



Tasley Neighbourhood Development Plan

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Statement

April 2026

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Statement for the draft Tasley Neighbourhood Development Plan

Summary

The policies within the draft Tasley Neighbourhood Development Plan (draft TNDP) have been screened under the Strategic Environment Assessment process. The conclusion of the SEA Screening Process is that none of the proposed policies within the draft TNDP has the potential to have a significant effect on the natural environment. The draft TNDP can be ‘screened out’ of the Strategic Environment Assessment process and an ‘Appropriate Assessment’ is not required.

Following the Regulation 14 consultation and the subsequent redrafting period, Shropshire Council has reviewed the draft Tasley Neighbourhood Plan submitted at Regulation 15. Shropshire Council has concluded that none of the proposed policies within the submitted draft of the TNDP has the potential to have a significant effect on the natural environment. Therefore, no further SEA is required.

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Introduction

An initial screening opinion was used to determine whether the contents of the emerging draft TNDP required a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the European Directive 2011/42/EC (the SEA Directive).

Any land use plan or programme ‘which sets the framework for future development consent of projects’ must be screened according to a set of criteria from Annex II of the Directive. These criteria include exceptions for plans ‘which determine the use of a small area at local level’ or which only propose ‘minor modifications to a plan’, if it is determined that the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.

The initial screening opinion was subject to consultation with Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England. The results of the screening process are detailed in this Screening Statement which is made available to the public.

The SEA screening process

The Government has set down planning guidance following publication of the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG). The guidance advises that:

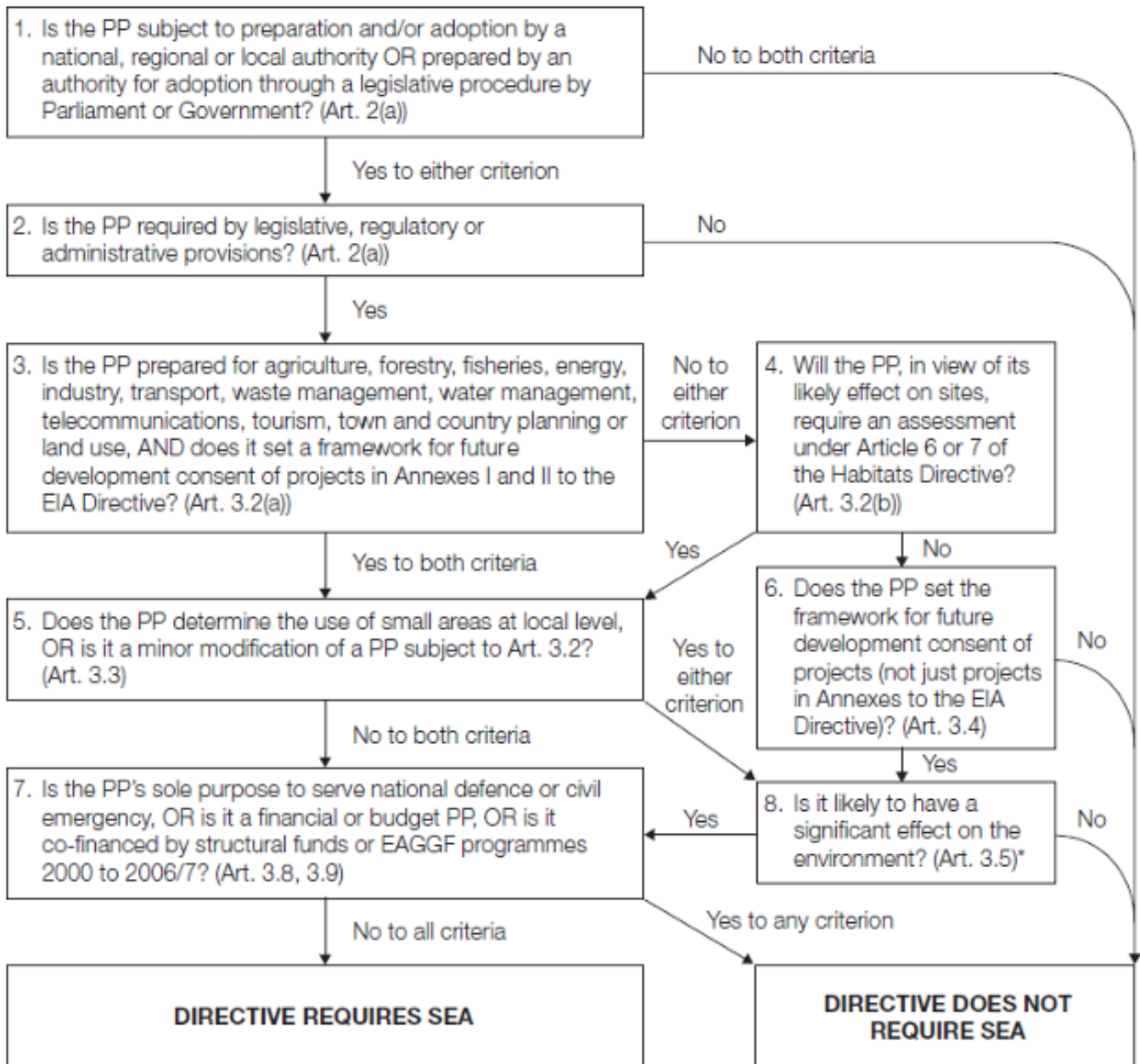
'To decide whether a draft neighbourhood plan might have significant environmental effects, it must be assessed (screened) at an early stage of the plan's preparation according to the requirements set out in regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. These include a requirement to consult the environmental assessment consultation bodies. Where it is determined that the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects (and, accordingly, does not require an environmental assessment), a statement of reasons for the determination should be prepared.'

In principle, neighbourhood plans should not be subject to the SEA Directive or require sustainability appraisal because they do not normally introduce new policies or proposals or modify planning documents which have already been subject to sustainability appraisal. However, they might occasionally be found likely to give rise to significant effects that have not been previously assessed. In screening a plan, Article 3 (6) of the SEA Directive requires that the relevant bodies concerned with environmental matters, as defined by individual Member states, shall be consulted as part of the screening process. In the case of the UK, the statutory environmental consultees are Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England.

The following extract from '[A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive](#)' in provides a flow diagram to demonstrate the SEA screening process.

Figure 2 – Application of the SEA Directive to plans and programmes

This diagram is intended as a guide to the criteria for application of the Directive to plans and programmes (PPs). It has no legal status.



*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.

The table below sets out the criteria from the Practical Guide, along with an assessment of the draft TNDP against each criterion to ascertain whether a SEA is required.

Application of the SEA Directive

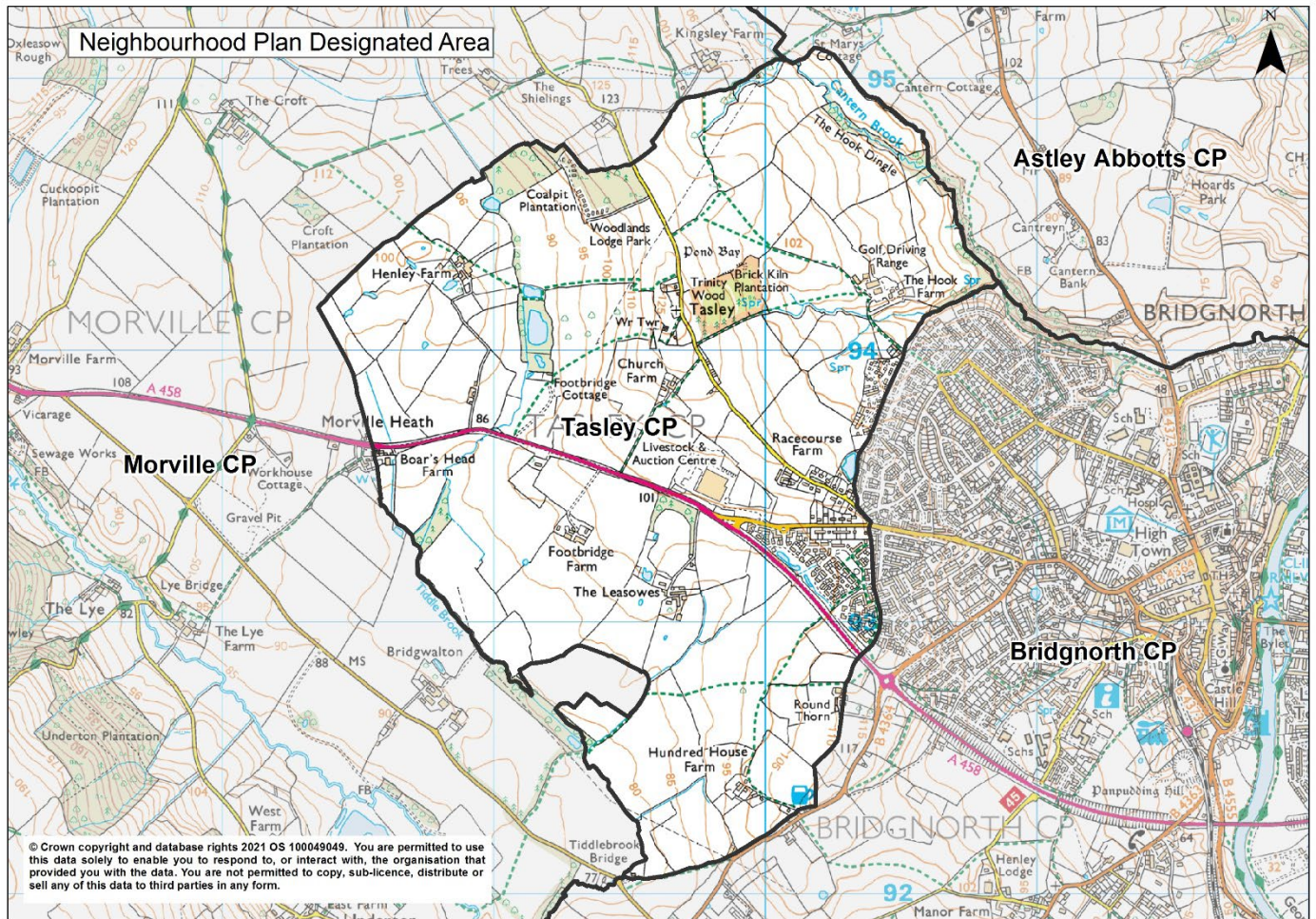
Stage	Y/N	Explanation
<p>1. Is the Neighbourhood Plan subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government? (Art. 2(a))</p>	Y	<p>The preparation of and adoption of the Neighbourhood Development Plan is allowed under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011. The Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared by the Tasley NDP Steering Group, a working group who report to Tasley Parish Council (as the “relevant body”) and will be “made” by Shropshire Council as the local authority. The preparation of Neighbourhood Plans is subject to the following regulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 • The Neighbourhood Planning (referendums) Regulations 2012 • The Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 • The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 • The Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2016 • The Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2017
<p>2. Is the NP required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))</p>	Y	<p>Whilst the Neighbourhood Development Plan is not a requirement and is optional under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011, it will, if “made”, form part of the Development Plan for the District. It is therefore important that the screening process considers whether it is likely to have significant environmental effects and hence whether SEA is required under the Directive.</p> <p>National Planning Practice Guidance (Paragraph: 051 Reference ID: 41- 051- 20150209) sets out that draft neighbourhood plan proposals should be assessed to determine whether the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects. This assessment should be undertaken in accordance with the requirements set out in Regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.</p>
<p>3. Is the Neighbourhood Plan prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water</p>	N	<p>The draft TNDP is prepared for town and country planning and land use and will not set out a framework for future development of projects</p>

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 (see Appendix 2) to the EIA Directive? (Art 3.2(a))		that would require an Environmental Impact Assessment.
4. Will the Neighbourhood Plan, 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 draft TNDP is unlikely to have significant effects on Natura 2000 sites. See the separate draft TNDP Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Statement for details.
5. Does the Neighbourhood Plan 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 draft TNDP will determine the use of sites/small areas at a local level.
6. Does the Neighbourhood Plan set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art 3.4)	Y	When made, the draft TNDP will include a series of policies to guide development within the neighbourhood area. This will inform the determination of planning applications providing a framework for future development consent of projects.
7. Is the Neighbourhood Plan'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 or EAGGF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Art 3.8, 3.9)	N	N/A
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)	N	The plan is not likely to have significant effects on the environment. See assessment of the likely significance of effects on the environment in the separate Draft TNDP Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Statement.

Tasley Designated Neighbourhood Area

An application by Tasley Parish Council to designate a neighbourhood plan area went out for public consultation from 10 December to 28 January 2022. The application was approved by Shropshire Council's Cabinet on 6 April 2022 and a formal notice was issued.

Fig. 1 – Map showing designated neighbourhood area



The Draft Tasley Neighbourhood Development Plan

The draft TNDP will contain the following vision, objectives and policies:

Vision

Tasley will be a viable and cohesive community with good access to employment, key services and amenities either provided locally or, where appropriate, accessible in Bridgnorth centre. It will be a place where new residential areas and communities will feel integrated into the wider Parish and enjoy good connectivity to the rural area. Nature will be enhanced with improved biodiversity and accessibility to the protected countryside via well-maintained and popular walking and cycling routes.

Heritage assets will be protected.

Families will be able to access a local burial site.

Tasley will provide a suitable range of housing to include affordable housing to buy and to rent which will be equal in build quality to private housing, in keeping with local character and aspiring towards meeting zero carbon housing standards.

There will be a supply of locally sourced sustainable energy.

Objectives

Overall Objective 1: To ensure that development in our area maximises benefits for and minimises impacts upon existing and future residents and landowners, businesses and communities, and the environment.

Objective 2: To ensure good links within the parish and with adjoining communities through provision of new and improved pedestrian, cycle and public transport links.

Objective 3: To protect and enhance the openness and rural character of the area in terms of green space protection, access to countryside, and rural setting.

Objective 4: To protect and enhance the heritage assets.

Objective 5: To protect and enhance the local character of our village and surrounding countryside. This will be delivered through Policy TNP4 and design codes.

Objective 6: To provide facilities, services and opportunities that promote health and wellbeing to enable local people to thrive and our communities to flourish.

Objective 7: To ensure that housing developments in our area take account of local needs in terms of dwelling mix and affordability across all groups.

Objective 8: To encourage standards of sustainable design that are above the minimum requirements to minimise impacts on the environment.

Policy	Summary
TNP1 – Footpaths and Cycle Paths	Promotes pedestrian and cycle access to the countryside, and encourages walking, cycling and active travel as sustainable travel alternatives to private cars in new developments.
TNP2 – Local Green Spaces	Identifies 6 proposed Local Green Spaces.
TNP3 – Green Infrastructure Improvements	Identifies Green Infrastructure in Tasley linking to neighbouring areas. Sets out how development proposals should contribute to Biodiversity Net Gain and wildlife enhancements and deliver new and protect existing public open spaces.
TNP4 – Respecting Local Character and Delivering High Quality Contemporary Design	Sets out local criteria to ensure new development delivers high quality and sustainable design. (A local character assessment has been undertaken by members of the NDP Steering Group).
TNP5 – New Cemetery	Supports proposals for new burial grounds in the parish subject to criteria.
TNP6 – Tasley Village Hall and Local Community Centre	Supports improvements to the existing village hall and proposals for a new community hall as part of any large development, such as the proposed Tasley Garden Village, scheme subject to criteria.
TNP7 – Community Energy Schemes	Supports small scale community-led renewable energy schemes subject to landscape impact.
TNP8 – Residential Mix	Sets out local housing needs from results of community consultations (note - there hasn't been a PHNS).
TNP9 – Employment Development	Supports development that provides local employment opportunities based on responses to community consultations.

The draft TNDP does not allocate any sites for housing development. This assessment has considered the scale of development caused through infill to be of a modest scale and unlikely to cause further significant effects.

Assessment of the likely significant of effects on the environment

Annex II of the SEA Directive sets out the criteria for determining if there are likely to be significant effects resulting from the implementation of a plan.

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects (Annex II SEA Directive)	Likely to have significant environmental effects	Summary of significant effects
1. Characteristics of the Plan, having regard to:		
(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.	No	The draft TNDP would, if adopted, form part of the Statutory Development Plan and as such does contribute to the framework for future development consent of projects. However, the Plan will sit within the wider framework set by the National Planning Policy Framework and the strategic policies of Shropshire Council's Core Strategy 2006-2026 and the Site Allocations and Management of Development Plan (SAMDev Plan) 2006-2026.
(b) The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans or programmes including those in a hierarchy.	No	A Neighbourhood Development Plan must be in conformity with the Local Plan for the District. The draft TNDP is unlikely to influence other Plans or Programmes within the statutory Development Plan.
(c) The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.	No	National policy requires a presumption in favour of sustainable development and this includes the draft TNDP. A basic condition of the draft TNDP is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. The plan will include design codes and is supported by a background report: ' <i>Character Areas, Views, Landmarks & Gateways</i> ' which informs the TNDP's design policies.
(d) Environmental problems relevant to the plan	No	<p>The environmental impact of the proposals within the draft TNDP is likely to be minimal due to the scale of the development proposed.</p> <p>The Tasley neighbourhood area does not contain any ecological designations.</p> <p>There is a sizeable body of open water abutting the Gateway site; classified by CEFAS (Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science), the UK Government's marine and freshwater science experts, as a lake. The lake is fed by a natural spring with an outlet draining directly onto the Tasley Gateway site. There has been flooding on and near the Gateway site.</p>

		<p>Otters are actively using the lake abutting the Gateway site. It is the Tasley NDP Steering Group's understanding that on the 12th April 2024 an Environment Agency officer assessed the lake and located otter spraint with fish scales present within it and advised that otters are catching and feeding from the carp within the lake.</p> <p>There is a strong smell of sewage by the fishing pool at Woodlands Lodge Park.</p> <p>The Tasley neighbourhood area does not contain any heritage designations.</p> <p>Parts of the Tasley neighbourhood plan area lie within Flood Zone 2 and 3 (the medium and high risk zones respectively) of the Tiddle Brook and Cantern Brook (which are classed as 'ordinary watercourses').</p> <p>Given the draft TNDP is not allocating any sites, and the amount of potential infill sites within the village and their relationship to the designations within the NDP area, the proposals in the plan are unlikely to harm these designations. Therefore, the effects are not likely to be significant.</p>
<p>(e) The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection)</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The proposed development in the draft TNDP has been judged not to have an impact on Community legislation.</p>
<p>2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to:</p>		
<p>(a) The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The draft TNDP is likely to have modest but enduring positive environmental effects. The effects are not likely to be reversible, as they relate to development. However, the proposals are minor and will be of a local scale.</p> <p>The effects will be of a local scale and the policies in the draft TNDP add detail to existing development plan policies offering protection to existing wildlife and habitats and lead to local biodiversity net gain and nature recovery. No new/additional development is proposed that would cause likely significant effects. Given the scale of what is proposed, the effects are not likely to be significant.</p>

(b) The cumulative nature of the effects	No	It is intended that the positive social effects of providing residential development will have positive cumulative benefits for the area.
(c) The transboundary nature of the effects	No	The effects of the Plan are unlikely to have transboundary impacts.
(d) The risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)	No	The policies in the plan are unlikely to present risks to human health or the environment.
(e) The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	No	The draft TDNP relates to the parish of Tasley. The potential for environmental effects is likely to be small and localised. The potential for environmental effects is likely to be small and localised.
(f) The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. special natural characteristics or cultural heritage ii. exceeded environmental quality standards iii. intensive land-use 	No	<p>The environmental impact of the proposals within the draft TNDP is likely to be minimal due to the scale of the development proposed.</p> <p>The Tasley neighbourhood area does not contain any ecological designations.</p> <p>Parts of the Tasley neighbourhood plan area lie within Flood Zone 2 and 3 (the medium and high risk zones respectively) of the Tiddle Brook and Cantern Brook (which are classed as 'ordinary watercourses').</p> <p>Given the draft TNDP is not allocating any sites, and the amount of potential infill sites within the village and their relationship to the designations within the NDP area, the proposals in the plan are unlikely to harm these designations. Therefore, the effects are not likely to be significant.</p> <p>The draft TNDP offers an opportunity to enhance the natural environment and the cultural heritage of the area through the proposals being considered.</p> <p>The HRA Screening Assessment concluded that the draft TNDP is unlikely to have significant effects on Natura 2000 sites, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects; therefore, an Appropriate Assessment of the draft TNDP is not required.</p> <p>The objectives of the draft TNDP set out how the plan will honour the historic and rural character of the parish and its setting, as well as maintain and enhance the natural environment and green spaces. The plan is considered to have a neutral effect on cultural heritage because there is no indication given in the plan and</p>

		<p>appendices that the plan would go beyond national and local policy and therefore, it is considered that the effects of the proposals in the plan are not likely to be significant.</p> <p>Environmental quality standards or limit values are not considered likely to be significantly affected by the draft TNDP.</p> <p>In light of the minor proposals in the draft TNDP, the plan is also not likely to cause significant effects in relation to intensive land use.</p>
<p>(g) The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>There are no areas or landscapes with recognised national, community or international protection status affected by the neighbourhood plan.</p>

Consultation responses

The screening opinion was sent to Natural England, The Environment Agency, and Historic England on 15th January 2025 for a five-week consultation period. The responses in full are presented in Appendix 1.

On the basis of the material supplied with the consultation:

- Natural England has advised that significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely.
- The Environment Agency advised that as there are no site allocations proposed within the Neighbourhood Plan it is unlikely to have significant adverse effects on the fabric and/or setting of key heritage assets in the town or on the key features affecting the integrity of SSSIs present locally.
- Historic England advised that they concur with SC's view that the preparation of a SEA is not required.

All three statutory consultee concurred with Shropshire Council's opinion that the draft TDNP can be screened out of the SEA process.

Conclusion of the SEA Screening Process for the draft Tasley Neighbourhood Development Plan

The policies within the draft TNDP have been screened under the SEA process.

The conclusion of the SEA Screening Process is that none of the proposed policies within the draft TNDP has the potential to have a significant effect on the natural environment.

The draft TNDP can be 'screened out' of the Strategic Environment Assessment process and an 'Appropriate Assessment' is not required.

Following the Regulation 14 consultation and the subsequent redrafting period, Shropshire Council has reviewed the draft Tasley Neighbourhood Plan submitted at Regulation 15. Shropshire Council has concluded that none of the proposed policies within the submitted draft of the TNDP has the potential to have a significant effect on the natural environment. Therefore, no further SEA is required.

Appendix 1: Responses from statutory consultees

Date: 20 February 2025
Our ref: 499164
Your ref: Tasley Neighbourhood Plan



Ms Rosie Corner
Shropshire Council

BY EMAIL ONLY
rosie.corner@shropshire.gov.uk

Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Ms Corner

Tasley Neighbourhood Plan - SEA/HRA Screening Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 15 January 2025.

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.

Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

It is Natural England's advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that:

- significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely; and,
- significant effects on Habitats sites¹, either alone or in combination, are unlikely.

The proposed neighbourhood plan is unlikely to significantly affect any Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection areas (SPA), Ramsar wetland or sites in the process of becoming SACs or SPAs ('candidate SACs', 'possible SACs', 'potential SPAs') or a Ramsar wetland. The plan area is unlikely to have a significant effect on a National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Heritage Coast, and is unlikely to impact upon the purposes for which these areas are designated or defined.

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 is contained within the [Planning Practice Guidance](#). This identifies three triggers that may require the production of an SEA:

- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan
- the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent

¹ Habitats sites are those referred to in the [National Planning Policy Framework](#) (Annex 2 - glossary) as "any site which would be included within the definition at regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 for the purpose of those regulations, including candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and any relevant Marine Sites".

as to require an SEA. Further information is included in Natural England's [standing advice](#) on protected species.

Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant an SEA. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission [standing advice](#).

We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a SEA is necessary.

Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If a SEA is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

Please send any new consultations, or further information on this consultation to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Sally Wintle
Consultations Team

Shropshire Council (Development Plans)
Forward Planning Team
Shirehall Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6NDey

Our ref: SV/2016/109232/SE-
04/SC1-L01
Your ref:
Date: 14 February 2025

FAO: Rosie Corner

Dear Rosie,

Tasley Neighbourhood Development Plan - Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) Screening Consultation

I refer to your email of 15 January with regard to the Tasley Neighbourhood Development Plan Pre-Submission Screening Opinion Survey. We have reviewed the submitted documentation and offer the following comments for your consideration at this time.

Flood Risk

Based on our indicative Flood Map for Planning, it appears that parts of the neighbourhood plan area lie within Flood Zone 2 and 3 (the medium and high risk zones respectively) of the Tiddle Brook and the Cantern Brook (ordinary watercourses).

Other potential development areas may be at flood risk given the presence of 'ordinary watercourses' which are un-modelled based on the scale and nature of the stream and receiving catchment (less than 3km²).

SEA Screening

Having reviewed the submitted Screening Report, we note that there is no site allocations proposed within the Neighbourhood Plan, thus it is unlikely to have any significant adverse effects on the fabric and/or setting of key heritage assets in the town, or on the key features affecting the integrity of SSSIs present locally.

In consideration of the matters within our remit, we therefore concur with the conclusions achieved by Shropshire Council that based on the screening opinion survey a Strategic Environmental Assessment can be screened out of the SEA process; particularly noting National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG) Paragraph: 046 Reference ID: 11-046-20150209 which states:

Environment Agency

Hafren House Welshpool Road, Shelton, Shrewsbury, SY3 8BB.

Customer services line: 03708 506 506

www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Cont/d..

“A strategic environmental assessment may be required, for example, where:

- A neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development,*
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan.*
- the neighbourhood plan is likely to have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan”.*

Notwithstanding the above, the plan could identify a series of criteria based policies against which development proposals should be assessed within the neighbourhood area.

Whilst it may not be mandatory, a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) may be useful tool in assessing the plan.

Future considerations: We would only make substantive further comments on the plan if you were seeking to allocate sites in Flood Zone 2 and 3. Where an ‘ordinary watercourse’ is present this would need to be assessed and demonstrated as part of the evidence base within a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) i.e. to inform the sequential testing of sites and appropriate / safe development.

We do not offer detailed bespoke advice on policy but advise you ensure conformity with the adopted local plan and refer to guidance within our area neighbourhood plan ‘proforma guidance’, attached for your consideration. This has guidance on flood risk, water quality, including wastewater, and other environmental considerations.

I trust that the above is of assistance.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Ewan Burvill
Planning Officer

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Historic England

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Direct Dial: 0121 625 6887

Our ref: PL00797953

29 January 2025

Dear Ms Corner

TASLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SEA & HRA SCREENING OPINION CONSULTATION

Thank you for your consultation and the invitation to comment on the SEA Screening Document for the above Neighbourhood Plan.

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 the 'SEA' Directive], Historic England concurs with your view that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

Regarding HRA Historic England does not disagree with your conclusions but would defer to the opinions of the other statutory consultees.

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

I trust the above comments will be of help in taking forward the Neighbourhood Plan.

Yours sincerely,

P. Boland.



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Telephone 0121 625 6888
HistoricEngland.org.uk

Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.



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cc:



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