

Strumpshaw

Neighbourhood Plan

(Pre-submission Draft)

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report

Updated January 2025

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to determine if the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review requires Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) through a process known as SEA screening.
- 1.2 The Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review has been commissioned by Strumpshaw Parish Council and developed by a Steering Group of residents. A map showing the Neighbourhood Plan area for Strumpshaw is in Appendix A. The first draft of the Neighbourhood Plan Review is being prepared for 'pre-submission consultation' in January 2025. Should the draft policies change in a significant way, the SEA screening process will be repeated. The draft policies used in this screening are dated 22 November 2024.
- 1.3 This report fulfils the requirements of European Directive 2001/42/EC on the Assessment and Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment, and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 as amended.
- 1.4 This report provides details of the draft pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan Review policies and explains the legislative background to SEA screening, before providing an account of the SEA screening exercise for the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review.

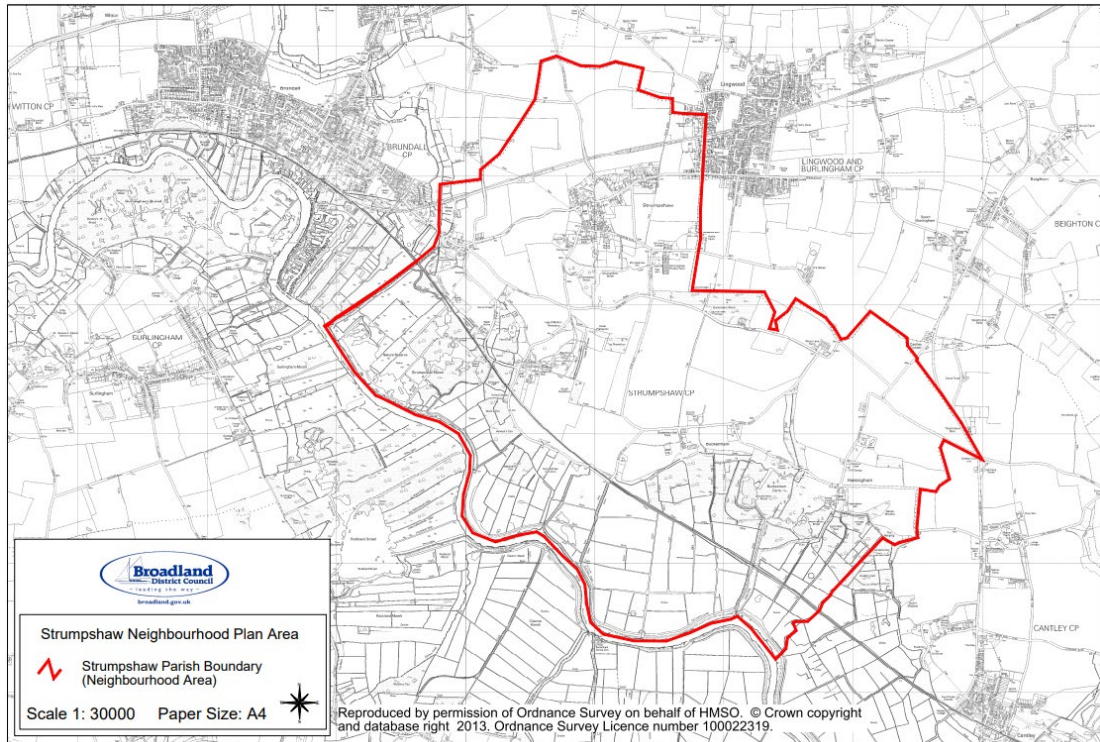
2. The Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review

- 2.1 The Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan was fully adopted by Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority on 10 July 2014 following a 66% Yes vote by Strumpshaw residents. The plan covers the period up to 2026 and now forms part of the development Plan for the district and is one of the main considerations in determining any future planning applications submitted in Strumpshaw.¹
- 2.2 Strumpshaw Parish Council is reviewing the Neighbourhood Plan and has established a working group of parish councillors and members of the public to undertake the review. The Neighbourhood Plan is for the parish of Strumpshaw, which covers the villages of Strumpshaw, Buckenham and Hassingham.

¹ <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/adopted-neighbourhood-plans-broadland/strumpshaw-neighbourhood-plan>. Information obtained 02.01.2024.

Figure 1 below: Map showing the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan boundary.

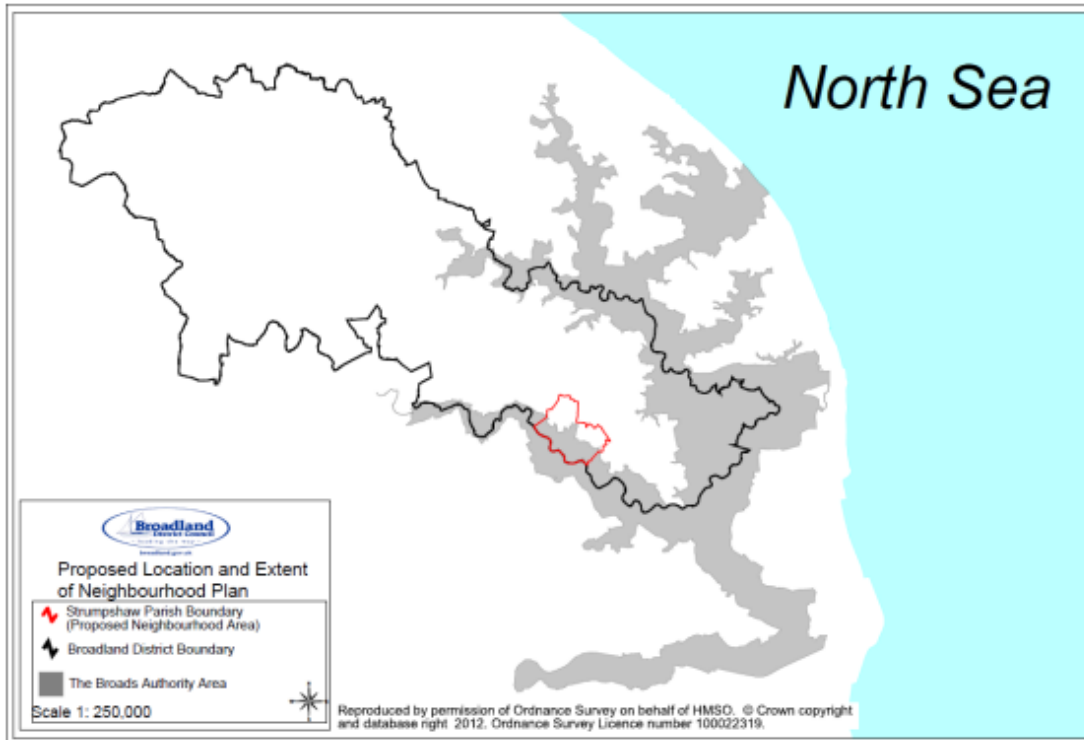
Source: South Norfolk and Broadland District Council website.² Map obtained 02.01.2024.



2.3 Strumpshaw parish is located within Broadland District Council and the area closest to the river Yare is within the Broads Authority. The Broads Authority is responsible for planning (and navigation) in the Broads National Park.

² <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/adopted-neighbourhood-plans-broadland/strumpshaw-neighbourhood-plan>. Map obtained 02.02.2024.

Figure 2 below: Map showing the boundaries of Strumpshaw parish, Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority areas.
Source: Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan 2014 Sustainability Appraisal – Background material.³



- 2.4 Both Broadland District and South Norfolk Councils have worked with Norwich City Council and Norfolk County Council to prepare the Greater Norwich Local Plan (GNLP). The GNLP plans for the housing and job needs of the area to 2038 and builds on the long-established joint working arrangement for Greater Norwich. It includes strategic policies to guide future development and plans to protect the environment. It looks to ensure that delivery of development is done in a way which promotes sustainability and the effective functioning of the whole area.
- 2.5 The GNLP was adopted by Broadland District Council at a Council meeting on 28 March 2024.
- 2.6 The Broads Authority is reviewing the Local Plan for the Broads. Whilst this is completed, the policies in the current Local Plan for the Broads are still in place. The Preferred Options consultation ended on 17 May 2024 and the next stage is the Regulation 19 consultation, which is going to the Planning Committee and Broads Authority for

³ https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/__data/assets/pdf_file/0034/184858/6_Strumpshaw_NP_SA_Supporting_Documents_Part_1.pdf

endorsement to consult mid February 2025. Most of the policies were already included in the currently adopted Local Plan, with some amendments and some policies are new.⁴

- 2.7 The Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review Steering Group has developed the draft aims, vision, objectives and policies of the Neighbourhood Plan Review through community consultation.
- 2.8 A Data Profile for the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review has been completed, which contains information on community infrastructure, housing and the built-environment, transport and access and environment and landscape. Information from the data profile is used within this SEA screening.

- 2.9 The Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review draft vision is:

By 2045, Strumpshaw parish will continue to be a small, tranquil and rural village with hamlets. Areas of high landscape value, woodlands, marshes, fens, green spaces and local heritage will be valued, protected and enhanced, complementing the designated nature reserves.

Strumpshaw will continue to be distinct from Lingwood, Brundall and Blofield parishes.

Strumpshaw will have improved pedestrian safety and enhanced connections. Any new development will be well designed supported by appropriate community infrastructure. It will be environmentally sustainable and responsive to climate change, with thriving biodiversity.

Businesses appropriate to a small rural community will be supported.

- 2.10 The Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review draft objectives and policies at 22 November 2024 are:

⁴ <https://www.broads-authority.gov.uk/planning/planning-policies/local-plan-for-the-broads/local-plan-for-the-broads-review>. Information obtained 09.10.2024.

Neighbourhood Plan objectives (in 2014 adopted Neighbourhood Plan). *Bold text indicates amendments to the objectives.*

<p>Environmental objectives</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain and protect the tranquil and rural nature of the whole of the Parish. 2. Keep the built up core of Strumpshaw separate from those parts of Strumpshaw adjacent to Lingwood, Blofield and Brundall. 3. Resist any development which is in parts of the Parish that are outside the settlement limit. 4. Maintain and protect areas of high landscape value, including wooded areas in private ownership, reflecting the landscape assessments undertaken by the Broads Authority and Broadland District Council. 5. Maintain and protect the marshes and legally designated nature reserves. 6. Protect agricultural land use. 7. Encourage the provision of green space in the built up core of the Parish.
<p>Social objectives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Encourage any new infill housing to be of a low density and in line with the Strumpshaw Design Guidance and Codes document. o Resist the introduction of street lights in order to maintain dark skies. o Continue to promote a safe roads identifying measures to encourage adherence to traffic speed limits, and to reduce conflicts between vehicles and pedestrians. <p><i>Note, the following objectives were also in the 2014 Neighbourhood Plan and have since been achieved:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o <i>Encourage the development of any new housing to include both affordable and lower cost market dwellings, including consideration of housing for elderly people.</i> o <i>Ensure that a community meeting room continues to be provided in the Parish, easily accessible to the majority of residents.</i> o <i>Ensure that sufficient allotments are provided to meet the needs of the residents of the Parish.</i> o <i>Encourage the completion of the footpath along Norwich Road, Strumpshaw, between Beech Drive and Goat Lane.</i>
<p>Economic objectives</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Encourage the provision of small scale and low impact employment opportunities.

SET OF NEW POLICIES

POLICY STR1: New housing

Strumpshaw will accommodate single dwellings and small scale infill development that is

- consistent with its position within the Local Plan settlement hierarchy,
- reflects and complements the rural character of the parish,
- is sensitive to the natural environment and history of the area.

Location and scale

All new single dwellings and small scale infill must integrate with existing development and be located near community facilities. Outside the defined settlement boundary, development proposals will only be permitted where they are in accordance with national⁵ and district level⁶ policies.

Strategic gaps

Proposals within the strategic gaps that would clearly lead to the erosion of local distinctiveness and the character of Strumpshaw, or to the coalescence of settlements, will not be supported.

Housing mix

Proposals for new housing should take into account local needs, as identified in the Strumpshaw Housing Needs Assessment. New development should principally comprise dwellings of 3-bedrooms or fewer.

Any Affordable Housing should include affordable rent and home ownership (First Homes, Shared Ownership, Rent to Buy). Specialist housing for older people in Strumpshaw is encouraged.

POLICY STR2: Design guidelines and codes

The design of all new development in Strumpshaw parish must reflect the local distinctiveness and character of the area, as outlined in Chapter 2 'Local character' of the **Strumpshaw Design Codes and Guidance** and be physically integrated where possible.

As appropriate to their scale, nature and location, proposals for new development should accord with guidelines and codes set out in the Strumpshaw Design Codes and Guidance:

- Village and settlement layout
 - Patterns of growth
 - Settlement boundaries and development edges
 - Building density
 - Building setback and orientation
 - Building heights and roofline

⁵ As defined in NPPF, paragraph 80.

⁶ Adopted Local Plan.

- Infill development and back of plot development
- Housing extensions and conversions
- Maintaining the rural character
 - Materials and architectural details
 - Heritage and landmarks
 - Continuity and enclosure
 - Boundary treatments
- Traffic and mobility
 - Options for traffic calming
 - People-friendly streets
 - Walking connectivity and wayfinding
 - Parking
- Sustainability and eco-housing
 - Biodiversity
 - Water management and SuDS
 - Domestic water management
 - Minimising energy use
 - Photovoltaic panels
 - Electric vehicle charging points

POLICY STR3: Business premises

Small scale employment premises appropriate to the character of Strumpshaw parish will be encouraged, especially those that contribute to local amenity. Businesses that have a detrimental impact on the quiet, natural and built environment of Strumpshaw will not be supported.

POLICY STR4: Heritage assets

In addition to the Listed Buildings in Strumpshaw, the following are heritage assets that are considered to be locally important to Strumpshaw in terms of their architectural, historical, or cultural significance and these will be treated as Non-designated Heritage Assets:

1. The old Strumpshaw primary school
2. Marshman's cottages*:
 - a. Marsh Cottage, Low Road (SE)
 - b. Carr Cottage, Low Road (SE)
 - c. Wood Cottage, Low Road (SE)
 - d. Grove Cottage, Low Road (SE)
 - e. Meadow Croft Cottage, Low Road
 - f. Spruce Cottage, Low Road (SE)
 - g. Marsh House, Tinkers Lane
 - h. RSPB marshman's cottage
 - i. Stromessaga, Low Road
 - j. Tumbleweed, Low Road
3. Buckenham Railway Station
4. Oakleigh Cottage
5. Buckenham Ferry Drainage Mill

6. Strumpshaw Steam Engine House
7. WW2 Pill box
8. Hasingham Hall
9. The Old School, Buckenham
10. White Cottage
11. Broad House
12. Broad Farm
13. The Hollies
14. Holly Lodge
15. Thatchers, Hollies Cottage, Buckenham Road
16. Houses along Hemblington Road
 - a. The Cedars
 - b. Brandon House
17. The Huntsman's Pub
18. Remuera, Chapel Road
19. Beech Drive barns
 - a. Little Barn, Beech Drive
 - b. South Barn, Beech Drive
 - c. Thatch Barn, Beech Drive
20. Run Cottage

* Groupings of properties.
SE: Strumpshaw Estate.

Development proposals should conserve these heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance. Proposals affecting a Non-designated Heritage Asset should give consideration to:

- i. The character, distinctiveness and important features of the heritage asset;
- ii. The setting of the heritage asset and its relationship to its immediate surroundings;
- iii. The contribution that the heritage asset makes to the character of the area.

POLICY STR5: Natural assets and biodiversity

In addition to the Broads National Park, and designated areas within it, which include the Yare Broads and Marshes SSSI and Cantley Marshes SSSI, the following are recognised as important natural assets of the parish due to their landscape and/or biodiversity value, and should be conserved and enhanced:

1. County Wildlife Sites
 - a. 2162 Strumpshaw Wood
 - b. 2146 Buckenham Wood
 - c. Long Meadow, Buckenham Carrs
 - d. Farm Carr
 - e. Highnoon Farm, Braydeston (small part in Strumpshaw parish)
2. Ancient woodland
 - a. Strumpshaw Wood
 - b. Buckenham Wood

3. Roadside Nature Reserve 61 at Long Lane
4. Candidate County Geodiversity sites
 - a. Buckenham Station Pit
 - b. Strumpshaw Pit
 - c. The Sandpit

The provision of improved public access to natural assets will be encouraged where it is practical and appropriate to do so and is sensitive to the environment.

Enhancing biodiversity

As appropriate to their scale, nature and location, development proposals should retain existing features of biodiversity value (including hedgerow and field margins, trees, woodlands, grass verges, meadows, rivers, streams, ponds and drainage ditches). Development proposals must identify how they will provide a minimum 10 percent net gain in biodiversity (on site in the first instance), for example through:

- a. The creation of new natural habitats and improvements to, or connections between, fragments of habitats identified above.
- b. The planting of additional native trees and hedgerows, for wildlife, screening and landscaping purposes.
- c. Linked wildlife habitat areas between, and in new developments, e.g. gardens, roadside verges, hedges, green and blue corridors.
- d. Soft site boundaries (e.g. hedges and trees) where development is adjacent to agricultural land, open spaces or the settlement edge.
- e. Integrated bird boxes, bat boxes, hedgehog highways, and bee- and butterfly-friendly planting on the site.

POLICY STR6: Ecological corridors

Proposals for new development will be expected to retain, protect and enhance existing ecological corridors within the parish.

Opportunities should be taken to enhance and connect the ecological network including:

- a. Linear features such as the Yare River and streams and their associated habitats; hedgerows, mature trees and ditch networks.
- b. Links between hedgerow and field margins, trees, woodlands, grass verges, meadows, ancient grasslands, rivers, streams, ponds and drainage ditches.

POLICY STR7: Local Green Spaces

The following areas are designated as Local Green Spaces for special protection:

1. Buckenham and Hasingham Social Club recreational area
2. Old Rectory Snowdrop Wood
3. Allotments
4. Small copse
5. Stone Pit
6. Footpath to Stone Pit and former land fill site

7. Triangular piece of land that is adjacent to Low Road, Stone Road and Long Lane
8. Woodland adjacent to the railway line
9. Railway Wood
10. Corner of Mill Road and Norwich Road

The management of development within areas of Local Green Space will be consistent with that of development within Green Belts as set out in national policy.

To enhance biodiversity, developers should seek opportunities to connect Local Green Spaces with existing green corridors.

POLICY STR8: Important local views

Development proposals should respect their landscape setting, including any identified important local views within which they are located or which they affect. The following views are identified as important in Strumpshaw parish:

- A. Continuous views from multiple points along Wood Lane looking south across the Yare Valley.
- B. View from high point of Barn Hill looking south towards the River Yare and beyond to Poringland south of the river.
- C. View from Hassingham Church Road towards Buckenham.
- D. View from footpath to St Peter's Church, Strumpshaw.
- E. View from Buckenham Road looking west towards Norwich.

Development proposals within or affecting an important local view should demonstrate how they have responded positively to the view concerned and safeguarded its integrity and local importance.

POLICY STR9: Dark skies

Development proposals should take account of the existing dark skies in Strumpshaw parish and limit the impact of light pollution from artificial light. Street lighting will not be supported on any development.

For new individual dwellings and businesses, lighting necessary for security or safety should be designed to minimise the impact on dark skies by, for example, minimal light spillage, use of downlighting, movement sensitive lighting and restricting hours of lighting. Lighting likely to cause disturbance or risk to wildlife will not be supported.

POLICY STR10: Localised surface water flooding and sewage management

Development proposals within the immediate vicinity of the areas below, should take account of all relevant evidence of flooding. Development must not cause or contribute to new flooding or drainage issues and should mitigate its own drainage impacts.

There are a number of locations that have surface water drainage issues. The following locations within the parish are identified:

1. Opposite the Huntsman public house, Norwich Road.
2. Norwich and Stone Road junction, opposite Kelcrow Engineering.
3. Hemblington Road, between Norwich Road and the railway bridge.
4. Lackford Run, at end of Long Lane on parish boundary.
5. Bend/junction of Stone Road and School Road, Buckenham.

Any new development must contribute to an improved sewage system for the parish, and not further exacerbate the problem.

POLICY STR11: Highway safety (previously adopted policy)

Development will be expected to ensure that there is no detriment to highway safety and, where possible, help to reduce existing risks.

POLICY STR12: Public access

Through any new development, opportunities will be sought to enhance and join up networks of existing Public Rights of Way and permissive paths, suitable for all users.

The provision of improved public access will be supported, in particular where there are opportunities to:

- a. Make connections through developments and enable a cohesive village network.
- b. Connect to other surrounding parishes.
- c. Link to existing community infrastructure.
- d. Enable access to open countryside.

POLICY STR13: Existing and new community infrastructure

The Plan identifies the following existing community infrastructure (as shown on figure:

1. Strumpshaw Community Hall and car park
2. Strumpshaw allotments (also a Local Green Space)
3. Strumpshaw Steam Museum at Strumpshaw Hall
4. St. Peter's Church, Strumpshaw

5. St. Mary's Church, Hassingham
6. St. Nicholas' Church, Buckenham
7. Buckenham and Hassingham Social Club
8. The Shoulder of Mutton public house, Strumpshaw
9. Bus shelter, Norwich Road, Strumpshaw

Proposals for the improvement, adaptation or extension of existing community infrastructure will be supported where they comply with other development plan policies.

Proposals for change of use, involving a potential loss of existing community infrastructure, will only be supported where:

- i. an improved or equivalent facility can be located in an equally or more accessible position in the parish, or
- ii. it can be demonstrated that there is no reasonable prospect of continued viable use.

Proposals for the following new types of community infrastructure will be supported:

- a. Central green space for community use
- b. Play space
- c. Public electric vehicle charging points
- d. Community car parking

POLICY STR14: Former landfill site

Proposals that would provide enhanced environmental and amenity value to the former landfill site will be supported, in particular:

- A small car park for the site
- Increased biodiversity
- Enhanced or improved information boards

3. Legislative Background

- 3.1 European Directive 2001/42/EC on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment ('SEA Directive') introduces the need to undertake a strategic environmental assessment ('SEA') during the development of some plans and programmes. The main purpose of SEA, according to Article 1 of the SEA Directive, is:
- 'to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.'
- 3.2 The SEA Directive is transcribed into UK law through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, which establishes the requirement to undertake a sustainability appraisal (SA) for some documents used for planning purposes. The SA process incorporates the requirement for SEA, but typically has a broader scope and considers the social and economic issues in addition to the environmental effects.
- 3.3 The requirement to undertake SA of supplementary planning documents (SPD) was removed by the Planning Act 2008. However, the need to establish whether the planning document requires SEA, through the SEA Directive, remains. Articles 2 and 3 of the SEA Directive explain which plans and programmes require SEA. The Government's Planning Practice Guidance, suggests that an SPD will only require an SEA in exceptional circumstances, if they are likely to have significant environmental effects that have not already been assessed through the preparation of the Local Plan.
- 3.4 The Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 amends the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2013 to provide clarification on the SEA related documents which must be submitted alongside neighbourhood planning proposals. Regulation 2(4) of the amendment regulations 2015 adds to the list of documents that a neighbourhood planning group must submit to a local planning authority with a proposal for a neighbourhood plan, which is presented in regulation 6 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012. The additional document which must be submitted is either an environmental report, should SEA be required, or a statement of reasons why an environmental assessment is not required.
- 3.5 The UK left the EU on 31st January 2020. Under the UK-EU withdrawal agreement, a transition period ended on 31st December 2020, during which time all EU law continued to apply to the UK. During the transition

period the UK needed to continue following domestic law that implements EU law, or directly applicable EU law that is given effect through the EUWA 2018. Beyond the transition period, the SEA Regulations, which previously implemented the requirements of the SEA Directive in England, will continue to apply as before unless and until new legislation is introduced.⁷

4. An overview of the screening assessment

- 4.1 Figure 1 overleaf is taken from 'A practical guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' and illustrates the process for screening a Neighbourhood Plan to ascertain whether a full SEA is required (Article numbers relate to European Directive 2001/42/EC).
- 4.2 The screening for the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review is highlighted in orange. To carry out the screening process it is necessary to consider each of the criteria set out in Figure 1, this is done in Table 1 on the following page.
- 4.3 Table 2 addresses criteria 8 by considering if the pre-submission draft Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have a significant effect on the environment. This is done by considering the Plan against the criteria for determining the likely significance of effects referred to in the Directive⁸. The criteria are listed in Table 2 of this document.
- 4.4 Once the process set out in Figure 1 has been completed, a screening outcome can be reached and the conclusion can be found in section 5.

⁷ www.neighbourhoodplanning.org/toolkits-and-guidance/understand-plan-requires-strategic-environmental-assessment-sea/ Information obtained 02.07.2024.

⁸ Article 3.5 of European Directive 2001

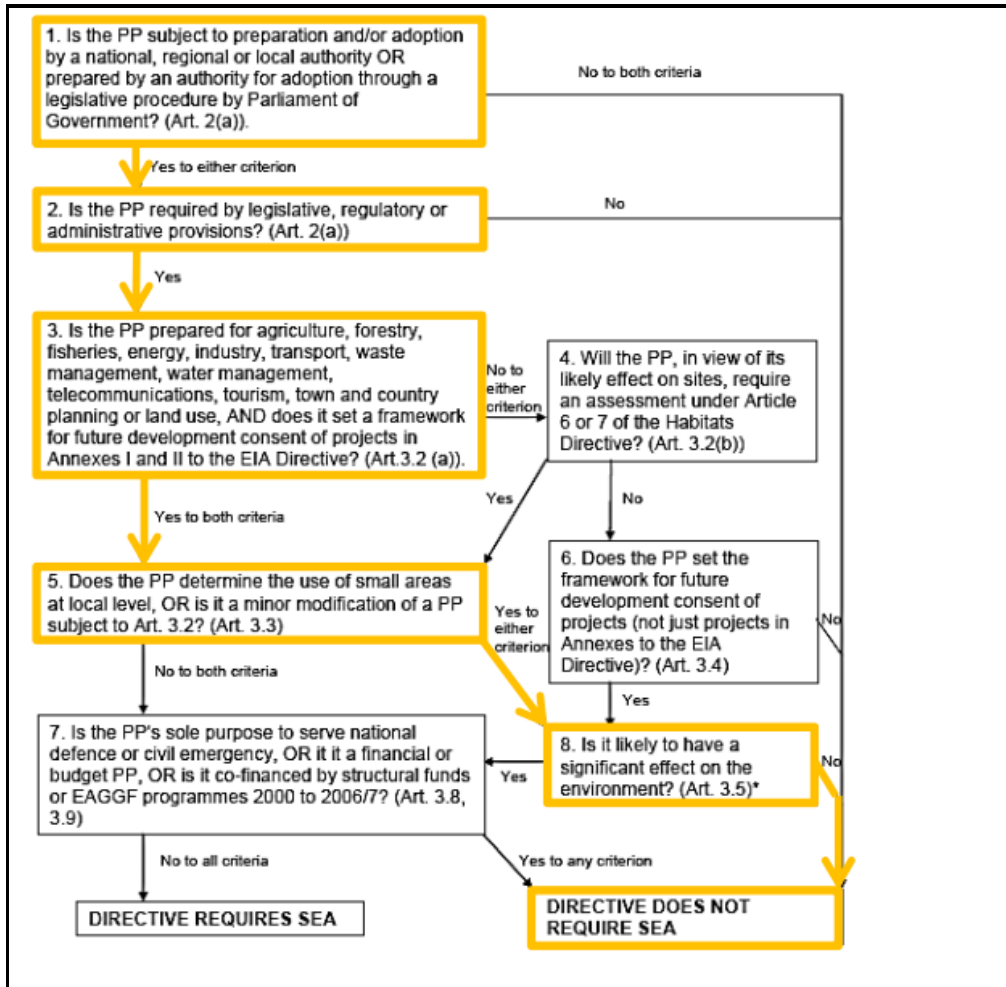


Figure 3 above: Application of the SEA Directive to Neighbourhood Plans.

5. The assessment of the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review

Table 1 below assesses the need for full SEA of the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review. The criteria in Table 1 are drawn from Figure 1 which sets out how the SEA Directive should be applied.

Table 1: Assessment of the Need for SEA for the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review

Assessment Criteria	Assessment	Reason
1. Is the Plan subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government? (Art. 2(a0))	Yes	The intention is for the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review to be adopted by Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority through a legislative procedure.
2. Is the Plan required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))	Yes	The Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review would be a statutory document, prepared in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 as amended.
3. Is the Plan prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, AND does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II to the EIX Directive?	Yes	The Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review is a document prepared for town and country planning purposes. It aims to influence and shape new development in line with the Greater Norwich Local Plan and the Broads Authority Local Plan.
5. Does the plan determine the use of small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a Plan or Programme subject to Art. 3.2?	Yes	The Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review will determine the use of small areas at a local level and contains no site allocations for development. The Neighbourhood Plan does

Assessment Criteria	Assessment	Reason
See above	See above	support accommodating single dwellings and small scale infill development that is <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • consistent with its position within the Local Plan settlement hierarchy, • reflects and complements the rural character of the parish, • is sensitive to the natural environment and history of the area. Proposals for the following new types of community infrastructure will be supported on the former landfill site: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Central green space for community use b. Play space c. Public electric vehicle charging points d. Community car parking
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment (Article 3.5)?	No	Justification is given for this decision in Table 2.

The final question in the SEA screening process for the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review was question 8: Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? In asking this question, the SEA Directive refers to Article 3.5, which states that the relevant criteria in Annex II of the SEA Directive shall be considered when determining whether there are likely to be significant effects. Table 2 below, uses the criteria in Annex II to determine if the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review requires SEA.

Table 2: Determining the Likely Significant Effects of the of the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review on the Environment.

Criteria in Annex II of the SEA Directive	Assessment	Is there a Significant Environmental effect?
<p>(1) Characteristics of the plan and programmes, having regard, in particular, to: The degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources.</p>	<p>The draft Neighbourhood Plan Review sets a framework for development within the parish in accordance with the Greater Norwich Local Plan and the Broads Authority Local Plan. The draft Neighbourhood Plan builds upon the existing framework by providing some additional details of the nature of development and supplements the existing policy on a local scale only. There are no site allocations within the Neighbourhood Plan. There is support for single dwellings and small scale infill development and a community car park on the old landfill site.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans or programmes including those in a hierarchy.</p>	<p>The Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review will be adopted alongside the Greater Norwich Local Plan and the Broads Authority Local Plan and provides supplementary information on a local scale rather than influencing the overall direction of the Local Plan.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>The relevance of the plan for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.</p>	<p>The policies in the Neighbourhood Plan Review promote sustainable development through conserving and enhancing natural assets and biodiversity, protecting Local Green Spaces, improving local flooding issues and protecting views of community importance and dark skies and enhancing and connecting the ecological network.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme.</p>	<p>There are no environmental problems relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of</p>	<p>The Neighbourhood Plan Review is in conformity with the GNLP adopted by Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority Local Plan and is</p>	<p>No</p>

Criteria in Annex II of the SEA Directive	Assessment	Is there a Significant Environmental effect?
community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	therefore not directly relevant to the implementation of other European legislation.	No
(2) Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, to: The probability, duration, frequency, and reversibility of the effects.	The overall impacts of the Neighbourhood Plan Review will be in accordance with the GNLP adopted by Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority Local Plan and unlikely to have significant effects.	No
The cumulative nature of the effects.	The Neighbourhood Plan review will not lead to significant cumulative negative effects.	No
The transboundary nature of the effects.	The Neighbourhood Plan Review is unlikely to have an impact on neighbouring parishes. Proposals within strategic gaps that would clearly lead to the erosion of local distinctiveness and the character of Strumpshaw, or to the coalescence of settlements, will not be supported.	No
The risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents).	The Neighbourhood Plan Review is unlikely to introduce significant risks to human health or the environment.	No
The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected.)	The Neighbourhood Plan area covers the civil parish of Strumpshaw. The usual resident population of Strumpshaw parish was 696 usual residents on Census day 2021. The Neighbourhood Plan policies are unlikely to have a significant impact on a wider geographical area or population. There are no site allocations in the Neighbourhood Plan.	No
The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be	The Neighbourhood Plan policies should protect and enhance the natural assets and biodiversity of the parish and heritage assets. The Neighbourhood	No

Criteria in Annex II of the SEA Directive	Assessment	Is there a Significant Environmental effect?
affected by the plan due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Special natural characteristics or cultural heritage - Exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values - Intensive land use - The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status. 	Plan does not include any site allocations and should contribute to achieving sustainable development in the parish.	No

5. Screening Outcome

As a result of the findings in Table 1 and Table 2, it is concluded that the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review is not likely to have significant environmental effects and full SEA is not required. There are no site allocations within the Neighbourhood Plan.

The three statutory consultation bodies, Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency were consulted regarding the screening outcomes of this report, in accordance with regulation 9(2) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Responses were received from Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency in agreement that full SEA is not required. The responses can be seen in Appendix A.

Broadland District Council issued a SEA Determination Statement following the outcome of the consultation with the Statutory Bodies. This can be seen in Appendix B.

Appendix A: Consultation responses from Statutory Bodies

Sources: Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency.

Dear Richard,

I am writing in relation to the following:

SEA/SA/IIA: Strategic Environmental Assessment/ Sustainability Appraisal/ Integrated Impact Assessment SEA for Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan, Strumpshaw, Norwich, Broadland, Norfolk [Case Ref. PL00797873; HE File Ref. ; Your Reference.]

Thank you for inviting Historic England to comment on this consultation. As the Government's adviser on the historic environment Historic England is keen to ensure that the protection of the historic environment is fully taken into account at all stages and levels of the local planning process. Therefore we welcome this opportunity to review the Screening Report for this plan. For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine its advice to the question, 'Is it (the Neighbourhood Plan) likely to have a significant effect on the historic environment?'. Our comments are based on the information supplied with the Screening Opinion.

The Screening Report indicates that the Council considers that the plan will not have any significant effects on the historic environment. We note that the plan does not propose to allocate any sites for development.

On the basis of the information supplied, and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], Historic England concurs with the Council that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

The views of the other two statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for an SEA is made.

I should be pleased if you can send a copy of the determination as required by REG 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

We should like to stress that this opinion is based on the information provided by you with your correspondence. To avoid any doubt, this does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on later stages of the SEA process and, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the plan) where we consider that, despite the SEA, these would have an adverse effect upon the environment.

Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological

staff of the relevant local authorities are closely involved throughout the preparation of the plan and its assessment. They are best placed to advise on; local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the Historic Environment Record (HER), how the allocation, policy or proposal can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of heritage assets.

Please do contact me, either via email or the number below, if you have any queries.

Yours Sincerely

Edward James
Historic Places Advisor, East of England
E-mail: Edward.James@HistoricEngland.org.uk
Direct Dial: 01223 582746

Dear Mr Squires

Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review - SEA & HRA Screening Reports
Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 20 December 2024.

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.

Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

It is Natural England's advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that:

- significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely; and,
- significant effects on Habitats sites, either alone or in combination, are unlikely.

The proposed neighbourhood plan is unlikely to significantly affect any Site of Special Scientific Interest

(SSSI), Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection areas (SPA), Ramsar wetland or sites in the process of becoming SACs or SPAs ('candidate SACs', 'possible SACs', 'potential SPAs') or a Ramsar wetland. The plan area is unlikely to have a significant effect on a National Park, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or Heritage Coast, and is unlikely to impact upon the purposes for which these areas are designated or defined.

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 is contained within the Planning Practice Guidance. This identifies three triggers that may require the production of an SEA:

- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan
- the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected Habitats sites are those referred to in the National Planning Policy Framework (Annex 2 - glossary) as "any site which would be included within the definition at regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 for the purpose of those regulations, including candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas and any relevant Marine Sites" species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require an SEA. Further information is included in Natural England's standing advice on protected species.

Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant an SEA. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission standing advice.

We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan

before determining whether a SEA is necessary.

Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If a SEA is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

Please send any new consultations, or further information on this consultation to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

Yours sincerely

Sally Wintle

Consultations Team

Dear Mr Squires

STRUMPSHAW NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW - SEA SCREENING REPORT

Thank you for consulting us on the Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report for the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review. We have reviewed the report, as submitted, and do not disagree with the conclusion that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required. We have set out some advisory comments below.

Water Quality

We have identified that the Plan area boundary includes the catchment for Whitlingham Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW), which is currently operating close to or exceeding its permitted capacity. Given the Plan does not allocate sites for growth development across the Plan period, we do not have any significant concerns. We would still expect to see consideration for any windfall developments captured in a relevant policy for Water Quality in the catchment of the Plan Area and serving WWTW.

Flood Risk

We find that there are areas of fluvial flood risk and watercourses within the neighbourhood plan area. In particular, we note that the boundary does extend into areas of Flood Zones 2 and 3 of the designated main River Yare. On the basis that future development is steered away from the sensitive aspects of the environment highlighted, we do not consider there to be potential significant environmental effects relating to these environmental constraints. Nevertheless, we recommend the inclusion of relevant policies to cover the management of flood risk. Allocation of any sites and any windfall development delivered through the Plan period should follow the sequential approach. National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 172 sets this

out. The Lead Local Flood Authority's Surface Water Management Plan will indicate if there are any critical drainage areas from local sources of flood risk (e.g. surface water, groundwater and sewerage) which coincide with the neighbourhood plan area.

Published Joint Guidance on Neighbourhood Planning

We encourage you to seek ways in which your neighbourhood plan can improve the local environment. For your information, together with Natural England, Historic England and Forestry Commission we have published joint guidance on neighbourhood planning, which sets out sources of environmental information and ideas on incorporating the environment into plans. This is available at: [How to consider the environment in Neighbourhood plans - Locality Neighbourhood Planning](#).

We trust this advice is useful.

Yours sincerely

Mr Alasdair Hain-Cole

Planning Officer

Direct dial 02030 255475

Direct e-mail planning.eastanglia@environment-agency.gov.uk

Appendix B: Broadland District Council SEA Determination Statement

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) – Determination Statement

Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review

This determination statement has been produced by Broadland District Council, as the “responsible authority”, to meet the requirements of Regulations 9 and 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The regulations implement European Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment.

SEA Screening Assessment of Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan

Strumpshaw Parish Council is in the process of preparing a modified Neighbourhood Plan for the parish, to replace the original Plan which was made in 2014. A SEA Screening Assessment was undertaken for the draft version of the modified Neighbourhood Plan, and a subsequent report was produced in December 2024. This was a preliminary draft SEA Screening Assessment, subject to consultation with the statutory environmental bodies.

Consultation with Statutory Bodies

The draft SEA Screening Report detailing the results of the initial screening assessment of the plan and the preliminary conclusion shared by Broadland Council and the Qualifying Body, that the plan is not likely to result in significant environmental effects, was circulated to the statutory bodies, namely the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England. The statutory bodies were invited to provide comments on the Screening Report within a 5 week consultation period over December 2024 / January 2025.

Responses were received from all three bodies. Details of these responses can be found in the updated SEA Screening Report.

In summary:

- The Environment Agency supports the conclusion that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.
- Historic England concurs with the Council that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required, based on the information provided.

- Natural England supports the conclusion of the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Report that significant effects on statutorily designated nature conservation sites or landscapes are unlikely.

Conclusion

Based on the assessment undertaken in the SEA Screening Report and the responses received from the consultation bodies, the Council considers that it is unlikely that significant environmental effects will arise from implementation of the Strumpshaw Neighbourhood Plan Review, and therefore that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

Broadland District Council, January 2025