

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Prepared on behalf of Bradford Abbas Parish Council

BRADFORD ABBAS AND CLIFTON MAYBANK NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

RECORD OF STATUTORY CONSULTTEE RESPONSES, SEPTEMBER 2025

Personal details redacted for publication

Environment Agency response

From: Sustainable Places, WX <wx.sp@environment-agency.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 April 2025 09:41
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Bradford Abbas Neighbourhood Plan SEA screening request

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on the Strategic Environmental Assessment screening for the Bradford Abbas Neighbourhood Plan.

We note that the plan does not propose any allocations for development. On this basis we do not consider there to be potential significant environmental effects relating to constraints within our remit.

Nevertheless, we still encourage you to seek ways in which your neighbourhood plan can improve the local environment at the earliest stages. Together with Natural England, English Heritage and Forestry Commission we have published joint guidance on neighbourhood planning, which sets out sources of environmental information and ideas on incorporating the environmental into your plan. This is available at: <https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/toolkits-and-guidance/consider-environment-neighbourhood-plans/>

Regards

[REDACTED]
Planning Advisor, Wessex Sustainable Places
Environment Agency | Rivers House, East Quay, Bridgwater, TA6 4YS

Historic England response

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 19 March 2025 12:29
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Bradford Abbas Neighbourhood Plan SEA screening request

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your consultation on the SEA Screening Report associated with the emerging Bradford Abbas Neighbourhood Plan.

This is our first involvement with the preparation of this Plan since offering generic advice at the time of the area's designation in 2022.

It is therefore useful to be made aware of the community's policy aspirations while the Plan is still at a formative stage and to be able to offer advice and influence matters dependent on the extent to which we feel our interests are likely to be affected.

I can confirm that based on the proposed suite of policies there are no issues which attract our attention and upon which we wish to comment, or are likely to wish to comment at future stages in the Plan's preparation.

I can therefore also confirm that, especially in the absence of site allocations, we have no objection to the view that a full SEA is not required.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
Historic Places Adviser

I now work only 2 days a week, usually Tuesdays and Wednesdays

Historic England | South West
1st Floor Fermentation North | Finzels Reach | Hawkins Lane | Bristol | BS1 6WQ
Direct Line: [REDACTED]
<https://historicengland.org.uk/southwest>



Ensuring our heritage lives on and is loved for longer.
historicengland.org.uk

Natural England response

Date: 14 March 2025
Our ref: 505271
Your ref: N/A



BY EMAIL ONLY

Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear [REDACTED]

Bradford Abbas and Clifton Maybank Neighbourhood Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment
Screening Opinion Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 03 March 2025 which was received by Natural England on 03 March 2025

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.

Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Opinion

It is Natural England's advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that:

- significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely; and,
- significant effects on Habitats sites¹, either alone or in combination, are unlikely.

The proposed neighbourhood plan is unlikely to significantly affect any Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection areas (SPA), Ramsar wetland or sites in the process of becoming SACs or SPAs ('candidate SACs', 'possible SACs', 'potential SPAs') or a Ramsar wetland. The plan area is unlikely to have a significant effect on a National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Heritage Coast, and is unlikely to impact upon the purposes for which these areas are designated or defined.

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 is contained within the [Planning Practice Guidance](#). This identifies three triggers that may require the production of an SEA:

- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan
- the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

¹ Habitats sites are those referred to in the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (Annex 2 - glossary) as "any site which would be included within the definition at regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 for the purpose of those regulations, including candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and any relevant Marine Sites".

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require an SEA. Further information is included in Natural England's [standing advice](#) on protected species.

Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant an SEA. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission [standing advice](#).

We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a SEA is necessary.

Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If a SEA is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

Please send any new consultations, or further information on this consultation to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

Yours sincerely,



Higher Officer
Sustainable Development, Dorset
Natural England, Horizon House, Deanery Road, Bristol BS1 5AH