

Shireoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

SEA Screening Statement

Introduction

The requirement for a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be undertaken on development plans and programmes that may have a significant environmental effect is outlined in European Union Directive 2001/42/EC. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations) state that this is determined by a screening process, utilising a specified set of criteria which is outlined in Schedule 1 of the Regulations. The results of this process must be set out in an SEA Screening Statement, which must be publicly available.

As the responsible authority under Regulation 9 of the SEA Regulations 2004, Shireoaks Parish Council have produced this Screening Assessment and consequentially do not believe that the Draft Shireoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan (NP) in its current form will have any significant negative effects on the environment. We are therefore of the belief that a full environmental assessment is not necessary. This determination has been reached by assessing the contents of the Draft NP against criteria provided in Schedule 1 of the 2004 Regulations.

Shireoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Shireoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan has been produced by Shireoaks Parish Council with the aid of local residents; it plans for the future development and growth of the area up to the year 2028. The NP covers the designated Shireoaks neighbourhood area as seen on Figure 1 below.



The main priorities of the Shireoaks NP are expressed throughout the Plan, most clearly in its Vision and Objectives, these will be delivered in turn by the 12 Development Policies and 10 Projects contained in the NP. The Vision and Objectives of the NP can be found below.

Vision

To preserve the distinctive character of Shireoaks by ensuring that:

- 1. The village remains a settlement separate from Worksop by securing open spaces and protecting the setting of the village**
- 2. The heritage of Shireoaks and the relationship with its industrial birth is maintained through the regeneration of the colliery site and the preservation of Shireoaks Hall and Gardens**
- 3. Development will take care to consider the views of the community**
- 4. The variety of green assets are protected and extended for their leisure and recreational function as well as for their role in reducing flood risk**

Community Objective 1: To ensure Shireoaks remains, as far as possible, physically separate from the urban area of Worksop and the village of Rhodesia.

Community Objective 2: To maximise the village's environmental assets by protecting and enhancing the natural environment especially it's protected wildlife habitats and diverse ecology. To support development that shows it has taken into account the issue of climate change.

Community Objective 3: To ensure that opportunities are maximised to improve the provision of community facilities within the Plan area.

Community Objective 4: To develop the Woodland and Coachwood Green area as a Country Park and tourist attraction whilst protecting and enhancing its status as a local nature reserve.

Community Objective 5: To develop the routes and connections through the Plan area, ensuring priority is given to non-vehicular movement. Working with Bassetlaw District Council and Nottinghamshire County Council to reduce the impact of traffic through the village and ensuring new development does not exacerbate existing problems.

Community Objective 6: To address the existing flooding issues across the Plan area, to ensure that a flood management scheme is in place and that future development contributes to a solution where possible.

Community Objective 7: To ensure that all new development relates positively in form and function to the existing settlement, in particular with respect to materials, style, and connections with the existing settlement and that local distinctiveness and character are reflected in design proposals.

Screening Assessment

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects (Annex II SEA Directive)	Will the NDP have significant environmental effects	Summary of any effects
1a The degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources.	NO	<p>The NP will set out a spatial vision for the designated Shireoaks NP area and provides a framework for proposals for development in Shireoaks regarding maximising the environmental and community assets in and around Shireoaks, improving access to the countryside and open spaces for residents and visitors</p> <p>The NP is considered to be in general conformity with Bassetlaw District Councils Core Strategy 2011. It is also considered to be in general conformity with the National planning policy framework (NPPF). Consideration has also been given to the emerging Preferred Options Site Allocations document, although this is subject to further changes before it reaches examination and adoption.</p> <p>Several projects are included in the NP (see <i>Appendix K</i>) that do not directly influence development and land use. These do have regard to the Plan area but it is deemed they will not have any significant effects on the environment.</p>
1b The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy.	NO	<p>The NP, where possible, will respond to rather than influence other plans and programmes. An NP can only provide policies within the designated NP area it covers and will also provide policies to help development control determine planning applications along with the Bassetlaw Local Plan. None of the policies contained in the NP have a direct impact on other plans in the neighbouring areas.</p> <p>The NP will have some influence on the development proposed in Bassetlaw District Councils Core Strategy, and more specifically the Preferred Options Site Allocations document (see <i>Policies 1-6, 9 & 10</i>). However as these plans are already significantly developed these likely effects of the NP can be considered as being minimal.</p>
1c The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental	NO	The NP sets out and promotes sustainable development within the neighbourhood plan area whilst balancing environmental, social and

<p>considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.</p>		<p>economic needs within the area. However, local residents have stressed the importance of keeping the rural feel of the village and not merging and becoming part of the town of Worksop (see <i>Policy 11</i>).</p> <p>The NP will have a positive impact on the local environment and community assets valued by local people. This is primarily done through Policies: 2 - Conservation and enhancement of natural features, 3 - Green Space, Landscaping and development and 7 - Enhancement of Community Facilities. Policy 12 has a positive impact on the local environment by designating the area as a local green space.</p> <p>In addition new development is considered to provide to provide important social needs supporting the vitality of the village. the immediate physical impacts of the development on the environment are sought, as far as possible, to be offset by the policy on energy efficiency and flooding (see <i>Policy 4 and 5</i>)</p>
<p>1d Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme.</p>	<p>NO</p>	<p>The majority of effects the NP will have on the environment will be positive. This is due to the numerous Policies in the Plan which aim to protect and enhance environmental assets and the environment in general through good management and the promotion of sustainable development (see <i>Policies 1-6, 11 & 12</i>). The majority of the Projects included in the Plan also have a focus on protecting and enhancing important environmental assets in the Plan area (see <i>Appendix K</i>).</p> <p>The only noticeable environmental impact brought about by the NP is regarding the increase of road traffic associated the development of the Country Park (see <i>Policy 12</i>) as a visitor centre. The increased traffic flow is not however expected to have a significant impact on the environment. Nevertheless it is envisaged that existing footpaths linking the site to the wider area will be required to increase the footfall to the site thereby reducing the need to travel by car.</p> <p>The additional housing and employment land allocated in the Plan area is likely to have significant impacts on the local environment. However these developments are being handled</p>

		by Bassetlaw District Council through the Local Plan therefore these impacts will be addressed through that process.
1e The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	NO	The NP will be in compliance with the Local Plan which has taken into account the existing European and National legislative framework for environmental protection and it will therefore have a positive effect on compliance with regards to relevant legislation and programmes.
2a The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects.	NO	<p>It is very unlikely that there will be any irreversible damaging environmental impacts associated with the NP. The policies within the NP seek to ensure new development is sustainably built and promotes the enhancement and protection of environmental assets (see <i>Policies 1-6, 11 & 12</i>).</p> <p>The timescales of the NP is intended to be the same as that of the Local Plan; therefore the duration of any effects will be up to the year 2028.</p> <p>Should any unforeseen significant effects on the environment arise as a result of the NP, the intention to monitor and amend/update the Plan every 5 years will allow these effects to be addressed and reversed (see <i>Implementation & Review</i>)</p>
2b The cumulative nature of the effects.	NO	It is considered that the Policies contained in the NP cumulatively will have minimal negative effects on the environment and will in fact have moderate to significant positive effects. It is considered that all effects will be at a local level.
2c The transboundary nature of the effects.	NO	Effects will be local with no expected impacts on neighbouring areas.
2d The risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents).	NO	No obvious risks have been identified as the NPs overall aim is to focus on the enhancement and protection of the environmental assets to provide for local residents in the NP area and enhance social wellbeing.
2e The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected).	NO	<p>The NP area relates to an area of 498 hectares. The resident population of the NP area is 1420 (Census 2011).</p> <p>The whole NP area will be affected by the policies because they are focused upon a small village area and as such they will have a positive impact upon local residents through the protection and enhancement of local assets and through the</p>

		delivery of identified Projects (see <i>Appendix K</i>).
<p>2f The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:</p> <p>(i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;</p> <p>(ii) exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or</p> <p>(iii) intensive land-use.</p>	NO	<p>The NP is unlikely to have an adverse effect on the value and vulnerability of the area in relation to its natural and cultural heritage. If anything it will provide greater support to enhance the setting and identify of the area by supporting the enhancement of its heritage assets, environmental and community assets and protecting the village status of Shireoaks ensuring it does not become a suburb of Worksop.</p> <p>The NP provides additional guidance on design principles (see <i>Policy 4</i>) to ensure that any new developments complement and respect the Shireoaks Conservation Area and the villages listed buildings and non-designated heritage assets. It is important to local people that new development remains in keeping with the area and therefore adds value to the area.</p> <p>The NP area also contains a Local Wildlife Site whose protection and enhancement is actively promoted through the NP (see <i>Policies 11 & 12</i>).</p> <p>The NP does not provide specific policies in relation to intensive land uses.</p>
<p>2g The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.</p>	NO	<p>It is considered that the NP will not adversely affect areas of landscape which have recognised community, national or international protection as the NP aims to enhance and protect important local assets.</p>

As a result of the assessment above, it is of Shireoaks Parish Councils opinion that there are no clear significant negative impacts on the environment as a result of Policies contained in the Shireoaks Neighbourhood Development Plan. Therefore it is considered that a full SEA is not required for the Plan.