

Buxton with Lamas Neighbourhood Plan

This determination statement has been produced by Broadland District Council, as the “responsible authority”, to meet the requirements of Regulations 9 and 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The regulations implement European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.

SEA Screening Assessment of Buxton with Lamas Neighbourhood Plan

Buxton with Lamas Parish Council is in the process of preparing a neighbourhood plan for the parish. A SEA Screening Assessment was undertaken for the draft version of the Neighbourhood Plan on 6 March 2023. This was a preliminary draft SEA Screening Assessment, subject to consultation with the statutory environmental bodies.

Consultation with Statutory Bodies

The draft SEA Screening Report detailing the results of the initial screening assessment of the plan and the preliminary conclusion shared by Broadland District Council and the Qualifying Body, that the plan is not likely to result in significant environmental effects, was circulated to the statutory bodies, namely the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England. The statutory bodies were invited to provide comments on the Screening Report within a 5 week consultation period.

Responses were received from Historic England and Natural England. The Environment Agency did not provide a response. Details of both Historic England’s and Natural England’s responses can be found in the updated SEA Screening Report (May 2023).

In summary:

- Historic England concurred with the Council that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.
- Natural England supported the conclusion of the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report that it is unlikely there will be any significant environmental effects arising as a result of the draft Buxton with Lamas Neighbourhood Plan.

Conclusion

Based on the assessment undertaken in the SEA Screening Report and the responses received from the consultation bodies, the Council considers that it is unlikely that significant environmental effects will arise from implementation of the Buxton with Lamas Neighbourhood Plan, and therefore that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

Broadland District Council, November 2023