

UPDATED FOR RE-SUBMISSION VERSION
AUGUST 2015

Philip Somerfield B.A. Dip T.P., D.M.S. M.R.T.P.I
Head of Regulatory Services

Direct Line: (01283) 508611
Direct Fax: (01283) 508388
Reply to: Corinne O'Hare
Our Ref:
23 July 2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

Tatenhill Neighbourhood Development Plan – Strategic Environmental Assessment

East Staffordshire Borough Council has assisted the Neighbourhood Planning qualifying body in screening its plan to assess if the policies have any significant environmental effects. We have concluded that the Neighbourhood Plan will not require a full SEA to be carried out, as there are no significant environment effects. The statutory consultees have been consulted and all agree that a full SEA will not be required for the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan. The responses from; Natural England, Environment Agency and English Heritage are included as appendices.

Yours faithfully

Corinne O'Hare
Neighbourhood Planning Policy Officer
corinne.o'hare@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – Natural England

Date: 21 July 2014

Our ref: 123133

Corinne O'Hare
Neighbourhood Planning Policy Officer
corinne.o'hare@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk

BY EMAIL ONLY



Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ
T 0300 060 3900

Dear Corinne,

Planning consultation: Tatenhill Neighbourhood Plan Submission Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 09 June 2014

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.

Habitats Regulations Assessment

We note that the outer edge of the Neighbourhood Plan area falls within the 15km Cannock Chase Special Area of Conservation (SAC) Zone of Influence (ZOI). However, as no development is proposed within the ZOI in the Plan, we do not consider that the plan would result in likely significant effects on Cannock Chase SAC.

Natural England advise that housing development that comes forward within the 15km Cannock Chase ZOI should be subject to screening under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) (known as the 'Habitats Regulations').

For more information concerning visitor impacts on Cannock Chase SAC and mitigation please see the following:

- Cannock Chase SAC Visitor Impacts Mitigation Report, Footprint Ecology 2013, available online at:
http://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/downloads/file/4856/cannock_chase_sac_visitor_impacts_mitigation_report_february_2013
- Cannock Chase SAC Visitor Survey (and separate Maps Annex), Footprint Ecology 2013, available online at:
http://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/downloads/file/4854/cannock_chase_sac_visitor_survey_february_2013

http://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/downloads/file/4855/cannock_chase_sac_visitor_survey_map_annex_february_2013

- Cannock Chase SAC Impacts of Recreation Report, Footprint Ecology 2012, available online at:
http://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/downloads/file/4857/impacts_of_recreation_to_cannock_chase_sac_december_2012

In addition please refer to our updated advice letters dated 23 September 2013 and 11 December 2013 (our ref Case 5912).

Appendix 2 – Environment Agency

Hi Corrine,

Thanks for your email as below. I have attached our response to the consultation received 9 June 2014, and following review of your further email of the same date I have the following comments to make:

In regards to 1) 'I'd welcome your comments on this approach' – This is agreeable.

And 2) in regards to the SEA screening, having reviewed the information we can advise on whether a NP is likely to result in significant environmental impacts (within our remit) and in this case we do not consider this NP is likely to result in significant environmental impacts.

Let me know if you need anything more.

Kind regards
Sarah

FAO Corinne O'Hare

Dear Madam,

RE: TATENHILL NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN PROPOSAL

I refer to your email dated 9 June 2014 regarding the above Neighbourhood Development Plan.

Having reviewed the document we have the following comments to make:

We welcome the changes to this document submitted to your authority by Tatenhill Parish Council and community group which proposes a number of policies on housing, recreation, landscape and countryside.

In particular we welcome objective 3: Biodiversity and Ecology, which seeks to *'preserve and enhance the parish's biodiversity, through supporting the retention, creation and improvement of the blue and green infrastructure networks, including woodland, hedgerows and streams'*.

We welcome, in regards to Strategic Policy (SP) 1, that *'proposals will only be permitted where they are acceptable in terms of, where appropriate'*, (2.) the *'Preservation of trees, hedgerows, biodiversity and key landscape features'*, (3.) the *'Preservation or enhancement of the character of the Conservation Areas'*, and (5.) *'Flood Risk'*.

We also welcome Landscape and Countryside (LC) Policy 2. Which states that *'Protected green spaces, as marked on the NDP Proposals Map, will be protected from all development types in order to preserve the character and appearance of the*

Conservation Area, the village townscape and to offer long term recreational opportunities' and that the 'NDP supports the protection and enhancement of Sites of Biological Interest throughout the parish'.

Yours faithfully

Miss Sarah Victor
Planning Advisor (Sustainable Places Team)

Direct dial 01543 404880

Direct fax 01543 444161

Direct e-mail sarah.victor@environment-agency.gov.uk

Appendix 3 – English Heritage



ENGLISH HERITAGE

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

Ms Corrine O’Hare
Neighbourhood Planning Policy Officer
Planning Policy
East Staffordshire Borough Council
Burton upon Trent
Staffordshire

Our ref: 1072
Your ref:
Telephone 0121 625 6887
Fax

07 July 2014

Dear Ms O’Hare

TATENHILL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT SCREENING OPINION

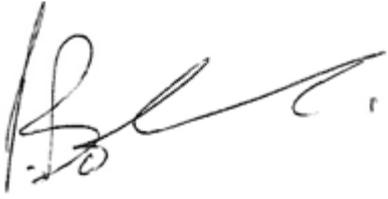
Thank you for your consultation of 14th June and the request for a Screening Opinion.

For the purposes of consultations on SEA Screening Opinions, English Heritage 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, including that set out in the draft plan, and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule I of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of ‘SEA’ Directive], English Heritage concurs with the Council that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

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 English Heritage 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: <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/strategic-environ-assessment-sustainability-appraisal-historic-environment/> .

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pete Boland', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pete Boland
Historic Places Adviser
E-mail: peter.boland@english-heritage.org.uk

ADDENDUM ON RE-SUBMISSION VERSION **AUGUST 2015**

The open spaces listed as being protected as Local Green Spaces in the Original Version have been re-evaluated for Policy LC2 in the Re-submission Version. Those that do not meet the strict criteria in NPPF are protected more broadly in new Policies SP2 and LC2, and in the case of sports and recreation pitches and fields, Policy RT3. This does not affect any of the sites in terms of proposing new development, and therefore it is not considered that an SEA will be required.

Since highway safety and limiting through traffic volumes are high priorities for the community, the Re-submission Plan features a strengthened Policy IN2 on working with the highways authority to introduce appropriate traffic calming. This would obviously have benefits for the environment, but not effects that are so great as to warrant an SEA.

6/8/15