

Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan

NEWARK & SHERWOOD DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Farnsfield Neighbourhood Development Plan — SEA & HRA Screening Statement

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### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This document contains the Screening Statements for the Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan (the Plan) with regards to whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and/or Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) are required to be undertaken.
- 1.2 Regulation 15 of the 2012 Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations sets out the information that must accompany a Neighbourhood Plan when submitted to the local planning authority. In February 2015 amendments to the Neighbourhood Plan Regulations came into force; this is known as the Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2015. Regulation 2(4) of these amendments adds additions to the list of documents that a qualifying body must submit to a local planning authority with a Neighbourhood Plan. The additional document which must be submitted is either an environmental report prepared in accordance with the relevant regulations or, if the outcome concludes that an SEA or HRA is not necessary, a statement that sets out how environmental issues have been taken into account and considered during the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (para 167) advises that assessments should be proportionate, and should not repeat policy assessment that has already taken place. In view of this, only a high level screening assessment of the Plan has been undertaken for both the SEA and HRA, and this assessment should be read in conjunction with the relevant reports produced for Newark District Councils Local Development Framework. A conclusion of each assessment is also provided in this document as well information on what the required next steps are in both the SEA and HRA process.
- 1.4 As the responsible authority under relevant regulations, that are described below, Newark & Sherwood District Council have undertaken both of the Screening Assessment's contained in this document working with Farnsfield Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

### Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.5 The requirement for a SEA to be undertaken on development plans and programmes that may have a significant environmental effect is outlined in European Union Directive 200142/EC. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the 2004 Regulations) state that this is determined by a screening process, utilising a specified set of criteria which is outlined in Schedule 1 of the Regulations. The results of this process must be set out in an SEA Screening Statement, which must be publicly available.
- 1.6 The objective of undertaking an SEA 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, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment."

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> SEA Directive, Article 1

### **Habitat Regulations Assessment**

- 1.7 European protected sites (the 'Natura 2000 Network') are of exceptional importance for the conservation of important species and natural habitats within the European Union. The network of European protected sites comprises Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) and Ramsar sites designated under the Ramsar Convention 1975. Government guidance advises that potential SPAs (pSPA), candidate SACs (cSAC) and potential Ramsar (pRamsar) sites are also included in HRA's.
- 1.8 As a land use plan, an assessment of the draft Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan (the Plan) may be required under the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) Regulations 2012 (the Habitat Regulations) and Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive in order to determine whether the Plan may result in a significant effect on identified sites.
- 1.9 As with the SEA process, a screening process is used to establish whether any elements of the Draft Plan may have a significant effect on these sites. Regulation 32 of the Regulations 2015 further reemphasises the importance of carrying out this assessment by stating that one of the basic conditions that must be met before the Plan may be 'made' is that "the making of the neighbourhood plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site (as defined in the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2012) or a European offshore marine site (as defined in the Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 2007 (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects)".<sup>2</sup>

### **Summary of Findings**

1.10 Following the undertaking of the Screening Assessments it has been shown that the Plan in its current form will not have any significant negative effects on the environment or any identified European sites. It is considered therefore that a full environmental assessment and habitat regulations assessment is not necessary. This determination has been reached by assessing the contents of the Draft Plan against criteria provided in Schedule 1 of the 2004 Regulations and with regard to Regulation 32 of the 2015 Neighbourhood Planning Regulations & the Habitat Regulations.

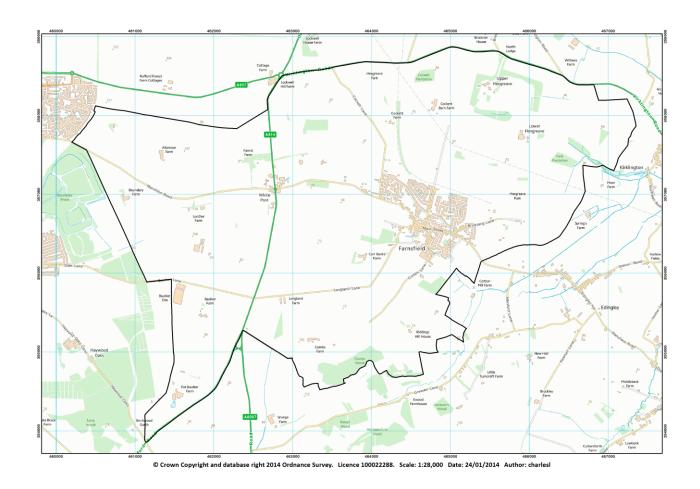
4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Planning Guidance - Reference ID: 41-079-20140306

# 2 The Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan

2.1 The Plan is being produced by Farnsfield Parish Council with the aid of local residents; it plans for the future development and growth of the area up to the year 2031. The NP covers the designated Farnsfield neighbourhood area as seen on **Figure 1** below.

Figure 1: Neighbourhood Plan Area



#### **Draft Plan Overview**

2.2 The main priorities of the Plan are expressed throughout the Draft document, most clearly in its Vision and Objectives; these will be delivered in turn by the 10 Development Management Policies contained in the Plan. The Vision and Objectives of the Plan, as well as the Policies can be found below.

#### Vision

Farnsfield will remain a thriving, cohesive village with a distinctive character, continuing to evolve and expand responsibly, ensuring that growth maintains these features, and providing a superior quality of life for current and future generations.

Sustainable growth will enable the provision of a choice of new homes - including affordable homes which should be indistinguishable and fully integrated with the market housing - to meet the needs of all sections of the community, in a manner which respects the character of the village and wider parish.

### **Objectives**

- Housing: A community where there is a range of housing so people can choose to remain in appropriate accommodation in the village through all stages in their lives.
- **Lifelong sustainability:** A sustainable community which provides opportunities for residents to live and work in the local area throughout all stages of their life.
- **Character:** A village where the character and history are not lost and new developments are sympathetic in terms of size, style, character and density.
- Recreation and accessibility: A sustainable community where needs can be met locally and where there is a diversity of activities and recreational opportunities for all sections of the community.
- **Security and services:** A community where people feel safe, secure and well served by local amenities and facilities.

# **Development Management Policies**

Neighbourhood Plan Policy	Intent
FNP1: HOUSING DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE SETTLEMENT BOUNDARY OF FARNSFIELD	This Policy supports the development of new housing within the established settlement boundary of Farnsfield subject to the proposal meeting a number of criteria related to local character, amenity of neighbouring properties, local infrastructure and sustainability.
FNP2: INFILL DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE VILLAGE CURTILAGE	This Policy deals specifically with infill developments in Farnsfield. Offering support for proposals subject to the meeting of criteria related to the amenity of neighbouring properties, suitable car parking provision, local character and sustainability.
FNP3: RURAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING	This Policy works to deliver the affordable housing identified as needed in the Plan area through 'exception sites'.
FNP4: LOCAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES	This Policy supports the development proposals that provide new employment opportunities in the Plan area. This support is subject to a number of criteria being met related to local infrastructure and character.  Further support is offered for proposals that specifically work to deliver skilled jobs for local people and make
FNP5: CREATING A THRIVING PARISH	provision for new business start-ups or growth sectors.  This Policy offers support for proposals that will deliver new community, retail, cultural, leisure and tourism uses that contribute to the sustainability of the Plan area. This is subject to the meeting of criteria related to the scale of the village of Farnsfield, amenity of neighbouring properties, suitable car parking provision, local character and infrastructure.
FNP6: OTHER USES ON EMPLOYMENT SITES	This Policy supports the re-use of existing employment sites for those uses supported in Policy FNP4 & FNP5 of the Neighbourhood Plan.  Support is also offered for proposals on these sites that will deliver facilities for care of the elderly (with appropriate evidence).
FNP7: THE QUALITY OF DEVELOPMENT	This Policy works to ensure that new development provided in the Plan area is of a high quality design that reflects the local character of the area and integrates well into the existing settlement, using the Farnsfield Character Appraisal.
FNP8: LANDSCAPE	This Policy builds further on FNP7 with regards to landscape. It provides criteria that development proposals should meet in relation to setting and character (in line with the Farnsfield Character Appraisal) and the use of locally appropriate species (as identified within the Landscape Character Appraisal and Supplementary Planning Document).

FNP9: ACCESS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE	This Policy provides criteria that development proposals should meet in relation to maximising access to the countryside and integration with the existing public rights of way network.
FNP10: COMMUNITY FACILITIES	This Policy details how contributions towards identified local priorities will be sought via planning obligations in the Plan area.

## 3 SEA Screening - Assessment

3.1 The table below includes the assessment of the Draft Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan, including its Objectives and Development Management Policies against the criteria included in Schedule 1 of the 2004 Regulations. The Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan is being assessed as a whole against the criteria listed below to allow for the consideration of its effects on the environment.

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects (Annex II SEA Directive)	Significant effect likely?	Comment
la 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.	NO	The Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan (the Plan) will set out a spatial vision for the designated Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan area and provides a framework for proposals for development in the area. This framework will be delivered by development management policies contained within the Plan. This framework will have some impacts on the environment, noticeably the support of development proposals however it is deemed that these impacts will not be significant due to their small, localised nature. Other Policies within this framework also work to ensure these impacts are mitigated to ensure the continued sustainability of the area.  The Plan is considered to be in general conformity with Newark & Sherwood District Councils (NSDC) Core Strategy 2011. It is also considered to be in general conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).
<b>1b</b> The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy.	NO	The Plan, where possible, will respond to rather than influence other plans and programmes. A Plan can only provide policies within the designated area it covers and will also provide policies to aid officers at NSDC determine planning applications along with NSDC Core Strategy (2011) and Allocations & Development Management Document (July 2013). None of the policies contained in the Plan have a direct impact on other plans in the neighbouring areas.  The Plan will have minimal influence on the development proposed by Newark & Sherwood

		as there documents are already adopted and in use and the Plan has been prepared to be in conformity with these documents.
1c The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.	NO	The Plan sets out and promotes sustainable development within the Plan area through balancing environmental, social and economic needs. The Plan's Vision and Objectives in conjunction with the development management Policies, work to ensure that all development proposals brought forward in the area will take this balance into account.
		Due to the inclusion of these elements it is considered that the Plan integrates all environmental considerations associated with the development supported in the Plan and there effects on the environment are therefore not significant.
1d Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme.		As the Plan is a land use document, the environmental problems of relevance are those that are related to land use in the Plan area.
	NO	Any additional housing and employment land brought forward in the Plan area that is supported by the Plan is likely to have some effects on the local environment, notably the housing and employment development supported by the Plan in FNP1 – 6. However existing national and local Planning Policy and the planning application process will ensure these effects are not significant, as well as criteria within these Policies and the Plan's support for sustainable development in general.
1e The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	NO	The Plan will be in compliance with NSDC Local Development Framework which has taken into account the existing European and National legislative framework for environmental protection and it will therefore have a positive effect on compliance with regards to relevant legislation and programmes. It is deemed that no proposals within the Plan will compromise this position.
<b>2a</b> The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects.	NO	It is deemed highly unlikely that there will be any irreversible damaging environmental impacts associated with the Plan. The policies within the Plan seek to ensure new development is sustainably built and promotes the enhancement and protection of environmental assets.
		The timescales of the Plan is intended to be until 2031.  Should any unforeseen significant effects on the
1e The relevance of the plan or programme.  1e The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).  2a The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility	NO	environmental problems of relevance are that that are related to land use in the Plan area.  Any additional housing and employment labrought forward in the Plan area that supported by the Plan is likely to have so effects on the local environment, notably housing and employment development support by the Plan in FNP1 — 6. However existinational and local Planning Policy and planning application process will ensure the effects are not significant, as well as crite within these Policies and the Plan's support sustainable development in general.  The Plan will be in compliance with NSDC Local Development Framework which has taken in account the existing European and Nation legislative framework for environment protection and it will therefore have a positive effect on compliance with regards to releve legislation and programmes. It is deemed that proposals within the Plan will compromise the position.  It is deemed highly unlikely that there will be a controlled in the Plan will compromise the position.  It is deemed highly unlikely that there will be a controlled to the plan seek to ensure new development sustainably built and promotes the enhancement and protection of environmental assets.  The timescales of the Plan is intended to be understant and protection of environmental assets.

		environment arise as a result of the Plan, the
		intention to monitor the Plan and to also
		amend/update the Plan every 5 years will allow
		these effects to be addressed and reversed (see Monitoring & Review)
<b>2b</b> The cumulative nature of		It is considered that the Policies contained in the
the effects.		Plan cumulatively will have minimal negative
		effects on the environment and will in fact have
		moderate to significant positive effects. It is considered that all effects will be at a local
		level.
	NO	
		Should any unforeseen significant effects on the
		environment arise as a result of the Plan, the intention to monitor the Plan and to also
		amend/update the Plan every 5 years will allow
		these effects to be addressed and reversed (see
		Monitoring & Review)
<b>2c</b> The transboundary nature	NO	Effects will be local with no expected impacts on
of the effects. <b>2d</b> The risks to human health		neighbouring areas.  No obvious risks have been identified as the
or the environment (for		Plans overall aim is ensure the continued
example, due to accidents).		sustainability of the Plan area.
		The development composited in the Diam many
	NO	The development supported in the Plan may create some short term risks to human health or
		the environment through the construction period
		but these will be carefully managed through the
		process (as per the normal restrictions/conditions
<b>2e</b> The magnitude and		as part of a planning application).  The Plan area relates to an area of
spatial extent of the effects		approximately 19,115 hectares. The resident
(geographical area and size		population of the NP area is 2,730 (Census
of the population likely to be		2011).
affected).		The whole neighbourhood area will be affected
	NO	by the Plan because its Policies focus only on the
		Plan area. It is deemed the Plan as a whole will
		have a positive impact upon local residents
		through the protection and enhancement of local environmental assets and through the delivery of
		local priorities through FNP10.
2f The value and		The Plan is deemed unlikely to have an adverse
vulnerability of the area		effect on the areas natural characteristics and
likely to be affected due to:		cultural heritage. FNP8 of the Plan works to actively protect and enhance the landscape
(i) special natural		character of the area.
characteristics or cultural	NO	
heritage;		6 Local Wildlife Sites are present in the Plan
(ii) exceeded environmental		area. The effects on these of the Plan are however not considered significant. The
quality standards or limit		development supported by the Plan is entirely
values; or		within the existing village envelope where none

(iii) intensive land-use.		of these sites are present. The Plan does not exceed environmental quality standards or limit values and does not provide specific policies in relation to intensive land uses.
2g The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.	NO	It is considered that the Plan will not adversely affect areas of landscape which have recognised community, national or international protection. FNP8 works to ensure development protects and enhances the landscape character of the area.

### 4 HRA Screening - Assessment

4.1 For the HRA "screening" assessment the Neighbourhood Plan area was checked to see if any Special Protection Areas (SPA), Special Areas of Conservation sites (SAC), or Ramsar sites were located within its area, as well as those considered as potential sites (pSPA, cSAC & pRamsar). The assessment also checked to see if any of these internationally important sites were located within a 15km radius from the Neighbourhood Plan area.

### Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC

4.2 No designated sites were found within the Neighbourhood area; however the southern element of the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC is located approximately 8.8km to the north of the border of the Plan area. This site covers 270.5 hectares, information on its characteristics and designation justification can be viewed using the following link, as well as the information below, <a href="https://incc.defra.gov.uk/protectedsites/sacselection/sac.asp?eucode=UK0012740">http://incc.defra.gov.uk/protectedsites/sacselection/sac.asp?eucode=UK0012740</a>

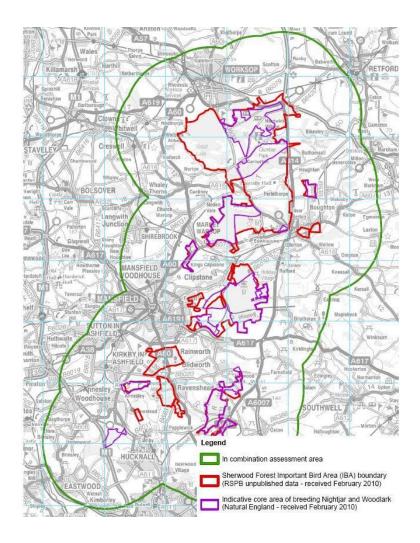
"Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site - 9190 Old acidophilous oak woods with Quercus robur on sandy plains

Birklands and Bilhaugh is the most northerly site selected for old acidophilous oak woods and is notable for its rich invertebrate fauna, particularly spiders, and for a diverse fungal assemblage, including Grifoa suphurea and Fistulina hepatica. Both native oak species, Quercus petraea and Quercus robur, are present, with a mixture of age-classes, so there is good potential for maintaining the structure and function of the woodland system and a continuity of dead-wood habitats."

### Sherwood Forest (pSPA)

- 4.3 The UK government has identified that the populations of nightjar and woodlark in Sherwood Forest may warrant protection as a SPA. A final decision has not been made and it remains under consideration as part of a UK-wide SPA Review Programme being led by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee.
- 4.4 In 2011, following a Public Inquiry, the Secretary of State decided to refuse to grant planning permission for an Energy Recovery Facility on land at the former Rufford Colliery site at Rainworth. The likely effect on the breeding populations of woodlark and nightjar was a key consideration in the Secretary of State's decision. The Secretary of State agreed that whilst the application site was not within an area currently identified as a Special Protection Area (SPA), there was merit in following the formal approach required for SPAs.
- 4.5 In their Advice Note dated March 2014 Natural England proposed a risk-based approach to be followed to help futureproof decision-making on plans and projects in case the site is designated in the future. This approach should ideally cover the potential direct, indirect and cumulative impacts which may include, but may not be limited to, the following;
  - disturbance to breeding birds from people, their pets and traffic
  - loss, fragmentation and/or damage to breeding and/or feeding habitat
  - bird mortality arising from domestic pets and/or predatory mammals and birds
  - bird mortality arising from road traffic and/or wind turbines
- 4.6 No set boundaries have been defined for the pSPA however Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust have produced a map using available evidence to identify current breeding areas and a potential assessment area, this is available to view in **Figure 2** on the following page.
- 4.7 It is clear that elements of the Plan area may be within close proximity of the borders of the pSPA, if designated, potentially around 2km. Therefore the assessment on page 14 has incorporated the risk-based approach proposed by Natural England and considered the impacts of the Policies contained in the Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan on the Sherwood Forest pSPA.
- 4.8 The Screening Assessment following has considered the main possible sources of effects on the site arising from the Plan, possible pathways to the European site and the effects on possible sensitive receptors in the site. The assessment considers the impacts of the Policies in the Plan directly on the site as these are land use Policies which mostly are expected to have some direct or indirect impact on the local environment.

Figure 2: Breeding Areas & Assessment



Policy of the Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan	Significant effect likely?	Comment
FNP1: HOUSING DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE SETTLEMENT BOUNDARY OF FARNSFIELD	NO	This Policy does not directly allocate land for development; it supports development proposals brought forward in the existing village envelope subject to a number of criteria being met. Although this Policy does support development in the Plan area, which may have some effects on the identified site, these are strongly considered to be of a local scale and will be managed and mitigated through the planning application process. It is therefore considered this Policy will have no significant effect on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.  It is also considered that this Policy will have no direct effects on the identified breeding areas in
FNP2: INFILL DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE VILLAGE CURTILAGE	NO	relation to the pSPA.  This Policy does not directly allocate land for development but works to ensure that proposals for infill development in Farnsfield are sympathetically and sustainably designed. Although this Policy does support development in the Plan area, which may have some effects on the identified site, these are strongly considered to be of a local scale and will be managed and mitigated through the planning application process. It is therefore considered this Policy will have no significant effect on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.  It is also considered that this Policy will have no direct effects on the identified breeding areas in relation to the pSPA.
FNP3: RURAL AFFORDABLE HOUSING	МО	This Policy does not directly allocate land for development but focuses on influencing the type of new affordable housing delivered in the Plan area to meet identified local need. Although this Policy does support development in the Plan area, which may have some effects on the identified site, these are considered to be of a local scale and will be managed and mitigated through the planning application process. It is

		therefore considered this Policy will have no
		significant effect on the SAC.
		It is also considered that this Policy will have no
		direct effects on the identified breeding areas in relation to the pSPA.
		relation to the par A.
FNP4: LOCAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES	NO	This Policy does not directly allocate land for development but encourages the provision of employment opportunities in the Plan area, particularly for local people. Although this Policy does support development in the Plan area, which may have some effects on the identified site, these are considered to be of a local scale and will be managed and mitigated through the planning application process. It is therefore considered this Policy will have no significant effect on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.
		direct effects on the identified breeding areas in relation to the pSPA.
FNP5: CREATING A THRIVING PARISH	NO	This Policy does not directly allocate land for development but encourages development proposals for uses that can be demonstrated to contribute to the viability and vitality of Farnsfield. Although this Policy does support development in the Plan area, which may have some effects on the identified site, these are considered to be of a local scale and will be managed and mitigated through the planning application process. It is therefore considered this Policy will have no significant effect on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.
		It is also considered that this Policy will have no direct effects on the identified breeding areas in relation to the pSPA.
		This Policy does not allocate land for development; it focuses on controlling the design of new housing when it is brought forward within the Plan area. Although this Policy does support
FNP6: OTHER USES ON EMPLOYMENT SITES	NO	development in the Plan area, which may have some effects on the identified sites, these will be located on existing brownfield sites and are considered to be of a local scale and will be managed and mitigated through the planning application process. It is therefore considered

		this Policy will have no significant effect on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.
		It is also considered that this Policy will have no direct effects on the identified breeding areas in relation to the pSPA.
FNP7: THE QUALITY OF DEVELOPMENT	NO	This Policy does not allocate land for development; it focuses on controlling the design of new housing when it is brought forward within the Plan area. Although this Policy does support development in the Plan area, which may have some effects on the identified sites, these are considered to be of a local scale and will be managed and mitigated through the planning application process. It is therefore considered this Policy will have no significant effect on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.
		direct effects on the identified breeding areas in relation to the pSPA.
FNP8: LANDSCAPE	NO	This Policy does not allocate land for development in the Plan area. It ensures that the protection and enhancement of the Landscape Character of the area is taken into account when considering development proposals. It is considered to have no effect on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.
		It is also considered that this Policy will have no direct effects on the identified breeding areas in relation to the pSPA.
FNP9: ACCESS TO THE COUNTRYSIDE	NO	This Policy does not allocate land for development and encourages development proposals to ensure they protect and where possible enhance and improve access to the green infrastructure and natural environment of the Plan area. It is considered it will have no effect on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.  It is also considered that this Policy will have no direct effects on the identified breeding areas in relation to the pSPA.
FNP10: COMMUNITY FACILITIES	NO	This Policy does not allocate land for

development in the Plan area but has regard to improving community facilities in the Plan area; it is considered it will have no effect on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC.
It is also considered that this Policy will have no direct effects on the identified breeding areas in relation to the pSPA.

#### 5 In combination effects

- 5.1 Existing plans and proposals must be considered when assessing new plans or programmes for likely significant effects as they may create 'in combination' effects. For the Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan the existing plans to be considered are NSDC Core Strategy (2011) and Allocations and Development Management (2013), which have both been through rigorous assessment with regards to their impact on the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC. The Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan has been produced to be in strategic conformity with both of these documents. In addition to this, no additional sites above those identified by NSDC are directly allocated for development within the Plan. Therefore it is considered there is likely to be no in combination effects as a result of the Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan.
- 5.2 The Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan is also required to be in general conformity with existing strategic policies in NSDC Local Development Framework which has been assessed at a higher level to determine effects on the identified Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC, it is concluded that no significant in-combination likely effects will occur due to the Neighbourhood Plans implementation.
- 5.3 As set out on the following page, it is concluded as a result of the above, that the Plan will not lead to a significant effect on the integrity of the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC and therefore does not require a full HRA to be undertaken.

### 6 Conclusions

### **SEA Screening**

6.1 On the basis of the SEA Screening Assessment set out in this document, the conclusion is that the Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan will not have significant environmental effects in relation to any of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations, and therefore does not need to be subject to a full SEA.

### **HRA Screening**

- 6.2 The HRA Screening Assessment concludes that no significant effects are likely to occur with regards to the integrity of the Birklands & Bilhaugh SAC to the north of Farnsfield and the identified breeding areas in relation to the Sherwood Forest pSPA, due to the implementation of the Plan. As such the Plan does not require a full HRA to be undertaken.
- 6.3 The main reason for these conclusions are:
  - The Plan does not directly allocate any sites for development,
  - The development that is supported in the Plan which may have some effect on the environment is determined to be local in scale and these local impacts will be addressed and mitigated at the planning application stage.

## **Next Stages**

6.4 This document will now be the subject of a consultation period with relevant stakeholders, should they agree with the findings of the assessments in this report then no further work will be required with regard to SEA and HRA on the Farnsfield Neighbourhood Plan.