



Findon Neighbourhood Development Plan

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Statement of Reasons

1. This statement has been produced to comply with Regulation 15(1) e (ii) of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2015.
2. A neighbourhood development plan is required to meet a number of basic conditions, one of which being it must not breach and be otherwise compatible with EU and Human Rights obligations. This requires neighbourhood development plans to fully consider the requirements of the SEA regulations which transpose the EU's SEA Directive into law and which requires those making plans that could impact on the environment to consider whether they are likely to have a significant effect or not.
3. Following a request from Findon Parish Council in June 2013, which set out the scope of the Findon NDP, the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) issued a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Opinion for the Findon Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP). This opinion was reviewed in September 2015 by the SDNPA and it was concluded that there was no reason to change the opinion. The SDNPA consulted with the statutory environmental bodies (Natural England, Historic England and Environment Agency) in forming the screening opinion.
4. Based on the material provided, the SDNPA came to the conclusion that **the Findon NDP, is not likely to have a significant effect on the environment** under the terms of the SEA Directive and would not, therefore require an SEA. This view has been based on:
 - a. The very modest scale of development outlined in the scope of the plan; "*fewer than 10*";
 - b. No proposed allocations in immediate proximity of designated sites
5. No consultation responses were received from the statutory environmental bodies and it was therefore assumed by SDNPA that these bodies concur with the views of SDNPA.