

# **THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF PLANS AND PROGRAMMES REGULATIONS 2004**

## **REGULATION 9 SCREENING DETERMINATION: Idridgehay & Alton and Ashleyhay Neighbourhood Plan**

Regulation 9 of The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 requires that the responsible authority determines whether or not a plan is 'likely to have significant environmental effects' and if a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required (SEA).

Amber Valley Borough Council has determined, after consideration of the draft Idridgehay & Alton and Ashleyhay Neighbourhood Plan and following consultation with the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England (responses appended), that the Plan does not require a SEA.

### **Reasons for the Decision**

Annex 1 of the SEA Directive identifies a number of potential aspects of the environment which may require consideration in relation to significant effects. These issues may include (but are not limited to): "biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors". The following discussion considers any relevant issues in relation to each of these aspects of the NP environment and how they might be affected as a result of the proposed policies of the NP.

(a) biodiversity, flora and fauna;

The nearest European site lies to the north west of the parish, some 4km distant (Gang Mine Special Area for Conservation). Slightly further to the North West are the Bees Nest & Green Clay Pits (SAC) and the Peak District Dales (SAC). Given the nature of the designation and the contents of the plan it is concluded that there are no likely significant effects on European sites.

There is one Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within the parish boundary:

- Mount Pleasant

However it is concluded that given the content of the plan that there would be no likely significant effects (either positive or negative).

(b) population;

The population of Idridgehay Alton and Ashleyhay parishes has declined slightly since 1881 (in 1881 it was 453 and in 2011 it was 393). The level of multiple deprivation of the parish (2015 deprivation data) indicates that the parish is in the bottom 50%.

It is concluded that given the scope of the plan and the demographics of the area that no likely significant effects (either positive or negative).

(c) human health;

The statistics show that health in the Neighbourhood Plan area (in terms of those with long term health problems) has a proportion slightly lower than the average of the Borough. Similarly, those who described their health as bad, fair, good and very good are also in line with national, regional and local proportions although those describing themselves as having very bad health were below the national, regional and local proportions.

It is concluded that given the scope of the plan, and the health of the area that no likely significant effects (either positive or negative).

(f) soil;

The agricultural land classification (ALC) appears to be predominately Grade 3 and 4. Given the quality of the soil, and the contents of the plan it is concluded that there are no likely significant effects (either positive or negative).

(g) water;

The Neighbourhood Plan area includes the river Ecclesbourne. The Plan does not allocate any sites itself and the scope for development is limited within the area. The Plan includes policies that seek to ensure that development protects and enhances rivers, streams and ponds.

It is concluded that there are no likely significant effects.

(h) air;

The nearest air quality management areas (i.e. an area designated under for poor air quality) are located in central Derby City and to the south of the city of Derby (the Ring Road and along the A52).

Given the nature of development in the plan and the distance to the nearest sensitive location it is conclude that there are no likely significant effects (either positive or negative).

(i) climatic factors;

With regard to climate change mitigation, it is considered that the plan's magnitude of development and the scope of the policies within it, it will not result in likely significant effects.

Given the nature of development in the plan it is conclude that there are no likely significant effects (either positive or negative).

(j) material assets;

There were concerns raised through consultation with regard to the safety of roads and of continuous pavements, public transport and lack of parking near the church and community room. Whilst the neighbourhood plan has little power over these elements, the Plan has identified community development policy with the objective of retaining developing and enhancing community facilities “

It is concluded that given the above and the nature of the Ildridgehay & Alton and Ashleyhay Neighbourhood Plan that there are no likely significant effects (either positive or negative).

(k) cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage;

There are 36 listed buildings within the neighbourhood area. None were identified as 'At Risk' by Historic England. No Scheduled Monuments, Registered Battlefields or Registered parks and Gardens have been identified). There is one conservation areas within the Neighbourhood Area.

There are no specific policies in the plan relating to listed buildings however but the conservation area is referred to in policy H1 in relation to new

housing developments. It is considered that the plan does go some way to helping to preserve and enhance the conservation area.

Given the nature of the heritage assets, and their setting, and the contents of the neighbourhood plan it is considered that there are unlikely to be significant effects.

(l) landscape.

The parish boundary is not close to any designated landscapes (e.g. Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty). The Plan seeks to protect its landscape and includes policies for this purpose.

Given the limited scope of the plan in term of development and the design / multi-criteria policies in the plan, it is not considered that likely significant effects would occur.

## **Conclusion**

Having considered the scope of the Idridgehay & Alton and Ashleyhay Neighbourhood Plan, in that it is not allocating sites and is planning for a very limited amount of development, and taking into account the relevant environmental issues locally, it is concluded that the Idridgehay & Alton and Ashleyhay Neighbourhood Plan will have no likely significant effects (either positive or negative) and therefore a SEA is not required.

It is also concluded that the plan will have no likely significant effects on European sites and therefore an HRA is not required.

## **Further Information**

A copy of this determination available on the Council's website at [www.ambervalley.gov.uk](http://www.ambervalley.gov.uk)

It will also be available on request during normal office hours at:

Amber Valley Borough Council  
Town Hall  
Market Place  
Ripley  
Derbyshire  
DE5 3BT

If you require any further information, then please contact the Local Plans Team by e-mail: [ldf@ambervalley.gov.uk](mailto:ldf@ambervalley.gov.uk) or by calling 01773 841583.

## Taylor,Amie

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**From:** Doughty, Naomi <naomi.doughty@environment-agency.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 15:29  
**To:** Taylor,Amie  
**Subject:** RE: Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations)

Hi Amy,

Many thanks for your e-mail. Please accept this as acknowledgement of receipt. As discussed, the Environment Agency does not comment on screening requests and therefore has no comments to make.

Kindest regards  
Naomi

**Naomi Doughty**  
**Planning Specialist (Derbyshire)**  
**Sustainable Places Team**

☎ 0115 846 2662 / 07880 055307

✉ [naomi.doughty@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:naomi.doughty@environment-agency.gov.uk)

✉ Environment Agency, Trentside Offices, Scarrington Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 5BR

Did you know our web content has moved to [www.gov.uk/environment-agency](http://www.gov.uk/environment-agency)

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**From:** Taylor,Amie [<mailto:Amie.Taylor@ambervalley.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 14:42  
**To:** Doughty, Naomi  
**Subject:** Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations)

Dear Naomi,

Please find attached a letter inviting you to make comments on the screening determination of the Idridgehay & Alton and Ashleyhay Neighbourhood Plan.

Kind Regards

**Amie Taylor | Planning Assistant**

**Amber Valley Borough Council**

Planning and Regeneration | Town Hall, Market Place, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3BT

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## Taylor,Amie

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**From:** Searson, Claire <Claire.Searson@english-heritage.org.uk>  
**Sent:** 22 August 2014 14:46  
**To:** Taylor,Amie  
**Subject:** FW: Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Dear Aimie,

Thank you for your email regarding the SEA screening for Idridgehay & Alton and Ashleyhay Neighbourhood Plan.

I can confirm that we are minded to agree that no SEA is required. We would always, however, encourage the Parish to undertake a 'light touch' SA process in order to fully test out the policies and proposals contained within the Plan.

Kind Regards,

Claire

Claire Searson | Historic Environment Planning Adviser |  
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**From:** Taylor,Amie [<mailto:Amie.Taylor@ambervalley.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 23 July 2014 14:20  
**To:** East Midlands  
**Subject:** Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached a letter inviting you to make comments on the screening determination of Idridgehay & Alton and Ashleyhay Neighbourhood Plan.

Kind Regards

**Amie Taylor | Planning Assistant**

**Amber Valley Borough Council**

Planning and Regeneration | Town Hall, Market Place, Ripley, Derbyshire, DE5 3BT  
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<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/archives-and-collections/portico/>

Date: 19 August 2014  
Our ref: 127392  
Your ref:



Amie Taylor  
Amber Valley  
Planning and Regeneration  
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**BY EMAIL ONLY**; amie.taylor@ambervalley.gov.uk

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Dear Ms Taylor

### **Planning consultation: Strategic Environmental Assessment -Screening Report Of the Idridgehay and Alton and Ashleyhay Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 23 July 2014.

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.

#### **Strategic Environmental Assessment / Sustainability Appraisal**

It is our advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that, in so far as our strategic environmental interests are concerned (including but not limited to statutory designated sites, landscapes and protected species, geology and soils) are concerned, that there are **unlikely to be significant environmental effects from the proposed Neighbourhood plan.**

We are not aware of significant populations of protected species which are likely to be affected by the policies within the plan. It remains the case, however, that the responsible authority should provide information supporting this screening decision, sufficient to assess whether protected species are likely to be affected.

Notwithstanding this advice, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all potential environmental assets. As a result the responsible authority should raise environmental issues that we have not identified on local or national biodiversity action plan species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites or local landscape character, with its own ecological and/or landscape advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local landscape and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by this plan, before determining whether an SA/SEA is necessary.

Please note that Natural England reserves the right to provide further comments on the environmental assessment of the plan beyond this SEA/SA screening stage, should the responsible authority seek our views on the scoping or environmental report stages. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make.



We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Sally Maguire on 03000602110. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely

Sally Maguire MRTPI  
Lead Adviser  
On behalf of East Midlands Area