

THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF PLANS AND PROGRAMMES
REGULATIONS 2004 REGULATION 9 SCREENING PROCESS
Rolleston on Dove Neighbourhood Development Plan

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects (Annex II SEA Directive)	Likely to have significant environmental effects	Summary of significant effects
<p>1a 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>No</p>	<p>The NP will set out a spatial vision for the designated Rolleston-on-Dove NP area and provide a framework for proposals for development in Rolleston-on-Dove regarding housing, community facilities, infrastructure and the protection of valued open spaces.</p> <p>The NP is considered to be in general conformity with the saved policies from ESBC's extant Local Plan, adopted in 2006. It is also considered to be in conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).</p> <p>Consideration is also given to the new emerging Local Plan, although this is still understood to be subject to considerable additional changes before it reaches a stage whereby it can be afforded significant weight.</p>
<p>1b The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans or programmes including those in a hierarchy.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The NP, where possible, will respond to rather than influence other plans or programmes. An NP can only provide policies for the area it covers and the remainder of the development plan for determining planning applications, produced by ESBC, provides the necessary strategic context. None of the policies in the NP have a direct impact on other plans in neighbouring areas.</p> <p>The NP will help to deliver the overall aims of the extant Local Plan and, based on the latest published version, of the emerging new Local Plan. In recognising the need for new housing, the NP proposes to expand the existing development boundary of Rolleston-on-Dove in order to accommodate needed growth (Policy OS1).</p> <p>Only limited attention has been given to a comparative examination of Rolleston-on-Dove's environmental characteristics and how these compare relative to East Staffordshire and the rest of the county. This stance is taken since this activity is not particularly helpful to the plan delivery process.</p>

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		<p>This is because of the nature and thrust of the overall NP objectives. The focus taken therefore is upon the issues already identified within East Staffordshire and ensuring that the NP objectives seek, as far as possible, to address these.</p>
<p>1c The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Proposals set out in the NP are planned to balance environmental, social and economic considerations of sustainable development. However, the NP recognises that for rural communities such as Rolleston-on-Dove, the importance of the surrounding environment is particularly acute.</p> <p>It is considered that the NP will have a positive impact on local environmental assets and places valued by local people in the Rolleston-on-Dove NP area. This is achieved primarily through the the protection and enhancement of green spaces (Policy OS2) and also the protection of important views (Policy OS3). Development is directed to areas where the environmental impacts are low and which are not valued by the wider community per se.</p> <p>In addition, new development is considered to provide for important social needs, particularly through the provision of smaller properties built to Lifetime Homes Standards (Policy H2) and also the policy in respect of affordable housing priority (Policy H3). The immediate physical impacts of development on the environment are sought, as far as is possible, to be offset by the policy on energy efficient buildings (Policy D3).</p>
<p>1d Environmental problems relevant to the plan.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The impact on traffic flow from the proposed developments in the NP is not expected to be a concern, given that the overall levels of residential growth proposed are unlikely to give rise to significant additional car movements such that the existing road network would be unacceptably congested.</p> <p>In addition, the proposed developments are phased so additional traffic movements should be comfortably accommodated over time on the basis that they will make appropriate contributions towards the cost of any necessary highways improvements, as required by ESBC Local Plan Saved Policy T1.</p>

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		<p>There are no major housing or employment sites being allocated. Both proposed allocations are to deliver just 12 dwellings each.</p> <p>There are no Air Quality Management Areas within the NP boundary.</p>
1e The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	No	The NP will be in compliance with the extant Local Plan and, as presently proposed, the emerging new Local Plan which will have taken account of existing European and National legislative framework for environmental protection and it will therefore have a positive effect on compliance with regard to relevant legislation and programmes.
2a The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects.	No	It is highly unlikely that there will be any irreversible damaging environmental impacts associated with the NP. The policies in the NP seek to ensure that any new development is built to high levels of sustainability.
2b The cumulative nature of the effects.	No	It is not considered that the policies cumulatively will have any more than minimal negative effects and moderate to significant positive effects. It is considered that all effects will be local in impact.
2c The trans boundary nature of the effects.	No	Effects will be local with no expected impacts on neighbouring areas. It is certainly not considered that the NP would have any impact on any of the Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) within the wider vicinity of the NP area, such as the Cannock Chase, River Mease and Peak District Dales SACs.
2d The risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents).	No	No obvious risks have been identified. However, this is not surprising, given that the planning objectives reveal that the primary focus of the NP will be to enhance and protect the environment and to provide for the identified social needs of the changing population of Rolleston-on-Dove.
2e The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognized national, community or international protection status.	No	It is considered that the NP will not adversely affect areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection. This is because there are no such designations within the NP area and none which are close to areas which are proposed to be affected by development.

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<p>2f The magnitude spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected).</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The NP relates to an area of 655ha. The resident population of the NP area was 3,267 in 2011 (source: 2011 Census).</p> <p>Only a small proportion of the NP area will be affected by the NP policies because they are focused on Rolleston-on-Dove village, which sits in a wider rural hinterland. As such, they will have a very local impact.</p> <p>The proposed housing allocations (Policies H5a and H5b) will create new areas of development on currently undeveloped areas. Both are adjacent to existing residential areas so there may be some impacts on existing local residents.</p> <p>However, these residents currently live within the built-up area of Rolleston-on-Dove so it is not considered that these impacts will be detrimental to their residential amenity, subject to detailed design matters being appropriately dealt with through any planning application. This is the primary policy where there will be local impacts.</p> <p>The proposed protection of open spaces of community value (Policy OS2) relates to mostly small, very specific areas and environmental features which the community has identified as being of importance to them. Therefore the protection of these areas has a positive impact on the local people who use and enjoy these areas, i.e. the impact is local in nature.</p>
<p>2g The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to:</p> <p>(i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage</p> <p>(ii) exceeded environmental quality standards</p> <p>(iii) intensive land-use</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The NP is unlikely to adversely affect the value and vulnerability of the area in relation to its natural or cultural heritage. If anything it will provide greater support to enhance the setting of heritage, heritage assets and green spaces.</p> <p>The proposed housing allocations (Policies H5a and H5b) are both outside and not adjacent to the Conservation Area of Rolleston-on-Dove, nor are they within the vicinity of any listed buildings within the NP area.</p> <p>The NP does not provide specific policies in relation to design of development within or adjacent to the Rolleston-on-Dove Conservation Area;</p>

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		<p>this should be addressed in the normal way through the appropriate planning application process, ensuring that applications are in accordance with ESBC Local Plan Saved Policies BE1 and H6. Therefore the plan has a neutral impact on the conservation and enhancement of the historic environment and the area’s heritage assets.</p> <p>Where possible, policies will encourage new opportunities for recreation, access and leisure. This is provided by the policies which protect existing open spaces of value to the local community (Policy OS2) and which provide for new leisure facilities (Policy IN2). The NP policies have no impact on any known sites of ecological or environmental importance. Part of the NP area is designated as Coastal and Floodplain Grazing Marsh Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitat and there are three designated areas of Deciduous Woodland BAP Priority Habitat. None of the policies have any impact on these designations.</p> <p>Improved open spaces will help manage environmental risks and improve their resilience to climate change. For example, the risk of flooding can be managed by providing sustainable drainage systems to retain water on site. However, this is now standard practice and it is not considered necessary for the NP to have a policy requiring this; it should be addressed appropriately through any planning application.</p> <p>Part of the proposed allocation of land at Knowles Hill (Policy H5a) is within Flood Zone 2. However, the relatively low density of development sought (24 dwellings per hectare), coupled with the range of available mitigation measures for development, means that any threats of flooding could be appropriately mitigated.</p>
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As a result of the assessment above, it is unlikely there will be any significant environmental effects arising from the Rolleston-on-Dove NP. As such, it is considered that the NP does not require a full SEA to be undertaken.