



**Strategic Environmental Assessment of the
Development Requirements SPD -
New Part V: Climate Change
Mitigation and Adaptation**

SEA Screening Document

Stratford-on-Avon District Council

May 2020

Update to the January 2018 SEA Screening Report for the Development Requirements SPD

1.0 Introduction

Further to the SEA Screening Document (January 2018) on the draft Development Requirements SPD, the District Council has undertaken an SEA screening on a new part to consider whether it would trigger the requirement for an SEA in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC (SEA Directive) and associated Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The new part comprises Part V – Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation.

2.0 The Screening process

The SEA Directive requires plans and programmes to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the adopted development plan for the local area.

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) 'Strategic environmental assessment and sustainability appraisal' Paragraph 11-008 states that:

'Supplementary planning documents do not require a sustainability appraisal but may in exceptional circumstances require a strategic environmental assessment if they are likely to have significant environmental effects that have not already been assessed during the preparation of the relevant strategic policies.'

Table 1 below establishes whether there is a need for SEA for the new section. The questions are taken from the Figure 2 the Application of the SEA Directive to plans and programmes set out in ODPM, 'The Practical Guide to Strategic Environmental Assessment' (2205).¹

¹ ODPM, (2005) 'the Practical Guide to Strategic Environmental Assessment

Table 1: Establishing whether there is a requirement for SEA

Stage	Yes/No	Reason
1. Is the PP (plan or programme) subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament of Government? (Art. 2(a))	Y	Part V of the SPD has been prepared by and will be adopted by Stratford-on-Avon District Council to give detail on the Core Strategy
2. Is the PP required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions (Art. 2(a))	Y	When Part V of the SPD is adopted it will become a material consideration in the determination of planning applications
3. Is the PP prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, AND does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive (Art. 3.2 (a))	Y	Due to the nature of the Development Requirements SPD, development projects contained in Annex I are unlikely to be affected by the content of the SPD. It sets guidance to aid the preparation of projects under Annex II. Whilst the SPD is a material consideration to the granting of planning consent rather than directly setting the framework for the development consent, it sets out a series of 'requirements' for development to adhere to.
4. Will the PP, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment for future development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Art. 3.2 (b))	N	The SPD is not anticipated to have a likely significant effect on any European sites
5. Does the PP determine the use of small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to Art. 3.2? (Art. 3.3)	Y	The SPD identifies a range of development guidance for Stratford-on-Avon District.
6. Does the PP set the framework of future development consents of projects (not just projects in the Annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art.3.5)*	N	The SPD does not formulate policies, but provides guidance on the Stratford-on-Avon District Core Strategy
7. Is the PP's sole purpose to serve the national defence or civil emergency, OR is it a financial or budget PP, OR is it co-financed by structural funds of EAGGF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Art.308, 3.5)	N	The SPD serves other purposes
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)	N	No – see assessment below
*The Directive requires Member States to determine whether plans or programmes in this category are likely to have significant environmental effects. These determinations may be made on a case by case basis and/or by specifying types of plan or programme.		

3.0 Relevance to the SEA Directive

Question 8 within the ODPM guidance (see Table 1) refers to whether the SPD would have a significant effect on the environment. The criteria from Annex II of the SEA Directive and Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004) can be used to consider the relevance of the plan to the SEA Directive. Section 4.0 considers likely environmental effects of the plan.

Table 2: Part V of the Development Requirements SPD and the SEA Directive

Criteria (from Annex of SEA Directive and Schedule of Regulations)	Response
Characteristics of plans and programmes	
(a) 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	Part V of the SPD sets a framework for projects by providing detail on relevant adopted policies of the Core Strategy. The SPD forms a material consideration for the determination of planning applications.
(b) The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy	Part V of the SPD provides detail to existing strategic planning policies set out in the Core Strategy. It does not create new policies.
(c) The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	Environmental considerations are integrated into Part V of the SPD, relating to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change.
(d) Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme	The purpose of Part V is specifically to tackle the issue of climate change.
(e) 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)	Not applicable.
Characteristics of the effects and of the are likely to be affected	
(a) The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	Part V of the SPD is not expected to give rise to any significant negative environmental effects.
(b) The cumulative nature of the effects	Part V of the SPD is not considered to have any significant negative cumulative effects and is not thought to contribute to cumulative impacts in combination with the Core Strategy.
(c) The transboundary nature of the effects	Part V of the SPD is not expected to give rise to any significant transboundary environmental effects.
(d) The risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	There are not expected to be any risks to human health from Part V of the SPD
(e) The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	Part V of the SPD is not expected to give rise to any significant negative environmental effects.
(f) The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: (i) Special natural characteristics or cultural heritage (ii) Exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values (iii) Intensive land-use	Part V of the SPD is not anticipated to adversely affect any special natural characteristics or cultural heritage. Nor would Part V be expected to lead to the exceedance of environmental standards or promote intensive land use.
(g) The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status	Part V of the SPD is not expected to have any adverse effect on areas with national, community or international protection.

4.0 Determination of significant effects

The Development Requirements SPD is the 'daughter' document of the 'parent' Core Strategy. The SPD add further detail to the policies contained within the Stratford-on-Avon Core Strategy, and is used to provide further guidance on existing higher level adopted policy. The policies of the Stratford-on-Avon Core Strategy have been subject to a full SA. Paragraph 9 of the SEA Directive states that:

"This Directive is of a procedural nature, and its requirements should either be integrated into existing procedures in Member States or incorporated in specifically established procedures. With a view to avoiding duplication of the assessment, Member States should take account, where appropriate, of the fact that assessments will be carried out at different levels of a hierarchy of plans and programmes."

Therefore it is considered that the potential significant effects of the new Part V of the SPD, either individually or in combination within other plans and projects, have already been assessed in the SA of the Core Strategy. Nonetheless, a full review of the potential effects of the new section of the SPD has been undertaken to ensure that Part V does not give rise to new potential significant environmental effects. This review is set out below.

A summary of baseline conditions affecting this SPD can be found in the Stratford-on-Avon Core Strategy SEA Scoping Report (2011) and an assessment of the potential effects of the new section of the SPD against each of the topics set out in Annex I 9f) of the SEA Directive is presented below.

Biodiversity, flora and fauna

Principle 5 of Part V puts forward a range of measures that can be incorporated into developments to mitigate biodiversity loss caused by climate change. This includes bio-enhancing existing green space, improving background wildlife capacity and the creation of local wildlife nodes and green/blue corridors.

Population and human health

Many measures set out within Part V of the SPD are anticipated to be beneficial to mental and physical health and wellbeing of residents. In particular, reducing the need for the private car will improve air quality and improve health by encouraging walking and cycling. In addition, Principle 3 relates to adapting to higher temperatures and focuses on measures to future-proof the design of new buildings to adapt to the health effects of higher and more extreme temperatures. Measures to increase biodiversity has both physical and mental health benefits through the provision of green and blue infrastructure which reduces toxins, increases levels of oxygen and has mental health and wellbeing benefits.

Soil, water and air

Part V of the SPD includes many measures that will contribute to soil, water and air improvements including the provision of biodiversity features, measures to manage flood risk and improving accessibility thus reducing the need of the private car. In addition, improvements to energy efficiency will reduce the reliance on fossil fuels.

Climatic factors

The purpose of Part V is to address the effects of climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions and mitigation and adaptation to the effects of climate change.

Material assets

The material assets topic considers social, physical and environmental infrastructure. This section should be read alongside 'Population and Human Health', 'Climatic Factors', 'Soil, water and air' and the 'biodiversity, flora and fauna' sub-section.

Cultural heritage (inc. architectural and archaeological)

There is not expected to be any significant effects on cultural heritage due to the need for conformity to the Core Strategy Policy CS.8 Historic Environment. Part V of the SPD acknowledges that it may not be possible for Listed Buildings to comply with all the requirements due to the potential impact on heritage assets.

Landscape

The protection, enhancement and management of the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape and its distinctiveness and special qualities depend on design, layout and extent of development. Part V of the SPD encourages the incorporation of climate change mitigation and adaptation measures to be considered from the outset of a design proposal and sets out different requirements depending upon the type and scale of development.

5.0 Screening outcome

This screening report has explored the potential effects of the draft part V (Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation) of the Development Requirements SPD, with a view to determining whether an environmental assessment is required under the SEA Directive.

Proposals in Part V of the SPD, including requirements for development, refer to policies set out in the District's Core Strategy, but do not propose the policies themselves. The proposals also list criteria for testing the acceptability of future development proposals and are designed to help enhance environmental protection.

In accordance with topics cited in Annex 1(f) of the SEA directive, significant effects on the environment are not expected to occur as a result of the SPD. It is recommended that the new Part V of the SPD should be screened out of the SEA process.

An Appropriate Assessment of the Core Strategy was undertaken and it was concluded that it is unlikely to have a significant impact on any European site or SEA Objective. Therefore it was not necessary to move to the Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

The SPD is a 'daughter' documents of the 'parent' Core Strategy and the SPD is therefore unlikely to have any significant effects on a SPA or SAC, above and beyond any significant effects that the Core Strategy is likely to have, either individually or in combination with other plans and projects. Therefore, Part V of the SPD will not trigger the need for an SA/SEA.

6.0 Consultation

The SEA Screening report has been subject to consultation with the statutory consultees; the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England. All of the statutory consultees agree with the conclusions of the SEA Screening Report that an SEA is not required to be undertaken in support of the SPD. The responses are attached as appendices to this report.

7.0 Conclusions

In conclusion, Part V of the SPD provides greater clarity to climate change mitigation and adaptation measures and strengthen its requirements. There are no aspects that would result in a significant effect on the environment. The conclusions of the SEA Screening Report (Jan 2018) still apply and it is concluded that Part V of the Development Requirements SPD is screened out of the SEA Process. This conclusion is agreed by the three statutory consultees in the SEA Screening process.

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Stratford On Avon District Council
Planning Policy
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Stratford-upon-Avon
Warwickshire
CV37 6HX

Our ref: UT/2007/101490/SD-
09/IS1-L01
Your ref:
Date: 28 January 2020

Dear Ms Slator

Stratford-on-Avon District Development Requirements SPD – Part V: Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

SEA Screening and Draft SPD Consultation

Thank you for referring the above consultation which was received on 20 December 2020.

The Environment Agency has the following comments to make in relation to the SEA screening consultation and items for inclusion in the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation SPD. These recommendations will help steer development to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change in the water environment.

SEA Screening

We have reviewed the Screening Assessment prepared in support of the above SPD. Having reviewed the proposals we do not consider there to be significant environmental impacts as a result of the plan, therefore, we concur with the conclusions of the report and do not require and SEA to be undertaken in support of the plan.

Flood Risk

The Stratford-on Avon DC area is located mainly in the Severn river catchment, with the Humber to the north-east and Thames to the west of the district council boundary. It includes the River Avon, River Alne, River Arrow, River Stour, River Stowe, River Itchen, River Dene, Shottery Brook, Racecourse Brook, Marchfont Brook, Noleham Brook, Rush Brook, Bell Brook, Sherbourne Brook, Hanwell Brook, Sor Brook and their tributaries.

In line with National Planning Policy we would wish to see a sequential approach to all new development directed away from those areas at highest flood risk, i.e. towards

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Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Cont/d..

Flood Zone 1 in line with Stratford-on-Avon's Core Strategy Policy CS.4 "Water Environment and Flood Risk".

Any new development or works that take place should have a positive effect on flood risk and the conveyance of water throughout the channel. Opportunities to reduce flood risk should be explored in all new development proposals and ensure designs are appropriately flood resistant and resilient.

The Environment Agency welcomes Principle 4 of the SPD ('Mitigating Flood Risk'). There are however a number of factors which should be included in the SPD to ensure that increased flood risk resulting from climate change is properly assessed and mitigated against as the proposals currently focus on surface water flood risk:

Updated Level 1 SFRA

We understand your Authority are currently undertaking an update of the Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for your Local Plan Review which we welcome as a way to better understand the flood risk within your district and to support your growth proposals in managing flood risk sustainably.

We advise referring to this document if the SFRA identifies any sensitive flood risk areas particularly in relation to climate change. Particularly if the cumulative impacts of future development could make local areas susceptible to flooding under NPPF Paragraph 156.

Climate Change Allowances

The Environment Agency has updated their guidance on how climate change could affect flood risk to new developments which came into immediate effect on 17th December 2019. These climate change allowances vary in each river catchment (Severn, Humber and Thames).

Under the new guidance when determining the climate change allowances, there is increased emphasis on the flood risk vulnerability classification of the proposed development. For some development types and locations, two possible climate change allowances are given and it is the higher of these two allowances which should be used in any assessment and mitigation works. Particularly if there are areas identified as particularly sensitive to fluvial flood risk in your SFRA.

Additionally, the climate change allowances for floodplain compensation have been updated. The appropriate allowance to assess off-site impacts and calculate floodplain storage compensation depends on the land uses in affected areas. In the majority of cases use the higher central allowance to calculate floodplain storage compensation and it is for the developer to demonstrate with evidence that a lower allowance should be used. Details on the above guidance and allowances to be used can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessments-climate-change-allowances>.

Flood Defence Schemes

Any land which is required, or likely to be required, for a current or future Flood Risk Management Scheme should be safeguarded from future development as stated in paragraph 157 of the NPPF.

Third party external funding towards flood risk management schemes should be sought from development within the SPD area to support the catchment wide approach to reducing flood risk which is projected to increase as a result of climate change.

There are a number of proposed schemes in our investment programme within the Stratford-on-Avon DC area which are all at different stages of assessment and appraisal. Scheme costs and the amount of grant that schemes are eligible for can vary as they are developed. All proposed schemes are subject to economic and environmental viability and to the availability of funding. Potential Environment Agency schemes include:

- Alcester Flood Alleviation Scheme
- Shipston on Stour Flood Alleviation Scheme
- Shipston on Stour Natural Flood Management
- Henley In Arden Flood Alleviation Scheme
- Wootton Wawen Flood Risk Management Scheme
- Stratford-Upon-Avon, Racecourse Brook, Flood Risk Management Scheme
- Barton-on-Avon, River Avon, Capital Maintenance Scheme
- Wordsley Brook FAS, Stourbridge
- Alscot Park Weir Repair
- Shipston Road FAS, Stratford upon Avon
- West Midlands Temporary Barriers Project
- Bidford-on-Avon Flood Risk Movement Scheme
- Southam Property Level Resilience, River Stowe, Scheme
- Snitterfield, Bell Brook, Emergency Works
- River Alne catchment restoration project
- Little Alne Building Replacement

The Environment Agency is constantly working on developing new schemes to limit the effects of flood risk and climate change, and therefore the above list should not be considered exhaustive. The Environment Agency also strongly encourages developer lead schemes to manage the effects of climate change and flood risk.

The Environment Agency would welcome early conversations with any developments coming forward in these areas. For further details on schemes within your catchment, please contact Sarah Potheary on sarah.potheary@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Easement

It should be recognised that even in defended areas there will always still be a degree of residual risk if flood defences are overtopped or breached by a flood event greater than that for which the defences were designed. As climate change increases the frequency and severity of flooding this brings increased maintenance requirements of maintaining channels and flood defences.

Development should therefore maintain an 8m easement between development and the top of the bank of watercourses and the toe of flood defences to allow for maintenance and inspection requirements. The Environment Agency strongly encourages greater buffers (20m) as standard to allow for access to larger maintenance works, to minimise future impact on flood flow routes, and to account of the natural movement of watercourses during a developments lifetime.

Stilts

The use of stilts to mitigate the impacts of climate change from a fluvial flood risk perspective is not appropriate. Areas under stilts are often used as storage spaces and have the potential to become blocked during flood events which will have a cumulative impact in terms of flood risk. Therefore, we recommend including a section within the SPD discouraging the use of stilts in the design principles for developments at risk of flooding.

Surface Water

We welcome the inclusion of sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) as part of Principle 4 due to the multiple benefits they provide alongside flood risk mitigation. Climate change will result in a an increase in peak rainfall in addition to peak river levels and therefore all new development, including infill development and small scale development, should incorporate sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) to reduce flood risk and manage surface water and to ensure that runoff does not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere.

We recommend that Warwickshire County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) are consulted on this SPD. The LLFA are responsible for managing flood risk from local sources including ordinary watercourses, groundwater and surface water. However, in our Strategic Overview role we would welcome the introduction of green streets, rain gardens and swales (SuDS) to reduce surface water runoff, improve water quality and improve local amenity value.

River Channels and Blue-Green Infrastructure

We welcome Principle 3 “Adapting to Higher Temperatures” and Principle 5 “Mitigating Biodiversity Loss” in this SPD. We recommend further emphasis on blue-green corridors as they provide multiple benefits to areas including services such as flood management provision, green space, cooling local temperatures, ecological function and some amenity. All developments should create space for water by restoring floodplains and contributing towards blue-green infrastructure.

Consequently they then need to be afforded a high level of protection (8m minimum standoff) from encroaching developments in order to facilitate their function particularly with the need for extra capacity due to climate change. This could be integrated with the 8m easement required as discussed in the “Flood Risk” section above.

If green spaces can be designed to be less formal areas with more semi-natural habitats this will reduce maintenance costs and provide better biodiversity and water management potential in relation to the impacts of climate change. This can also be incorporated into the surface water management of the site. This should be considered when assessing the capacity of sites that have a watercourse within or along the boundary.

Water Availability

The impact of climate change on water resources is projected to increase pressures on water availability. We note Principle 2 (“Improving Energy Efficiency in Buildings”) and recommend expanding this section to include water efficiency measures reducing the demand on water resources. Water efficiency in new buildings is encouraged to reduce water use and cut domestic carbon emission and those from the treatment of water. Proposals that require efficient use of water will support Severn Trent’s Water Resource Management Plan (2019).

We have the following comments to make on Section V.3.3:

Groundwater Source Heat Pumps

Ground Source Heat Pumps (GSHP) do utilise a renewable energy source, at least in the long term, as it is the warming of the ground by solar radiation that keeps ‘shallow’ groundwater at its constant temperature. Heat from deep in the earth’s interior can warm groundwater but this is not normally significant within 100m of the surface.

GSHP systems can be used for heating or cooling and are in principle energy and CO₂ efficient. However, unless they are managed carefully there is the potential that the ground and groundwater can eventually warm or cool to a point where the system cannot continue to operate efficiently, or at all. Adjacent systems may also interfere with each other. The system operator should also consider potential for loss or damage to third parties.

Key issues:

- Risk of the pipes or borehole(s) creating undesirable connections between rock or soil layers. This may cause pollution and/or changes in groundwater flow and/or quality.
- Undesirable/unsustainable temperature changes in the aquifer or dependent surface waters.
- Pollution of water from leaks of polluting chemicals contained in closed loop systems.
- Pollution of water from heat pump discharge from an open loop system that contains additive chemicals.
- Impacts of re-injection of water from an open loop system into the same aquifer, both hydraulic and thermal, as well as any water quality changes induced.
- The potential impact of groundwater abstraction for ground source heat systems on other users of groundwater or surface water.

In relation to potential pollution impacts, Regulation 17 of the Water Environment (England and Wales) Regulations (2017) places a duty on each public body to have regard to River Basin Management Plan when exercising their functions. You must ensure that proposals:

- Do not jeopardise the current status of a Water Framework Directive (WFD) element or cause deterioration
- Attain good status
- Incorporate pollution reduction measures

We expect developers to undertake appropriate prior investigations for these systems. This should include environmental risk assessment and method statements for the construction and operation of the systems. These may be provided as part of the planning process.

Please also note that a GSHP system may require an abstraction licence and a discharge permit from us. There is no guarantee that these will be granted.

Water Source Heat Pumps

These may require an abstraction licence, discharge permit and flood risk permit from us. There is no guarantee that these will be granted. Therefore, we strongly advise recommendations to contact the Environment Agency in the first instance in relation to such proposals.

More information on the permits required for both ground source and surface source systems is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/open-loop-heat-pump-systems-permits-consents-and-licences>

Hydropower

We support the development of sustainable hydropower schemes and are committed to helping the UK generate more power from renewable sources. However, hydropower schemes can be complex and need to be designed and managed carefully to avoid

unacceptable impacts on fish, the water environment and communities.

Hydropower schemes require a number of permits and consents from us. We have to take water resources, fisheries and flood risk management issues into account. There is a complex process that developers have to go through to obtain the necessary permits from the Agency, with no guarantee that a scheme can be licensed - we have to be sure that any scheme will not adversely affect the water environment. More information on the permits required is available here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-hydropower-scheme-apply-to-build-one>

Additional Information

If water is required, then depending on the source of water and volumes required, they may require abstraction licences from us. A licence must be in place before abstraction takes place. It can take up to 4 months from receipt of a valid application for a licence to be issued. There is no guarantee that a licence could be granted as it is dependent upon water resource availability. Any licence issued could contain conditions requiring abstraction to cease at times of lower flows. Information on how to apply for licences is available on our website at www.gov.uk.

We publish licensing strategies on Gov.UK which sets out water availability ([https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/water-abstraction-licensing-strategies-cams-process#west-midlands-\(map-area-7\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/water-abstraction-licensing-strategies-cams-process#west-midlands-(map-area-7))). The Warwickshire Avon abstraction licensing strategy lies in the LPA area and is due to be updated this year.

Conclusion

Should you have any queries regarding the above comments please contact me on the details below for further advice or to arrange a meeting to discuss.

Yours sincerely

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Historic England

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17 January 2020

Dear Ms Slator

**RE: STRATFORD-ON-AVON DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS SPD -
PART V: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION - SCREENING
OPINION REQUEST**

Thank you for your consultation and the request for a Screening Opinion in respect of the above section of the DDR SPD.

For the purposes of consultations on SEA Screening Opinions, Historic England confines its advice to the question, "Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?" in respect of our area of concern, cultural heritage. Our comments are based on the information supplied with the screening request.

On the basis of the information supplied and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], Historic England is of the view that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not likely to be required.

The views of the other statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for a SEA is made. If a decision is made to undertake a SEA, please note that Historic England has published guidance on Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment and the Historic Environment that is relevant to both local and neighbourhood planning and available at:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

Should it be concluded that, overall, a SEA will be required for Part V of the SPD, Historic England would be pleased to discuss the scope of the assessment in relation to the historic environment in due course. We will be sending separate comments on the draft Part V of the SPD itself in the next couple of weeks.



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I hope that this information is of use to you at this time.

Yours sincerely,

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Date: 03 February 2020
Our ref: 307112
Your ref: Climate Change SPD SEA Screening



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Dear Louisa

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report relating to the Stratford-on-Avon District Development Requirements Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) - Part V: Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 20 December 2019 which was received by Natural England on the same day.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Natural England welcomes the production of the Screening Report which assesses the requirement for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) on the new part of the Stratford-on-Avon District Development Requirements Supplementary Planning Document - Part V: Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation. Natural England notes and concurs with the screening outcome i.e. that no SEA is required.

Further guidance on deciding whether the proposals are likely to have significant environmental effects and the requirements for consulting Natural England on SEA are set out in the [National Planning Practice Guidance](#).

If you have any queries relating to the advice in this letter please contact me on 02082256013.

Yours sincerely

Yana Burlachka
Land use planning adviser – West Midlands Team