

South Cambridgeshire District Council

Legal Compliance Check – Submission of Neighbourhood Plan

Great Abington Former Land Settlement Association Estate Neighbourhood Plan – February 2018

Requirements and relevant legislation* and/or guidance	LPA Comments	Legally compliant?
The body submitting the neighbourhood plan is authorised to act (Planning and Compulsory Purchase	The qualifying body is Great Abington Parish Council.	Yes
Act 2004, as amended by the Localism Act 2011 s38A(1,2), S38C(2)(a) and 1990 Act schedule 4B, 6(2), as it applies 61F).	The neighbourhood area was designated on 5 September 2016.	
In a designated neighbourhood area which contains all or part of the administrative area of a town or parish council, the town or parish council is responsible for neighbourhood planning. The relationship between any steering group and the town or parish council should be transparent to the wider public. For example, it should be clear whether a steering group or other body is a formal sub-committee of the parish or town council. The terms of reference for a steering group or other body should be published and the minutes of meetings made available to the public.	As explained in paragraph 3.4 of the Consultation Statement, a Neighbourhood Plan working group was formed in November 2015, its formation being facilitated by the Parish Council.	
Section 38A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended (by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the Localism Act 2011) defines a neighbourhood development plan as "a plan which sets out policies (however expressed) in relation to the development and use of land in the whole or any part of a particular neighbourhood area specified in the plan."	The submission version of the Great Abington Former LSA Estate Neighbourhood Plan meets this definition of a neighbourhood plan.	Yes
SI 2012/637 The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Regulation 15 – A qualifying body is	The designated neighbourhood area is shown in Figure 1 (page 4) of the submission version the Great Abington Former	Yes

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required to submit:	LSA Estate Neighbourhood Plan.	
(a) A map or statement which identifies the area to		
which the proposed neighbourhood development plan		
relates.		
(b) A consultation statement.	A Consultation Statement accompanies the submission Neighbourhood Plan. The Consultation Statement includes:	Yes
The statement should contain details of those	information on how the community have been kept	
consulted, how they were consulted, summarises the	informed throughout the production of the neighbourhood	
main issues and concerns raised and how these have	plan;	
been considered, and where relevant, addressed in the	the details of those consulted and how they were	
proposed Neighbourhood Plan.	consulted;	
	a summary of the issues and concerns raised; and	
	details on how the issues and concerns have been	
	considered and where relevant, addressed.	
(c) The proposed neighbourhood development plan.	The Local Planning Authority received the submission	Yes
	Neighbourhood Plan on 22 February 2018.	
(d) A Statement explaining how the proposed	A Basic Conditions Statement accompanies the submission	Yes
neighbourhood development plan meets the	Neighbourhood Plan.	
requirements of paragraph 8 of Schedule 4B to the		
1990 Act as revised by s38C of the Planning and	The statement clearly demonstrates how Great Abington	
Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, (as amended).	Parish Council considers that each of the Basic Conditions	
	have been met.	
The local planning authority has to be satisfied that a		
basic condition statement has been submitted.	The legislation and planning policies referred to in the	
	statement are correct at the time of submission.	
(e) The Plan needs to be submitted with one of the	In July 2017, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Great	Yes
following i) a statement of reasons for a determination	Abington Parish Council published a Strategic Environmental	
under regulation 9(1) of the Environmental	Assessment (SEA) Screening Determination Statement. This	

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Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 that the proposal is unlikely to have significant environmental effects OR ii) an environmental report in accordance with paragraphs (2) and (3) of regulation 12 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning (General Amendment) Regulations 2015, (which amends Regulation 15 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012)). If an Environmental Report is required, then this needs to have been subject to the required level of consultation, and should comply with the government's SEA guidance. In terms of consultation, the 'consultation bodies' (Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England) must have been consulted at scoping stage (for 5 weeks). There is no requirement for public consultation on the scoping report. The draft Environmental Report on the pre-submission neighbourhood plan will need to be subject to public consultation for 6 weeks. The draft Environmental Report must be made available at the same time as the draft plan, as an integral part of the consultation process, and the relationship between	statement sets out the reasons for the determination that the Great Abington Former LSA Estate Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to result in significant environmental effects and therefore does not require a Strategic Environmental Assessment. This Screening Determination Statement was underpinned by a SEA Screening Report undertaken by Essex Place Services on behalf of SCDC and Great Abington Parish Council, and the opinions of the three statutory bodies. Consultation with the three statutory bodies (Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England) on the draft screening report for the Great Abington Former LSA Estate Neighbourhood Plan started on 3 May 2017. The consultation responses received are included in Appendix 2 of the Screening Determination Statement. The statutory bodies agreed with the conclusion reached. The SEA Screening Determination Statement (including the SEA and HRA screening reports) was submitted by Great Abington Parish Council alongside the Neighbourhood Plan.	
the two documents clearly indicated. The Neighbourhood Plan and accompanying documents meet the scope of neighbourhood plan provisions i.e. specifies the period for which it covers, does not include provision about development that is	The submission Neighbourhood Plan covers the period 2018-2031, mirroring the emerging South Cambridgeshire Local Plan.	Yes

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'excluded development' (as set out in section 61K of the 1990 Act - s38B(6) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act) and does not relate to more than one	The submission Neighbourhood Plan does not contain policies relating to 'excluded development'.	
neighbourhood area (2004 Acts 38B (1 & 2) (4)).	The Neighbourhood Plan does not relate to more than one neighbourhood area.	
	There is not more than one Neighbourhood Plan in existence in Great Abington.	
The Qualifying Body has undertaken the correct procedures in relation to consultation and publicity.	The Parish Council has submitted a Consultation Statement that demonstrates compliance with SI 2012/637 The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Regulation s15(2).	Yes
The draft Neighbourhood Plan should be checked to ensure it is not a 'repeat' proposal. If so, the LPA can decline to consider the plan (Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Act Schedule 4B s5 and s18 as varied by s38C of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).	The submission of the Great Abington Former LSA Estate Neighbourhood Plan is not a repeat proposal.	Yes
The pre-submission consultation requirements need to have been satisfied. Before submission to the LPA the qualifying body should: 1. publicise (but this does not have to be on a web site) in a way that is likely to bring to the attention of people who live work or carry on business in the area details of: a. the proposals b. when and where they can be inspected	Great Abington Parish Council has complied with the requirements of the regulations in respect of the scope of their pre-submission consultation and this is evidenced within Section 6 of their submitted Consultation Statement. The consultation period for the pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan was 24 July to 18 September 2017. The statutory consultation bodies consulted are listed in Appendix 4 of the Consultation Statement.	Yes
 c. how to make representations, and d. the deadline for making representations – not less than 6 weeks from first publicised. 	A copy of the pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan was provided to the LPA.	

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 consult any consultation body whose interests they consider may be affected by the proposals for a Neighbourhood Plan. send a copy of the Neighbourhood Plan to the LPA. (Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. 		
Are there any conflicts in the Neighbourhood Plan between policies and other statements or information? (s38B(3) Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.)	No, there are no conflicts.	Yes
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 as amended by Schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General Regulations) 2012, i.e. Regulations 102 and 102A, Assessment of implications for European site: A qualifying body which submits a proposal for a neighbourhood development plan must provide such information as the competent authority may reasonably require for the purposes of the assessment under regulation 102 or to enable them to determine whether that assessment is required.	In July 2017, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Great Abington Parish Council published a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Determination Statement. This statement determines that the making of the Great Abington Former LSA Estate Neighbourhood Plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects. This Screening Determination Statement was underpinned by a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report undertaken by Essex Place Services on behalf of SCDC and Great Abington Parish Council, and the opinions of the three statutory bodies. Consultation with the three statutory bodies (Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England) on the draft screening report for the Great Abington Former LSA Estate Neighbourhood Plan started on 3 May 2017. The consultation responses received are included in Appendix 2 of the Screening Determination Statement. The statutory bodies agreed with the conclusion reached.	Yes

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	SEA and HRA screening reports) was submitted by Great	
	Abington Parish Council alongside the Neighbourhood Plan.	

CONCLUSION: South Cambridgeshire District Council has issued an initial confirmation that the submission version Great Abington Former LSA Estate Neighbourhood Plan meets the legislative requirements.

Where the draft neighbourhood plan submitted to a local planning authority meets the requirements in the legislation, the Local Planning Authority must publicise the neighbourhood plan for a minimum of 6 weeks, invite comments, notify any consultation body referred to in the consultation statement and send the draft neighbourhood plan to independent examination. Following examination, the Council will determine whether or not the plan is ready for a public referendum or if further modifications are required (Schedule 4B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as varied by s38A & 38C of the Town and Country Planning Act)).

^{*} Please note that all references to primary and secondary legislation are to those enactments as amended.