



Our ref:



Your ref:

Date: 14 July 2020

Dear Mr Roebuck

Screening assessment for strategic environmental assessment (SEA) as applied to the Marton West Modified Neighbourhood Plan (regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004)

Thank you consulting us on the screening assessment for SEA for this modified plan. We previously provided detailed comments to you in our response to the pre-submission consultation of the neighbourhood plan (regulation 14) on 27 February 2020



Environment Agency position

In accordance with the national guidance, there are some limited circumstances where a neighbourhood plan is likely to have significant environmental effects and this should consider if there are any significantly likely environmental effects that will need to be investigated to ensure the plan is compatible with relevant legal obligations.

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of a Neighbourhood Development Plan may be required if:

- A Habitat Regulations Assessment is required.
- Any development in Schedule II of the EIA Regulations is included.
- A neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
- The neighbourhood plan contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals of the plan.
- The neighbourhood plan is likely to significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

We have reviewed the submitted screening assessment and **agree with the question 8 in that we do not consider that the plan would be likely to have a significant effect on the environment in respect to the Environment Agency's remit.**

We have noted in our previous response some relevant environmental constraints and advised the forum to include requirements toward water quality and, now as legislation progresses, to biodiversity net gain. However, that the modifications of the plan relate mainly to a designated for an area of Local Green Space. Where housing development is allocated, this is linked to housing policies within the Middlesbrough Local Plan and Tyneside House, Skinnerburn Road, Newcastle Business Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE4 7AR.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
Email: enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk
www.environment-agency.gov.uk



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therefore we consider this has already been adequately considered.

It should be noted that we are a statutory consultee in respect to a limited number of matters (these are set out further in the Schedule 4 of the Development Management Procedures) and therefore you should ensure you seek views from other consultation bodies where appropriate.

Should you have any further questions in respect to this please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Ms Caitlin Newby
Planning Adviser

