

Apologies for the late response our systems have been down.

Strategic Environmental Assessment

We note that the City Council has a responsibility to advise the Parish Council if there is a need for formal Strategic Environmental Assessment of the draft Neighbourhood Plan. You are seeking our views in order to inform the Council's decision on this matter.

We have considered the draft plan and its policies against those environmental characteristics of the area that fall within our remit and area of interest.

Having considered the nature of the policies in the Plan, we consider that it is unlikely that significant negative impacts on environmental characteristics that fall within our remit and interest will result through the implementation of the plan.

We have no further comments to make in this instance.

Neighbourhood Plan

We have no objections to the currently and have the following comments to make:

4.25 – Note the section on Natural environment and climate change and agree that vulnerability and flood risk / climate change should be addressed.

4.26 – Issues for new housing development to mitigate against. Could be an opportunity to mention following the sequential approach (ST) to flood risk.

- Pleased to see mention of green infrastructure, biodiversity improvements and also NFM being mentioned.

Objectives

7.1 – Could be an opportunity to mention ST again. Could be included in b) eg. New development would be supported when it avoids areas of flood risk.

7.15 – k) mention retaining areas of flowing water. Again could tie in avoiding flood risk areas.

7.22 – a) Not sure about the wording flood plain pastures at low risk of flooding. Flood plain is generally an area at risk of flooding. Maybe separate flood plain / flood zones and use something like 'wetland pasture'?

7.64 – Pleased to see a policy on green infrastructure

7.69 – Pleased to see the policy addressing climate change (and maybe flood risk?) Direct reference is made from policy ANDP5 a) on housing that flood risk issues are addressed in this policy. Again no mention of Sequential approach ST/ET to layout and site selection. However we are pleased to see a policy on addressing and considering flood risk and climate change, maybe suggest the best way is to firstly direct development to those areas at least risk of flooding (Sequential approach).

Link to the latest climate change allowances web site;

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessments-climate-change-allowances>

Should you require any additional information, or wish to discuss these matters further, please contact me on the number below.

Kind Regards


Sustainable Places Planning Advisor

MY CONTACT DETAILS:



Environment Agency, Lateral, 8 City Walk, Leeds, LS11 9AT

Charging for planning advice

We began charging for some of our planning advice.

For more information please see our web pages at

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-advice-environment-agency-standard-terms-and-conditions> or speak to your local Sustainable Places team.



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