



EAST RIDING
OF YORKSHIRE COUNCIL

Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan

Strategic Environmental Assessment and
Habitats Regulation Assessment

Draft Screening Report

Issued by East Riding of Yorkshire Council

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I. Introduction

- I.1 Establishing whether a Neighbourhood Plan takes into account Strategic Environmental Assessment or Habitats Regulation Assessment is a requirement set out by the Neighbourhood Plan General Regulations 2015, which require a qualifying body either to submit an environmental report prepared in accordance with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 or a statement of reasons why an environmental report is not required. The Independent Examiner appointed to the Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan will consider whether the submitted Plan meets the basic conditions as set out in paragraph 8(2) of Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990¹.
- I.2 One of the Basic Conditions tested by the Independent Examiner is whether the Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan is compatible with European Union obligations. This includes the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive and the Habitats and Wild Birds Directives. These directives are transposed into UK law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004)² and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2017)³. A Neighbourhood Plan must be compatible with European Union obligations, as incorporated into UK law, in order to be legally compliant.
- I.3 In meeting these obligations, the PPG sets out that an initial screening stage is required to establish whether a Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have significant environment effects. This report sets out East Riding of Yorkshire Council's conclusions in respect of the Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan.

¹ <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/8/schedule/4B>

² See <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/contents/made>

³ See [The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1633/contents/made)

2. Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan

- 2.1 The Ellerker Neighbourhood Area (Appendix A) was formally approved by East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 06 September 2019. The draft Neighbourhood Plan vision is set out below:

In the future Ellerker will retain and manage its rich and irreplaceable natural and historic environment to remain a desirable place to live. It will encourage good design that is responsive to this setting and to the village's character whilst managing the inevitable challenges of climate change adaptation. Ellerker will become a sustainable village where it is possible and attractive to reach Brough Station without needing to travel by car and where better access to the surrounding landscape enhances the lives of residents. Ellerker will also be a careful custodian of its agricultural character and encourage sustainable, long term farming that is profitable and responsive to its environment.

- 2.2 The vision will be achieved through the following objectives;

- Protect the rural and distinctive character of Ellerker
- Promote good planning that encourages high quality design.
- Guide how local development needs can be best met
- Identify and safeguard Ellerker's important assets and resources
- Help support an active and sociable community life
- Support a better quality of life now and for future generations.

- 2.3 The Screening Opinion Request Form completed by the Parish Council (Appendix B) sets out eleven general development management policies. These are set out in full below.

Policy 1: Overall Priorities

All new development, changes in land use, public realm improvements and other infrastructure projects in Ellerker should maintain and enhance:

- i. The rural and historic character of the village and the wider ENP area.
- ii. The rural setting and tranquillity of the village.
- iii. The important relationship between built form and open spaces in the village.
- iv. The village's landscape setting between the low lying areas adjacent to the river
- v. Humber and the foothills of the Yorkshire Wolds.
- vi. The village's heritage and distinctive features.
- vii. Vibrant community facilities and farming activity.

Policy 2: Settlement Character and Form

- A. New development proposals should reinforce the village's distinctive rural settlement pattern and character by maintaining and enhancing:

- i. The compact, nucleated and often regular form of the village.
 - ii. The open character of the land around the village.
 - iii. Gaps within the built up area of the village including green and other open spaces
 - iv. including paddocks, gardens, and informal areas.
 - v. The contribution that large gardens and plots contribute to the character of the village.
- B. New development proposals must demonstrate that their scale and location respond to the development form and character of the village and existing neighbouring development.

Policy 3: Local Design Quality

- A. Proposals in the neighbourhood plan area should have regard to the management guidelines set out in the Ellerker Conservation Area Appraisal and the Ellerker Design Guide.
- B. Proposals for new development and public spaces within the neighbourhood plan area should protect and enhance the setting and character of Ellerker, demonstrating high quality design, form, and layout that strengthen the village's distinct identity by:
- i. Demonstrating that they have been based upon an analysis of the local context and older vernacular traditions, and
 - i. Using local architectural and/or vernacular features, such timber sliding or Yorkshire sliding sash windows for fenestration, and
 - ii. Responding and, where possible, using local building materials including red/pink brick or chalky limestone and pantiles and slates for roofing materials, and
 - iii. Applying proportions, details and roof pitches that are based on local examples, and
 - iv. Responding to local building heights which are predominantly 1.5/two storeys, and
 - v. Protecting original architectural features where possible and prioritise repair and restoration rather than removal or replacement.
- C. New boundary or dividing walls, railings or hedging should be built from materials that match those used in the locality or be of native species and designed into new developments to provide an appropriate sense of enclosure.
- D. Modern architecture should be contextual and high quality, respecting the traditional context and using good quality, modern or traditional materials in innovative ways.
- E. Extensions should use materials that are sympathetic to the main building or context to which they belong.
- F. The conversion, alteration, or extension of farmsteads and agricultural buildings within the neighbourhood plan area will be supported subject to the proposals being sensitive and responsive to their heritage, distinctive character, materials and form.

Policy 4: Significant Views and Landscape Setting

- A. Proposals should show special regard to the identified Important Local Views on Map 5 and in Appendix B (Views Analysis) which are locally valued, and which make an important contribution to the plan area's landscape and settlement character. Proposals should not adversely affect such views.
- B. Proposals should identify and respond to key features of local landscape importance including the Yorkshire Wolds Important Landscape Area and the Humberhead levels as well as the gateways and experience and character of the village itself.
- C. Where possible the viewpoints and/or viewpoint corridors that reinforce the character of the surrounding landscape areas and views of the village and the Yorkshire Wolds will be supported.
- D. Landmark trees and other natural features will be protected and the accessibility of such features encouraged.

Policy 5: Public Realm

- A. Changes to the public realm should keep signage, road markings and lighting to an absolute minimum to safeguard the rural character of the village.
- B. The siting of new lighting should not create unnecessary focal points and should minimise the impact upon the dark skies above Ellerker.
- C. Grass verges and Ellerker Beck should be retained as important and characteristic informal, open, and natural features.
- D. Development proposals which safeguard and, where possible, enhance views along Ellerker Beck will be supported.
- E. The retention of trees and new tree planting alongside the highway will be supported.

Policy 6: Ecology and Wildlife

As appropriate to their scale, nature and location development proposals, changes in land use, public realm and infrastructure projects should, in achieving biodiversity net gain and supporting nature recovery:

- i. Protect and, where practicable enhance Ellerker's existing biodiversity assets including Ellerker Beck, wildflowers, existing hedgerows, woodlands, street trees, grass verges and green frontages.
- ii. Use native and wildlife friendly trees, shrubs, grasses, and plants to enhance local biodiversity.
- iii. Reflect the international and national ecological importance of the Humber Estuary.
- iv. Support the creation and enhancement of ecological corridors and the management of flooding, provision of shade or wind shelter belts.

Policy 7: Housing

- A. New housing development should:
 - i. Support a range and mix of all housing sizes, to maintain a balanced and inclusive community and to meet up-to-date housing needs.
 - ii. Respect the surrounding pattern and form of development, satisfying the requirements of other relevant policies in this Plan that aim to enhance the character, appearance, and distinctiveness of Ellerker.
 - iii. Be located within the village development limit.
 - iv. Maximise the use of climate friendly technologies to reduce heating costs and the carbon footprint of new and existing development.
- B. Small scale housing development (a limited number of units) within the village development limit will be supported through the conversion of existing buildings and the use of previously developed land (subject to meeting the requirements other policies in this plan and the East Riding Local Plan).
- C. Proposals on infill sites within the village development limits will be subject to the requirements of Policy 9.

Policy 8: Locally Important Green Spaces

Development proposals on the following identified Local Green Spaces will not be supported except in very special circumstances:

- i. Ellerker Village Green (1)
- ii. Land to Southwest of the Green near Garth Farm. (2)
- iii. Ellerker Playground (3)
- iv. Land to rear of Elmsall House (important for setting of the church and representative of a village 'close.' (4)
- v. Area of land adjacent Main Street (5)
- vi. Land alongside Ellerker Beck. (6)
- vii. Land adjacent to Manor Farmhouse (mainly the front end adjacent Main Street) (7)
- viii. Woodland copses and fields around Mill House and Brooklyn House (8/9)
- ix. Land adjacent to St Anne's Church. (10)
- x. Churchyard of St Anne's. (11)

Policy 9: Infill Plots within the Village

- A. The development of infill plots within the village development limit will be supported where a full historic and archaeological assessment has been undertaken.
Development proposals for housing and other uses should:
 - i. Preserve the historic settlement pattern, character and landscape quality and openness.
 - ii. Involve high quality design, generally of a low scale and low impact setting.

- iii. Avoid the use of standard house type design or standard designs that do not respond to local context and the other policies in this plan.
 - iv. Preserve existing boundary treatments or landscape frontages and minimise vehicular access in the form of visibility splays and crossings of Ellerker Beck.
 - v. Retain and enhance views into and through the site.
 - vi. Ensure that car parking is well designed so as not to dominate views into the site and ensure any hard landscaping is permeable and of low visual impact.
 - vii. Be modest in scale and single storey or 1.5 storey in height retaining a subservience with the majority of properties within the village as a whole.
- B. Where existing buildings already exist on an infill site within the village, conversion of these buildings with some select and proportionate extensions would be preferable.

Policy 10: Local Village Facilities

- A. The following important community facilities in the village, identified on the Policies Map are recognised and protected for their role in providing valuable services to the local community, residents and businesses located within the Ellerker Neighbourhood Area and to visitors to the area.
- a. St Annes Church
 - b. Village Hall
 - c. The Playing Fields
 - d. Restaurant
 - e. Allotments
- B. Development proposals that would result in either the loss of, or have a significant adverse effect on, an identified important community facility will not be supported unless it can be clearly demonstrated that its continued use is no longer viable, or it is no longer required by the community, or equivalent or better alternative provision in terms of quantity and quality and in an equally suitable location in Ellerker, can be provided.
- C. Proposals that improve the quality and/or range of community facilities to meet an identified need will be supported.

Policy 11: Active and Sustainable Travel

- A. Existing walking and cycling routes in and around the village, as shown on Map below, should be protected, and extended and improved where possible.
- B. Enhanced walking and cycling provision will be supported including along Cave Road and to Brough Station, along Sands Lane and Ellerker Drain.
- C. New and improved facilities that enable people to use of public transport will be supported.

3. The East Riding Local Plan

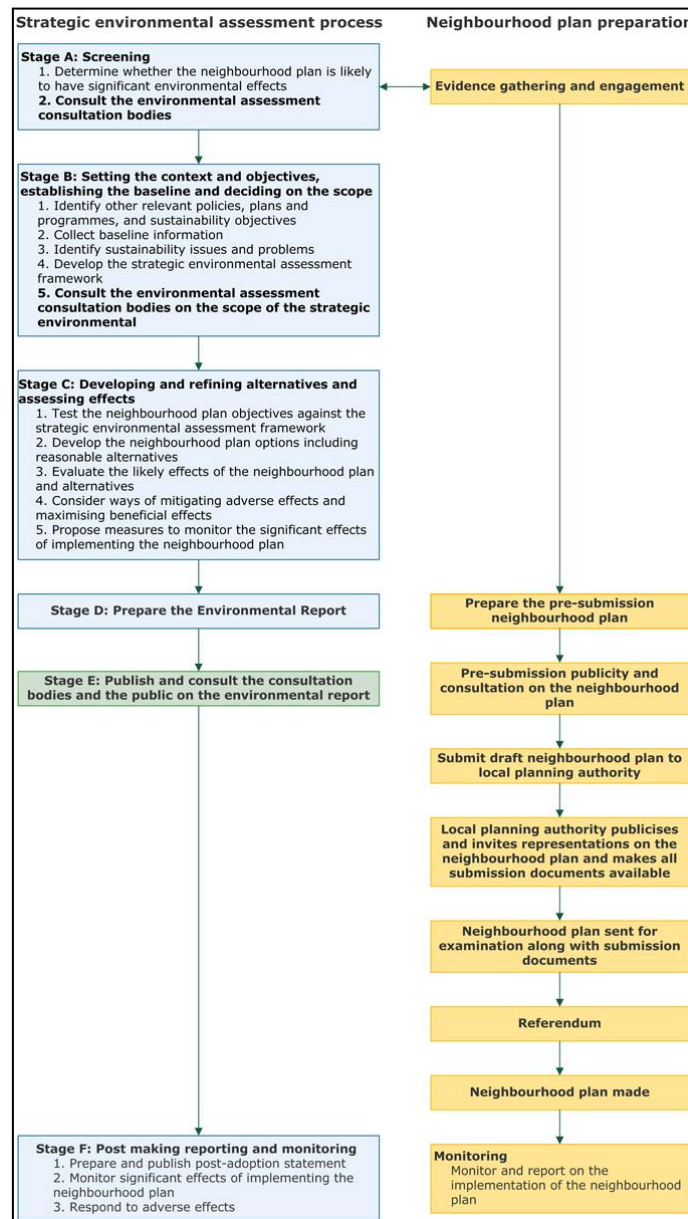
- 3.1 Ellerker is defined as a ‘Village’ in the East Riding Local Plan Strategy Document (April 2016)⁴. It is not identified in the Settlement Network of the Local Plan and therefore has no allocated sites for housing development. New market housing, within the development limit of the village, is supported in the form of infill development (usually comprising a single dwelling) where it does not detract from the character and appearance of the village. Outside the development limit a ‘countryside’ approach applies and only certain forms of development supported, including conversion or replacement dwellings, where proposals respect the intrinsic character of their surroundings.
- 3.2 The East Riding Local Plan Policies Map for Ellerker can be found at Appendix C.
- 3.3 The Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan will not promote a higher level of development than the East Riding Local Plan, include any site allocations or amend the existing development limit as shown on the Local Plan Policies Map.

4. Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening

- 4.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is a way of ensuring the environmental implications of Neighbourhood Plans are taken into account. It comprises a series of stages and tasks, which require an Environmental Report to be prepared for any Neighbourhood Plan that is likely to have significant environmental effects.
- 4.2 Figure 1 outlines how the SEA process fits alongside the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan. This identifies that the initial (screening) stage needs to be undertaken to ascertain whether the Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects and whether SEA would be required.
- 4.3 The PPG sets out that a SEA may be required, for example, where:
- 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

⁴ Available to view from: <http://www2.eastriding.gov.uk/environment/planning-and-building-control/east-riding-local-plan/strategy-document/what-is-the-strategy-document/>

Figure I: The Environmental Assessment and Neighbourhood Plan Preparation Process



Source: PPG ([Paragraph: 033 Reference ID: 11-033-20150209](#))

4.4 East Riding of Yorkshire Council has put in place a process to determine whether SEA is required for a Neighbourhood Plan. This is based on an assessment of the Neighbourhood Plan against:

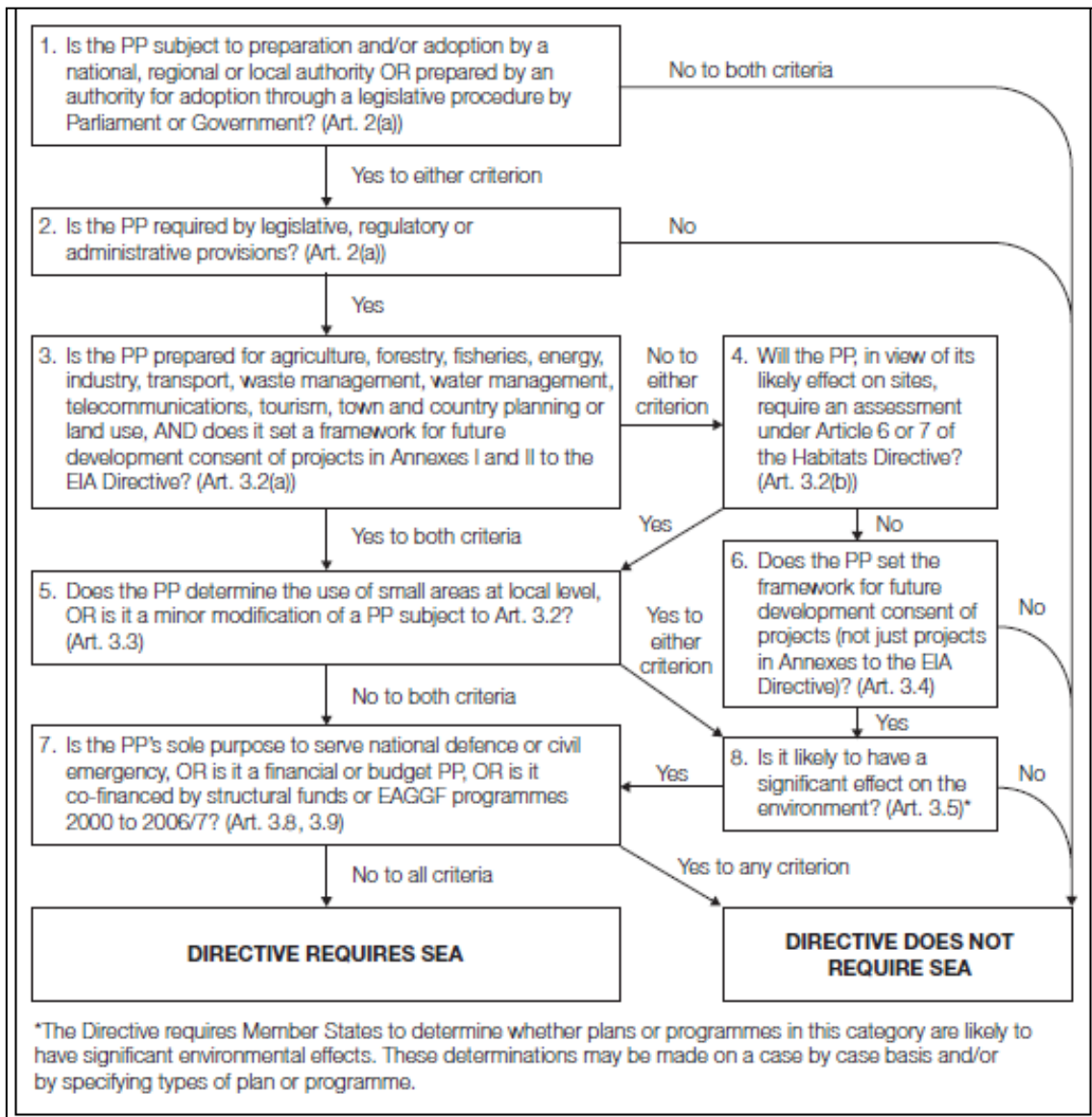
- Government guidance to the SEA Directive⁵, which sets out a process that can be followed in determining whether SEA is required (Figure 2). This assessment for the Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan is set out in Table 1.

⁵ See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strategic-environmental-assessment-directive-guidance>

- The criteria set out in Schedule I to the SEA Regulations ⁶(or Annex II of the SEA Directive). This assessment for the Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan is set out in Table 2.
- 4.5 Ellerker Parish Council requested a Screening Opinion from East Riding of Yorkshire Council on 25 April 2024. The completed Screening Opinion Request Form has formed the basis in determining whether SEA is required.
- 4.6 East Riding of Yorkshire Council is also required to consult Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency in preparing the Screening Opinion.

⁶ See https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/pdfs/ukxi_20041633_en.pdf

Figure 2: Application of the SEA Directive to plans and programmes



Source: A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2005)

Table 1: Application of the SEA Directive

Stage	Y/N	Explanation
<p>1. Is the Neighbourhood 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(a))</p>	<p>Yes (go to no. 2)</p>	<p>The preparation and adoption of the Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) is allowed under the Town and Country Planning Act (1990) as amended by the Localism Act (2011). The Neighbourhood Plan will be prepared by Ellerker Parish Council (as the “relevant body”) and will be “made” by East Riding of Yorkshire Council as the local authority. It is subject to the following regulations⁷:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012 (as amended) • The Neighbourhood Planning (Referendums)(Amended) Regulations 2016 • The Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 • The Neighbourhood Planning (General) and Development Management Procedure (Amendment) Regulations 2017
<p>2. Is the Neighbourhood Plan required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))</p>	<p>Yes (go to no. 3)</p>	<p>The Ellerker NDP is not a requirement and is optional under the provisions of The Town and Country Planning Act (1990) as amended by the Localism Act (2011). However, it will, if “made”, form part of the Development Plan for the administrative area. It is important that the screening process considers whether it is likely to have significant environmental effects and SEA is required under the Directive.</p>
<p>3. Is the Neighbourhood 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 (see Appendix 2) to the EIA Directive? (Art 3.2(a))</p>	<p>Yes (go to no. 5)</p>	<p>The Ellerker NDP is prepared in relation to Town and Country Planning and Land Use.</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plans can include policies to provide for development of a scale that would fall under Annex II of the EIA Directive.</p>
<p>4. Will the Neighbourhood Plan, in view of its likely effect on sites,</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>A Neighbourhood Plan could potentially impact on sites covered by the Habitats and Birds Directive. To</p>

⁷ A comprehensive list of all regulations, including where they can be viewed, is available from: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/all?title=Neighbourhood%20Planning%20Regulations>

Stage	Y/N	Explanation
require an assessment for future development under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Art. 3.2 (b))		determine whether Habitats Regulation Assessment is required for the Ellerker NDP, a separate assessment of the Plan has been prepared (see Table 3).
5. Does the Neighbourhood Plan determine the use of small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to Art. 3.2? (Art. 3.3)	Yes (go to no. 8)	Whilst not identifying uses for specific sites, once “made” the Ellerker NDP will be part of the land use framework for the area and will help to determine the use of small areas at a local level. There are eleven draft general development management policies that would supplement the East Riding Local Plan Strategy Document (April 2016).
6. Does the PP set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art 3.4)	N/A	
7. Is the Neighbourhood Plan’s sole purpose to serve the national defence or civil emergency, OR is it a financial or budget PP, OR is it co-financed by structural funds or EAGGF programmes 2000 to 006/7? (Art 3.8, 3.9)	No	The Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan does not deal with these issues.
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art. 3.5)	No (go to no. 7)	See Table 2 for the detailed assessment of likely significant effects resulting from the Ellerker NDP.

4.7 The assessment of the Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan's likely effects on the environment is set out in Table 2. This has assessed the scope of the Ellerker NDP against the criteria set out in Schedule 1 to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004).

Table 2: SEA Screening Opinion - Assessment of likely significant effects

Schedule I Criteria ⁸	Comments (Likely to have significant environmental effects?)
I. The characteristics of plans and programmes having regard, in particular to -	
a) 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>The framework for development within the draft Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) will be set by the East Riding Local Plan. The Plan will not promote a higher level of development than the East Riding Local Plan, include any site allocations or amend the existing development limit as shown on the Local Plan Policies Map.</p> <p>Overall, there would be no significant effect</p>
b) The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy;	<p>Once made the Ellerker NDP will become a Development Plan Document for the East Riding of Yorkshire and will only apply to the designated Neighbourhood Area, the parish of Ellerker. The Basic conditions require it to be in general conformity with strategic policies in the East Riding Local Plan and the National Planning Policy Framework. Neighbourhood Plans by their nature are locally driven and focused, providing detailed guidance to local development. Overall, the policies of the draft Ellerker NDP do not have the potential to significantly influence the extant development plan or the Framework.</p> <p>Overall, there would be no significant effect</p>
c) The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development;	<p>The NDP contributes to the achievement of sustainable development at the neighbourhood level. A number of policies seek to promote sustainable development that can be considered to be in conformity with the NPPF. This is a 'basic condition'/requirement of the Neighbourhood Plan making process. The draft plan includes support for the protection of green spaces, preservation of significant views and landscape settings, protection and enhancements of biodiversity, improving design quality, and protection of the rural settlement character of the area.</p> <p>Overall, there would be no significant (negative) effect, and it is likely that the draft policies proposed will result in minor improvements to the local environment.</p>
d) Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme;	<p>The Ellerker NDP is not likely to have significant effects in relation to the environmental problems relevant to the Plan. The policies of the Ellerker NDP supplement the East Riding Local Plan and will not promote a higher level of development, include any site allocations or amend the existing development limit as shown on the Local Plan Policies Map.</p>

⁸ Criterion (from Annex II of SEA Directive and Schedule 1 of Regulations)

Schedule I Criteria ⁸	Comments (Likely to have significant environmental effects?)
	Overall, there would be no significant effect, and it is likely that the draft policies proposed will result in minor improvements to the local environment.
e) 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);	<p>The Ellerker NDP does not deal with waste management or water protection issues and is not relevant as a Plan for implementing community legislation.</p> <p>The East Riding Local Plan takes account of the relevant legislative framework for environmental protection. East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Hull City Council adopted a Joint Minerals Plan in 2019 and are preparing a joint waste plan.</p> <p>Overall, there would be no significant effect</p>
2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected [by the plan or programme], having regard, in particular, to:	
a) The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;	<p>The Ellerker NDP seeks to protect and enhance or safeguard heritage and environmental features. It does not allocate land for development. It is highly unlikely there will be any irreversible damaging environmental impacts as a result of the policies in the Ellerker NDP.</p> <p>No significant effects are envisaged due to the scope and duration of the NDP.</p>
b) The cumulative nature of the effects;	<p>There are considered to be potential localised environmental effects. The cumulative effect of the Ellerker NDP, which seeks positive change, alongside the East Riding Local Plan, will likely lead to sustainable development in the administrative area. It is not considered that the policies cumulatively will result in negative effects; but rather result in moderate positive effects. It is considered that all effects will be local in impact.</p> <p>No significant effects are envisaged.</p>
c) The transboundary nature of the effects; * Transboundary effects are understood to be in other Member States	<p>Effects will be local with limited effects on neighbouring areas. No transboundary effects are expected. The Ellerker NDP will supplement the adopted Local Plan policies and is not envisaged, in itself, to have a significant effect.</p> <p>No significant effects are envisaged.</p>
d) The risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents);	<p>The Ellerker NDP is unlikely to pose significant risk to human health.</p> <p>Policies relating to environmental nuisance e.g. pollution control and noise pollution, are included in higher tier planning documents.</p> <p>Overall, there would be no significant effect</p>

Schedule I Criteria ⁸	Comments (Likely to have significant environmental effects?)
e) The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);	<p>Neighbourhood Plans cover small geographical areas and their policies must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan. As such they contain non-strategic development plan policies to address specific local issues. (NPPF paragraph 18). The NDP will provide a context and framework to guide future sustainable development in the area. The majority of effects, if any, would be focused within or immediately adjacent to Ellerker village and would be considered negligible.</p> <p>Overall, there would be no significant effect.</p>
f) The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; ii. exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or iii. intensive land-use; 	<p>The Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to result in significant environmental effects on the value and vulnerability of the natural or historic environment. The Plan as a whole aims to protect and enhance the natural environment & biodiversity and the village's heritage and built environment.</p> <p>Draft Policy 6 has the potential to result in positive environmental effects through the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and wildlife habitats, although these are not considered to be significant.</p> <p>There are eleven draft general development management policies that would supplement the Local Plan Strategy Document (April 2016). These policies have the potential to result in direct positive environmental effects, although these are not considered to be significant.</p> <p>Overall, there would be no significant effect.</p>
g) The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.	<p>Draft Policy 11 has the potential to increase public access across an Important Landscape Area (Yorkshire Wolds) in the Neighbourhood Area. This could result in positive and negative effects. Any effects are not considered significant as access to these sites exists⁹ in the absence of the Neighbourhood Plan. Policy 11 would be applied in conjunction with Policy 6, which seeks to safeguard biodiversity, ecological networks and support nature recovery.</p> <p>Overall, there would be no significant effect.</p>

⁹ There are existing travel connections between Ellerker and South Cave and Elloughton/Brough

5. Habitats Regulation Assessment Screening

- 5.1 The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) require local authorities to assess the impact of plans and projects on the internationally important sites for biodiversity in and around their administrative areas. Together, these Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and Ramsar sites are referred to as ‘European sites’ (in the Habitats Regulations) or ‘Habitats sites’ (in the NPPF); the latter term is used throughout the document where possible. The task is achieved by means of a Habitats Regulations Assessment.
- 5.2 This asks very specific questions of a plan. Firstly, it must be ‘screened’ to identify if there is a risk that certain policies or allocations may have a ‘likely significant effect’ on a Habitat site, alone or (if necessary) in-combination with other plans and projects. If the risk of likely significant effects can be ruled out, then the plan may be adopted but if they cannot, the plan must be subjected to the greater scrutiny of an ‘appropriate assessment’ to find out if the plan will have an ‘adverse effect on the integrity’ of the Habitat sites (alone or in-combination); if adverse effects cannot be ruled out, the plan cannot normally be adopted.
- 5.3 The Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) introduces development management policies that are required to be in conformity with the East Riding Local Plan. As such, it is appropriate this HRA refers to the latest Local Plan Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA). The council has prepared a Local Plan Update (LPU), which is currently at examination stage. This has undergone HRA. The LPU HRA concludes that the LPU would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of Habitat sites either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. This is subject to the implementation of planned mitigation measures required to avoid adverse effects on the integrity of the Humber SPA/SAC from Policies HAV-A and HED-A, together with the implementation of emerging Local Plan policy ENV4, which ensures development considers the impacts of recreational pressure, wastewater and drainage, air quality and loss of functionally linked land.
- 5.4 A list of screening categories is summarised in table 5 of the LPU HRA and Appendix B provides the record of screening of LPU policies for reference. As the Ellerker NDP needs to be in general conformity with strategic policies in the East Riding Local Plan, these categories, where relevant, are referenced in the table below.
- 5.5 The Humber Estuary (SPA, SAC¹⁰, Ramsar) is located along the southern boundary of the Neighbourhood Area. The development limits of Ellerker village lies approximately 2km north of the Humber Estuary. The LPU HRA has adopted a precautionary 11.5km threshold around the entire length of the Humber, a

¹⁰ Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)

consequence of which indicates there could be an increase in visitor numbers to the Humber Estuary SPA/SAC. Although, given the modest size of most and the considerable distances of allocations within the 11.5km threshold, none are considered to represent a risk alone.

- 5.6 Whilst the Ellerker NDP doesn't allocate land for development, and plans for positive changes, with no Local Plan allocations in Ellerker, it is still necessary to consider whether the Neighbourhood Plan would have a significant impact on nature conservation sites that are of European importance.
- 5.7 East Riding of Yorkshire Council has prepared an initial HRA screening opinion, which is set out in Table 3, to determine whether HRA is likely to be required for the Ellerker NDP.

Table 3: HRA Initial Screening Opinion

Draft Policy	Detail of policy / issue to be screened	LPU HRA 2022 criteria	Screening Outcome
Policy 1 Overall Priorities	Identifies broad principles for development which aim to maintain and enhance the village's rural and historic character. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any Habitat site.	General statement of policy/general aspiration.	A likely significant effect can be ruled out alone with no residual effects.
Policy 2 Settlement Character and Form	Sets out how development should maintain and enhance the Ellerker's distinctive rural settlement pattern and character. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any Habitat site.	General plan-wide environmental protection/site safeguarding/threshold policies	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny.
Policy 3 Local Design Quality	Sets out how development should be sensitively designed and be consistent with the design principles set out in the Design Guide. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any Habitat site.	Policy unlikely to have a significant effect either alone or in-combination	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny

Draft Policy	Detail of policy / issue to be screened	LPU HRA 2022 criteria	Screening Outcome
Policy 4 Significant Views and Landscape Setting	<p>Sets out a list of important local views and landscape features which development should have special regard to and protect.</p> <p>It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any Habitat site.</p>	General plan-wide environmental protection/site safeguarding/threshold policies	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny
Policy 5 Public Realm	<p>Focuses on the maintenance and protection of the village public areas.</p> <p>It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any Habitat site.</p>	General plan-wide environmental protection/site safeguarding/threshold policies	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny
Policy 6 Ecology and Wildlife	<p>Sets out considerations for achieving biodiversity net gain and supporting nature recovery.</p> <p>It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any Habitat site.</p>	General plan-wide environmental protection/site safeguarding/threshold policies	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny
Policy 7 Housing	<p>Sets out the circumstances for when small scale residential development will be supported within the development limits of the village.</p> <p>LPU Policy ENV4 can be relied on to ensure that any proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a Habitat site.</p>	Policy listing general criteria for testing the acceptability/ sustainability of the plan	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny
Policy 8 Locally Important Green Spaces	<p>Identifies local green spaces which should be protected.</p> <p>The scale and nature of this type of development make it unlikely that direct impacts on Habitat sites would result.</p>	Policy or proposal the (actual or theoretical) effects of which cannot undermine the conservation objectives (either alone or in-	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny

Draft Policy	Detail of policy / issue to be screened	LPU HRA 2022 criteria	Screening Outcome
		combination with other aspects of this or other plans or projects)	
Policy 9 Infill Plots within the Village	Sets out the circumstances for when development or conversions within infill sites will be supported within the development limits of the village. LPU Policy ENV4 can be relied on to ensure that any proposals brought forward under this general policy cannot lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of a Habitat site.	Policy listing general criteria for testing the acceptability/ sustainability of the plan	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny
Policy 10 Local Village Facilities	Recognises the community facilities in the village which should be protected. Does not support the removal of existing community facilities without their replacement. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any Habitat site.	General plan-wide environmental protection/ site safeguarding/ threshold policies	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny
Policy 11 Active and Sustainable Travel	Focuses on improving walking and cycling options in and around the village. Existing routes should be protected and improved. Supports improved access to public transport. It does not directly lead to development and so cannot undermine the conservation objectives of any Habitat site.	General plan-wide environmental protection/ site safeguarding/ threshold policies	Likely significant effect ruled out alone – no need for any further scrutiny

6. Conclusion

- 6.1 The **SEA Screening Opinion** (Table 2) prepared by East Riding of Yorkshire Council concludes the proposals in the Draft Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan are not likely to have significant environmental effects.
- 6.2 The **HRA Initial Screening Opinion** (Table 3) prepared by East Riding of Yorkshire Council, concludes the proposals in the Draft Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan are unlikely to have significant environmental effects on any European sites. The Ellerker NDP will not lead to likely significant effects on the conservation objectives of the Humber Estuary Habitat sites of international importance and no further or appropriate assessment is required. The HRA of the LPU has identified mitigation to rule out adverse effects following appropriate assessment. The Ellerker NDP is in general conformity with strategic policies in the East Riding Local Plan and does not alter the scale or growth set out in the LPU or change those policies (ENV4) that protect the natural environment.

Appendices

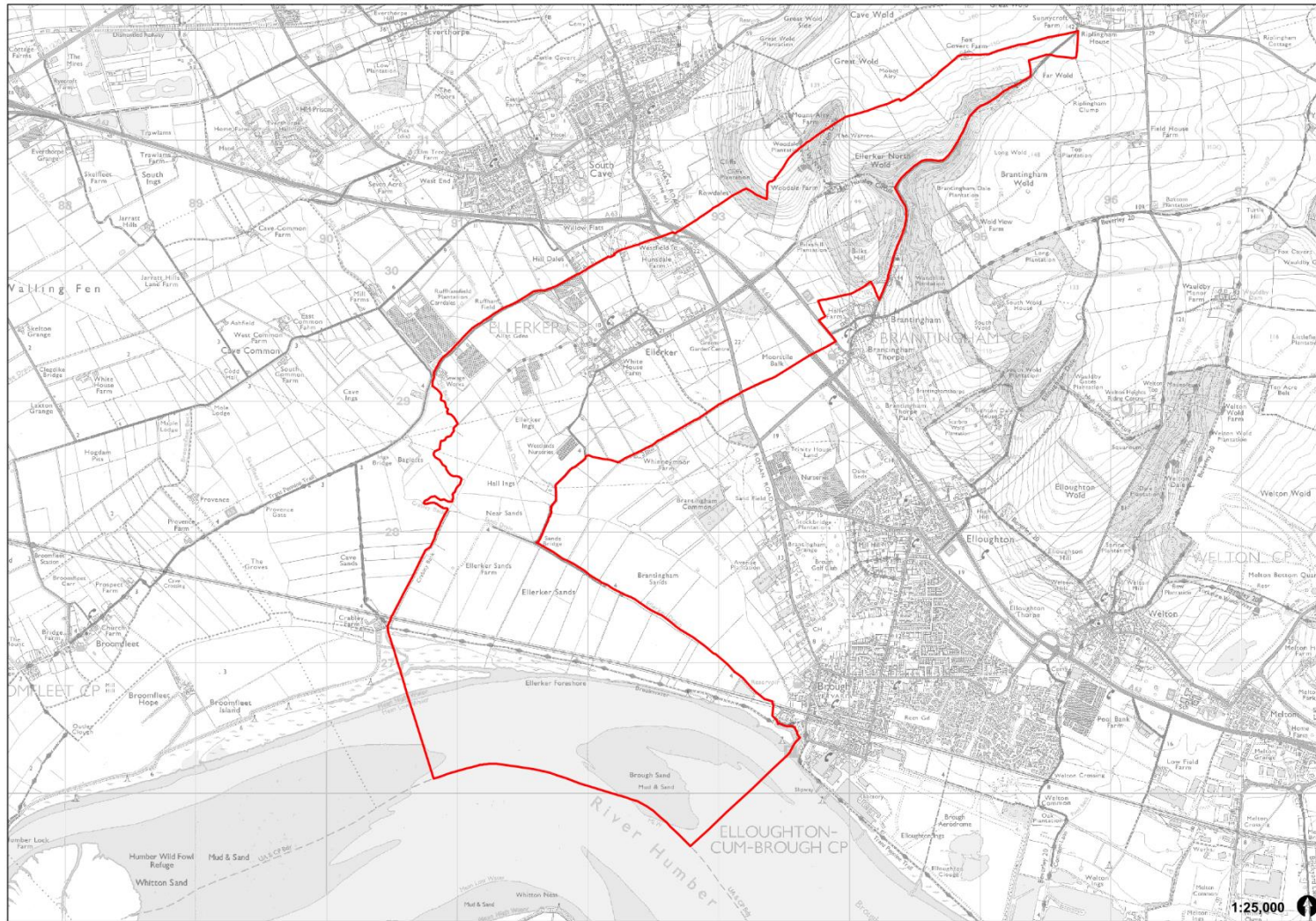
Appendix A – Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan Area

Appendix B - SEA Screening Opinion Request Form completed by Ellerker Parish Council

Appendix C – East Riding Local Plan Policies Map and Key

Appendices

- **Appendix A** - Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan Area



- **Appendix B** - SEA Screening Opinion Request Form completed by Ellerker Parish Council

1. Name of your Neighbourhood Area

ELLERKER

2. Draft Neighbourhood Plan Vision

In the future Ellerker will retain and manage its rich and irreplaceable natural and historic environment to remain a desirable place to live. It will encourage good design that is responsive to this setting and to the village's character whilst managing the inevitable challenges of climate change adaptation. Ellerker will become a sustainable village where it is possible and attractive to reach Brough Station without needing to travel by car and where better access to the surrounding landscape enhances the lives of residents. Ellerker will also be a careful custodian of its agricultural character and encourage sustainable, long term farming that is profitable and responsive to its environment.

3. Draft Neighbourhood Plan Objectives

- protect the rural and distinctive character of Ellerker
- promote good planning that encourages high quality design.
- guide how local development needs can be best met
- identify and safeguard Ellerker's important assets and resources
- help support an active and sociable community life
- support a better quality of life now and for future generations.

4. Draft Neighbourhood plan priorities and policies

Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan prioritises sustainable development and community enhancement, providing detailed policies and guidelines tailored to the specific needs and character of Ellerker. By working in harmony with the East Riding Local Plan and supplementing it with Ellerker - specific provisions, we aim to guide responsible growth and preserve the unique identity and charm of Ellerker for generations to come. The policies cover settlement character and form, local design quality, significant views and landscape setting, public realm, ecology and wildlife, housing, locally important green spaces, infill plots within the village, local village facilities, active and sustainable travel.

5. Will your neighbourhood plan propose a higher level of development than is identified in the East Riding Local Plan (Adopted 2016) or the emerging East Riding Local Plan Update?

No

6. Will your Neighbourhood Plan include any additional or alternative allocations which are not included within the East Riding Local Plan (Adopted 2016) or the emerging East Riding Local Plan Update ?

No

7. Will the policies in your neighbourhood plan lead to new development in the future ?

Yes

New Market housing that meets the Ellerker NP policies will be supported
Development proposals for housing within the village development limits will be supported where it consists of the conversion of existing buildings, small scale sensitive infill development or the use of previously developed land.

8. Affects on the Environment

By integrating environmental considerations into the planning process, we seek to promote sustainable development while safeguarding our natural and cultural heritage.

- Biodiversity : The Plan acknowledges the importance of biodiversity conservation and aims to protect local habitats and wildlife corridors. Proposed policies prioritise the preservation of green spaces .
- Climate change mitigation and adaptation: The Plan includes measures to build resilience to climate impacts
- Cultural heritage: Preserving and celebrating Ellerker’s cultural heritage is integral to the plan
- Social and Economic impacts: The Plan recognises the interconnectedness of environmental ,social and economic factors.

Town or Parish Clerk details

Mr.Alan Barker

Declaration

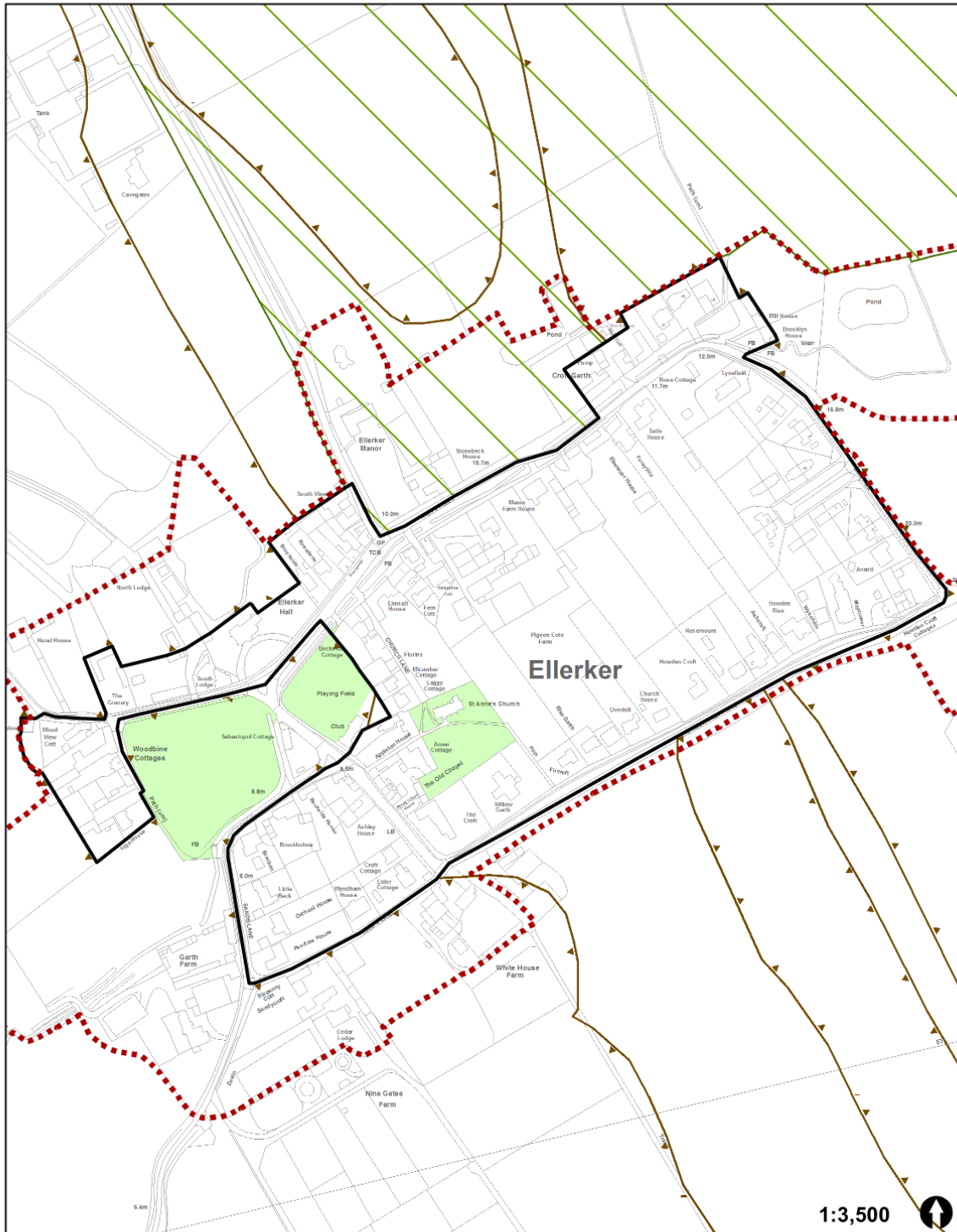
I hereby request a Screening Opinion from East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Name: Alan Barker

Signed :

Date: 25th April 2024

- **Appendix C – East Riding Local Plan Policies Map and Key**



Policies Map - July 2016











Ellerker

East Riding Local Plan (2012-2029)

Inset 85

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Site Allocations

-  Key Employment Site (EC1)
-  Transport Scheme (A1-A6)
-  Development Limits (S3&S4)
-  Existing Residential Commitment (AD1)*
-  Employment*
-  Gypsy & Traveller Site*
-  Mixed Use*
-  Open Space*
-  Residential*
-  Retail*
-  School Extension*
-  Transport*
-  Utilities*

Flood Risk & Source Protection

-  Coastal Change Management Area (ENV6)
-  Flood Management Schemes (ENV6)
-  Flood Storage Areas (ENV6)
-  Functional Floodplain (ENV6)
-  Management Realignment Sites (ENV6)





Biodiversity & Geology

-  Habitat Mitigation Area (ENV4)
-  Candidate and Designated Local Wildlife Site (ENV4)
-  Mineral Safeguarding Areas (EC6)
-  Local Geological Sites (ENV4)
-  Local Nature Reserves (ENV4)
-  Principal Nature Designations - Ramsar, SPA, SAC, SSSI, NNR (ENV4)
-  Proposed SAC & SPA (ENV4)

Town Centre & Seafront

-  Seafront Areas (EC2)
-  Town Centre Boundary (EC3)
-  Primary Shopping Frontage (EC3)
-  Primary Shopping Area (EC3)
-  Local Authority Boundary
-  Bridlington Town Centre AAP
-  Neighbourhood Plan Areas
-  Strategic Aviation Consultation Zone (EC5)
-  Military and Technical Site Consultation Zones (EC5)
-  Operational Port Area (S8)

Heritage

-  Conservation Areas (ENV3)
-  Scheduled Monuments (ENV3)
-  Registered Battlefield (ENV3)
-  Registered Parks and Gardens (ENV3)

Landscape & Open Space

-  Key Open Areas (ENV2)
-  Important Landscape Areas (ENV2)
-  Heritage Coast (ENV2)
-  Open Space (C3)

Text in brackets refer to Strategy and Allocations Document policies.

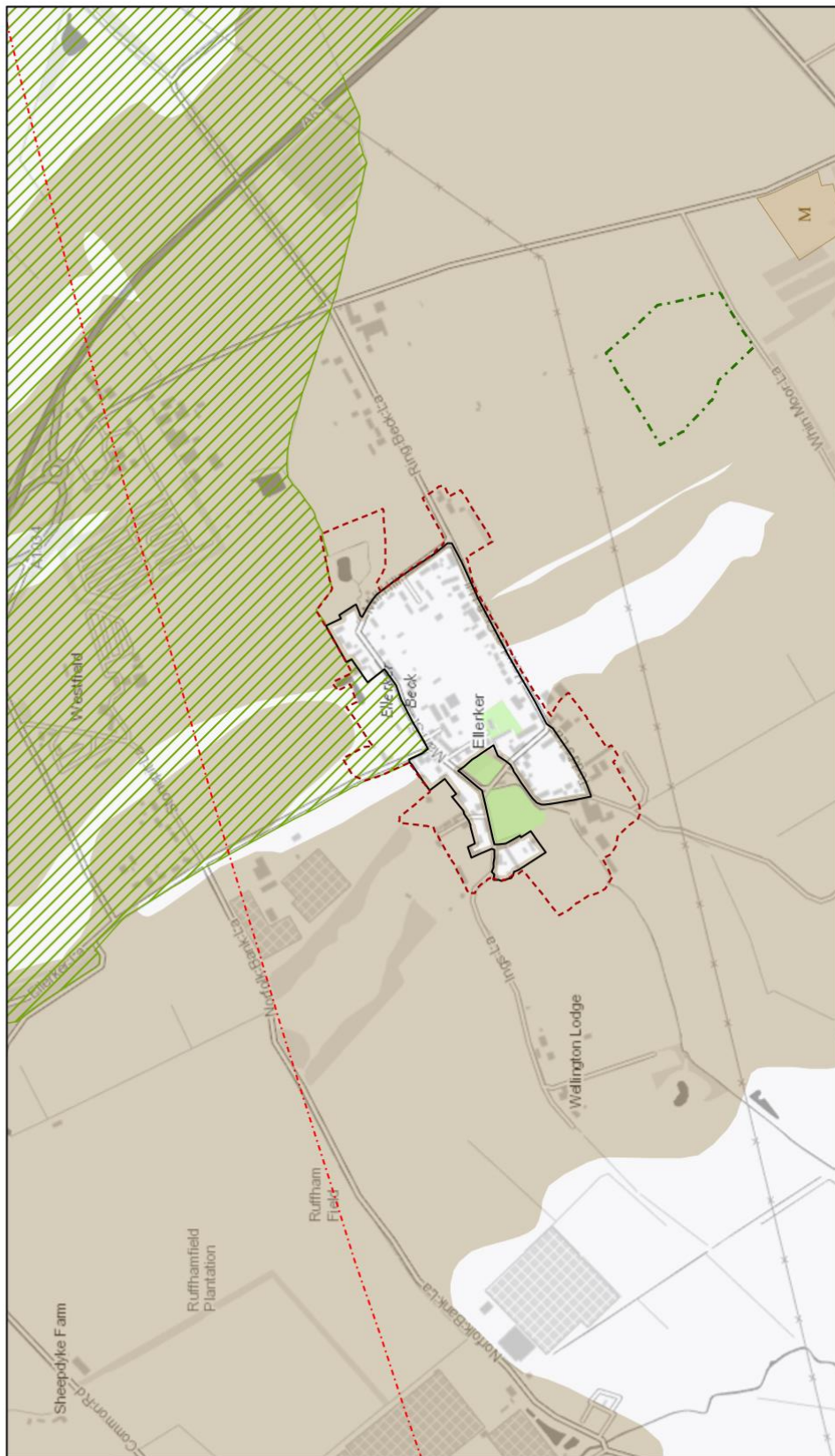
The allocations shown on the policy map are not adopted policies of the East Riding Local Plan at this time. These are marked with a * on the Policy Map Key.

East Riding Local Plan (2012-2029) Policies Map

<http://consult.eastriding.gov.uk/portal>



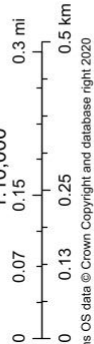
East Riding Local Plan Policies Map



30/04/2024, 15:35:36

- Conservation Areas ENV3
- Development Limits (S3 & S4)
- Local Wildlife Sites (ENV4)
- Scheduled Monuments Points
- Scheduled Monuments (ENV3)
- Strategic Aviation Consultation Zone (ENV6)
- Important Landscape Area ENV2
- Open Space (C3)
- Minerals Safeguarding Areas (EC6)

1:10,000



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Historic England

YORKSHIRE

Ms. Heloise Wood,
Forward Planning,
East Riding of Yorkshire Council
County Hall,
BEVERLEY,
HU17 9BA

Our ref: PL00795963
Your ref:
Telephone 01904 601 879
Mobile 0755 719 0988

29th May 2024

Dear Ms. Wood,

**Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Opinion Consultation**

We write in response to your e-mail of 10th May 2024, seeking or comments on the Draft Screening Opinion for the Ellerker Neighbourhood Development “Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan –Final Draft March 2024”.

For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine its advice to the question, “Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?” in respect to our area of concern, cultural heritage. Our comments are based on the information supplied within the Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan “Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan –Final Draft March 2024” document.

The Draft Neighbourhood Plan indicates that within the plan area there are number of designated cultural heritage assets. There are also likely to be other features of local historic, architectural or archaeological value, and consideration should also be given to the wider historic landscape.

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 your conclusion that “the proposals in the Draft Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan are not likely to have significant environmental effects”, and that therefore the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required for the Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan .

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. We should like to stress that this opinion is based on the information available in the Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan.



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/guidance) where we consider that, despite the SEA, these would have an adverse effect upon the environment.

We would 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.

Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of the East Riding of Yorkshire Council and the Humber Archaeological Advisory Service 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 HER (formerly SMR); how the 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 historic assets.

We look forward to being consulted upon the Pre-submission Draft of the Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan in due course.

Yours sincerely


Craig Broadwith
Historic Places Adviser
E-mail: 

Date: 03 June 2024
Our ref: 475708
Your ref: Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan



Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ
T 0300 060 3900

Ms Heloise Wood
East Riding of Yorkshire Council

BY EMAIL ONLY

forward.planning@eastriding.gov.uk

Dear Ms Wood

Ellerker Neighbourhood Plan - Draft SEA/HRA Screening Opinion Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 10 May 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.

Natural England is a statutory consultee in neighbourhood planning and must be consulted on draft neighbourhood development plans by the Parish/Town Councils or Neighbourhood Forums where they consider our interests would be affected by the proposals made.

Natural England does not have any specific comments on this neighbourhood plan.

However, we refer you to the attached annex which covers the issues and opportunities that should be considered when preparing a Neighbourhood Plan and to the following information.

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Further information on protected species and development 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 a Strategic Environmental Assessment. 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 Strategic Environmental Assessment 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 an Strategic Environmental Assessment is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

For any further consultations on your plan, please contact: consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours Choose salutation
Sally Wintle
Consultations Team

Annex 1 - Neighbourhood planning and the natural environment: information, issues and opportunities

Natural environment information sources

The [Magic](#)¹ website will provide you with much of the nationally held natural environment data for your plan area. The most relevant layers for you to consider are: **Agricultural Land Classification, Ancient Woodland, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Local Nature Reserves, [National Parks \(England\)](#), National Trails, Priority Habitat Inventory, public rights of way (on the Ordnance Survey base map) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (including their impact risk zones)**. Local environmental record centres may hold a range of additional information on the natural environment. A list of local record centres is available from [the Association of Local Environmental Records Centres](#).

Priority habitats are those habitats of particular importance for nature conservation, and the list of them can be found [here](#)². Most of these will be mapped either as **Sites of Special Scientific Interest**, on the Magic website or as **Local Wildlife Sites**. Your local planning authority should be able to supply you with the locations of Local Wildlife Sites.

National Character Areas (NCAs) divide England into 159 distinct natural areas. Each character area is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity. NCA profiles contain descriptions of the area and statements of environmental opportunity, which may be useful to inform proposals in your plan. NCA information can be found [here](#)³.

There may also be a local **landscape character assessment** covering your area. This is a tool to help understand the character and local distinctiveness of the landscape and identify the features that give it a sense of place. It can help to inform, plan and manage change in the area. Your local planning authority should be able to help you access these if you can't find them online.

If your neighbourhood planning area is within or adjacent to a **National Park** or **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty** (AONB), the relevant National Park/AONB Management Plan for the area will set out useful information about the protected landscape. You can access the plans on from the relevant National Park Authority or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty website.

General mapped information on **soil types** and **Agricultural Land Classification** is available (under 'landscape') on the [Magic](#)⁴ website and also from the [LandIS website](#)⁵, which contains more information about obtaining soil data.

Natural environment issues to consider

The [National Planning Policy Framework](#)⁶ sets out national planning policy on protecting and enhancing the natural environment. [Planning Practice Guidance](#)⁷ sets out supporting guidance.

Your local planning authority should be able to provide you with further advice on the potential impacts of your plan or order on the natural environment and the need for any environmental assessments.

Landscape

Your plans or orders may present opportunities to protect and enhance locally valued landscapes. You may want to consider identifying distinctive local landscape features or characteristics such as ponds, woodland or dry stone walls and think about how any new development proposals can respect and enhance local landscape character and distinctiveness.

If you are proposing development within or close to a protected landscape (National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) or other sensitive location, we recommend that you carry out a landscape assessment of the proposal. Landscape assessments can help you to choose the most appropriate sites for development and help to avoid or minimise impacts of development on the landscape through careful siting, design and landscaping.

¹ <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/habitats-and-species-of-principal-importance-in-england>

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making>

⁴ <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

⁵ <http://www.landis.org.uk/index.cfm>

⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

⁷ <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/natural-environment/>

Wildlife habitats

Some proposals can have adverse impacts on designated wildlife sites or other priority habitats (listed [here](#)⁸), such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest or [Ancient woodland](#)⁹. If there are likely to be any adverse impacts you'll need to think about how such impacts can be avoided, mitigated or, as a last resort, compensated for.

Priority and protected species

You'll also want to consider whether any proposals might affect priority species (listed [here](#)¹⁰) or protected species. To help you do this, Natural England has produced advice [here](#)¹¹ to help understand the impact of particular developments on protected species.

Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land

Soil is a finite resource that fulfils many important functions and services for society. It is a growing medium for food, timber and other crops, a store for carbon and water, a reservoir of biodiversity and a buffer against pollution. If you are proposing development, you should seek to use areas of poorer quality agricultural land in preference to that of a higher quality in line with National Planning Policy Framework para 112. For more information, see [Guide to assessing development proposals on agricultural land](#)¹².

Improving your natural environment

Your plan or order can offer exciting opportunities to enhance your local environment and should provide net gains for biodiversity in line with the [National Planning Policy Framework](#). If you are setting out policies on new development or proposing sites for development, you should follow the biodiversity mitigation hierarchy and seek to ensure impacts on habitats are avoided or minimised before considering opportunities for biodiversity enhancement. You may wish to consider identifying what environmental features you want to be retained or enhanced or new features you would like to see created as part of any new development and how these could contribute to biodiversity net gain and wider environmental goals.

Opportunities for environmental enhancement might include:

- Restoring a neglected hedgerow.
- Creating a new pond as an attractive feature on the site.
- Planting trees characteristic to the local area to make a positive contribution to the local landscape.
- Using native plants in landscaping schemes for better nectar and seed sources for bees and birds.
- Incorporating swift boxes or bat boxes into the design of new buildings.
- Think about how lighting can be best managed to reduce impacts on wildlife.
- Adding a green roof to new buildings.
- Providing a new footpath through the new development to link into existing rights of way.

Site allocations should be supported by a baseline assessment of biodiversity value. The statutory [Biodiversity Metric](#) may be used to understand the number of biodiversity units present on allocated sites. For small development allocations the [Small Sites Metric](#) may be used. This is a simplified version of the statutory [Biodiversity Metric](#) and is designed for use where certain criteria are met. Further information on biodiversity net gain including [planning practice guidance](#) can be found [here](#)

You may also want to consider enhancing your local area in other ways, for example by:

- Setting out in your plan how you would like to implement elements of a wider Green Infrastructure Strategy (if one exists) in your community.
- Assessing needs for accessible greenspace and setting out proposals to address any deficiencies or enhance provision. Natural England's [Green Infrastructure Framework](#) sets out further information on green infrastructure standards and principles
- Identifying green areas of particular importance for special protection through Local Green Space designation (see [Planning Practice Guidance](#)¹³).
- Managing existing (and new) public spaces to be more wildlife friendly (e.g. by sowing wild flower strips in less used parts of parks or on verges, changing hedge cutting timings and frequency).

⁸ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/habitats-and-species-of-principal-importance-in-england>

⁹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ancient-woodland-and-veteran-trees-protection-surveys-licences>

¹⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/habitats-and-species-of-principal-importance-in-england>

¹¹ <https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals>

¹² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/agricultural-land-assess-proposals-for-development/guide-to-assessing-development-proposals-on-agricultural-land>

¹³ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space>

- Planting additional street trees.
- Identifying any improvements to the existing public right of way network, e.g. cutting back hedges, improving the surface, clearing litter or installing kissing gates) or extending the network to create missing links.
- Restoring neglected environmental features (e.g. coppicing a prominent hedge that is in poor condition, or clearing away an eyesore).

Natural England's [Environmental Benefits from Nature tool](#) may be used to identify opportunities to enhance wider benefits from nature and to avoid and minimise any negative impacts. It is designed to work alongside the statutory [Biodiversity Metric](#) and is available as a beta test version.

RE: Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan - Draft SEA/HRA Screening Opinion Consultation

Miles, Aaron <[REDACTED]>

Thu 01/08/2024 11:18 AM

To: Planning - Forward <forward.planning@eastriding.gov.uk>; Sustainable Places, Yorkshire <[REDACTED]>; Dennison, Claire <[REDACTED]>

[CAUTION]This email was sent from **outside of your organisation**. Do not click any links, preview or open attachments, or provide any log-in details unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Morning,

Apologies for the delay in responding to this.

We have reviewed the Ellerker Neighbourhood Development Plan, and I can confirm that the Environment Agency do not have any comments to make.

Kind Regards,

Aaron Miles
Sustainable Places – Planning Advisor
Environment Agency | Lateral, 8 City Walk, Leeds, LS11 9AT