



PLAN-IT X
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING SERVICES

Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review

Strategic Environmental Assessment

July 2023

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mediation of space · making of place

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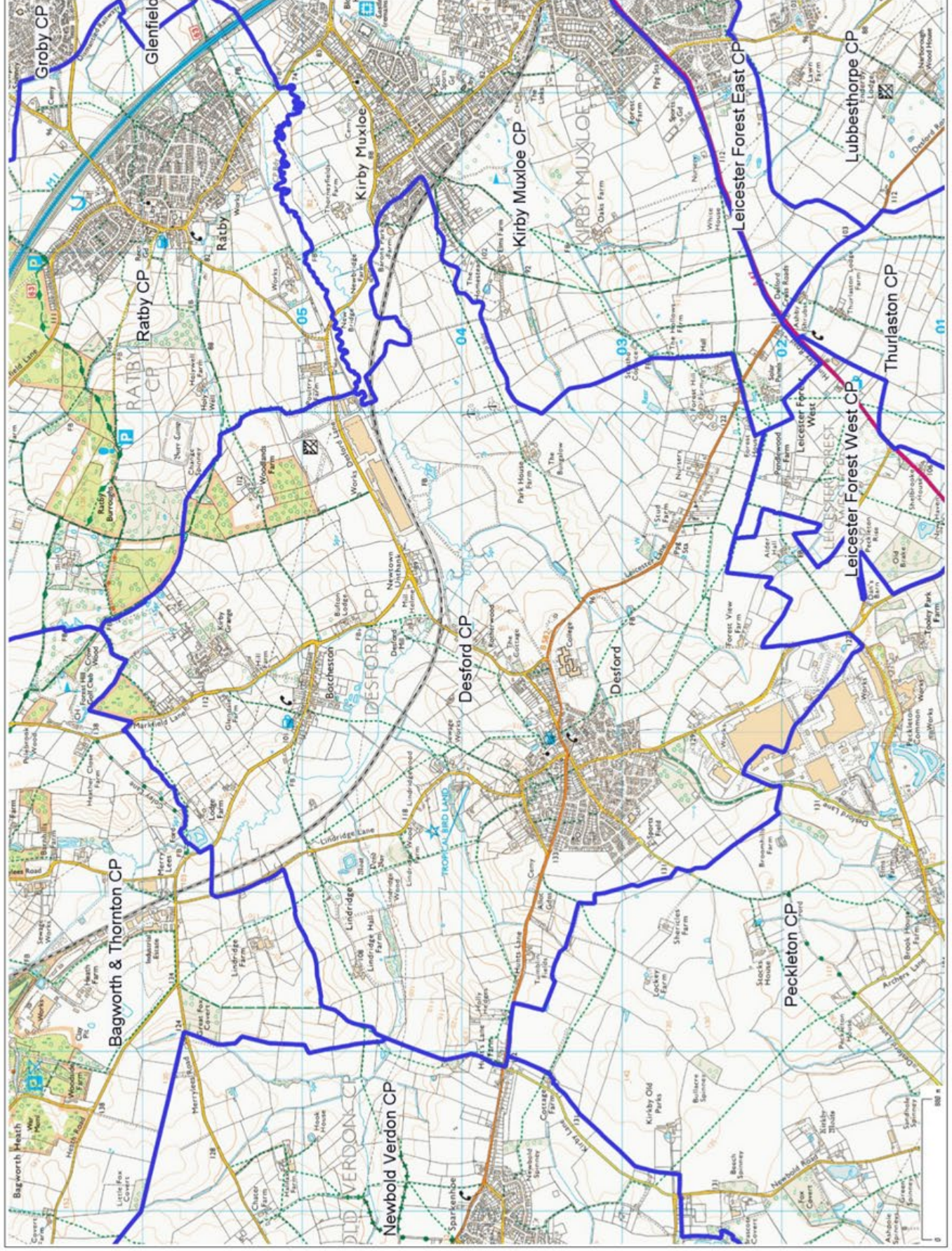
1. Introduction

- 1.1 This Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Statement has been prepared on behalf of Desford Parish Council by Planit-X Town and Country Planning Services in relation to the Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review (Draft Pre-Submission 2023).
- 1.2 Following a positive referendum result (6 May 2021), on 10 May 2021 Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council 'made' the Desford Neighbourhood Plan part of the Borough's Development Plan in accordance with Regulation 19 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. To make sure the Neighbourhood Plan remains current, the Parish Council has decided to review and update it.
- 1.3 The Parish Council has concluded that some material changes are required to the first Neighbourhood Plan. These modifications are incorporated into a Draft version of the revised Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.4 The purpose of the Screening Statement is to set out a screening opinion in relation to whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process is required to accompany the development of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review. The Screening Statement has been provided to the statutory consultation bodies for SEA (Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England) for their opinion.
- 1.5 SEA is a systematic process undertaken to evaluate the likely significant environmental effects of plans. The requirement for SEA in England was introduced in 2004 through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulation 2004 ('The SEA Regulations'), which transposed the European SEA Directive (2001/42/EC)¹.
- 1.6 One of the 'Basic Conditions' that a neighbourhood plan is tested against is whether the making of the neighbourhood plan is compatible with European Union obligations, including obligations under the SEA Directive. Neighbourhood plans only require SEA where they are likely to lead to significant environmental effects. To decide whether a proposed Neighbourhood plan is likely to have significant environmental effects, it should be screened against the criteria set out in Annex 2 of the SEA Directive. Where it is determined that the Neighbourhood plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects (and, accordingly, does not

¹ The UK left the EU on 31st January 2020. Under the UK-EU withdrawal agreement, a transition period ended on 31st December 2020, during which time all EU law continued to apply to the UK. During the transition period the UK needed to continue following domestic law that implements EU law, or directly applicable EU law that is given effect through the EUWA 2018. Beyond the transition period, the SEA Regulations, which previously implemented the requirements of the SEA Directive in England, will continue to apply as before unless and until new legislation is introduced.

require SEA), a statement of reasons for this determination should be prepared and published for consultation with the statutory consultation bodies (Natural England, the Environment Agency and Historic England). Where a Neighbourhood plan is likely to have a significant effect on the environment an SEA process must be carried out.

- 1.7 To demonstrate how the first Neighbourhood Plan contributed to improvements in environmental conditions a SEA was undertaken.
- 1.8 This Screening Statement provides a screening opinion as to whether the Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review is likely to lead to significant environment effects, and as such requires a SEA process.



2. Details of the Neighbourhood Plan

Title of the plan:

- 2.1 Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review.

Name of Qualifying Body and Local Planning Authority:

- 2.2 The qualifying body preparing the Desford Neighbourhood Plan is Desford Parish Council. The Local Planning Authority is Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

Desford Parish Neighbourhood Plan contact point:

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Location and spatial extent of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan:

- 2.3 The Desford Neighbourhood Plan covers the Desford Neighbourhood Area, comprising the parish of Desford in Leicestershire, to the west of Leicester (Page 3).
- 2.4 It is a large area, comprising the villages of Desford and Botcheston, including the retirement village of Kirby Grange and the hamlet of Newtown Unthank, as well as a number of dwellings in Kirby Muxloe. These settlements are located within a rural and mainly agricultural parish, and are visually separated from each other by open countryside.
- 2.5 There are several significant employers at the periphery of the villages or the parish boundary, including Caterpillar to the south of Desford. Community and local facilities within the parish include a primary and secondary school, pre-school facilities, parks and open spaces, sports facilities, village halls, churches, convenience stores and post office, public houses and allotments.

Timeframe of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan:

2.6 2020 to 2041.

Main aims of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan:

2.7 The vision of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan for 2041 is as follows.

- 2.8 The Neighbourhood Plan, guided by the views of residents and stakeholders, seeks to ensure that the Parish in 2041:
- a) remains a valued and safe place to live and work
 - b) continues to thrive in each of the distinct communities within it
 - c) will evolve and expand whilst retaining its sense of community
 - d) provides well-being through a healthy, creative, equitable and sustainable life, and
 - e) makes a positive local contribution to enhancing the environment and improving sustainability.

Desford will be known during the plan period for its strong community, schools, conservation area and the attractive and thriving recreational and natural environments in and surrounding the various built-up areas. It is for the most part very safe and enjoyable to move around on foot and bike, and the plan will seek opportunities to improve these aspects of parish life, this promoting a safe, family focused and invigorating environment for future well managed growth.

2.9 This will be achieved by:

- a) Allocating sites for measured, proportionate, timely and sustainable residential development to 2041: eco-friendly in both design, operation and longevity, and respecting the design guidelines in the plan. Development will meet local needs from both employment and demographic perspectives. Smaller, windfall sites coming forward will also be considered in the light of these criteria.
- b) Maintaining the high quality natural environment with protected wildlife interests, recognising the local agricultural predominance.
- c) Retaining and enhancing the character and appeal of the existing conservation area and unique assets of the parish, including footpaths, jitties, open spaces and community and recreational facilities.
- d) Endorsing and/or developing policies and developments in environmentally acceptable locations that have a positive effect on the sustainability and environment of the parish, including those that remove or minimise flood risk, mitigate climate change and reduce the village carbon foot-print. Opportunities to remove or reduce through traffic will be sought wherever possible, as will measures to reduce the impact of unavoidable traffic in and through the parish.

- e) Enhancing and supporting our rural economy through ensuring efficient and timely public transport to neighbouring centres and providing an environment for local businesses and home working to flourish in a modern digital age.

Relationship with the Local Plan:

- 2.10 The Desford Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of the Hinckley and Bosworth Local Plan. For the purposes of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan, the relevant parts of the Local Plan 2006-2026 (formerly LDF) are the Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) and the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD.
- 2.11 The Hinckley and Bosworth Core Strategy was adopted in December 2009 and is the Strategic Part 1 Local Plan. It provides the vision and spatial strategy for the borough and identifies development requirements for its main urban areas. Most new development will be accommodated in and around Hinckley. The Core Strategy also identifies development requirements for key rural centre such as Desford and identifies a minimum housing requirement of a minimum of 110 new homes for the village of Desford over the period 2006-2026.
- 2.12 The Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD was adopted in 2016 and identifies sites for uses such as housing, employment, retail, open space and community facilities that will deliver the aims, vision and objectives of the Core Strategy. It also contains development management policies which will be used to assess planning applications over the plan period. This document identifies that the residual minimum housing requirement for Desford, as of 1 September 2014 has been met and as such no sites are allocated for further residential development in Desford.
- 2.13 A parallel process of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) was undertaken alongside the plan-making process for these two documents.
- 2.14 Work on the new Hinckley and Bosworth Local Plan began early in 2017. The new Local Plan will set out the overall development strategy for Hinckley and Bosworth Borough for the period 2020 to 2041. It will include strategic policies and allocate sites to meet identified development needs such as for homes, jobs, retail, recreation/open space, nature conservation and other required land uses as identified by evidence. It will provide appropriate policies and guidance by which to determine planning applications; for example design guidance, conservation and protection of natural resources.
- 2.15 Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council consulted residents, community groups, businesses and other interested parties on the draft Local Plan

(Regulation 19) from 9 February to 23 March 2022. Originally, the Local Plan had been due to be sent to the Secretary of State for examination in 2022, however submission has been delayed until later in 2024. Prior to submission a further Regulation 19 consultation on the draft Local Plan is scheduled for May-June 2024.

Will the Desford Parish Neighbourhood Plan propose allocations? And if so, will these be over and above those likely to be included in the Local Plan?

- 2.16 The Core Strategy identifies Desford as a key rural centre and sets out that the Council will allocate land for the development of a minimum of 110 dwellings. As this residual requirement had been met the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies DPD subsequently does not allocate any sites for residential development in Desford, covering the period to 2026.
- 2.17 However, during the preparation of the Made Neighbourhood Plan, Desford Parish Council, concluded that it was necessary to allocate a site for residential development to shape housing growth up to 2036, the then time period for the review of the Local Plan. The Made Neighbourhood Plan allocated a site for 80 homes to the east of the village.
- 2.18 The Local Plan is currently under review and therefore the Borough Council has been approached to provide an indicative housing provision for the Desford Neighbourhood Area. However, the Borough Council is unable to provide an indicative housing provision. Consequently, Desford Parish Council has undertaken its own assessment to provide an indicative housing requirement for the Neighbourhood Area.
- 2.19 Consultants were engaged to undertake a Housing Needs Assessment for the Parish. This Assessment had regard to population of the area, the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council Strategy as well as the Parish's housing completions and commitments and windfall development. It concludes a net housing requirement of 66 dwellings up to the year 2041.
- 2.20 This figure was used when considering allocations within the Neighbourhood Plan Review to meets its housing requirement over the Plan period.
- 2.21 The Neighbourhood Plan Review makes provision for a housing site allocation at "Land off Barns Way" for around 102 dwellings and a further allocation at "Rear of 34 Lindridge Lane" for around 5 dwellings (Policy H2).

What are the key environmental assets (including 'sensitive areas') near the Desford Neighbourhood Area?

'Sensitive areas'

- 2.22 A key determinant of whether effects are likely to be significant is the sensitivity of the asset affected. In this context, the more environmentally sensitive a location, the more likely it is that potential environmental effects from a plan will be significant.
- 2.23 National Planning Practice Guidance provides guidance on this topic through providing a list of sites and areas which should be deemed as 'sensitive areas' for the purposes of environmental assessment. These comprise:
- Natura 2000 sites;
 - Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);
 - National Parks;
 - Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty;
 - World Heritage Sites; and
 - Scheduled Monuments.
- 2.24 In the context of the categories of 'sensitive areas' described by the Planning Practice Guidance, the following sites and areas exist within or near the Neighbourhood Area.

Natura 2000 sites

Within the Neighbourhood Area:

- 2.25 No Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Areas (SPAs) are present within the Neighbourhood Area.

Within 10km of the Neighbourhood Area

- 2.26 None

Beyond 10km of the Neighbourhood Area

- 2.27 The River Mease Special Area of Conservation is located approximately 13.1km to the north west of the Neighbourhood Area boundary.
- 2.28 The River Mease and the lower part of Gilwiskaw Brook are designated as a SAC. They were designated because the River Mease represents one of the best examples of an unspoilt meandering lowland river which supports characteristic habitats and species and supports populations of spined

loach and bullhead, two notable species of native freshwater fish that have a restricted distribution in England. The rivers also support populations of white-clawed crayfish, otter and a range of river plants such as water crow-foot.

- 2.29 Ensor's Pool Special Area of Conservation is located approximately 17.4km to the southwest of the Neighbourhood Area boundary. This lowland site in Central England represents and qualifies as a SAC as it holds a large population of white-clawed crayfish in standing water. This waterbody is isolated from river systems and is a good example of a 'refuge' site.
- 2.30 All SCA's are also notified as SSSI's, being sites that are of specific biological or geological features.
- 2.31 The nearest SPA is at Rutland Water and is approximately 40km east of the Neighbourhood Area.

SSSIs

Within the Neighbourhood Area

Botcheston Bog

- 2.32 This site comprises two units and contains one of the best remaining areas of marshy grassland in Leicestershire and is representative of grazed marsh communities on peaty soils. The marsh is supported and supplemented by an adjacent area of wet grassland and by a number of watercourses which flow through and around the site.
- 2.33 Condition: One unit is favourable, and the other unit is unfavourable and recovering.

Within 5km of Neighbourhood Area

Groby Pool and Woods

- 2.34 This site comprises six units and a complex of habitats. It includes fine examples of alder wood, dry and wet grassland, marsh, reed swamp and open water. The plant communities are representative of those developed on neutral or slightly acid soils in the North Midlands.
- 2.35 Groby Pool is considered to be the largest natural expanse of water in Leicestershire created by a natural 'dam' of igneous syenite and supports a range of plant communities. Additional interest is provided by the numbers of wintering wildfowl which utilise the site, the variety of the breeding bird community and by the diversity of the invertebrate fauna.
- 2.36 Condition: Four of the units are in favourable condition, one unit is unfavourable with no change and one unit is unfavourable and declining.

2.37 3.0km to the north east of the Neighbourhood Area.

Sheet Hedges Wood

2.38 The site comprises five units and comprises one of the best remaining examples of ash and alder woodland in Leicestershire. It is representative of ancient woodland developed on clay soils in Central and Eastern England.

2.39 Condition: One unit is favourable; three units are unfavourable and recovering and one unit is unfavourable and declining.

2.40 4.2km to the northeast of the Neighbourhood Area.

Enderby Warren Quarry

2.41 Enderby Warren Quarry is a nationally important geological site. It is the only British locality where it can be demonstrated that the palygorskite, found here at, below and above the uniformity of the Croft microtonalite and the superjacent Triassic sediments, originated through the action of the post-Triassic groundwaters on the underlying beds.

2.42 Condition: Unfavourable no change

2.43 4.3km to the south east of the Neighbourhood Area.

Ulverscroft Valley

2.44 The site comprises 19 units and supports a series of semi-natural habitats representative of those formerly more widespread on the siliceous clay soils or Charnwood Forest. These include permanent grassland, heath, woodland and wetlands. While each habitat is important on its own, the combination produces one of the best wildlife sites in Leicestershire. The wet grasslands have no equivalent in the County. Over 200 plant species have been recorded, some rare in Leicestershire, and there are mammals, insects and birds of note. The woodlands on the site contain one of the County's remaining unspoilt sessile oak woods with a great diversity in tree, shrub and ground flora and an associated diversity of fauna.

2.45 Condition: 7 units are favourable, 8 units are unfavourable and recovering, and 4 units are unfavourable with no change.

2.46 4.6km to the north of the Neighbourhood Area.

Cliffe Hill Quarry

2.47 This site provides excellent exposures of the contact between the southern-type dirorite (markfieldite) and the volcanic and sedimentary rocks of the Precambrian Charnian Maplewell Series.

2.48 Condition: Favourable

5.0km to the north of the Neighbourhood Area

National Parks

Within the Neighbourhood Area

2.49 None.

Near the Neighbourhood Area

2.50 None- the closest National Park is the Peak District National Park (located approximately 53km from the Parish).

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Within the Neighbourhood Area

2.51 None.

Near the Neighbourhood Area

2.52 None- the closest AONB is the Cannock Chase AONB (located 40km from the Parish).

World Heritage Sites

Within the Neighbourhood Area

2.53 None.

Near the Neighbourhood Area

2.54 None- the closest site is the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site (located approximately 37km to the north of the Parish).

Scheduled Monuments

Within the Neighbourhood Area

Moated site 440m south west of Lindridge Fields Farm

2.55 The monument is situated approximately 1km north west of Desford and includes the earthwork and buried remains of a moated site. This double moated site survives well and is a good example of this class of monument, despite some infilling.

Near the Neighbourhood Area

Ratby Camp

2.56 Distance from the Neighbourhood Area – 139m from the parish boundary.

- Old Hays Moated Site and associated manorial earthworks, Ratby*
- 2.57 Old Hays is a well-preserved example of a Leicestershire moated enclosure which is unusual for the depth of the surrounding moat. The significance of the site is greatly increased by the range of historical documentation relating to the manorial complex and its association with Leicester Abbey.
- 2.58 Distance from Neighbourhood Area – 398m from the parish boundary
- Kirby Muxloe Castle*
- 2.59 Kirby Muxloe Castle is a spectacular example of a late medieval quadrangular castle of the highest status and it retains extensive ruined remains which represent the two periods of construction at the site. The 15th Century gatehouse and the south western tower survive in a near-complete condition and retain early examples of gun ports within their fabric.
- 2.60 Distance from Neighbourhood Area – 1km from the parish boundary
- Moated site south of the Hall, Newbold Verdon*
- 2.61 It survives in good condition despite the infilling of one arm of the moat and encloses a square island.
- 2.62 Distance from the Neighbourhood Area – 1.6km from the parish boundary.
- Iron Age Enclosure, Thurlaston*
- 2.63 This is a sub circular enclosure. In the 1970s the enclosure's depth survived at about a depth of 1.0m. Pottery dating from the Middle Iron Age to the Roman period has been found on site. Today it is only visible as a cropmark. Ridge and furrow ran up to, but not over, the earthworks.
- 2.64 Distance from Neighbourhood Area – 1.6km from the parish boundary
- Rabbit Warren 180m north east of The Lawn*
- 2.65 The remains survive particularly well as a series of substantial earthworks. The site has remained largely under pasture with little disturbance, with the result that the preservation of buried deposits relating to the construction and use of the warren will be good. The remains represent a rare surviving example of the large-scale adaptation of a natural feature for warrening within an area of otherwise intensive cultivation. The remains of the warren are quite well understood and will allow an insight into an important aspect of the medieval and later agricultural economy.
- 2.66 Distance from Neighbourhood Area – 1.8km from the parish boundary

Moated site at New Hall, Thurlaston

- 2.67 The site survives in good condition and retains considerable potential for survival of the remains of the original buildings of the interior.
- 2.68 Distance from the Neighbourhood Area – 1.9km from the parish boundary

Moat with fishponds at Bagworth

- 2.69 The moat at Bagworth is an unusual example of a manorial site with exceptionally well-documented evidence of the manor and the associated fishponds. The water management complex and the moat survive in good condition and evidence for various stages of building and repair of the medieval house will be preserved in the moat's interior.
- 2.70 Distance from the Neighbourhood Area – 2.9km from the parish boundary

Motte and bailey castle and manorial complex at Groby

- 2.71 The large motte at Groby is a good survival incorporating a rare substantial internal Norman stone building. The associated manorial complex is one of the most extensive in Leicestershire with a core considered to date to the period of the Norman castle. It also has associations with an important Leicestershire family.
- 2.72 Distance from the Neighbourhood Area – 3.3km from the parish boundary

Moated site and garden enclosure at Glenfield

- 2.73 This moated site remains essentially undisturbed and will retain environmental information in the waterlogged conditions. There is evidence that the moat island contains the building foundations of a substantial house and associated buildings. The adjoining enclosure is a rare feature in Leicestershire and it is thought to have contained a formal garden.
- 2.74 Distance from the Neighbourhood Area – 3.4km from the parish boundary

Lubbersthorpe medieval settlement remains at Abbey Farm

- 2.75 The remains survive well as a series of substantial earthworks and buried deposits. The areas of settlement have remained largely undisturbed since their abandonment with the result that the survival of archaeological deposits relating to their occupation and use is likely to be good.
- 2.76 Distance from the Neighbourhood Area – 3.8km from the parish boundary.

Earl Shilton motte and bailey castle

- 2.77 This survives in good condition and will retain archaeological evidence of buildings within the interior.
- 2.78 Distance from the Neighbourhood Area – 3.8km from the parish boundary

Moated site at New Parks, Leicester

- 2.79 New Parks is the only well documented example of its kind known to survive in Leicestershire. Evidence of a substantial building is contained within the island and, although largely infilled, the moat arms and the fishpond retain potential for the preservation of organic remains.
- 2.80 Distance from the Neighbourhood Area – 4.1km from the parish boundary

Other key environmental assets

- 2.81 Other designated environmental assets located within the Neighbourhood Area (i.e. those which are not defined as 'sensitive areas' as defined by the Planning Practice Guidance) include as follows:

Historic Park and Gardens

- 2.82 There are no Historic Parks or Gardens in Desford Parish. The closest is Bradgate Park, a Grade II Historic Park and Garden 4.9km northeast of the Parish.
- 2.83 There is also Abbey Park, a Grade II* Historic Park and Garden, 6.9km from Desford Parish.

Battle of Bosworth (Field) 1485

- 2.84 There is no Battlefield within the parish of Desford. However, the Battle of Bosworth (Field) 1485 registered battlefield site is located 5.2km to the south west of the neighbourhood area. It is registered due to its historical importance, topographic integrity, archaeological potential and technological significance.

Conservation Areas

- 2.85 Desford Conservation Area, the boundaries of which are concentrated along High Street, Main Street and Newbold Road, was designated by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council in February 1981. It can be divided into four distinct areas of different character. The character of the conservation area is derived from four key factors, namely, the agricultural origins of the settlement, historical land ownership, the topography and the medieval street pattern. Important listed and unlisted buildings in the designated area include, the Church of St. Martin (Grade II*), the Old Manor

House on High Street (Grade II*) and the Grange on Church Lane which is an 18th century timber framed property.

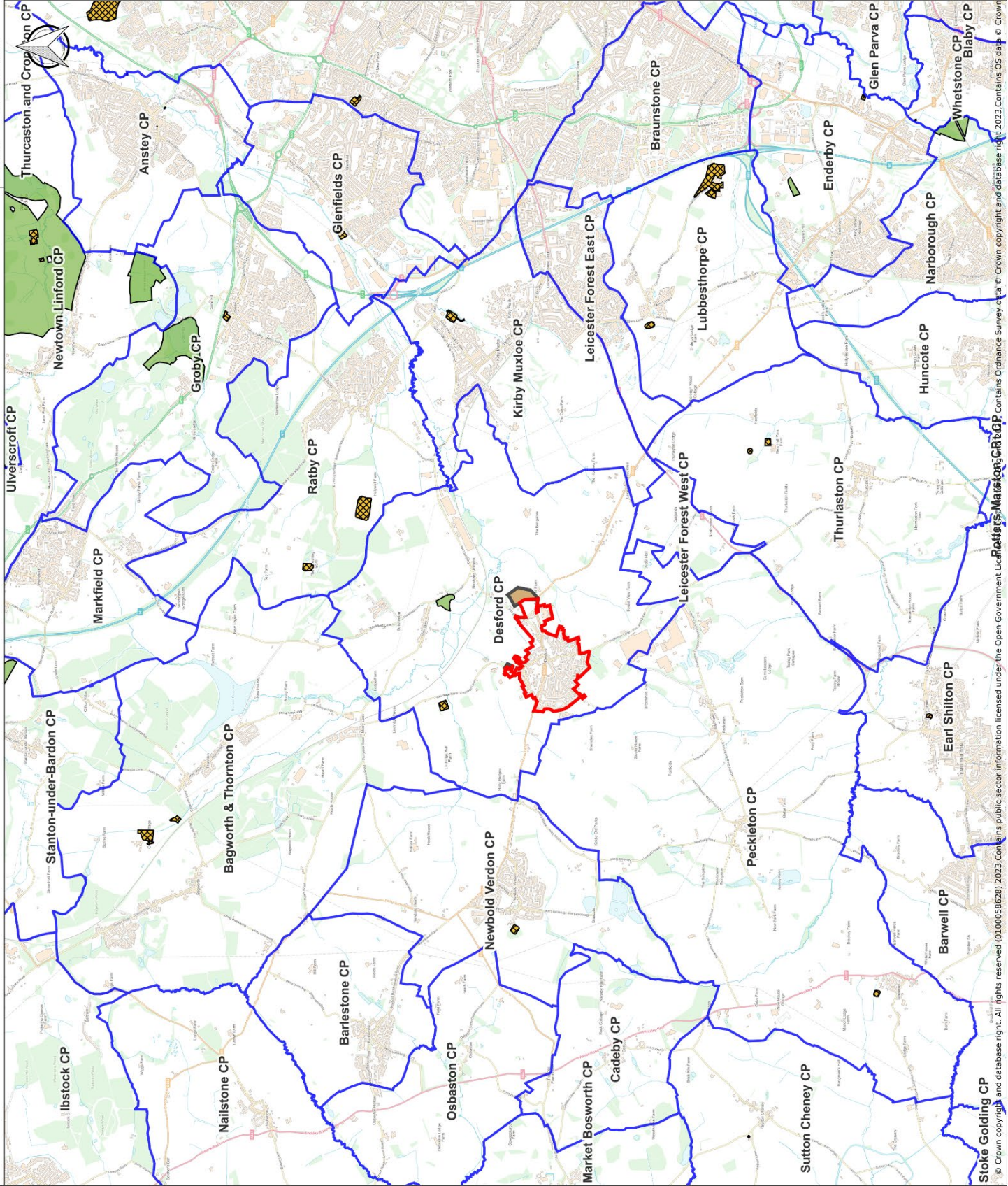
Listed buildings

- 2.86 There are 17 buildings and structures in Desford Parish listed by Historic England for their special architectural or historic interest. They include the Grade II* Church of St Martin and the Old Manor House, on High Street. There are no Grade I listed buildings and the remainder are designated as Grade II listings.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)



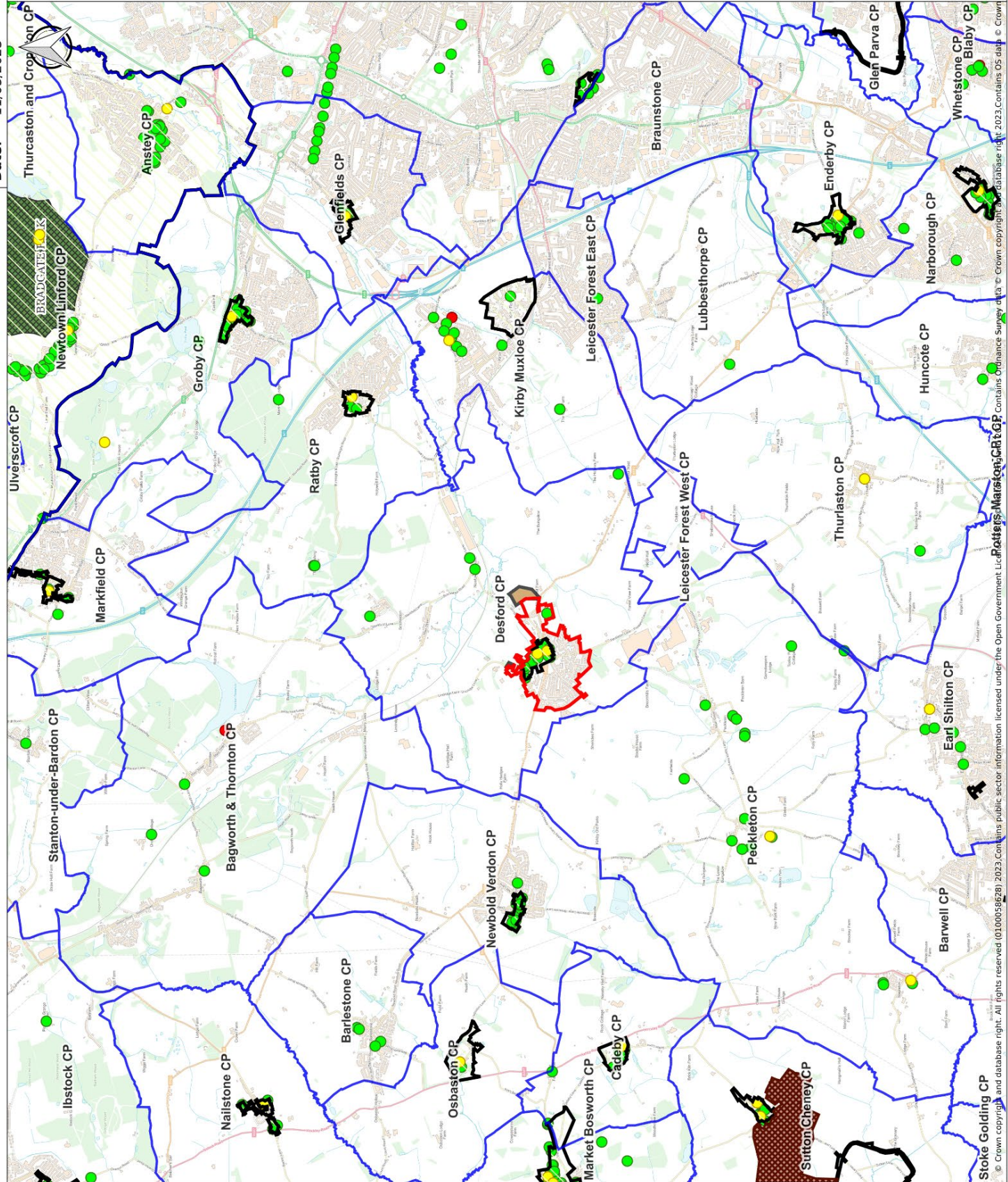
- Scheduled Monuments
- Parish
- Housing Allocation
- Settlement Boundary
- Settlement Boundary





Registered Parks and Gardens

- Listed Buildings**
 - I (Red dot)
 - II (Green dot)
 - II* (Yellow dot)
- Conservation Areas**
 - Registered Conservation Area (Black outline)
- Registered Battlefields**
 - Registered Battlefield (Brown hatched area)
- Parish**
 - Parish Boundary (Blue outline)
- Housing Allocation**
 - Housing Allocation (Brown solid area)
- Settlement Boundary**
 - Settlement Boundary (Red outline)



3. Legislative Background

- 3.1 The basis for Strategic Environmental Assessments and Sustainability Appraisal legislation is European Directive 2001/42/EC which was transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, or SEA Regulations. Detailed Guidance of these regulations can be found in the Government publication 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' (ODPM 2005).
- 3.2 Schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 makes provision in relation to the Habitats Directive. The Directive requires that any plan or project, likely to have a significant effect on a European site, must be subject to an appropriate assessment. To achieve this, paragraph 1 prescribes a basic condition that the making of a neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site. Paragraphs 2 to 5 of the Schedule amend the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 so as to apply its provisions to neighbourhood development orders and neighbourhood plans. In particular, paragraph 4 inserts new regulation 78A which provides that a neighbourhood development order may not grant planning permission for development which is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site.
- 3.3 Schedule 3 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 makes provision in relation to the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive. The Directive requires that EIA development must be subject to a development consent process. To enable this, Schedule 3 prescribes a basic condition that applies where development which is the subject of a proposal for a neighbourhood development order is of a type caught by the EIA Directive, and applies the relevant provisions of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011(3) ("the EIA Regulations") with appropriate modifications (regulation 33 and paragraphs 1 to 4 and 6 of Schedule 3). Paragraphs 5 and 7 to 13 of Schedule 3 correct errors in the EIA Regulations.
- 3.4 It may be appropriate, and in some cases a requirement, that the statutory environmental bodies of Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England be consulted, for example, a draft neighbourhood plan proposal must be assessed to determine whether it is likely to have significant environmental effects.
- 3.5 There is no legal requirement for a neighbourhood plan to have a sustainability appraisal as set out in section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. However, a qualifying body must demonstrate how its plan or order will contribute to achieving sustainable development.

- 3.6 This report focuses on screening for SEA and the criteria for establishing whether a full assessment is needed considering the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment undertaken for the Hinckley and Bosworth Core Strategy 2006-2026 in 2010 and the Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies 2006-2026 in 2014 and 2016.

4. Criteria for Assessing the Effects of Neighbourhood Plans (the 'plan')

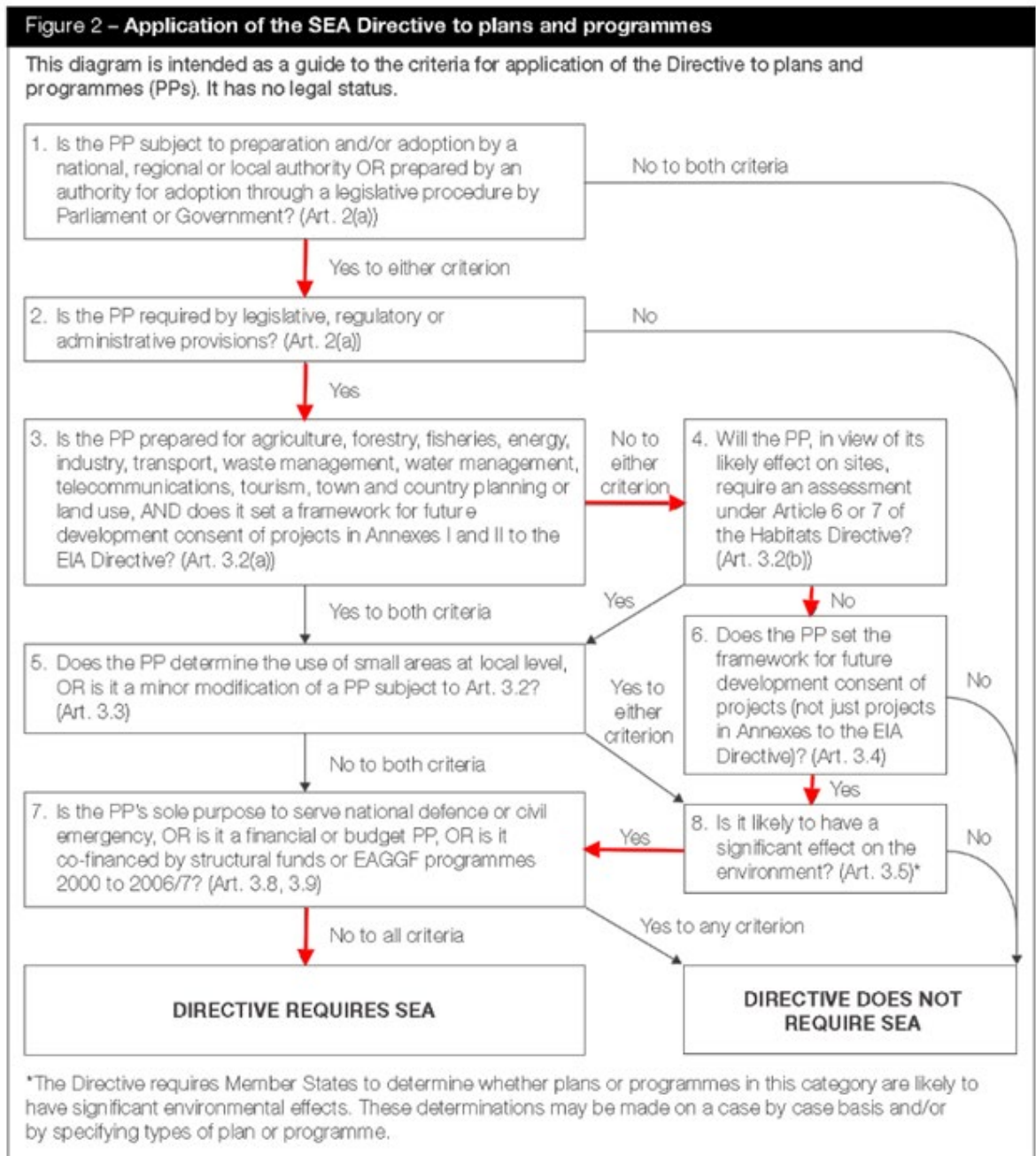
4.1 Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in Article 3(5) of Directive 2001/42/EC are set out below²:

- 1. The characteristics of neighbourhood plans ("plan"), having regard, in particular, to - the degree to which the plan sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources, - the degree to which the plan influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy, - the relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development, - environmental problems relevant to the plan, - the relevance of the plan for the implementation of community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection).
- 2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to - the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects, - the cumulative nature of the effects, - the trans boundary nature of the effects, - the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents), - the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected), - the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: - special natural characteristics or cultural heritage, - exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values, - intensive land-use, - the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.

² Source: Annex II of SEA Directive 2001/42/EC

5. Assessment

- 5.1 This diagram shows the Directive's field of application in the form of a diagram. The original diagram is from 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Objective'. The red arrows indicate the process route for the Desford Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening Assessment.



- 5.2 The table below shows the assessment of whether the Desford Neighbourhood Plan will require a full SEA. The questions below are drawn from the diagram above which sets out how the SEA Directive should be applied.

Stage	Yes/No	Reason
<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>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The preparation of and adoption of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review is allowed under The Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Localism Act 2011. The Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review will be prepared by Desford Parish Council (as the 'relevant body') and will be 'made' by Hinckley and Bosworth Council as the local authority. The preparation of neighbourhood plans is subject to the following regulations: The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 and The Neighbourhood Planning (referendums) Regulations 2012.</p>
<p>2. Is the Neighbourhood Plan required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Whilst the Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review 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>3. Is the Neighbourhood Plan 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 (see</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Whilst the Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review covers a range of land use issues and allocations, it does not set the framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive (see Appendix 2 for list). Instead, the Desford Neighbourhood Plan is a non-strategic scale document, focused solely upon the Parish of Desford.</p>

Stage	Yes/No	Reason
Appendix 2) to the EIA Directive? (Art 3.2(a))		
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))	No	<p>The Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review is unlikely to have a substantial effect on the Natura 2000 network of protected sites.</p> <p>The two nearest SACs are the River Mease Catchment to the north west of the Parish and Ensors Pools to the south west of the Parish. The River Mease catchment is located 15 kilometres away from within the Desford Neighbourhood Area and the Ensor Pools are 18.5 kilometres of the Neighbourhood Area. There are no SPAs within 10km of the Neighbourhood Area.</p> <p>The Hinckley and Bosworth Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report 2017 confirms there is no physical connection between the Borough and The Ensor's Pool SAC. From this we consider that activities within the Borough – and indeed the Desford Neighbourhood Area - would not have implications for this site.</p> <p>Part of the River Mease (not the part defined as a European site (SAC)) passes through the Borough coming in from Snarestone over the border of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, flowing shortly after towards Swebstone. In addition, three tributaries of the river flow down towards and through Norton juxta Twycross, ending to the east, west and north of Norton juxta Twycross. As a result, given the physical connection to the River Mease SAC, provided by its flow through the Borough and via these tributaries, it might be conceivable that some areas of the Borough could have an impact on this site despite the actual</p>

Stage	Yes/No	Reason
		<p>designation being outside the Borough.</p> <p>However, no part of the River Mease or its tributaries as described above flow through the Desford Neighbourhood Area. The tributaries as described above are located roughly 13 kilometres away from the closest part of the Desford Neighbourhood Area boundary. In view of this as well as considering the scope of proposals within the draft Desford Neighbourhood Plan, the Borough Council considers that further stages in the HRA process are not required (including further screening, or Appropriate Assessment) and that the Desford Neighbourhood Plan is not considered to have any impact on the Natura 2000 network of protected sites.</p>
<p>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)</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Determination of small sites at local level only.</p>
<p>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)</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>The Desford Neighbourhood Plan is to be used for determining future planning applications</p>
<p>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 EAFF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Art 3.8, 3.9)</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>

Stage	Yes/No	Reason
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)	Yes	Appendix 1 presents the environmental effects which have the potential to arise as a result of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review.

6. Summary of screening determination

- 6.1 This determination has considered whether the Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review is likely to lead to significant environmental effects as defined by Directive 2001/42/EC, the 'SEA Directive' and the transposing regulations. In particular, the determination has considered several sensitive areas located in the vicinity of the Neighbourhood Area and the potential environmental effects on these areas that may arise as a result of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan.
- 6.2 Environmental effects have the potential to take place as a result of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan, including in relation to the majority of the SEA 'topics'. This SEA screening opinion provides the necessary analysis relating to the potential for negative effects on 'Sensitive Areas' and other key environmental assets.
- 6.3 With respect to the nearby Scheduled Monument, Listed Building and the Desford Conservation Area it is considered unlikely for potential significant effects on these designation in the context of the SEA Directive. The significance of potential effects will be limited by key aims of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan and these are in turn reflected by the policy approaches proposed by the latest version of the plan.
- 6.4 However, the screening opinion concludes that there is the potential for significant effects on the SSSI located within the Neighbourhood Area. It is therefore recommended that the Desford Neighbourhood Plan should be subject to a full SEA.

Habitats Regulation Assessment

- 6.5 It is the opinion of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council that a full Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment of the current Desford Neighbourhood Plan is not required, as it is unlikely to have a significant effect on any designated sites.

Conclusion

- 6.6 **This screening opinion has been prepared in order to fulfil the statutory SEA requirements, as set out in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The environmental consultation bodies – Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency have been consulted during the preparation of this Screening Statement. Their responses are summarised below:**

- **Historic England – Advice is confined to the question 'Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?' in respect of our area**

of concern, cultural heritage. 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.

- **Natural England – Note that the Screening Statement concludes that there may be significant effects on biodiversity and the proposed allocation is sited within the Impact Risk Zone for Botcheston Bog SSSI. Natural England agree with the conclusion that the Desford Neighbourhood should be subject to a full SEA.**
- **Environment Agency – No objection raised to the reasons given for the need of an SEA, although this SSSI constraints falls more within the remit of the EA. In addition, according to EA records, there is a historic (closed) landfill located at the southern most end of Barns Way. Should have regard to this in terms of the housing allocation and any redevelopment on the footprint of the landfill will need to include measures to ensure development does not cause pollution risk to the water environment.**

A full copy of the responses received are attached as Appendix 3.

- 6.7 For the above reasons, it is considered that the Desford Neighbourhood Plan is subject to the requirements of Directive 2001/42/EC, the 'SEA Directive' and accompanying regulations.**

Appendix 1: Assessment of potential environmental effects

The following table presents the environmental effects which have the potential to arise because of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan. This is accompanied by a commentary on whether these effects are likely to be significant. The environmental effects have been grouped by the SEA 'topics' suggested by Annex I(f) of the SEA Directive.

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
Biodiversity, flora and fauna (Including biodiversity habitats and species, biodiversity sites, areas of geological interest)	Y	Without mitigation and enhancement measures, the Desford Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to lead to effects on biodiversity, including through loss of habitat, disturbance, effects on ecological connections and indirect effects such as from impacts on water quality and quantity.	<p>There are no Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) or Special Protection Areas (SPA) present within the Neighbourhood Area. As concluded in Section 5 of the above assessment, the Desford Neighbourhood Plan would not have implications for the River Mease SAC or Ensors Pool SAC. As such the contents of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan is not considered to have an impact on the Natura 2000 network of protected sites.</p> <p>In relation to biodiversity, the main 'sensitive areas' in the Neighbourhood Area is the Botcheston Bog SSSI described in Section 2. Its condition is identified as part favourable and part unfavourable condition – recovering.'</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Area (North east area) lies within the SSSI Impact Risk Zones of Botcheston Bog. Certain developments within this 'zone' require consultation with Natural England, depending on the specific zone that the proposal is located.</p> <p>With respect to the inner zone, Natural England, are to be consulted on all planning applications. Developments within the other 'zones' that require consultation include airport, helipads and other aviation proposals, pipelines, quarry development, pig and</p>



SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
			<p>poultry units, industrial and commercial development that causes air pollution, waste, and combust discharge and that that discharge certain levels of water per day. The Neighbourhood Plan does not propose development of this nature within these zones and therefore consultation with Natural England is not required with respect to these matters.</p> <p>However, the two proposed housing allocation sites of around 107 dwellings in Desford, lies within two of the Impact Zones that require consultation to be undertaken with Natural England for specific types of residential development. Given the number of dwellings proposed within these housing allocations the consultation threshold has been exceeded.</p> <p>It is recognised that the Neighbourhood Plan includes an overarching biodiversity policy that seeks to protect, conserve and enhance existing ecological corridors and features for biodiversity as well as a policy that seeks the protection or enhancement of specific local features that have been identified for their biodiversity. These policies seek to reduce the likelihood of significant effects on these 'sensitive areas'.</p> <p>In terms of the other SSSIs identified above, due to their relative distance of over 3km from the Neighbourhood Area, no parts of the Neighbourhood Area are within Impact Risk Zones for these SSSIs.</p> <p>However, in light of the siting of the proposed allocations within the impact zones of the Botchetson Bog SSSI it is</p>



SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
			considered that effects on biodiversity may be significant if the current policy approach proposed in the Desford Neighbourhood Plan is taken forward. It is therefore recommended that the Desford Neighbourhood Plan should be subject to a full SEA.
<p>Population (Including residents' quality of life, accessibility to services and facilities, deprivation and similar)</p>	Y	<p>As indicated by the current policy approaches proposed for the Desford Neighbourhood Plan, the Plan has the potential to have a range of benefits for the quality of life of residents and for accessibility to services, facilities and opportunities. It seeks to prevent the loss of community services and facilities, as well as supports the provision of new or improved local services and community facilities and footpath network to village services. The protection of Local Green Space and Important Open Spaces is also sought.</p>	<p>Whilst the benefits for residents of Desford Parish from a well-designed neighbourhood plan have the potential to be wide-ranging, these are not deemed to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.</p>

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
		<p>The Desford Neighbourhood Plan will also support the delivery of affordable housing, including First Homes, and help deliver a mix of housing types and tenures to meet local needs, including the provision of homes suitable for older people and those with restricted mobility.</p>	
<p>Human Health (Incorporating residents' health and wellbeing)</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>As indicated by the current policy approaches proposed for the Desford Neighbourhood Plan, the Plan has the potential to have a range of benefits for residents' health and wellbeing through promoting healthier lifestyles and supporting accessibility to services and facilities.</p> <p>Policies include those that support access to and the provision of</p>	<p>Whilst the health and wellbeing benefits for residents of the Neighbourhood Area from a well-designed neighbourhood plan have the potential to be wide-ranging, these are not deemed to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.</p> <p>Likely effects from noise quality are also not deemed to be significant.</p>

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
		<p>non-car modes of travel, the protection of local green spaces, the protection of and the provision of new community services and facilities and the protection of residential amenities from the impact of new development.</p> <p>Direct impacts from the plan on health and well-being from renewable energy infrastructure may also arise. Policy seeks to protect the health and wellbeing of residents and visitors from development of this nature.</p>	
<p>Soil (Including agricultural land, soil erosion, soil quality)</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>It is uncertain whether proposed development areas will be sited on land classified as the Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land, as recent detailed agricultural land classification has not taken place.</p>	<p>Due to the relatively limited area of land likely to be developed through the Desford Neighbourhood Plan, effects on the soils resource are unlikely to be significant.</p>

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
		<p>The Plan proposes to update the settlement boundary to take into account the two proposed housing allocations and seeks to limit development outside of this proposed Settlement Boundary.</p>	
<p>Water (Including water quality and availability)</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>The Desford Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to lead to a very small-scale increase in water demand in the Neighbourhood Area through supporting the delivery of a new housing provision.</p> <p>Policy also supports the implementation of sustainable drainage systems with maintenance regimes to minimise vulnerability to flooding and climate change.</p>	<p>Potential effects on water availability will be limited by the relatively small-scale of proposals likely to be facilitated by the Desford Neighbourhood Plan. Effects unlikely to be significant.</p>
<p>Air (Including air quality)</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>Whilst new development in the</p>	<p>No existing air quality issues exist in the Neighbourhood Area and there are no Air Quality Management Areas</p>

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
		<p>Neighbourhood Area may lead to increased traffic flows and congestion, this is unlikely to lead to marked effects on air quality.</p> <p>In addition, the Desford Neighbourhood Plan includes policy which seeks to minimise traffic generation and movement through the village, reduce the use of car-based travel, through the creation of footpath links and cycle routes, and the retention and provision of local facilities.</p> <p>It also supports the provision of renewable energy which may help limit adverse impacts on air quality.</p>	<p>within the Neighbourhood Area. Any effects on air quality are not deemed to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.</p>
<p>Climatic Factors (Including relating to climate change mitigation (limiting greenhouse gas emissions) and adaptation (adapting to</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>In terms of climate change mitigation, the Desford Neighbourhood Plan actively seeks to</p>	<p>Due to the small scale, local scope of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan, the nature and magnitude of effects directly arising as a result of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.</p>

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
the anticipated effects of climate change, including flood risk)		<p>located new housing development, either within or adjacent to the currently defined settlement boundary, where the majority of the local services and facilities are located. This will help limit potential increases in greenhouse gas emissions from an increase in the built footprint of the Neighbourhood Area.</p> <p>Policy encourages the incorporation of Sustainable Drainage Systems which will help meet the challenges of climate change and in terms of climate change adaptation, statutory requirements (including the requirements of the NPPF) will ensure that flood risk is addressed through new development proposals.</p>	

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
		<p>New homes will be expected to incorporate sustainable design and construction techniques including the use of renewable and low carbon technology.</p> <p>The plan shows support for the development of renewable energy development appropriate to its location and with consideration given to its impact on amenity and the environment.</p>	
<p>Material Assets (Including minerals resources, waste considerations)</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>The Desford Neighbourhood Plan may lead to small increases in the Neighbourhood Area's waste management requirements through supporting the delivery of new housing.</p> <p>No mineral sites or resources, or waste sites are likely to be affected or undermined</p>	<p>Potential increases in waste as a direct result of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan will be managed through statutory requirements regarding waste management. Due to their limited magnitude, effects are therefore unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.</p>

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
<p>Cultural Heritage (Including historic environment, cultural heritage, historic settings)</p>	<p>Y</p>	<p>as a result of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan. Development undertaken in accordance with the policies of the Desford Neighbourhood Plan has the potential to have effects on the fabric and setting of historic environment assets.</p>	<p>Whilst one scheduled monuments (a 'sensitive area' as defined by the Planning Practice Guidance) is located within the Neighbourhood Area, it is unlikely to be directly affected by the proposed housing allocation due to its relative distance (900m and 1.5km) from these allocations.</p> <p>In terms of the Desford Conservation Area, the proposed housing allocation lies outside of the Area. The Conservation Area designation itself provides additional policy guidance for managing development within the historic core of the village. Therefore, given the siting of the proposed allocation and its distance from the Conservation Areas the effect on this asset is likely to be limited.</p> <p>In terms of the listed building present in the parish, the proposed allocations are unlikely to adversely affect the setting of these features of cultural heritage importance, due to the siting of the proposed allocations in relation to these assets. The nearest listed building to the south of the allocation, located at Bosworth Community and Sports College is a sculpture sited within the quadrangle of the collage.</p> <p>There is also the statutory protection of conservation areas and listed buildings that will run alongside any local plan policy.</p>

SEA Topic	Likely effect? Y/N	Description of effect	Effect likely to be significant in the context of SEA?
			Therefore, effects are unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.
<p>Landscape (Including landscape and townscape quality)</p>	Y	<p>Direct effects from the Desford Neighbourhood Plan on landscape and townscape character have the potential to take place.</p>	<p>However in light of the siting of the proposed allocations within the impact zones of the Botchetson Bog SSSI it is considered that effects on biodiversity maybe significant if the current policy approach of the current policy approach proposed in the Desford Neighbourhood Plan is taken forward.</p> <p>In terms of the Desford Conservation Area, the proposed housing allocation lies outside of the Area. The Conservation Area itself provides additional policy guidance for managing development within the historic core of the village.</p> <p>The likelihood of significant effects on the integrity of the Conservation Area are also likely to be limited by the Desford's Neighbourhood Plan's focus on protecting and enhancing the historic environment and landscape of the Neighbourhood Area and the plan's focus on protecting heritage assets.</p> <p>Therefore, potential effects on townscape quality is unlikely to be significant in the context of the SEA Directive.</p>

Appendix 2: Annex I and Annex II Projects, EIA Directive

Annex I Projects, EIA Directive

All projects listed in Annex I are considered as having significant effects on the environment and require an Environmental Impact Assessment. The listed projects are summarised as follows:

1. Crude oil refineries, coal or shale gasification liquefaction installations
2. Thermal power stations, nuclear power stations, other nuclear reactors etc
3. Installations for the processing, reprocessing, final disposal or storage of irradiated nuclear fuel, or the production or enrichment of nuclear fuel
4. Integrated works for the initial smelting of cast-iron and steel, and the production of non-ferrous crude metals from ore
5. Installations for the extraction, processing and transforming of asbestos
6. Integrated chemical installations for the industrial scale manufacture of basic organic and inorganic fertilisers, plant health products and biocides, pharmaceuticals, and explosives
7. Construction of long-distance railway lines. Airports with a basic runway length run of 2,100 metres or more. Construction of motorways and express roads. New roads of four or more lanes and roads which have been improved so as to convert two lanes or fewer to four lanes or more, where such road would be 10 kilometres or more in continuous length
8. Inland waterways and ports for inland-waterway traffic, trading ports and piers
9. Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment of hazardous waste
10. Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment of non-hazardous waste
11. Groundwater abstraction or artificial groundwater recharge schemes
12. Water transfer schemes between river basins
13. Wastewater treatment plants
14. Commercial extraction of petroleum and natural gas
15. Dams and water storage installations
16. Gas, oil or chemical pipelines and pipelines used for the transport of carbon dioxide for geological storage

Annex II Projects, EIA Directive

For the projects listed in Annex II the national authorities have to decide whether an Environmental Impact Assessment is needed. The projects listed in Annex II are in general those not included in Annex I but also other types such as urban development projects and flood-relief works. The listed projects are summarised as follows:

1. Agriculture, silviculture* and aquaculture Restructuring of rural land holdings; use of uncultivated land or seminatural areas for intensive agriculture; water management projects for agriculture; initial afforestation* and deforestation* for the purpose of conversion to a different land use; intensive livestock installations (projects not included in Annex I); intensive fish farming; reclamation of land from the sea.
2. Extractive industry Quarries, open-cast mining, peat extraction (projects not included in Annex I); underground mining; dredging; deep drilling; surface installations for coal, gas, ore and shale extraction.
3. Energy industry Installations for production of electricity, steam and hot water and for carrying gas, steam and hot water, and transmission of electricity by overhead cables* (projects not included in Annex I); surface storage of natural gas and fossil fuels; underground storage of combustible gases; briquetting of coal and lignite; installations for processing and storage of radioactive waste (unless included in Annex I); hydroelectric and wind power installations.
4. Production and processing of metals Installations for the production of pig iron or steel; processing of ferrous metals; ferrous metal foundries; installations for smelting metals and surface treatment of metals and plastic materials; assembly and manufacture of motor vehicles and motor-vehicle engines; shipyards; installations for construction and repair of aircraft; manufacture of railway equipment; swaging by explosives; and installations for the roasting and sintering of metallic ores.
5. Metal industry Coke ovens; installations for the manufacture of glass, cement, asbestos and asbestos products (projects not covered by Annex I); smelting mineral substances; manufacture of ceramic products by burning.
6. Chemical industry (projects not included in Annex I) Treatment of intermediate products and production of chemicals; production of pesticides, pharmaceuticals, paint, varnishes, elastomers and peroxides; storage facilities for petroleum, petrochemical products and chemical products.
7. Food industry Manufacture of oils, fats, dairy products, confectionery, syrup, industrial starch; packing and canning; brewing and malting; sugar, fish-meal and fish-oil factories; and installations for the slaughter of animals.
8. Textile, leather, wood and paper industries Industrial plants for paper and board production (projects not included in Annex I); pre-treatment plants; tanning plants; cellulose-processing and production installations.
9. Rubber industry Manufacture and treatment of elastomer-based products.
10. Infrastructure projects (not included in Annex I) Industrial estates; urban development projects (including shopping centres and car parks); railways and transshipment facilities; airfields, roads, harbours, ports, inland-waterways; dams and water storage facilities; tramways, elevated and underground passenger railways etc.; oil and gas pipe-lines; long-distance aqueducts; coastal and sea defence works; groundwater abstraction and artificial groundwater recharge schemes; water transfer schemes between river basins; motorway service areas.

11. Other projects Permanent motor racing and test tracks; waste disposal projects and waste water treatment plants (projects not included in Annex I); sludge disposal sites; storage of scrap iron (including scrap vehicles); test benches for engines etc.; installations for the manufacture of artificial mineral fibres and the recovery or destruction of explosives; knackers' yards.
12. Tourism and leisure Ski-runs, ski-lifts, cable cars etc.; marinas; holiday villages and hotel complexes outside urban areas; permanent camp sites and caravan sites; theme parks and golf courses.
13. Any change or extension of projects listed in Annex I or Annex II, already authorised, executed or in the process of being executed, which may have adverse environmental effects Projects in Annex I, undertaken exclusively or mainly for the development and testing of new methods or products and not used for more than two years.

Note Some of the types of projects listed above are covered by Annex II and the Regulations only if they meet certain threshold levels or other criteria. * A project which is included in Annex II of the Directive but excluded from Schedule 2 of the Regulations (SI 1999/293).

Appendix 3: Responses from Environmental Consultation Bodies



Mr Colin Wilkinson

Direct Dial: 0121 625 6870

Planit-X Town and Country Planning Services

Ltd

Our ref: PL00793047

24 May 2023

Dear Mr Wilkinson

DES福德 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - SEA SCREENING REQUEST

Thank you for your consultation of the 16th May 2023 and the request for a Screening Opinion in respect of the *Desford 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.

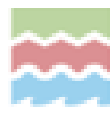
On the basis of the information supplied and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], Historic England is of the view that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not likely to be required.

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 the Plan, Historic England would be pleased to discuss the scope of the assessment in relation to the historic environment in due course.





I hope that this information is of use to you at this time. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

C. Fletcher

Clive Fletcher
Principal Adviser, Historic Places

Subject: 2023-06-20 Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review: SEA Screening

Our ref: 433897

Dear Colin

Thank you for your e mail of 16 May regarding the above.

Natural England notes that the '*Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review : Strategic Environmental Assessment Draft Screening Statement*' (May 2023) has concluded that effects on biodiversity may be significant if the current policy approach proposed in the Desford Neighbourhood Plan is taken forward. Also, that in light of the siting of the proposed allocations within Natural England's Impact Risk Zone for Botchetson Bog Site of Special Scientific Interest, that it is recommended that the Desford Neighbourhood Plan should be subject to a full SEA and we are supportive of this.

Kind regards

Sandra

Sandra Close
Planning & Environment Lead Adviser
East Midlands Area Team



Desford Neighbourhood Plan Review: SEA Screening

Thank you for your email and I sincerely apologise for the delay in replying.

We have no objection to the reason being given for an SEA is the proximity of the SSSI – however this constraint falls more within the remit of NE than the EA.

We would however like to make the following comments regarding the proposed housing site at "Land off Barns Way". Whilst we do not have a location plan for the proposed allocation we wish to advise that according to the Environment Agency records there is a historic (closed) landfill located at the Southern most end of Barns Way. Any redevelopment on the footprint of the historic landfill will therefore need to include measures which ensure the development does not cause a pollution risk to the water environment.

Regards

Nick

Nick Wakefield

Planning Specialist, Sustainable Places Team

Environment Agency