

Date: 26 January 2026



Adriana Jones
Clerk to MBL Parish Council

By email to mblparishcouncil@gmail.com

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Dear Ms Jones

Formal Response to a request for a Screening Opinion of a Neighbourhood Plan

I can advise you that the North Weald Bassett Neighbourhood Plan 2025-2033 draft Version 7 (pre-Regulation 14) does not need an environmental assessment to be prepared in accordance with EU Directive 2001/42 on strategic environmental assessment (SEA) on the basis that the information provided within the draft North Weald Bassett Neighbourhood Plan has been sufficient to determine that:

- there are no sites being allocated for development within the proposed Neighbourhood Plan;
- there will be no significant environmental effects to result from the proposals in the Plan; and
- the Plan does not breach, and is otherwise compatible with, EU and Human Rights obligations.

The information provided within the draft North Weald Bassett Neighbourhood Plan has also been sufficient to determine that a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) is not required.

The plan was screened by Epping Forest District Council as to the need for either an SEA or HRA and Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency were subsequently consulted and provided with copies of the screeners.

Based on the information provided Historic England confirmed that there was no need to conduct an SEA, and Natural England confirmed that significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes, and on Habitats sites 1, either alone or in combination, are unlikely as a result of the draft plans proposed proposals. The Environment Agency confirmed that they are unable to provide bespoke comments on SEA Screening Opinions.

Yours sincerely

Matt Cranitch

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