

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF PLANS AND PROGRAMMES
REGULATIONS 2004
REGULATION 9 SCREENING DETERMINATION
Madeley Neighbourhood Plan**

Introduction

European Union Directive 2001/42/EC requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be undertaken for certain types of plans or programmes that would have a significant environmental effect. It is for the Town Council to determine whether an SEA is required. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the regulations) require that this is determined by a screening process, which should use a specified set of criteria (set out 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. Before the Council make a formal determination, there is a requirement to consult three statutory consultation bodies designated in the regulations (English Heritage, Environment Agency & Natural England) on whether an environmental assessment is required.

This document is the Screening Determination of the need to carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Madeley Neighbourhood Plan and is made in accordance with the regulations. Within 28 days of making its determination, the Town Council will publish a statement, setting out its decision. If it determines that an SEA is not required, the statement must include reasons for this

Determination

In accordance with Regulation 9 of the SEA Regulations 2004, the Town Council, as the responsible authority, has determined that an environmental assessment of the emerging Madeley Neighbourhood Plan is not required as it is unlikely to have significant environmental effects. In making this determination, the Town Council has had regard to Schedule 1 of the Regulations and has carried out consultation with the consultation bodies. An assessment against Schedule 1 of Regulations and comments made by the Consultation bodies are set out below.

This determination has been made on **Tuesday 26th February 2013**

Further Information

A copy of this determination will be sent to the Consultation Bodies and made available on the Town Council's website at www.madeleytowncouncil.gov.uk

It will also be available on request at:

Madeley Town Council, Jubilee House, 74 High Street, Madeley, Telford, TF7 5AH.

During normal office hours.

If you require any further information, then please contact **Andy Rose** by email to andy@madeleytowncouncil.gov.uk

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF PLANS AND
PROGRAMMES REGULATIONS 2004: SCHEDULE 1**
Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment

Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects (Annex II SEA Directive)	Likely to have significant Environmental effects	Summary of significant effects
1 (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	No	<p>The MNP will set out a spatial vision for the designated Madeley NP boundary and provide a framework for proposals for development in Madeley regarding retail, housing, employment and community facilities.</p> <p>However, the MNP will be in conformity with the policies set out in the existing Core Strategy that has already undergone an SA. Consideration will also be given to the emerging Shaping Places document.</p>
1 (b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans or programmes including those in a hierarchy.	No	<p>The MNP will respond to rather than influence other plans or programmes. It is at the bottom end of the planning policy hierarchy with the existing Core Strategy above it. It will help to deliver the overall aims of the existing Core Strategy. Only limited attention has been given to a comparative examination of Madeley's environmental characteristics and how these compare relative to the West Midlands and the rest of the country. This stance is taken since this activity is not particularly helpful to the plan delivery process. The focus taken therefore is upon the issues already identified within Telford & Wrekin.</p>
1 (c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	No	<p>Proposals set out the MNP Plan are planned to have a positive impact on local environmental assets and places valued by local people in the MNP area. They will primarily focus on the protection and enhancement of green spaces and historic buildings. It is also about using existing land and buildings in our industrial estates and Town Centre.</p> <p>In terms of sustainable development, the main impacts will be on the regeneration of</p>

		existing housing estates, employment opportunities, cultural heritage, and accessibility. Any development carried out in accordance with MNP objectives be expected to greatly improve the energy efficiency of buildings
1(d) environmental problems relevant to the plan	No	The impact on traffic flow is not clear as the MNP is unlikely to establish the exact uses and quantum of uses for any sites. However, there are no major housing or employment sites being allocated. There are no Air Quality Management Areas within the MNP boundary
1 (e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection)	No	The MNP will be in compliance with the Core Strategy which has already taken account of existing European and National legislative framework for environmental protection and it will therefore have a positive effect on compliance with regard to relevant legislation and programmes.
2 (a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	No	It is highly unlikely that there will be any irreversible damaging environmental impacts associated with the MNP. If anything, it will expect any new development to be more sustainable
2 (b) the cumulative nature of the effects	No	It is not possible to fully assess the cumulative effects at this stage. However it is anticipated that the forthcoming policies in the MNP will generate positive effects, mainly local in impact.
2 (c) the trans boundary nature of the effects	No	The MNP could have effects beyond its boundary in increasing the attractiveness of the town centre to those residents living beyond its boundaries and promoting tourism in the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site. Improvements to more sustainable transport modes, including cycling, walking and park and ride should minimise any trans-boundary impacts. Effects will be mainly local but there may be some effects on surrounding areas. It is not clear at this stage what these effects will be.

<p>2 (d) the risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No obvious risks have been identified. However, this is not surprising, given that the planning objectives reveal that the primary focus of the MNP will be to enhance and protect the environment</p>
<p>2 (e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The MNP relates to an area of 881 ha (8.81sq km) The resident population of the MNP area is estimated to be approximately 17,600 (2010) The Telford population is 170,300 (2010). The population of the MNP area is anticipated to grow to around 22,300 by 2026, an increase of 27% from 2010. The resident and working populations of the MNP area will be most likely to be affected by the Plan; hence it will be confined to a local impact.</p>
<p>2 (f) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: (i) special natural characteristics or cultural heritage (ii) exceeded environmental quality standards (iii) intensive land-use</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>The MNP is unlikely to adversely affect the value and vulnerability of the area in relation to its natural or cultural heritage. If anything it will provide greater support to enhance the setting of heritage assets and of green spaces. Where possible, policies will encourage new opportunities for recreation, access and leisure. The forthcoming MNP policies will aim to preserve, enhance and improve all known sites of ecological or environmental importance, as well as designating new sites that are currently unprotected. Improved open spaces will help manage environmental risks and improve their resilience to climate change. For example, the risk of flooding can be managed by providing sustainable drainage systems to retain water on site. More intensive/efficient use of employment land will be of overall positive benefit, focusing development into areas with existing infrastructure capacity</p>

<p>2 (g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>It is considered that the MNP will not adversely affect areas or landscapes in which have a recognised national, community or international protection status.</p> <p>Part of the MNP is located within the UNESCO designated, Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site (WHS). However, all policies will be focussed on improving or protecting the WHS.</p>

Correspondence from Consultation Bodies

Date: 16 January 2013

Our ref:72696

Your ref:



Mr Andy Rose

Heritage Officer

Madeley Town Council

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Rose

Madeley Neighbourhood Plan – Strategic Environmental Assessment

Screening Report

Thank you for your consultation on the above Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening report dated 28 November 2012.

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.

The approach and methodology used in the SEA is appropriate and in line with the advice that would be offered by Natural England, the issues of interest to Natural England are also considered in the SEA

The fourteen key issues identified are those that Natural England would wish to see considered in such a document and can be broadly supported, especially Objectives under “Good Quality Open Spaces and Green Infrastructure”.

Natural England welcomes and supports initiatives and schemes which promote and encourage the provision of and enhancement to Green Infrastructure as part of sustainable development.

Section 7 – Conclusion states that no SEA is required, Natural England can agree this conclusion, and that consequently no SEA is required for the Madeley Neighbourhood Plan.

However, although there are no Natura 2000 sites, the Parish appears is in close proximity to Lincoln Hill Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), in Ironbridge. Also to the North of the Sports Grounds there is a Site of Interest for Nature Conservation (SINC). Development adjacent to these sites should consider the impact of such development and developers are encouraged to undertake Environmental Impact Assessments for their schemes.

Biodiversity enhancements

Applications should provide opportunities to incorporate features into the design which are beneficial to wildlife, such as the incorporation of roosting opportunities for bats or the installation of bird nest boxes. Measures to enhance the biodiversity of sites from applicant or developers should be secured as part of sustainable development opportunities. This is in accordance with Paragraph 118 of the National Planning Policy Framework. Additionally, we would draw your attention to Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) which states that *'Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity'*. Section 40(3) of the same Act also states that *'conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat'*.

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

For clarification of any points in this letter, please contact David Hammond on 0300 060 1373. For any new consultations or issues, please contact consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

David Hammond

Lead Advisor

Land Use Ops Team

CC Harjot Rayet – Telford & Wrekin Borough Council

Andy Rose
Heritage Officer
Madeley Town Council
Jubilee House
74 High Street
Madeley
Telford

Our ref: SV/2012/106308/OR-04/IS1-
L01

Your ref:

Date: 15 January 2013

Dear Mr Rose

Madeley Neighbourhood Plan (MNP) – SEA Screening Consultation Report

Following receipt of the above Report, we have reviewed the document and concur with the conclusion as stated in para 7 of the Report that the anticipated environmental impacts of the MNP are not considered to be significant and that an SEA is therefore not required for the MNP.

This confirms our preliminary advice and view as expressed in our previous letter to you dated 29 November 2012.

In support of this view, we note that the issues and objectives of the MNP show a positive approach to sustainable development with the aim of conformity to national and local planning policies.

In respect of advice in relation to EU legislation and directives I refer you to my e mail to Harjot Rayet of Telford and Wrekin Council (TWC) dated 7/11/12 which I believe he shared with you. This is copied below as an appendix for your reference as background information.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Hilary Berry
Senior Planning Officer

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Appendix 1 **Hydrogeology**

Madeley does not have an especially sensitive environment in terms of groundwater. As in similar locations, significant or major planning applications are likely to require a site specific ground investigation prior to development to assess risks of mobilising pollution and a consequent mitigation strategy where appropriate. We are not aware of contamination issues here which are of sufficient severity to pose a major obstacle to development. The impact of mining and land stability may be another issue which might need greater consideration for site specific proposals (NPPF para 121 applies).

Drainage/flood risk

It is mainly surface water run off which is an issue here rather than fluvial flood risk and as lead local flood authority, your council drainage officers should be able to assist with further advice on this. Again, as per national guidelines, a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) would be required to be produced by the planning applicant for site specific development proposals where appropriate.

Water resources and water quality

Diffuse urban pollution is of concern to us and we do work in partnership with other bodies to try reduce this. We are aware that Shropshire Wildlife Trust has been successful in securing Catchment Restoration Funding to tackle urban diffuse pollution over the next couple of years on the Lyde Brook and the Mad Brook upstream of Holmer Lake. We have also been successful in securing funding for a Feasibility Study on design options for tackling urban diffuse pollution in the Mad Brook where it re-emerges at Halesfield Industrial Estate.. We are not aware of any imminent or current projects in Madeley. For any further information on this aspect, including any queries that might arise from the following water related details, you could contact Ian Edwards in our Shrewsbury office (tel 01743 283516).

The following information provides background detail on the water environment which may be of assistance to the Neighbourhood planning process.

Madeley Civil Parish (CP) encompasses the mainly residential areas of Madeley, Woodside and Sutton Hill, and the industrial areas of Halesfield and Tweedale. The boundary aligns as follows –

- *northern boundary follows the railway line running parallel/south of the A442 & A4169*
- *western boundary borders the Coalbrookdale valley*
- *south/south-west boundary borders Ironbridge and the Severn valley to downstream of Coalport Bridge*
- *east/south-east boundary follows the Telford & Wrekin boundary*

The water environment (rivers, streams, lakes & ponds) is limited within this CP -

- *Madeley Court balancing pools belonging to STW Ltd*
- *Pool at Madeley Court School - the outflow flow merges with that from above pools and ultimately drains to the River Severn at the Blists Hill (public surface water sewer) Outfall (BHO).*
- *A minor watercourse (mix of open and culverted sections) appears to flow from the vicinity of Lees Farm Roundabout to the River Severn approx 20 metres upstream of the BHO*
- *The outflow from Holmer Lake (beyond/bordering the northern boundary is piped through/beyond this CP to the River Severn at the BHO. Along this pipeline within the CP there is a diversion/compensation flow to the Mad Brook.*
- *The Mad Brook is mainly in open channel upstream of Holmer Lake (into which it flows) and re-emerges at the parish/T&WC boundary bordering Halesfield Industrial Estate*
- *A minor watercourse at the Great Hay golf course that flows to the River Severn at Coalport bridge*

In terms of the European legislation, the Water Framework Directive (WFD) this CP is encompassed within 3 WFD water bodies, namely -

- *GB109054049530 - Lyde Brook (source to confluence with R Severn) - "Bad" status failing on invertebrates*
- *GB109054050280 - Mad Brook (source to conf R Worfe) - "Bad" status failing on invertebrates and Dissolved Oxygen (DO)*
- *GB109054049143 - R Severn (conf M Wenlock/Farley Brook to conf R Worfe) - "Moderate" status failing on phosphate (fish & cypemethrin failures are incorrect)*

WFD work within this CP and beyond its border mainly centres around a successful "Catchment Restoration Funding" bid by Shropshire Wildlife Trust. This will tackle urban diffuse pollution over the next couple of years with projects on the Lyde Brook (East Arm) and Mad Brook (upstream of Holmer Lake). The principles to be fulfilled are -

- *Restoring the rivers - to invest £204K in physical improvements to improve habitat quality, water quality and restore a more natural river course*
- *Working with business –exploring the opportunities for initiatives such as retro-fitting Sustainable Drainage systems [SUDS]*
- *Working with the community – with local communities to involve them in their rivers by offering training in aquatic invertebrate surveying, working with schools and local conservation volunteers.*

This will concentrate on –

- *Lyde Brook (East Arm) – the associated urban areas being Dawley, Lightmoor and **Woodside***
- *Mad Brook (upstream of/and into Holmer Lake) – the associated urban areas being the Town centre/park, Randlay, Stirchley and Brookside*

The target factors are –

- *Run-off from road and the urban environment*
- *Domestic foul to surface water sewage misconnections*
- *Contaminated in-situ river bed sediment*
- *Run-off from trading and industrial estates*
- *Discharges from Combined Sewer Overflows*
- *Septic tanks and sewage treatment plants*
- *Mine waters from redundant workings*

Any ways that the above principles and targets that are being adopted by the Shropshire Wildlife Trust in their approved project area which could also can be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan to enhance the environment of Madeley CP could be investigated further by the Madeley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group e.g. via –

- *community groups*
- *influencing planning & development*
- *education/campaigns e.g. foul misconnections*



ENGLISH HERITAGE
WEST MIDLANDS REGION

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13 February 2013

Dear Mr Rose

re: **SCREENING REPORT - MADELEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Thank you for your email of 14 January and the accompanying Screening Report for the above document. For the purposes of this consultation, English Heritage 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, cultural heritage. Our comments are based on the information supplied with the screening request.

The Screening Report indicates that the Council considers that the Neighbourhood Plan will not adversely affect any 'special natural characteristics or cultural heritage' in the area. The Report explains that the Plan must conform to the adopted Core Strategy for Telford and Wrekin which has been subject to Sustainability Appraisal. It also explains that no major housing or employment sites are being allocated and there will be a focus on using existing land and buildings in the area's industrial estates and town centre. The protection and enhancement of the area's historic environment and heritage assets is a key theme of the Plan's objectives. The Report indicates that the Plan will serve to further improve their conservation and enjoyment, this including the Ironbridge Gorge World Heritage Site part of which is within Neighbourhood Plan area.

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], English Heritage concurs with the Council's view that the Plan will not give rise to any significant environmental effects and as such the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

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

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Please note that English Heritage operates an access to information policy.
Correspondence or information which you send us may therefore become publicly available

