

Havant Borough Council

Post EIP Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening and Sustainability Appraisal of Additional Core Strategy Policies

October 2010

Introduction

Following the proposed addition of two new policies to the Pre-Submission Core Strategy at the EiP in September the appropriate screening and sustainability appraisal processes have been adhered to. These are outlined below.

HRA Screening

Table 3.1a below is an updated version of the Screening Summary Table of Strategic Policies included within the Draft Core Strategy HRA Screening Statement (June 2009). The revised table includes the proposed AONB and Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople policies, as well as Policy CS7 Community Support which was introduced at the pre-submission stage and included in the Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment (March 2010) but not shown within a screening summary table.

The table shows that the three policies will have no effect on the nature conservation sites and therefore do not require closer examination through an HRA Appropriate Assessment.

Table 3.1a: Screening Summary Table of Strategic Core Strategy Policies (Revised)

| Site Name | Solent Maritime (SAC) | Solent Isle of Wight lagoons (SAC) | Chichester & L'stone Harbours (SPA) | Chichester & L'stone Harbours (Ramsar) | Ports - mouth Harbour (SPA) | Ports - mouth Harbour (Ramsar) | Solent & South - ampton Water (SPA) | Solent & South - ampton Water (Ramsar) | Kingsley Vale (SAC) | South Wight Maritime (SAC) | Butser Hill (SAC) | Pagham Harbour (SPA) | Pagham Harbour (Ramsar) | New Forest (SPA) | New Forest (Ramsar) |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Policy | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CS7 Community Support | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| CS AONB | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 | 6,7 |
| CS Gypsy, Traveller & Showpeople | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |

Each site has been graded individually for its likely impact on the European Sites. See Appendix 1 for Categories of Policies (Extract from HRA Screening Statement HBC Draft Core Strategy May 200)

| | |
|--|--------------------------|
| | <i>Potential Impact</i> |
| | <i>Less or No Impact</i> |

Sustainability Appraisal

As part of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) process the two proposed policies have been assessed against the 18 SA objectives and their overall effect on achieving the sustainability appraisal objectives considered.

Assessment against the SA Objectives

Table 5.2 of the Pre-Submission Core Strategy Strategic Policies (March 2010) has been updated to determine the likely significant effects of the two proposed policies on the SA objectives.

1) AONB Policy

The table shows that the AONB policy will contribute significantly to the achievement of the following objectives:

Health and Wellbeing, Liveability and Sense of Place, Climate Change, Biodiversity and Natural Landscape.

2) Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople

The table shows that the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople policy will contribute significantly to the achievement of the following objectives:

Housing, Equality, Poverty and Social Inclusion and Safety and Security.

Table 5.2 Assessment of Strategic Policies against the SA Objectives (Revised)

| CS Gypsy, Traveller & Travelling | CS AONB | Proposed Core Strategy Policies / Objectives |
|----------------------------------|---------|--|
| ++ | ○ | 1. Housing |
| ○ | ++ | 2. Health and Wellbeing |
| ++ | ○ | 3. Equality, Poverty and Social Inclusion |
| ○ | ○ | 4. Education and Skills |
| ++ | ○ | 5. Safety and Security |
| ○ | ++ | 6. Liveability and Sense of Place |
| ○ | ○ | 7. Accessibility / Transport |
| ○ | ○ | 8. Flooding |
| ○ | ○ | 9. Regeneration and Land Use |
| ○ | ○ | 10. Air Quality |
| ○ | ++ | 11. Climate Change |
| ○ | ++ | 12. Biodiversity |
| ○ | ++ | 13. Natural Landscape |
| ○ | ○ | 14. Built and Historic Environment |
| ○ | ○ | 15. Waste and Natural Resources |
| ○ | ○ | 16. Water Quality and Quantity |
| ○ | ○ | 17. Energy |
| ○ | ○ | 18. Economy, Opportunity and Innovation |

Achieving the Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

Table 5.3: of the Pre-Submission Core Strategy Strategic Policies (March 2010) has been updated to show the overall effect of the two policies on achieving the Sustainability Appraisal Objectives.

1) AONB Policy

CS AONB strongly supports the objectives of the SA.

2) Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople

CS Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople supports the objectives of the SA.

Table 5.3: Overall effect of each Strategic Policy on achieving the Sustainability Appraisal Objectives (Revised)

| Strategic Policy | Overall Effect | Supporting Comments / Proposed Mitigation |
|---|---|--|
| CS AONB | <p>Policy CS AONB plays a supporting role to the achievement of the objectives of the Sustainability Appraisal. Safeguarding the AONB will ensure that biodiversity is allowed to thrive over the life of the plan and help ensure that the natural landscape is maintained, enhanced and protected.</p> <p>The AONB will assist in protecting the unique nature of the borough and support SA objectives relating to health and well-being, liveability and sense of place, climate change, biodiversity and the natural landscape.</p> | CS AONB strongly supports the objectives of the SA. |
| CS Gypsy, Traveller & Travelling Showpeople | <p>Policy CS Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople seeks to allocate sufficient sites to meet the identified needs of gypsy, traveller and travelling showpeople. The scale of development associated with this policy is unlikely to be such that it will have an impact on biodiversity assets. All development will be assessed against the criteria included in the policy, which seeks to ensure that nature conservation interests will not be damaged.</p> <p>Policy CS Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople plays a supporting role to the achievement of the objectives of the Sustainability Appraisal. Objectives supported by the policy include housing; equality, poverty and social inclusion; and safety and security.</p> | CS Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople supports the objectives of the SA. |

Appendix 1

Box 1: Categories of policies (Source David Tyldesley and Associates (draft, 2006))

Reasons why proposal will have no effect on a European Site:

1. The policy will not itself lead to development (e.g. it relates to design or other qualitative criteria for development, or it is not a land use planning policy).
2. The policy makes provision for a quantum / type of development (and may or may not indicate one or more broad locations e.g. a district, town or suburb) but the location of the development is to be selected following consideration of options in lower tier plans.
3. No development could occur through this policy alone, because it is implemented through sub-ordinate policies which are more detailed and therefore more appropriate to assess for their effects on European sites and associated sensitive areas.
4. Concentration of development in urban areas will not affect European site and will help to steer development and land use change away from European sites and associated sensitive areas.
5. The policy will help to steer development away from European sites and associated sensitive areas, e.g. not developing in areas of flood risk or areas otherwise likely to be affected by climate change.
6. The policy is intended to protect the natural environment, including biodiversity.
7. The policy is intended to conserve or enhance the natural, built or historic environment, and enhancement measures will not be likely to have any effect on a European site.

Reason why proposal could have a likely significant effect:

8. The plan steers a quantum or type of development towards, or encourages development in, an area that includes a European site or an area where development may indirectly affect a European site.

Reason why proposal would be likely to have a significant effect:

9. The policy makes provision for a quantum, or kind of development that in the location(s) proposed would be likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of a European site. The proposal must be subject to appropriate assessment to establish, in light of the site's conservation objectives, whether it can be ascertained that the proposal would not adversely affect the integrity of the site.