



Historic England

EAST OF ENGLAND OFFICE

Ms Clare Skeels
Strategic Planning and Projects Group, North
Hertfordshire District Council
PO Box 10613
Nottingham
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Direct Dial: 01223 582746

Our ref: PL00108722

29 June 2017

Dear Ms Skeels

I refer to your letter of 12 June 2017 and the enclosed Screening Opinion for the above document. 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 of our area of concern, the historic environment. Our comments are based on the information supplied with the Screening Opinion.

The Screening determination report indicates that the Parish Council considers that *"there are no proposals in the Plan which are likely to have a significant environmental effect"* on 'heritage features' in the area. There are also no site allocations proposed in the Plan.

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 that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

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

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

We should like to stress that this opinion is based on the information provided by you with your letter dated 12 June 2017. 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.

Historic England strongly advises that the conservation and archaeological staff of the North Hertfordshire District Council and Hertfordshire County Council 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



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to data held in the HER; 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 heritage assets.

Yours sincerely,

Edward James
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cc: Mark Simmons, Conservation Officer, North Herts District Council



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