect to European Sites, either alone or in combination, and therefore an appropriate assessment under the Habitats Regulations is not required.
- **Historic England** provided no response; therefore, Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan can proceed.
- **Environment Agency** provided no response; therefore, Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan can proceed.

A full copy of the response received from Natural England is attached as Appendix 3.

For the above reasons, it is considered that the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is not subject to the requirements of Directive 2001/42/EC, the 'SEA Directive' and accompanying regulations.

Appendix 1: Assessment of potential environmental effects

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

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
Biodiversity, flora and fauna (Including biodiversity habitats and species, biodiversity sites, areas of geological interest)	N	There are no new development allocations in the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan. As a consequence, there is nothing contained therein that has the potential to lead to effects on biodiversity, including through loss of habitat, disturbance, effects on ecological connections and indirect effects such as from impacts on water quality and quantity.	<p>There are no Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Areas (SPA) in the Neighbourhood Plan Area. As concluded in Section 5 of the above assessment, the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan would not have implications for The Ensors Pool SAC. As such the contents of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is not considered to have an impact on the National Site Network of protected sites.</p> <p>In relation to biodiversity, the main 'sensitive areas' near the Neighbourhood Plan Area are the five SSSIs described in Section 2. The only SSSI within the Neighbourhood Plan Area is Kendall's Meadow.</p> <p>In terms of the remaining SSSIs, due in part to the relative distance of the sites, no part of the Neighbourhood Plan Area is within the Impact Risk Zones for the four SSSIs.</p> <p>Effects on biodiversity are therefore unlikely to be significant.</p>
Population	Y	of life of residents and for accessibility to services, facilities and	Whilst there are likely to be benefits for residents of Dadlington from a well-designed

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
(Including residents' quality of life, accessibility to services and facilities, deprivation and similar)		opportunities. It seeks to prevent the loss of community services and facilities. The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan will also support the delivery of affordable housing for local people and help deliver a range of types and tenures of houses, including the provision of homes for older households and smaller, lower-cost homes.	neighbourhood plan, these are not deemed to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.
Human Health (Incorporating residents' health and wellbeing)	Y	The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan has potential to have benefits for residents' health and wellbeing through promoting healthier lifestyles and supporting accessibility to services and facilities	Whilst there are potential health and wellbeing benefits for residents of the Neighbourhood Plan Area from a well-designed neighbourhood plan, these are not deemed to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.
Soil (Including agricultural land, soil erosion, soil quality)	N	The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan does not identify locations for future development and therefore there is limited scope for possible impacts on agricultural land, soil erosion or soil quality.	Effects on the soils resource are unlikely to be significant.
Water (Including water quality and availability)	N	The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan does not identify locations for future development and therefore there is limited scope for possible impacts on water quality or availability.	Potential effects on water availability will be limited by the relatively small-scale of proposals likely to be facilitated by the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan. Effects unlikely to be significant.
Air (Including air quality)	N	The Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to lead to increased traffic flows and	No existing air quality issues exist in the Neighbourhood Plan Area and there are no Air

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
		congestion and therefore unlikely to lead to marked effects on air quality.	Quality Management Areas within the Neighbourhood Plan Area. Any effects on air quality are not deemed to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.
Climatic Factors (Including relating to climate change mitigation (limiting greenhouse gas emissions) and adaptation (adapting to the anticipated effects of climate change, including flood risk))	N	The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan does not identify locations for future development and therefore there is limited scope for possible impacts in terms of climate change mitigation.	Due to the small scale and local scope of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan, the nature and magnitude of effects directly arising as a result of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.
Material Assets (Including minerals resources, waste considerations)	N	The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to lead to increases in the Neighbourhood Plan Area's waste management requirements. No mineral sites or resources are likely to be affected as a result of the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan.	Due to their limited magnitude, effects are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.
Cultural Heritage (Including historic environment, cultural heritage, historic settings)	N	The Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have potential effects on the fabric and setting of historic environment assets.	The principal heritage asset located in the Neighbourhood Plan Area is Bosworth Battlefield; it is unlikely to be directly impacted by any of the policies. Therefore, effects are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
Landscape (Including landscape and townscape quality)	N	There is limited potential for direct effects on landscape and townscape character arising from the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan,	In terms of landscape quality, no 'sensitive areas' as defined by the NPPG are present in the Neighbourhood Plan Area. The Ashby Canal Conservation Area is partially within the Neighbourhood Plan Area and the and the Stoke Golding Conservation Area abuts it to the south. There are no policies or proposals contained in the Plan that would suggest any negative impacts thereon, Potential effects on landscape character and townscape quality are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.

Appendix 2: Annex I and Annex II Projects, EIA Directive

Annex I Projects, EIA Directive

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

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

Annex II Projects, EIA Directive

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

1. Agriculture, silviculture³ and aquaculture restructuring of rural land holdings; use of uncultivated land or seminatural areas for intensive agriculture; water management projects for agriculture; initial afforestation² and deforestation² for the purpose of conversion to a different land use; intensive livestock installations (projects not included in Annex I); intensive fish farming; reclamation of land from the sea.
2. Extractive industry Quarries, open-cast mining, peat extraction (projects not included in Annex I); underground mining; dredging; deep drilling; surface installations for coal, gas, ore and shale extraction.
3. Energy industry Installations for production of electricity, steam and hot water and for carrying gas, steam and hot water, and transmission of electricity by overhead cables* (projects not included in Annex I); surface storage of natural gas and fossil fuels; underground storage of combustible gases; briquetting of coal and lignite; installations for processing and storage of radioactive waste (unless included in Annex I); hydroelectric and wind power installations.
4. Production and processing of metals Installations for the production of pig iron or steel; processing of ferrous metals; ferrous metal foundries; installations for smelting metals and surface treatment of metals and plastic materials; assembly and manufacture of motor vehicles and motor-vehicle engines; shipyards; installations for construction and repair of aircraft; manufacture of railway equipment; swaging by explosives; and installations for the roasting and sintering of metallic ores.
5. Metal industry Coke ovens; installations for the manufacture of glass, cement, asbestos and asbestos products (projects not covered by Annex I); smelting mineral substances; manufacture of ceramic products by burning.
6. Chemical industry (projects not included in Annex I) Treatment of intermediate products and production of chemicals; production of pesticides, pharmaceuticals, paint, varnishes, elastomers and peroxides; storage facilities for petroleum, petrochemical products and chemical products.
7. Food industry Manufacture of oils, fats, dairy products, confectionery, syrup, industrial starch; packing and canning; brewing and malting; sugar, fish-meal and fish-oil factories; and installations for the slaughter of animals.
8. Textile, leather, wood and paper industries Industrial plants for paper and board production (projects not included in Annex I); pre-treatment plants; tanning plants; cellulose-processing and production installations.
9. Rubber industry Manufacture and treatment of elastomer-based products.
10. Infrastructure projects (not included in Annex I) Industrial estates; urban development projects (including shopping centres and car parks); railways and transshipment facilities; airfields, roads, harbours, ports, inland-waterways; dams and water storage facilities; tramways, elevated and underground passenger railways etc.; oil and gas pipe-lines; long-distance aqueducts; coastal and sea

³ A project which is included in Annex II of the Directive but excluded from Schedule 2 of the Regulations (SI 1999/293).

- defence works; groundwater abstraction and artificial groundwater recharge schemes; water transfer schemes between river basins; motorway service areas.
11. Other projects Permanent motor racing and test tracks; waste disposal projects and wastewater treatment plants (projects not included in Annex I); sludge disposal sites; storage of scrap iron (including scrap vehicles); test benches for engines etc.; installations for the manufacture of artificial mineral fibres and the recovery or destruction of explosives; knackers' yards.
 12. Tourism and leisure Ski-runs, ski-lifts, cable cars etc.; marinas; holiday villages and hotel complexes outside urban areas; permanent camp sites and caravan sites; theme parks and golf courses.
 13. Any change or extension of projects listed in Annex I or Annex II, already authorised, executed or in the process of being executed, which may have adverse environmental effects Projects in Annex I, undertaken exclusively or mainly for the development and testing of new methods or products and not used for more than two years.

Note:

Some of the types of projects listed above are covered by Annex II and the Regulations only if they meet certain threshold levels or other criteria. * A project which is included in Annex II of the Directive but excluded from Schedule 2 of the Regulations (SI 1999/293).

Appendix 3: Response from Environmental Consultation Bodies

Date: 06 December 2022
Our ref: 414047



Richard Thresh
Planning Policy - Development Services
Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
planningpolicy@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk

Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
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CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Richard,

Planning consultation: Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan – SEA and HRA Screening Assessment

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 22 November 2022.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Where Neighbourhood Plans could have significant environmental effects, they may require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the Environment Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended). Further guidance on deciding whether the proposals are likely to have significant environmental effects and the requirements for consulting Natural England on SEA are set out in the [planning practice guidance](#).

Planning practice guidance also outlines that if an appropriate assessment is required for your neighbourhood plan this will also engage the need for a SEA. One of the basic conditions that will be tested by the independent examiner is whether the neighbourhood plan is compatible with European obligations, including those under the SEA Directive. Where a SEA is required it should be prepared in accordance with [regulation 12](#) of the SEA Regulations.

Natural England welcomes the Screening Report which assesses the requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) for the Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan.

I can confirm that Natural England agrees with this report's conclusion that it is not likely there will be significant environmental effects arising from the policies in the plan, which have not already been accounted for within the adopted local plan. Therefore, the **Dadlington Neighbourhood Plan does not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)** to be undertaken.

Natural England also agrees that the Plan would be unlikely to result in any significant effect to European Sites, either alone or in combination, and therefore **an appropriate assessment under the Habitats Regulations is not required**.

Aside from this, Natural England has no specific comments at this stage. We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us. For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter please contact me on 02080268500. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Roslyn Deeming
Senior Planning Adviser
East Midlands