

Stephanie Elsy
Chair
Emsworth Neighbourhood Forum

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My reference:
Your reference:
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Dear Stephanie

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Opinion Screening Determination for the Emsworth Neighbourhood Plan

One of the basic conditions that a Neighbourhood Plan must meet before it can proceed to referendum, is that it does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU obligations. Therefore, Neighbourhood Plans must comply with European Directive 2001/42/EC as incorporated into UK law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. This letter sets out the council's screening opinion concerning the need for SEA and HRA in relation to the Emsworth Neighbourhood Plan.

On the basis of the contents of the neighbourhood plan and consultation with the relevant statutory bodies the screening determination is that **an environmental assessment of the Emsworth Neighbourhood Plan is not required** as the Plan is unlikely to give rise to significant environmental effects. As such it is the opinion of Havant Borough Council that the Emsworth Neighbourhood Plan is in accordance with the provisions of the European Directive 2001/42/EC as incorporated into UK law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, and meets basic condition f. The full screening opinion is attached to this letter.

This decision has been based on the information provided. If the contents of the Plan are revised and/or there is a material change in the environmental characteristics in the locality (e.g. any additional nature conservation or other environmental designations), then the comments contained in this decision would need to be reconsidered in order to take account of the changes.

Yours sincerely

Jacqueline Boulter

Jacqueline Boulter
Principal Planning Officer