



Screening Statement

Determination of the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

**Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill
Neighbourhood Development Plan
2021-2037
Regulation 16 Draft Plan Submission
February 2021**

March 2021

Screening Statement

Determination of the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and European Directive 2001/42/EC for the Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan 2021-2037 Regulation 16 Draft Plan Submission February 2021

1. Introduction

This Screening Report is designed to determine whether or not the content of the Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan (BBWNDP) 2021-2037 Regulation 16 Draft Plan Submission February 2021 (BBWNDP) requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC and associated Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is the process by which environmental considerations are required to be fully integrated into the preparation of plans and programmes prior to their final adoption. SEA is a tool used internationally to improve the environmental performance of plans so that they can better contribute to sustainable development.

Establishing whether a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) takes into account SEA is an important legal requirement. The Independent Examiner subsequently appointed to consider the BBWNDP will check that it meets the 'Basic Conditions' set out in the national Planning Practice Guidance (PPG). One of the Basic Conditions is whether a NDP is compatible with European obligations. This includes the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive. This directive is transposed into UK law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004). A NDP must be compatible with European Union obligations, as incorporated into UK law, in order to be legally compliant.

In meeting these obligations, the national PPG sets out that an initial screening stage is required to establish whether a Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects. As the "responsible body" this report sets out Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council's conclusions in respect of the emerging policies for the BBWNDP.

2. Legislative Background

In accordance with the SEA Directive and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004) (Regulation 9(1)), the Council must determine if a plan requires an environmental assessment. This process is commonly referred to as a "screening" assessment. Where the Council determines that a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is not required, then the Council must, under Regulation 9(3), prepare a statement setting out the reasons for this determination. Where it is determined that proposals in a NDP are likely to have significant environmental effects, the NDP may require a SEA. Draft NDP proposals should then be assessed to identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant environmental effects as prescribed in regulation 12 (2) & (3) of the above legislation.

In accordance with Regulation 9 of the SEA Regulations 2004, Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Parish Council (the qualifying body) has requested Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council (NuLBC), as the responsible authority, to consider whether an environmental assessment of the emerging NDP is required due to significant environmental effects.

Whether a NDP requires an SEA, and if so, the level of detail needed, will depend on what is proposed in the NDP. The PPG suggests that an SEA may be required, where:

- A NDP allocates sites for development;

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

It remains the responsibility of the Local Planning Authority to ensure that all the regulations appropriate to the nature and scope of a NDP proposal submitted to it have been met in order for the proposal to progress. However, it remains the qualifying body's responsibility to make every effort to ensure the resultant draft NDP that it submits to the Local Planning Authority:

- Meets each of the Basic Conditions;
- Has been prepared in accordance with the correct process and all those required to be consulted have been;
- Is accompanied by all the required documents.

3. Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan 2021-2037 Regulation 16 Draft Plan Submission February 2021

The BBW NDP presents an overarching vision with six key objectives as follows:

Draft Vision for Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill NDP

By 2037 the quality of life of people living and working in the Parish has been maintained and improved in a sustainable way, and the special rural environment and heritage of the Parish has been protected and enhanced.

Objectives

- 1: To promote sustainable development;
- 2: To conserve and enhance the quality and appearance of the built environment and its unique and valuable historic and architectural buildings;
- 3: To protect and enhance the intrinsic rural and landscape character of the Parish;
- 4: To support the provision of appropriate new housing in the Parish;
- 5: To reduce the harmful impact of traffic in the centre of the village to reduce air pollution, noise and vibration and improve highway safety for pedestrians and cyclists; and
- 6: To maintain services and economic activity in the Parish including; the school, doctor's, village shop, pubs, restaurants and other small businesses and broadband etc.

The BBW NDP then includes a description ('a snapshot') of the parish and the consultation that has taken place in relation to the neighbourhood planning process. There are 10 no. policies under five policy themes as listed below:

1. Promoting Sustainable Development (Policy BBW1)
2. New Housing (Policy BBW2 and BWW3)
3. Built Environment (Policy BBW4 and BBW5)
4. Natural Environment (Policy BBW6)
5. The Local Economy and Community Facilities (Policy BBW7, BBW8, BBW9 and BBW10)

The tables below provides the draft policy wording within the BBWNDP:

Draft Policy Ref.	Draft policy wording
BBW1: Promoting Sustainable Development	<p>The sustainable development of land and buildings, and sustainable use of water, energy and transport, will be supported in order to maintain and improve the quality of life for people living and working in the Parish, and to conserve and enhance its intrinsic rural and built environment now and in the future.</p> <p>1. <u>Built Environment</u></p> <p>To be supported development proposals should, where appropriate:</p> <p>A. Incorporate high quality sustainable design which promotes energy, water and resource efficiency and protects against any increased flood risk in line with the Government’s policy for national technical standards;</p> <p>B. Seek to conserve and enhance the intrinsic and distinctive local character of buildings and architectural features in the wider Neighbourhood Area and be sympathetic to the context in terms of scale, massing, height, materials and detailed design; and</p> <p>C. Demonstrate where heritage assets are likely to be affected by development proposals, how historic buildings and structures (including both designated heritage assets and non-designated heritage assets), and archaeological sites (whether inside or outside the Conservation Area) are conserved and enhanced - see Appendix III Listed Buildings in Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Area and Appendix IV Register of Locally Important Buildings and Structures in Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Area.</p> <p>2. <u>Natural Environment</u></p> <p>To be supported development proposals should ensure, where applicable, that:</p> <p>A. Siting and design recognises the intrinsic character of the countryside and protects and enhances local landscape character and valued landscapes;</p> <p>B. They minimise flood risk, light and noise pollution and incorporate measures to avoid disturbance of local wildlife;</p> <p>C. They contribute to biodiversity net gain; and</p> <p>D. They retain and enhance river habitats and take opportunities to improve connectivity through blue and green infrastructure, whilst also ensuring flood risk is not increased and where possible, reduced. Where possible opportunities should be taken to open up any existing culverts to reduce the associated flood risk and danger of collapse as well as enhancing biodiversity and green infrastructure.</p> <p>3. <u>Transport</u></p> <p>To be supported development proposals should:</p> <p>A. Not have an unacceptable impact on local roads and the wider network, and demonstrate that any unacceptable significant impacts on congestion, highway safety and air and noise pollution can be cost effectively mitigated (air and noise pollution will be assessed by Environmental Health);</p> <p>B. Promote improved accessibility for all by walking, cycling and public transport, through provision of linkages to existing routes and services, and incorporating safe and secure weatherproof cycle storage facilities; and</p> <p>C. Incorporate electric vehicle (EV) charging points (Environmental Health Condition).</p>

	<p>4. <u>Reduce Flood Risk</u></p> <p>To protect and enhance the river corridors located in the NDP area and minimise flood risk, development proposals should</p> <p>A. Be located in in Flood Zone 1. Only if there is no viable/available land in Flood Zone 1 should other areas be considered using the Sequential Test approach. Any watercourse which does not have any flood extents associated with them, will require further work or modelling as part of detailed planning applications to ensure the development will be safe and not increase flood risk;</p> <p>B. Create space for water by restoring floodplains and contributing towards Blue and Green Infrastructure;</p> <p>C. Take opportunities to reduce flood risk elsewhere by allocating flood storage areas;</p> <p>D. Set back development 8m from any watercourses to allow access for maintenance and restoring the natural floodplain. This includes existing culverted watercourses and flood defences;</p> <p>E. Ensure all SuDS features are located outside of the 1 in 100 year plus climate change flood extent; and</p> <p>F. Open up culverted watercourses and remove unnecessary obstructions. All developments should seek to control and discharge all surface water runoff generated on site during the 1 in 100 year plus climate change rainfall event. For Greenfield development sites, the surface water runoff generated as a result of the development should not exceed the Greenfield runoff rate. For Brownfield development sites, developers are expected to deliver a substantial reduction in the existing runoff rate, and where possible, reduce the runoff to the equivalent Greenfield rate. Surface water discharge should not exceed the Greenfield runoff rate (as described above) and this does not usually require detailed hydraulic modelling to be carried out to determine the effects of this.</p>
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Draft Policy Ref.	Draft policy wording
BBW2: New Housing in Betley Village Envelope	<p>Proposals for new housing development will be supported provided that they are within the Village Envelope and satisfy all other neighbourhood plan policies, particularly BBW4: Detailed Design in the Parish and BBW5: Conserving and Enhancing Betley Conservation Area.</p> <p>In addition, any proposals for housing development in the Village Envelope will be supported where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development is located on a previously developed site which adjoins existing built form; 2. Proposals for replacement dwellings and re-development of existing buildings are of a suitable massing and density taking into account the character of the surrounding area. Replacement buildings should allow for the provision of suitable garden areas, vehicle access, parking and service access and maintain the floor area of the original building wherever possible; 3. Development is accessible, adaptable and well orientated ensuring adequate outdoor space for play and recreation.
BBW3: Housing Mix	<p>Proposals should provide a suitable mix of housing in line with the most up to date housing market assessment.</p> <p>Schemes should demonstrate how they help to maintain a mix of tenure, type and size of dwelling in the Parish and demonstrate how they respond to local needs for smaller housing (1 to 3 bedrooms) including housing suitable for first time buyers, young families and downsizing households. Lifetime homes will be encouraged.</p> <p>Housing for local people and those with a local connection</p> <p>Proposals for new housing specifically for local people already living in the Parish and people with a local connection to the Parish (see Appendix VI) will be supported provided that the residential units so provided are retained for in perpetuity for this purpose and provided that the proposals satisfy all other Neighbourhood Plan policies. This housing should be provided by a rural housing trust (or other appropriate body), to be available for both the young and elderly people wishing to remain living in the Village and to enable the latter to “downsize”.</p> <p>If, following a minimum period of 12 months' active marketing, the housing is not occupied by local people or people with a local connection to the Parish, it may be offered as affordable housing to people with a local connection to Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough.</p>

Draft Policy Ref.	Draft policy wording
BBW4: Detailed Design in the Parish	<p>Where planning permission is required, or where the developer must apply to the local planning authority for a determination as to whether prior approval is required, the siting, design and external appearance of new development and extensions should be sympathetic to local rural character and history, including the built environment and landscape setting of the Parish as described in Sections 6.3 and 6.4 of the NDP.</p> <p>To ensure new development is sympathetic to the surrounding buildings in terms of scale, height, massing, materials, fenestration, roofline and details, buildings should reflect the traditional roof forms, pitches, materials and details of existing nearby historic properties.</p> <p><u>1. Materials</u></p> <p>A. Materials should be chosen to complement the design of a development and add to the quality of the surrounding environment. They should reflect the local character as described in section 6.3 of the NDP.</p> <p>B. Other building forms, for example timber frame structures, will be supported provided they enhance the rural character and quality of the built environment in the Parish.</p> <p><u>2. Contemporary Designs</u></p> <p>A. New development proposals need not imitate earlier architectural periods or styles and could be the stimulus for innovative designs which promote high levels of sustainability or raise the standard of local design provided they fit in with the overall form and layout of their surroundings.</p> <p>B. Sustainable designs which maximise resource and energy efficiency will be supported, provided that they are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting.</p> <p><u>3. Extensions</u></p> <p>Proposals to extend residential properties should be designed to enhance the property, through use of suitable, locally appropriate materials, and should be of a proportionate scale which is subordinate to the main dwelling.</p> <p><u>4. Plot Density</u></p> <p>A. New development on previously developed sites should retain the previous volume of built development and plot density.</p> <p>B. Where a higher volume and density is proposed, then a clear justification will be required to demonstrate the need for higher density development, and setting out how full and effective integration into the surrounding built form, village scape and landscape will be achieved.</p> <p><u>5. Boundary Treatments, Gardens and Driveways</u></p> <p>A. Where front garden are provided, schemes should consider local character and context. Where appropriate, front garden areas should be enclosed by hedges using appropriate local species in planting, traditional low brick walls or railings and should provide safe and adequate access including visibility splays and parking to properties. Garages are recommended to be a minimum dimension of 6m x 3m to allow for the parking of a vehicle and storage.</p> <p>B. Wherever possible, adequate off road parking should be provided to minimise adverse impacts of cars on the street scene. Where provisions can be made to minimise disturbance to neighbouring properties and quiet garden areas, parking areas, garage courts and service areas should be located at</p>

	the rear of the site. Surfacing materials, including surface water drainage to prevent surface water flowing out onto the public highway should be sensitive to the local context.
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Draft Policy Ref.	Draft policy wording
<p>BBW5: Conserving and Enhancing Betley Conservation Area</p>	<p>New development and conversions must preserve and enhance the special historical and architectural character of the Conservation Area.</p> <p>New development and conversions in Betley Conservation Area should demonstrate how the following design guidelines have been addressed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Designs should seek to conserve and enhance the unique and special character of the Conservation Area and opportunities should be taken to improve the historic character and sense of place within the public realm; 2. Traditional walls, fencing, hedges, hard and soft surfaces must be retained; 3. Development should not result in loss of private gardens or rear burgage plots (as shown on Map 8), which make a significant contribution to local historic character; 4. The scale and general form of new development should respond to the special character of the character area as identified in the Betley Conservation Area Appraisal, with particular reference to materials and detailing, building lines, building height, plot sizes, plot ratios, roof pitch and form, and vehicular and pedestrian access; 5. New development involving the replacement of existing buildings should have regard to the former plot density and not have an unacceptable adverse impact on the character of the surrounding area through increased scale and massing; 6. New development should be carefully designed to reduce its impact on existing important views within, into, and from the Conservation Area, as identified in the Betley Conservation Area Appraisal (see Map 5 Betley Conservation Area Townscape Appraisal Map); and 7. Development proposals should demonstrate that they will not harm the special character and appearance of the identified "Buffer Zones" (see Map 7 Management Proposals Map from the Conservation Area Management Plan). These zones are: - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The field to the north of Betley Old Hall; ii. The fields to the south of the Model Farm, including the large meadows which allow good views from the west into the village; and iii. Land to the south and west of Betley Court, which once formed parts of its parkland. 8. New development must take full account of known surface and sub-surface archaeology and ensure unknown and potentially significant deposits are identified and appropriately considered during development after consultation with the Staffordshire Historic Environment Record (HER). Lack of current evidence of sub-surface archaeology must not be taken as proof of absence.

Draft Policy Ref.	Draft policy wording
<p>BBW6: Recognising the Intrinsic Character of the Countryside and Protecting and Enhancing Valued Landscapes</p>	<p>Development proposals should recognise the intrinsic character of the countryside or distinctive historical built form of the Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill neighbourhood area. Landscaping schemes should protect and enhance locally valued landscapes. Development will be supported where:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development proposals demonstrate how siting and design have taken into consideration local landscape character by using locally appropriate materials (see Draft Policy BBW4), designing suitable landscaping schemes and providing locally appropriate boundary treatments including hedges, brick walls and railings. Modern suburban hard and soft landscaping elements and excessive external lighting should be avoided and SUDS principles should be incorporated in the design of driveways and access routes; 2. Landscaping schemes use locally appropriate native species in tree, woodland and hedgerow planting which provide opportunities for biodiversity net gain, or where off site compensation is provided, habitats are improved or recreated nearby (see paragraph 6.4.14); 3. Development is located to take account of or respond to existing landscape elements such as dips in the landform, and woodland and thick hedges to provide screening; 4. Additional screening fits with the scale and character of existing landscape elements and, where possible, boundary treatments include replacing lost field boundary hedges and field corners; 5. Key views into and out from the villages of Betley and Wrinehill are protected from inappropriate development (see Policy BBW5); 6. Key existing local landscape features which contribute to the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside including boundary walls, hedgerows and trees, low mounds, erratics, marl pits and ponds and meres and areas of Ridge and Furrow landscape are conserved; and 7. The existing linear settlement pattern of Betley Village is protected including the historic arrangement of intact Burgage plots. Bucklands and their unique built form should be conserved. 8. The visual and physical separation of Wrinehill and Betley along the A531 is maintained, and the villages' distinctive identities and landscape context are protected. <p><u>Landscape and visual impact assessment</u></p> <p>Proposals for major development should be accompanied by a landscape and visual impact assessment which demonstrates that proposals recognise the intrinsic character of the countryside and protect and enhance valued landscapes.</p> <p><u>Agricultural Buildings</u></p> <p>New, large scale agricultural buildings in the rural parts of the Parish should be designed to integrate into the landscape, for example through the use of timber cladding, dark coloured roofing materials and including an associated landscape scheme and screening.</p>

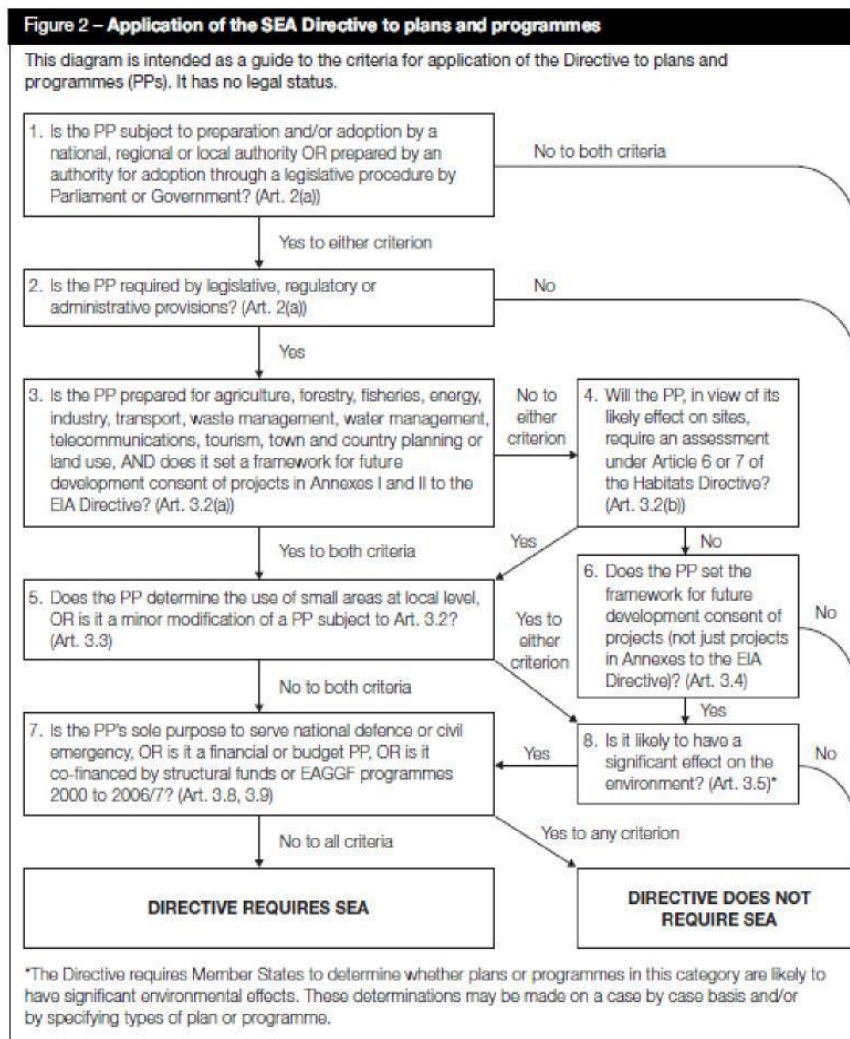
Draft Policy Ref.	Draft policy wording
<p>BBW7: Supporting Conversions of Existing Buildings for Small Scale Business Development (Class E)</p>	<p>Where planning permission is required, conversions of existing buildings for new small-scale employment and service related business facilities will be supported provided:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Safe access is provided to and from the public highway for all vehicles including the provision of servicing and turning areas; 2. Conversion does not lead to the introduction of significant additional traffic into environmentally sensitive areas or the creation or aggravation of traffic problems. Any significant adverse impacts from traffic will be required to be mitigated through suitable traffic management measures; 3. There is suitable provision of parking including cycle parking for employees and visitors, where possible provided on site, taking account of the accessibility of the development, the type, mix and use of development, the availability of and opportunities for public transport, local car ownership levels, and adequate provision of spaces for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles; 4. Local residential amenity is protected, and suitable measures are put in place to mitigate and reduce to a minimum any noise or air pollution or other disturbance which impacts on human health and quality of life; and 5. The proposed conversion conserves or enhances intrinsic local character and distinctiveness and maintains the historic character and setting of traditional rural buildings through landscaping and design.
<p>BBW8: Supporting Homeworking</p>	<p>Proposals for the provision of accommodation for home based working will be supported providing they do not compromise internal space standards, residential amenity or highway safety.</p> <p>New residential development should incorporate suitable provision for new communications technologies including infrastructure and connections to high speed broadband wherever possible.</p>
<p>BBW9: Community Facilities</p>	<p>Community facilities in the Parish are identified on Map 11. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Hall • St Margaret's Church • Reading Room • Methodist Chapel • The Broughton Arms Public House, Balterley • The Crown Public House, Wrinehill • The Hand & Trumpet Public House, Wrinehill • The Swan Public House, Betley • The Village Shop & Post Office • Betley Tea Room <p>The loss of these facilities through change of use or redevelopment or development will not be supported, unless it can be demonstrated that the facility is unlikely to be needed in the foreseeable future, in order to maintain the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs.</p> <p>Provision of new recreational, community and educational facilities and enhancement of existing facilities will be supported, provided the proposal satisfies other policies in the Plan.</p>

Draft Policy Ref.	Draft policy wording
<p>BBW10: Recreation and Open Space Facilities</p>	<p>Recreation and Open Space facilities in the Parish are identified on Map 11. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Betley Cricket Club • Betley Football Club • Sandy Croft • Play area to the rear of the Village Hall • Tennis Courts • Bowling Green • Playing Fields • Memorial Garden • Incidental Open Spaces. <p><u>Development resulting in loss of existing facilities</u></p> <p>The change of use or redevelopment or development of existing facilities to other uses will only be supported where the following can be demonstrated:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An assessment has been undertaken which shows that the facility is surplus to requirements or there is evidence that the facility is no longer viable; or 2. The loss would be replaced by alternative provision, on a site within the Parish, of equivalent or enhanced facilities, which are accessible by walking and cycling and which have adequate car and cycle parking; or 3. Alternative sports and recreational provision will be provided, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use. <p><u>Provision of new and enhancement of existing facilities</u></p> <p>Development which contributes towards the improvement of existing, or provision of new recreational, community and educational facilities will be actively encouraged.</p>

i) Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening

The process for determining whether or not an SEA is required is called 'screening'. The SEA screening is a two stage process. The first part considers an NDP against the SEA assessment flow chart set out in the national guidance 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' (see Figure 1 and Table 1).

Figure 1. Application of the SEA Directive to plans and programmes. Flow Chart from 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive'.



Source:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/7657/practicalguidesea.pdf

The second part of the assessment is required in order to answer specific questions contained in the above (Figure 1), specifically question 8 and considers whether an NDP is likely to have a significant effect on the environment, using criteria drawn from the EU SEA Directive 2001/42/EC (Annex II) and Schedule 1 of the UK Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (See Figure 2 and Table's 2 and 3).

Figure 2. Criteria for determining the likely significant effects to the environment.

1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to
 - 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,
 - the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy,
 - the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development, - environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme,
 - 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).

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.

Source: Annex II of SEA Directive 2001/42/EC and Schedule 1 of the UK Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes 2004.

The Regulations state that before making a determination the three statutory consultation bodies must be consulted: The Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England. Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council's assessment and response in determining whether the emerging BBWNDP requires an SEA is presented in Tables 1, 2 and 3.

ii) Assessment and Screening of the Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan 2021-2037 Regulation 16 Draft Plan Submission February 2021

Table 1: Part 1 SEA screening - Application of the SEA Directive to plans and programmes

Establish the Need for SEA		
Stage	Yes / No	Reason
1	Yes	<p>The preparation and adoption of the BBWNDP is allowed under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017. The BBWNDP is being prepared by Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Parish Council (as the “relevant body”) and will be “made” by Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council as the local planning authority subject to passing an independent examination and neighbourhood plan referendum. The preparation of neighbourhood plans is subject to the following regulations: The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, the Neighbourhood Planning (referendums) Regulations 2012, and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 and 2016.</p> <p>GO TO STAGE 2</p>
2	No	<p>Whilst the BBWNDP is not a requirement of the Town and Country Planning Act as amended by the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning Act 2017, it will be “made” and eventually form part of the Development Plan for the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme. It is therefore important that the screening process considers whether it is likely to have a significant environmental effect and hence whether an SEA is required under the SEA Directive.</p> <p>The strategic framework for development is set by the adopted Joint Core Spatial Strategy, the strategic saved policies of the Local Plan and the emerging Local Plan. The BBWNDP seeks to align and be in general conformity with these.</p> <p>GO TO STAGE 3</p>
3	Yes	<p>The BBWNDP is being prepared for town and country planning, and land use purposes for the parish of Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill (the Neighbourhood Area).</p> <p>Development management type policies are included in the BBWNDP to promote sustainable development; support new housing in appropriate locations to meet identified need; encourage good design; protect/enhance the historic environment; protect and enhance the</p>

			natural environment, and protect and provide community facilities. GO TO STAGE 4
4	Will the draft BBWNDP, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment for future development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Art. 3.2 (b))	Not Applicable	The BBWNDP will be screened separately on the need for Habitats Regulations Assessment. GO TO STAGE 5
5	Does the draft BBWNDP 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	The BBWNDP does not propose any site allocations for future development within the Neighbourhood Area. However, it provides development management policies to assess development proposals within the Neighbourhood Area. GO TO STAGE 6
6	Does the draft BBWNDP set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in Annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art. 3.4)	Yes	Once the BBWNDP is made it will form part of the statutory Development Plan and will be used by Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council to assist it in the determination of planning applications within the Neighbourhood Area. The intention is that the BBWNDP will provide a land use policy framework for future development at a local level. GO TO STAGE 8
7	Is the draft BBWNDP's sole purpose to serve the national defence or civil emergency, OR it a financial or budget PP, or it is co-financed by structural funds or EAGGF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Art. 3.8, 3.9)	No	Not Applicable
8	Is the draft BBWNDP likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art 3.5)	See tables 2 and 3 below	Assessment and responses regarding this matter are presented in Tables 2 and 3 SEE TABLES 2 AND 3 BELOW

Table 2. Part 2a SEA Screening: II Application of Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects of a Neighbourhood Plan (SEA Directive Article 3(5) Annex II).

(1) Characteristics of the plan and programmes, having regard, in particular, to;		
SEA Directive Criteria Annex II	Response	Likely environmental effect?
The degree to which the draft BBWNDP sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size, and operating conditions or by allocating resources;	<p>The BBWNDP will, if made, form part of the statutory Development Plan and contribute to the local planning policy framework for the Neighbourhood Area.</p> <p>The BBWNDP does not allocate sites for development, thereby providing no specific details of developable areas, scale and location of future development. Policy 'BBW2: New Housing in Betley Village Envelope', supports housing development within the existing Betley Village Envelope subject to proposals satisfying appropriate criteria.</p> <p>Generic development management type policies will help determine the outcome of future development proposals, and achieve the BBWNDP's overall aim of protecting and enhancing the special rural environment and heritage of the parish.</p>	Unlikely
The degree to which the draft BBWNDP influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;	<p>The BBWNDP is required to be in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and at this stage the strategic policies of the Joint Core Spatial Strategy and 'saved' Local Plan 2011 policies. The BBWNDP should not significantly influence other plans and programmes, but may have a limited degree of influence over the formation of the future strategic policies.</p> <p>The BBWNDP will be 'made' alongside the emerging higher order Local Plan and will form part of the Development Plan. The BBWNDP will provide additional information to the Development Plan at a local scale.</p>	Unlikely
The relevance of the draft BBWNDP for the integration of environmental conditions in particular view to promoting sustainable development;	<p>The BBWNDP includes development management themed policies seeking to ensure appropriate and sustainable development within the parish, with particular focus on protecting/enhancing existing environmental, historical and community assets (i.e. policies BBW1: Promoting Sustainable Development; BBW4: Detailed Design in the Parish; BBW5: Conserving and Enhancing Betley Conservation Area; BBW6: Recognising the Intrinsic Character of the Countryside and Protecting and Enhancing Valued Landscapes; BBW9: Community Facilities, and BBW10: Recreation and Open Space Facilities).</p> <p>Development would be subject to the policies in the NPPF, as well as the Joint Core Spatial Strategy and 'saved' Local Plan 2011 policies. The BBWNDP attempts to demonstrate its policy conformity with local/national aims and policies. This will be explained within a 'Basic Conditions' Statement. The BBWNDP's vision, aims and policies have been developed in consideration of the three dimensions (economic, social and environmental) to sustainable development as described in the NPPF.</p>	Unlikely

<p>Environmental problems relevant to the BBWNDP;</p>	<p>There are 2no. RAMSAR and SSSI sites within the Neighbourhood Area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Midland Meres and Moses Phase 1 / Betley Mere SSSI • Midland Meres and Moses Phase 2 / Black Firs and Cranberry Bog SSSI <p>According to Natural England’s website the condition of the SSSI’s are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Betley Mere SSSI¹ – 38% unfavourable-recovering and 62% unfavourable-no change. • Black Firs and Cranberry Bog SSSI² – 100% unfavourable no change. <p>The Neighbourhood Area includes the following locally designated sites (see Appendix A):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1no. Regional Nature Reserve • 5no. Sites of Biological Interest (SBI) • 1no. Biodiversity Alerts Site <p>There are no Local Nature Reserves in the Neighbourhood Area with closest being Bateswood Nature Reserve some 2.2km east from the parish boundary. There are no Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS) in the Neighbourhood Area.</p> <p>There are also 3no. Ancient Woodland sites. Appendix A provides a list of the local environmental designations and Figure 1 provides a map of showing the location of the environmental designations across the Neighbourhood Area.</p> <p>These environmental assets are located beyond the Betley Village Envelope. Betley Mere SSSI and RAMSAR site is approx. 500m south-west of the Village Envelope.</p> <p>The BBWNDP is not proposing any sites for development and therefore it is considered unlikely that the plan will have any potential effects on these assets.</p> <p>Within the Neighbourhood Area, there are the following designated heritage assets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 46 no. listed buildings (1 Grade I, 5Grade II* and 40 Grade II) (See Appendix B), and • The Betley Conservation Area. <p>There are no Scheduled Monuments within the Neighbourhood Area. There are 13no. Locally Important Buildings and Structures (non-designated heritage assets) within the Neighbourhood Area. The majority of these are located within the Betley Conservation Area.</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>
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¹
<https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/ReportConditionSummary.aspx?SiteCode=S1002384&ReportTitle=Betley%20Mere%20SSSI>

²
<https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/ReportConditionSummary.aspx?SiteCode=S1003841&ReportTitle=Black%20Firs%20&%20Cranberry%20Bog%20SSSI>

	<p>33 of the listed buildings are located within the Betley Conservation Area.</p> <p>The BBWNDP proposes specific policies seeking to preserve/enhance and prevent harm/degrading of environmental, ecological, historic and heritage features of the Neighbourhood Area such as BBW1: Promoting Sustainable Development; BBW5: Conserving and Enhancing Betley Conservation Area, and BBW6: Recognising the Intrinsic Character of the Countryside and Protecting and Enhancing Valued Landscapes.</p> <p>Development would also be subject to the policies in the NPPF, as well as the Joint Core Strategy and 'saved' Local Plan 2011 policies in relation to protecting/enhancing the natural/built/historic environment. The BBWNDP attempts to demonstrate its policy conformity with local/national aims and policies to conserve, protect and enhance the built and natural environment. This will be explained within a 'Basic Conditions' Statement.</p>	
<p>The relevance of the BBWNDP for the implementation of (European) community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection;</p>	<p>The implementation of European community legislation is unlikely to be significantly influenced by the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>

Table 3. Part 2b SEA Screening: II Application of Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects of a neighbourhood Plan (SEA Directive Article 3(5) Annex II)

(2) Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to;		
SEA Directive Criteria Annex II	Response	Likely environmental effect?
The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects of the draft BBWNDP;	<p>The BBWNDP does not allocate sites for future development or promote significant changes in land use. The plan features a number of policies that seek to protect and enhance the natural, built and historic environment.</p> <p>The plan seeks to bring about beneficial effects from development rather than damaging effects.</p>	Unlikely
The cumulative nature of the effects of the BBWNDP;	<p>Future development may potentially result in some cumulative impacts on the environment through the increase of vehicular usage, movements, increased surface water and waste production. However, sites for development have not been allocated through the BBWNDP, therefore it would be difficult to predict any cumulative impacts across the Neighbourhood Area in the future through the plan.</p>	Unlikely
The trans-boundary nature of the effects of the draft BBWNDP;	<p>The BBWNDP does not allocate sites for future development. Overall, the impacts beyond the Neighbourhood Area are unlikely to be significant as the BBWNDP does not allocate sites for development.</p>	Unlikely
The risk to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents) of the draft BBWNDP;	<p>The BBWNDP is unlikely to pose any significant risks to human health or the environment. The plan features development management type policies seeking to improve human health by encouraging future housing development to accommodate a range of people (i.e. Policy BBW3: Housing Mix), protect existing community (i.e. Policy BBW9: Community Facilities) and protect important open spaces (i.e. Policy BBW10 Recreation and Open Space Facilities) Risk to the environmental and ecological features within the Neighbourhood Area are covered by Policy BBW1: Promoting Sustainable Development 'Section 2 Natural Environment' and Policy BBW6: Recognising the Intrinsic Character of the Countryside and Protecting and Enhancing Valued Landscapes.</p>	Unlikely
The magnitude and the spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected) of the BBWNDP;	<p>The Neighbourhood Area is approximately 1,073 hectares in size. According to Census 2011, the total population for the Neighbourhood Area is 1,254 (taken from para 3.2 of the draft submission plan). The BBWNDP does not feature any site allocations for future development although there are some planning permissions for new small housing development within the parish. As a result, there may be a minor increase in population within the Neighbourhood Area, but impacts would not be considered significant.</p>	Unlikely

<p>The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:</p> <p>I. Special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;</p> <p>II. Exceed environmental quality standards or limit values</p> <p>III. Intensive land use</p>	<p>I. The Neighbourhood Area has a number of natural and historic assets. These include; two RAMSAR and SSSI sites, a Regional Nature Reserve, 5no. Sites of Local Biological Importance, a Biodiversity Alert site, 3no. Ancient Woodlands sites, a Conservation Area, Listed Buildings and Locally Important Buildings. The BBW NDP includes policies that seeks to protect and enhance these assets when considering future development proposals (i.e. BBW1: Promoting Sustainable Development; BBW5: Conserving and Enhancing Betley Conservation Area and BBW6: Recognising the Intrinsic Character of the Countryside and Protecting and Enhancing Valued Landscapes). Much of the special natural characteristics are located beyond the Betley Village Envelope and in the Green Belt. As such they are not likely to be vulnerable to significant impacts from development. The Conservation Area and many of the listed buildings and all the locally important buildings are located within the Betley Village Envelope. Future development could have some/minor impact to these cultural and historical assets. However, the BBW NDP does not allocate sites for development and as such overall the impacts on these assets are unlikely to be significant. In addition the BBW NDP includes policy BBW5: Conserving and Enhancing Betley Conservation Area which seeks to protect and enhance the Conservation Area.</p> <p>II. As the BBW NDP does not allocate sites for development it is unlikely to result in exceedance of environmental quality standards, such as those relating to air, water and soil quality.</p> <p>III. The BBW NDP does not allocate sites for future development, and therefore is unlikely to bring forward development of an extent that would result in a significant intensification of local land use.</p>	<p>Unlikely</p> <p>Unlikely</p> <p>Unlikely</p>
<p>The effect on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protected status;</p>	<p>There are no designated landscapes such as National Parks, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Broads within or near the Neighbourhood Area.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Area is covered by the following saved policies within the Newcastle-under-Lyme Local Plan 2011: Policy N20: Area of Active Landscape Enhancement and Policy N18: Area of Active Landscape Conservation. Collectively these seek to conserve and enhance the quality and character of the landscape across the Neighbourhood Area.</p>	<p>Unlikely</p>

6. Screening Outcome

Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council has concluded that the emerging Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan is not likely to have any significant environmental effects, and accordingly will not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). The main reasons for this conclusion are:

- The Draft BBW NDP seeks to align with the adopted Development Plan (Joint Core Strategy 2006-2026 and 'saved' Local Plan 2011 Policies. Additionally the draft BBW NDP is subjected to a Habitats Regulations screening opinion;
- The Draft BBW NDP does not provide any site allocations for future development. As a result, it is difficult to foresee any specific environmental effects.
- The Draft BBW NDP seeks to avoid or minimise the environmental effects of future developments. It features development management themed policies to conserve, protect and enhance environmental, historical, cultural and heritage assets for determining development proposals;
- The Draft BBW NDP is unlikely to have significant affects to any designated sites, or lead to other environmental effects;
- The spatial extent and the magnitude of the population affected are not considered significant for the purpose of the SEA;

The statutory consultees, Historic England, Natural England and Environment Agency are to be re-consulted on the draft Screening Opinion for the Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan 2021-2037 Regulation 16 Draft Plan Submission February 2021.

Copies of the consultee responses for the previous version of the neighbourhood development plan (Regulation 14 Draft Plan v2 29 November 2019) are included in Appendix C.

Copies of the consultee responses for the current version of the neighbourhood development plan (Regulation 16 Draft Plan Submission February 2021) are included in Appendix D.

Appendix A – List of environmental designations within the Neighbourhood Area

RAMSAR/SSSI

1. Midland Meres and Moses Phase 1 / Betley Mere SSSI
2. Midland Meres and Moses Phase 2 / Black Firs and Cranberry Bog SSSI

Regional Nature Reserve

Cranberry Bog and Black Firs

Sites of Biological Interest

1. Mill Dale
2. Steele's Coppice, Stockings Cote and Betley Gorse
3. Wrench's Wood
4. Shuffers Wood and Grassland
5. Bowsey Wood

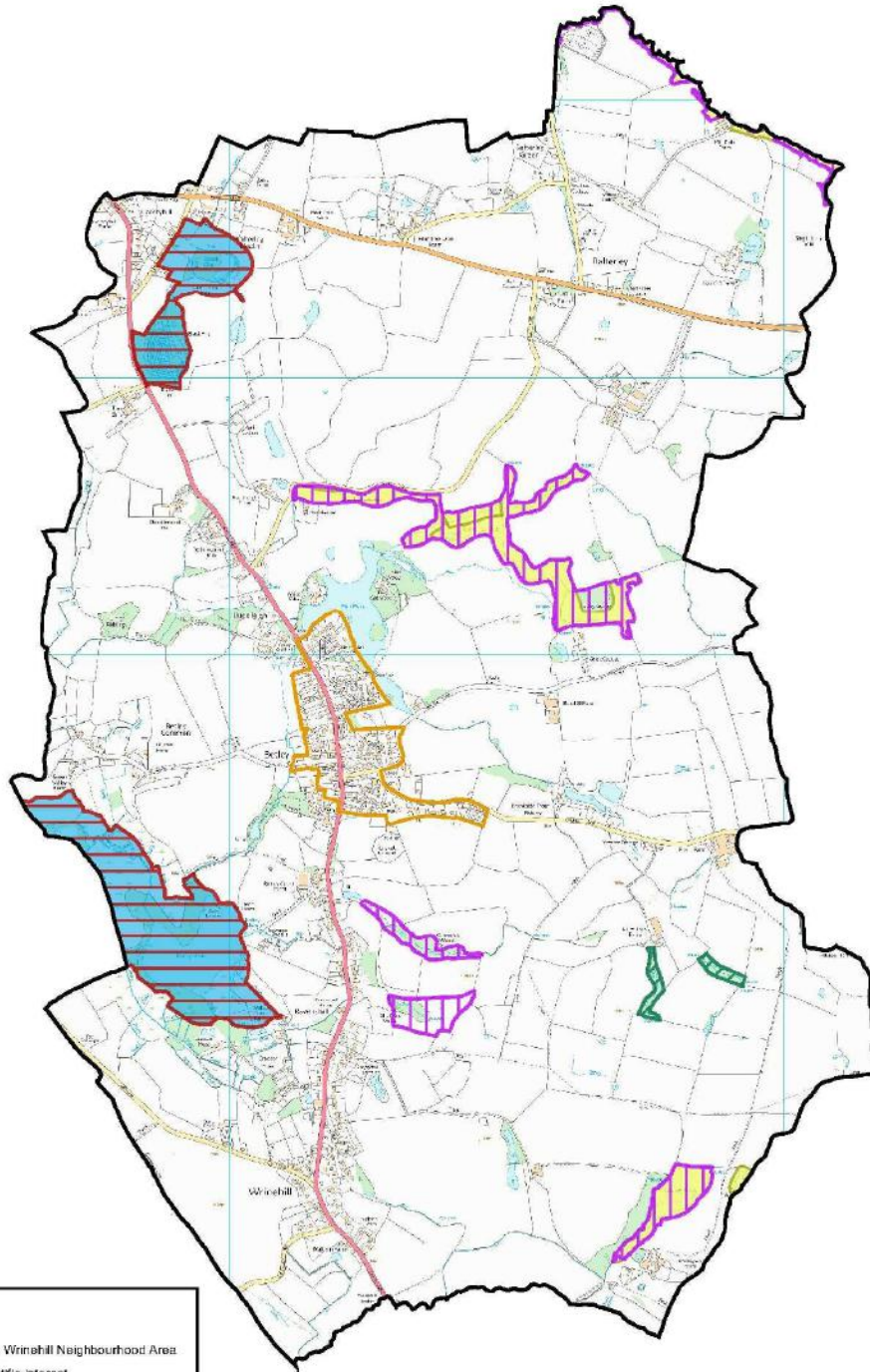
Biodiversity Alert Sites

South of Plum Tree Farm








Ancient Woodland


1. Bowsey Wood 1
2. Mill Dale Wood
3. Birkswood

Figure 1. Environmental Designations within Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Area



Key

-  Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Area
-  Site of Special Scientific Interest
-  RAMSAR
-  Sites of Biological Importance
-  Biodiversity Alert Site
-  Ancient Woodland
-  Village Envelope




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Appendix B – list of listed buildings and locally important buildings and structures within the Neighbourhood Area

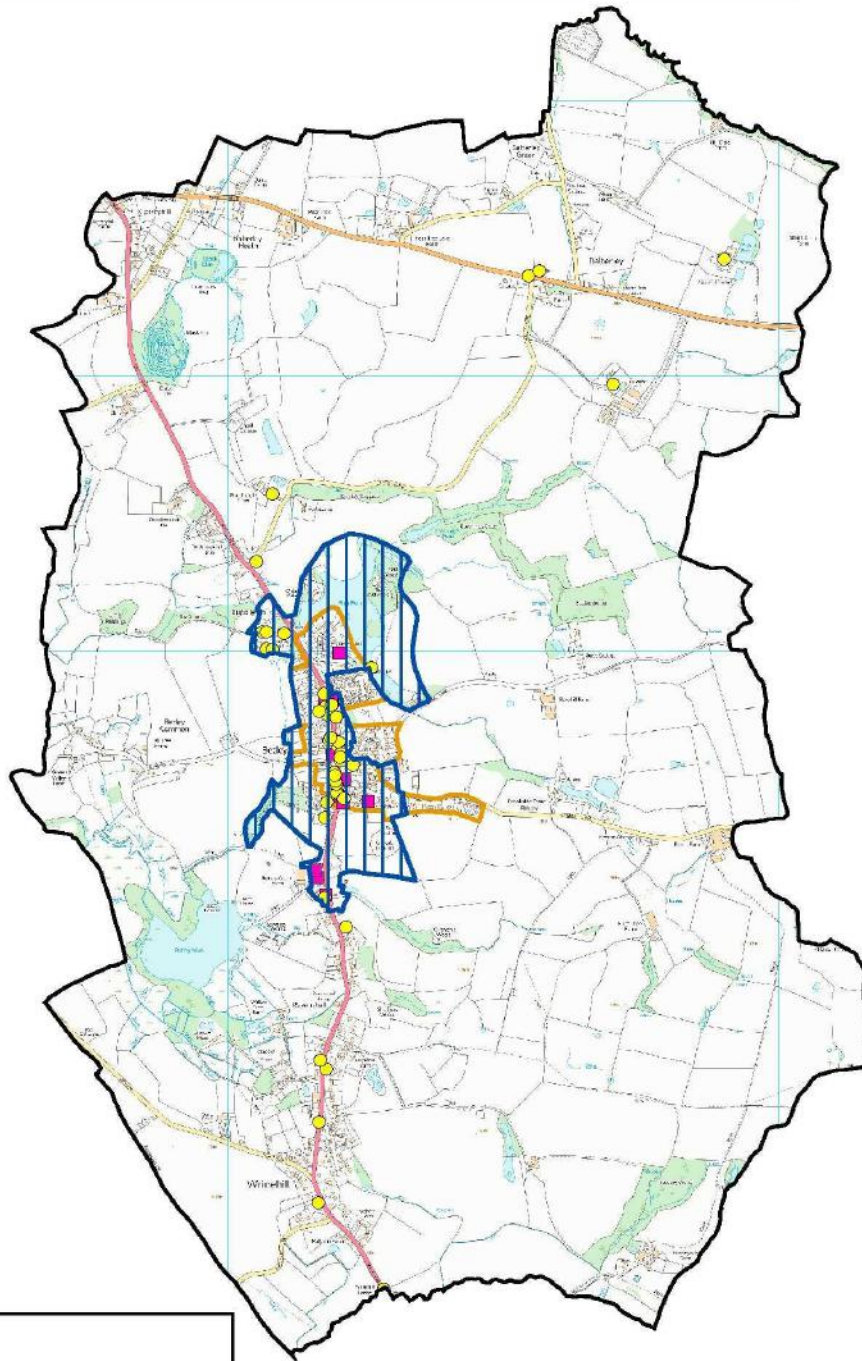
LISTING REF	LBREFNO	SITE ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	GRADE
10/22	273301	Bridge And Weir Over Betley Hall Pond East Lawns Betley	Bridge	II
10/23	273302	Bow House Church Lane Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AP	House Late C/18 early C/19	II
10/24	273303	St Margarets Church Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire	Parish Church	I
10/25	273304	Tower View Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9BH	House Mid C/18	II
10/26	273305	The Steps Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 2BY	Cottage Early C17	II
10/27	273306	Five Steppes Cottage Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AB	House (formerly listed as The Steps (3 cottages) Early C/17	II
10/28	273307	Bank House Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AB	House Early C18	II
10/29	273308	Tudor House Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AB	House (formerly listed as range of three cottage)	II
10/30	273309	Beech Wood Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AB	House (formerly listed as House opposite Black Horse Inn)	II
10/31	273310	Walnut Cottage Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AB	Cottage Late C17	II
10/32	273311	Betley Court Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9BH	Betley Court, dovecote and forecourt wails and gates (formerly listed as Betley Court; dovecote former stable block, fore-	IISTAR
10/33	273313	Mews House Court Walk Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9DP	Clock House and Mews House (formerly listed as Betley Court; dovecotes former stable block, forecourt grille and gates)	II
10/34	273315	Former Village Stores 2 Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AB	House incorporating shop	II

LISTING REF	LBREFNO	SITE ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	GRADE
10/34A	273314	The Square Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AA	Cottage C17 C18	II
10/35	273316	Bow Hill House Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AB	Two Houses and shop Mid C18	II
10/36	273317	Black Horse Inn Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AB	Inn early C19	II
10/36A	273318	Laburnum Cottage Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AB	Cottage C16 and late C18	II
10/36B	273359	Black Horse Cottage Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AB	Telephone Kiosk	II
10/37	273319	Cottage North Of The Beeches Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AB	Cottage adjoining the Beeches to the north	II
10/37A	273320	The Beeches Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AB	Cottage	II
10/38	273321	Tudor Cottage Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AB	Cottage	II
10/39A	273323	Milepost Whitegates Main Road Betley	Milepost	II
10/39B	273322	Rose Cottage Main Road Betley Nr Crewe Cheshire	House	II
1580/10/10002	486945	Lime View Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AA	Estate Cottage	II
1580/10/10003	486946	Abrahams House Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AA	Pair of Estate Cottages	II
1580/10/10005	486947	Fir Tree Cottage Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AA	House	II
1580/10/10006	486948	Old Post Office Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AA	House	II
1580/10/10007	486949	Shade House Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AA	House	II
4/11	273290	Hall OTh Wood Balterley Green Road Balterley Crewe Cheshire CW2 5QQ	House	IISTAR

LISTING REF	LBREFNO	SITE ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	GRADE
4/12	273291	All Saints Church Balterley Green Road Balterley Crewe Cheshire	Parish Church	II
4/12A	273361	Milepost 20 M South-west Of All Saints Church Balterley Green Road Balterley Crewe	Mile post	II
8/13	273362	Balterley Hall Farm Back Lane Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW2 5QG	Farmhouse	II
8/14	273292	Beehive Cottage Back Lane Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AF	House (Formerly listed as House at Buddileigh)	II
8/15	273293	Buddileigh Farm Back Lane Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AF	Pigeon House approx. 15 yards east of Buddileigh Farmhouse.	II
8/16	273294	Wrinehill Bridge A531 Wrinehill Newcastle-under- Lyme Staffs	Road Bridge	II
8/17	273295	Summer House New Road Wrinehill Crewe Cheshire CW3 9BY	House	IISTAR
8/18	273296	The Steps New Road Wrinehill Crewe Cheshire CW3 9BJ	House	II
8/19	273297	Ravenshall Farm House Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9BJ	Farmhouse	II
8/20	273298	Prospect House Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9BH	The Croft .Propect House and attached School Room	II
8/21	273299	Ravenshall House Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9BJ	House	II
8/21A	273300	Milepost 50m South Of The Hand & Trumpet PH Betley Newcastle-under-Lyme Staffs	Milepost	II
8/40	273324	Old Hall Main Road Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AD	Farmhouse	IISTAR
8/41 10/41	273325	The Old Hall Farm Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AD	Model Farm	IISTAR
8/42	273326	The Old Hall Farm Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AD	Pigsties	

LISTING REF	LBREFNO	SITE ADDRESS	DESCRIPTION	GRADE
8/43	273327	The Old Hall Farm Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AD	Dovecote	II
8/44	273328	The Old Hall Farm Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AD	Smithy	II
RLB129		Former Boundary Wall To Betley New Hall (East Side) Rear Of Telephone Exchange Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AB	Former boundary wall to Betley New Hall (East Side)	RLB
RLB15		Betley Court Barns Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9BH	Betley Court Barns	RLB
RLB16		Betley Court Farm Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9BH	Betley Court Farm	RLB
RLB19		Bow End House Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AB	Bow End House	RLB
RLB22		Church House The Butts Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9AS	Church House	RLB
RLB23		Coachmans Cottage Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9BH	Coachmans Cottage	RLB
RLB25		Cottages South Of Linden House Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AA	Cottages south of Linden House	RLB
RLB26		Betley Hall House Betley Hall Gardens Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9BB	Former Boundary Wall	RLB
RLB38		Newlands Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AB	Newlands	RLB
RLB55		Old Police House Ravenshall Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9BH	Old Police House	RLB
RLB57		The Reading Room Main Road Betley Crewe Cheshire CW3 9AB	The Reading Room	RLB
RLB60		Betley Hall House Betley Hall Gardens Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9BB	Walls at Former Entrance	RLB
RLB62		Wesley Court The Butts Betley Crewe Staffordshire CW3 9FZ	Wesley Court, The Butts, Betley.	RLB

Figure 2. Historical Assets within Betley, Balterley and Wrinchill Neighbourhood Area



Key

- Betley, Balterley and Wrinchill Neighbourhood Area
- Conservation Area
- Listed Buildings
- Locally Important Buildings and Structures
- Village Envelope




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Appendix C – Consultation responses from Historic England, Natural England and Environment Agency (Regulation 14 Draft Plan v2 29 November 2019)



Mr Peter Hamilton
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council

Direct Dial: [REDACTED]

Our ref: PL00672502
22 January 2020

Dear Mr Hamilton

BETLEY, BALTERLEY AND WRINEHILL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN- SEA AND HRA SCREENING

Thank you for your consultation and the invitation to comment on the SEA and HRA Screening Documents for the above Neighbourhood Plan.

For the purposes of consultations on SEA Screening Opinions, Historic England confines its advice to the question, "Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?" in respect of our area of concern, cultural heritage.

Our comments are based on the information supplied with the screening request. On the basis of the information supplied and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of the 'SEA' Directive], Historic England concurs with your view that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

Regarding HRA Historic England does not disagree with your conclusions but would defer to the opinions of the other statutory consultees.

The views of the other statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for a SEA is made. If a decision is made to undertake a SEA, please note that Historic England has published guidance on Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Historic Environment that is relevant to both local and neighbourhood planning and available at: <https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

I trust the above comments will be of help in taking forward the Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Boland
Historic Places Advisor



cc:



THE AXIS 10 HOLLIDAY STREET BIRMINGHAM B1 1TF

Telephone 0121 625 6888
HistoricEngland.org.uk



Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.

Date: 21 January 2020
Our ref: 305369
Your ref: BBW SEA and HRA Screening



Jemma March
Neighbourhood Planning Officer
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council



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

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Ms March,

Draft Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan - SEA and HRA Screening Opinion

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 12th December 2019 which was received by Natural England on the same day.

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.

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening

We welcome the production of this SEA Screening report. Natural England notes and concurs with the screening outcome that the emerging Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan is not likely to have any significant environmental effects, and will not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

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 [National Planning Practice Guidance](#).

Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

Natural England welcomes the consideration given to the Habitats Regulations. We agree with the report's conclusions that the Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan would not be likely to result in a significant effect on any European Site, either alone or in combination and therefore no further assessment work would be required.

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 new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Victoria Kirkham
Consultations Team

Mr Peter Hamilton
Newcastle Under Lyme Borough Council
Planning Services Department
Civic Offices
Merrial Street
Newcastle
Staffordshire
ST5 2AG

Our ref: UT/2006/000035/SE-
06/SC1-L01
Your ref:

Date: 31 December 2019

Dear Mr Hamilton

Draft Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan SEA and HRA Screening Opinion Statements

Thank you referring the above SEA/HRA Screening Opinion which was received on 12 December 2019.

As requested we have reviewed the Screening Assessment prepared in support of the Betley, Barterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). Having reviewed the proposals we do not consider there to be significant environmental impacts as a result of this plan, therefore, we concur with the conclusions of the report and do not require an SEA or HRA to be undertaken in support of the plan. We advise however the consultation is undertaken with Natural England amongst other statutory bodies prior to making the final decision.

We note the presence of floodplain from the Checkley Brook, Basford Brook and its tributaries, and historical landfill sites within the Neighbourhood Plan boundary which should be considered when drafting policies for the NDP.

If you have any queries contact me on the details below.

Yours sincerely

Ms Anne-Marie McLaughlin
Senior Planning Advisor

Direct dial [REDACTED]

Direct e-mail [REDACTED]

Environment Agency
9, Sentinel House Wellington Crescent, Fradley Park, Lichfield, WS13 8RR.
Customer services line: 03708 508 508
www.gov.uk/environment-agency
End

Appendix D - Consultation responses from Historic England, Natural England and Environment Agency (Regulation 16 Draft Plan Submission February 2021)



Mr Peter Hamilton
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council

Our ref: PL00672502
15 March 2021

Dear Mr Hamilton

BETLEY, BALTERLEY AND WRINEHILL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN- SEA & HRA RE-SCREENING

Thank you for your consultation and the invitation to comment on the updated SEA and HRA Screening Documents for the above Neighbourhood Plan.

For the purposes of consultations on SEA Screening Opinions, Historic England confines its advice to the question, "Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?" in respect of our area of concern, cultural heritage.

Our comments are based on the information supplied with the screening request. On the basis of the information supplied and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of the 'SEA' Directive], Historic England concurs with your view that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

Regarding HRA Historic England does not disagree with your conclusions but would defer to the opinions of the other statutory consultees.

The views of the other statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for a SEA is made. If a decision is made to undertake a SEA, please note that Historic England has published guidance on Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Historic Environment that is relevant to both local and neighbourhood planning and available at: <https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

I trust the above comments will be of help in taking forward the Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely,

P. Boland.

Peter Boland



THE AXIS 10 HOLLIDAY STREET BIRMINGHAM B1 1TF
Telephone 0121 625 6888
HistoricEngland.org.uk



Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.

Date: 15 March 2021
Our ref: 346355
Your ref: BBW NDP SEA & HRA Re-Screening



Mark Kirk
Senior Planning Policy Officer
Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council



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

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Mr Kirk,

SEA and HRA Re-Screening for Betley, Balterley and Winehill Neighbourhood Development Plan

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 9th March 2021 which was received by Natural England on the same day.

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.

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening

Natural England considers that, based on the material supplied with the consultation, in so far as our strategic environmental interests are concerned, significant environmental effects resulting from the neighbourhood plan are unlikely. We therefore agree with the conclusion of the SEA screening report that a Strategic Environmental Assessment would not be required.

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 [National Planning Practice Guidance](#).

Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

Natural England welcomes the consideration given to the Habitats Regulations. We agree with the conclusion of the report that the Betley, Balterley and Winehill Neighbourhood Development Plan would not be likely to result in a significant effect on any European Site, either alone or in combination and therefore no further assessment work would be required.

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 new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Victoria Kirkham
Consultations Team

Mark Kirk
Newcastle Under Lyme Borough Council
Planning Services Department
Civic Offices
Merrial Street
Newcastle
Staffordshire
ST5 2AG

Our ref: UT/2006/000035/SE-
06/SC2-L01
Your ref:
Date: 11 March 2021

Dear Mr Kirk

**Betley, Balterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan SEA / HRA
Screening (re-consultation)**

Thank you referring the above SEA/HRA Screening Opinion which was received on 09 March 2021.

As requested we have reviewed the Screening Assessment prepared in support of the Betley, Barterley and Wrinehill Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). Having reviewed the proposals we do not consider there to be significant environmental impacts as a result of this plan, therefore, we concur with the conclusions of the report and do not required an SEA or HRA to be undertaken in support of the plan. We advise however the consultation is undertaken with Natural England amongst other statutory bodies prior to making the final decision.

We note the presence of floodplain from the Checkley Brook, Basford Brook and its tributaries, and historical landfill sites within the Neighbourhood Plan boundary which should be considered when drafting policies for the NDP.

If you have any queries contact me on the details below.

Yours sincerely

Ms Anne-Marie McLaughlin
Senior Planning Advisor

Direct dial [REDACTED]

Direct e-mail [REDACTED]

Environment Agency
9, Sentinel House Wellington Crescent, Fradley Park, Lichfield, WS13 8RR.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency
End