

# **East Riding Local Plan**

## **Screening Document for Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

### **Open Space Supplementary Planning Document November 2016**



**EAST RIDING**  
OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

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## **1 Purpose of the Sustainability Appraisal**

- 1.1 The Council adopted the Open Space Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on 1 November 2016. The adopted SPD is an important consideration in determining relevant planning applications.
- 1.2 The Planning Act 2008 allows Local Planning Authorities to prepare SPDs without undertaking Sustainability Appraisal (SA) /Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), as long as they screen to establish the need for SA/SEA of the SPD as it is produced. In light of the 2008 Planning Act, the Council is required to carry out screening to ensure that the legal requirements for SA/SEA are met where there are impacts that have not been covered in the appraisal of the 'parent' Local Plan Document.
- 1.3 The East Riding Local Plan Strategy Document is an 'overarching' strategic policy document for the East Riding and covers a wide range of issues and spatial matters. This screening report has been prepared in support of the SPD. It establishes whether there are impacts arising from the SPD that have not been covered in the SA/SEA of the Strategy Document, which is then used to determine if a full SA/SEA is required for this SPD.

## **2. Overview of Open Space SPD**

- 2.1 The SPD provides clear and consistent guidance on how Policy C3 (providing public open space for leisure and recreation) of the East Riding Local Plan Strategy Document (adopted April 2016) should be implemented. It provides a brief introduction to open space, including identifying the evidence base for Policy C3 and summarising relevant national and local policy, and answers the following questions that may be raised when considering the policy.
  - What mechanisms will be used to deliver open space?
  - When is open space required on development sites?
  - How is the policy applied in practice?
  - When are off-site commuted sums acceptable and how are they calculated, collected and spent?
  - What should open space look like?

- What will the Council charge for maintenance and who is responsible for maintenance?
- How will the land transfer process work?

### 3. Sustainable Objectives and Assessment of Relevance/Impact

3.1 There are 20 objectives that have been established in the Local Plan's Sustainability Appraisal and used to develop the policies of the Local Plan. It is important that these remain constant through sustainability appraisals of new SPD's that relate to specific policies in the Plan. Therefore, the Open Space SPD's potential impact against each objective has been summarised in the table below.

**Table 1: Relevant East Riding Sustainability Appraisal Objectives**

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objective (SAO)</b>	<b>Relevance / Impact</b>
To reduce health inequalities	Beneficial effects
To support the renaissance of rural areas	N/A
To reduce social exclusion and improve equality of opportunity amongst social groups	Beneficial effects
To improve accessibility and public transport links to key services and employment areas	N/A
To improve housing affordability	N/A
To maintain overall levels of education and skills and retain local highly skilled labour	N/A
To improve air quality	Mixed effects
To reduce the growth of road traffic	Mixed effects
To encourage more efficient use of land	Mixed effects
To reduce waste arisings and the amount of waste sent to landfill	N/A
To improve the quality of local fresh water resources	N/A
To reduce levels of atmospheric GHG by reducing emissions and increasing extent of carbon sinks	Mixed effects
To minimise the impacts of climate change by developing in a way that reduces risk from flooding and coastal erosion	Mixed effects
To reduce carbon based energy use by increasing energy efficiency and production of renewable and low carbon energy	N/A

<b>Sustainability Appraisal Objective (SAO)</b>	<b>Relevance / Impact</b>
To protect and enhance biodiversity and important wildlife habitats, and to conserve geology	Beneficial effects
To protect and enhance heritage assets and their settings	N/A
To protect and enhance the countryside and landscape quality	Beneficial effects
To maintain and strengthen the economy of East Riding	N/A
To increase diversity of employment	N/A
To support the renaissance of rural areas	N/A

#### 4. Summary of Sustainability Appraisal of Strategy Policies to which the SPD relates

4.1 The Local Plan Strategy Document sets out 33 policies. These have all been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal, which incorporates the requirements for Strategic Environmental Assessment. The following table summarises the SA of the Strategy Document policy to which the SPD relates and clarifies that the SPDs will have no further impact.

**Table 2: SPD Impact on SA Objectives**

<b>Associated Strategy Policy</b>	<b>Summary of SA of Strategy Policy</b>		<b>Will the SPD further impact on SA objectives</b>
	<b>SAO - Sustainability Appraisal Objective</b>		
Policy C3	SAO 8 (Reduce the growth of road traffic)	Policy C3 sets the local accessibility standards to open space within proximity to the residential areas, including for children. The provision of accessible open space could encourage people to walk to their nearest open space therefore encouraging modal shift and helping reduce the growth of traffic.	The SPD provides guidance on how elements of Policy C3 will be implemented. This document will not introduce adverse effects against the SAO.

#### 5. Habitat Regulation Assessment

5.1 Habitat Regulation Assessment of plans that could affect Special Protection Areas for birds (SPAs) or Special Areas of Conservation for habitats (SACs) is required by the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA). This is specified under Regulation 61 the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) (the Habitat Regulations). A stage 1 HRA screening assessment of the Local Plan Strategy Document was undertaken by Atkins

Limited. It was concluded that, with exception of Part B of Policy S6 (Delivering Employment Land), there will be no likely significant effects 'alone or 'in combination' on any of the international sites within the assessment. Therefore it was not necessary to move to Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

5.2 The SPD is a 'daughter' document of the 'parent' Local Plan Strategy Document. Therefore, the SPD is unlikely to have any significant effect on a SPA or SAC and will not trigger the need for a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment.

## **6 Conclusion and Screening Outcome**

6.1 As a result of the above assessment, it is unlikely that there will be any significant negative impacts arising from the SPD on open space that were not covered in the Appraisal of the 'parent' East Riding of Yorkshire Local Plan Strategy Document. Therefore, the SPD will not trigger the need for an SA/SEA.