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Head of Service**

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**Reply to:** Rebecca Raine  
**Our Ref:** Abbots Bromley  
Neighbourhood Plan

*(please quote this reference on all correspondence with us)*

16<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Abbots Bromley Parish Council,

**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) / Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) for Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan**

Each Neighbourhood Development Plan (NP) must meet the Basic Conditions in accordance with para. 8 of Schedule 4B to the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Act, which was inserted by the Localism Act 2011. The local planning authority needs to be satisfied that the Basic Conditions are met. Amongst these Basic Conditions are the following:

- a) The NP contributes to sustainable development;
- b) The NP does not breach or is otherwise compatible with EU obligations – this includes the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive of 2001/42/EC; and
- c) The making of the NP is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 or a European offshore marine site (as defined in the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) regulations 2007 (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects) (inserted by Regulation 32 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012).

This letter is to inform you that we have recently undertaken formal consultation with our statutory consultees; Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency on the SEA screening for the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan.

The consultation was undertaken for a period of 6 weeks between 17<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and 28<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Please note that Natural England responded outside of the prescribed deadline (31<sup>st</sup> January 2021), but the response was still accepted.

East Staffordshire Borough Council believes that the Neighbourhood Plan would not have significant environmental effects and, as a result, a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Plan will not be required.

In addition, East Staffordshire Borough Council concluded that a Habitat Regulation Assessment would not need to be carried out either.

All three statutory consultees agreed with the council's conclusions. As such, we can formally confirm that neither an SEA nor HRA are required for the Abbots Bromley Neighbourhood Plan.

If you have any questions in relation to this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely  
Rebecca Raine  
Principal Planning Office

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