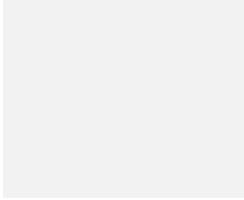


**Fylde Council: Flooding, Water  
Management and Sustainable Urban  
Drainage Systems (SuDS)  
Supplementary Planning Document  
SEA Screening Report**

MAY 2023

## Contacts



**CATHERINE WRIGHT**  
Senior Environmental Consultant

e [catherine.wright@arcadis.com](mailto:catherine.wright@arcadis.com)

**Arcadis.**

Level 1  
2 Glass Wharf  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS2 0FR

# Fylde Council: Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) Supplementary Planning Document

## SEA Screening Report

Author	Revati Khambete
Checker	Catherine Wright
Reviewer	Sarah Tooby
Approver	Frank Hayes
Date	MAY 2023

## Version Control

Version	Date	Author	Checker	Reviewer	Approver	Changes
V1	March 2023	RK	CW	ST	FH	First Draft for Client Review
V2	April 2023	CW	ST	ST	FH	Update following client comments
V3	April 2023	CW	ST	ST	ST	Minor update for consultation
V4	May 2023	CW	ST	ST	ST	Finalisation following consultation

This report dated 11 May 2023 has been prepared for Fylde Borough Council (the “Client”) in accordance with the terms and conditions of appointment dated 21 February 2023 (the “Appointment”) between the Client and Arcadis UK) Limited (“Arcadis”) for the purposes specified in the Appointment. For avoidance of doubt, no other person(s) may use or rely upon this report or its contents, and Arcadis accepts no responsibility for any such use or reliance thereon by any other third party.

# Introduction

## Fylde Local Plan (incorporating Partial Review)

The Fylde Local Plan to 2032 (incorporating Partial Review) comprises the Fylde Local Plan to 2032 (adopted October 2018) and the revisions to it made through the Partial Review (December 2021). The Partial Review replaces nine policies and elements of the supporting text of the Fylde Local Plan to 2032 (adopted October 2018). Further details can be found on the Council website<sup>1</sup>. The Fylde Local Plan to 2032 (incorporating Partial Review) provides the statutory planning framework (the 'Development Plan') for the Borough for non-minerals and waste matters for the period 2011-2032.

## Supplementary Planning Documents

Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) provide further detail and guidance in relation to policies and proposals within the Development Plan, in this case the Fylde Local Plan to 2032 (incorporating Partial Review), which was adopted by the Council on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

## Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) SPD

The Flooding, Water Management and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) SPD has been informed by the earlier consultation on the SPD Scoping Report<sup>2</sup>, undertaken between 9<sup>th</sup> June and 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022. The SPD Scoping Report describes the proposed scope and content of the SPD and includes questions about the proposed content and options for dealing with particular issues.

The Council is required to prepare a summary (under Regulation 12 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012) of the main issues raised and how those issues have been addressed in the SPD. The Statement of Consultation that accompanies this SPD provides a summary of the representations received and for each representation provides a comment from the Council explaining how the issue has been addressed in the SPD. The Draft SPD will be subject to a further full consultation prior to adoption. Issues raised will be reviewed by the Council and considered for inclusion. Whether or not additional issues are included will reflect consideration of the evidence in relation to those issues and whether they can be addressed by the Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD.

There are nine Local Plan policies referenced in the SPD:

- Strategic Policy M1 Masterplanning the Strategic Locations for Development
- Strategic Policy GD7 Achieving Good Design in Development
- Strategic Policy HW1 Health and Wellbeing
- Strategic Policy INF1 Service Accessibility and Infrastructure
- Non-strategic Policy INF2 Developer Contributions
- Strategic Policy CL1 Flood Alleviation, Water Quality and Water Efficiency
- Strategic Policy CL2 Surface Water Run-Off and Sustainable Drainage
- Strategic Policy ENV1 Landscape
- Strategic Policy ENV3 Protecting Existing Open Space

The aims of these policies are to set out how flood risk can be reduced and mitigated when planning for new developments, and also, how water can be most effectively used within existing and future development sites.

---

<sup>1</sup> Available at: [Adopted Fylde Local Plan to 2032 \(incorporating Partial Review\) – Fylde Council](#) [Accessed 28/02/23]

<sup>2</sup> Available at: [Provision-of-Parking-on-New-Developments-SPD-Scoping.pdf \(fylde.gov.uk\)](#) [Accessed: 01/03/23]

The SPD sets out a Vision for flooding, water and SuDS in Fylde, sets out water and flooding standards that different types of development would need to adhere to, and mitigation measures to avoid adverse effects on the water environment.

## SEA Screening

Certain types of planning documents are required to be subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). SEA is a legal requirement set out in The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004<sup>3</sup> (the SEA Regulations). SEA is the process by which environmental considerations are required to be fully integrated into the preparation of plans and programmes prior to their final adoption. SEA is a tool used internationally to improve the environmental performance of plans so that they can better contribute to sustainable development.

The Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD has been screened to determine if application of the SEA Regulations is required. The purpose of this report is to document the SEA Screening decision. This SEA Screening Report has been consulted on for three weeks with the Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England.

### Screening Method

**Figure 1** is sourced from 'A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive' published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in 2005<sup>4</sup>. It provides a flowchart guide to determining if a plan meets the criteria for requiring the application of SEA, as per the Directive. The series of questions in the flowchart are applied to the SPD in **Figure 2**.

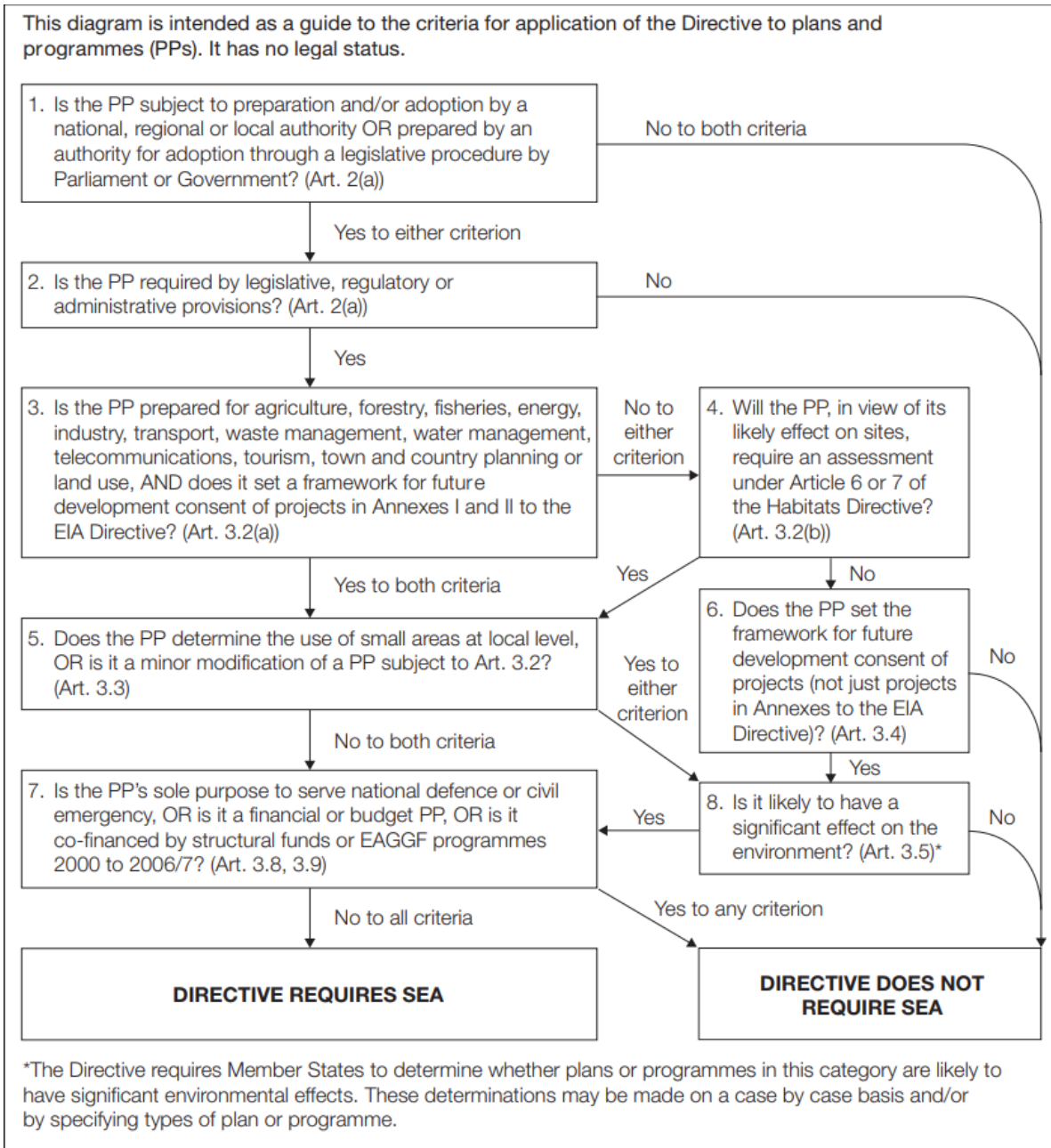
SEA should be applied where a plan could result in significant effects on the environment. **Table 1** applies the various definitions, criteria and characteristics of a 'significant effect', as per the Directive, to determine if the Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD could potentially have such an effect.

---

<sup>3</sup> Available at: [The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk) [Accessed: 28/02/23]

<sup>4</sup> Available at: [A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk) [Accessed: 28/02/23]

Figure 1: SEA Screening Guide<sup>5</sup>



<sup>5</sup> Available at: [A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/444444/A-Practical-Guide-to-the-Strategic-Environmental-Assessment-Directive.pdf) [Accessed: 28/02/23]

Figure 2: Applying the series of questions from Figure 1 to screen the Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD

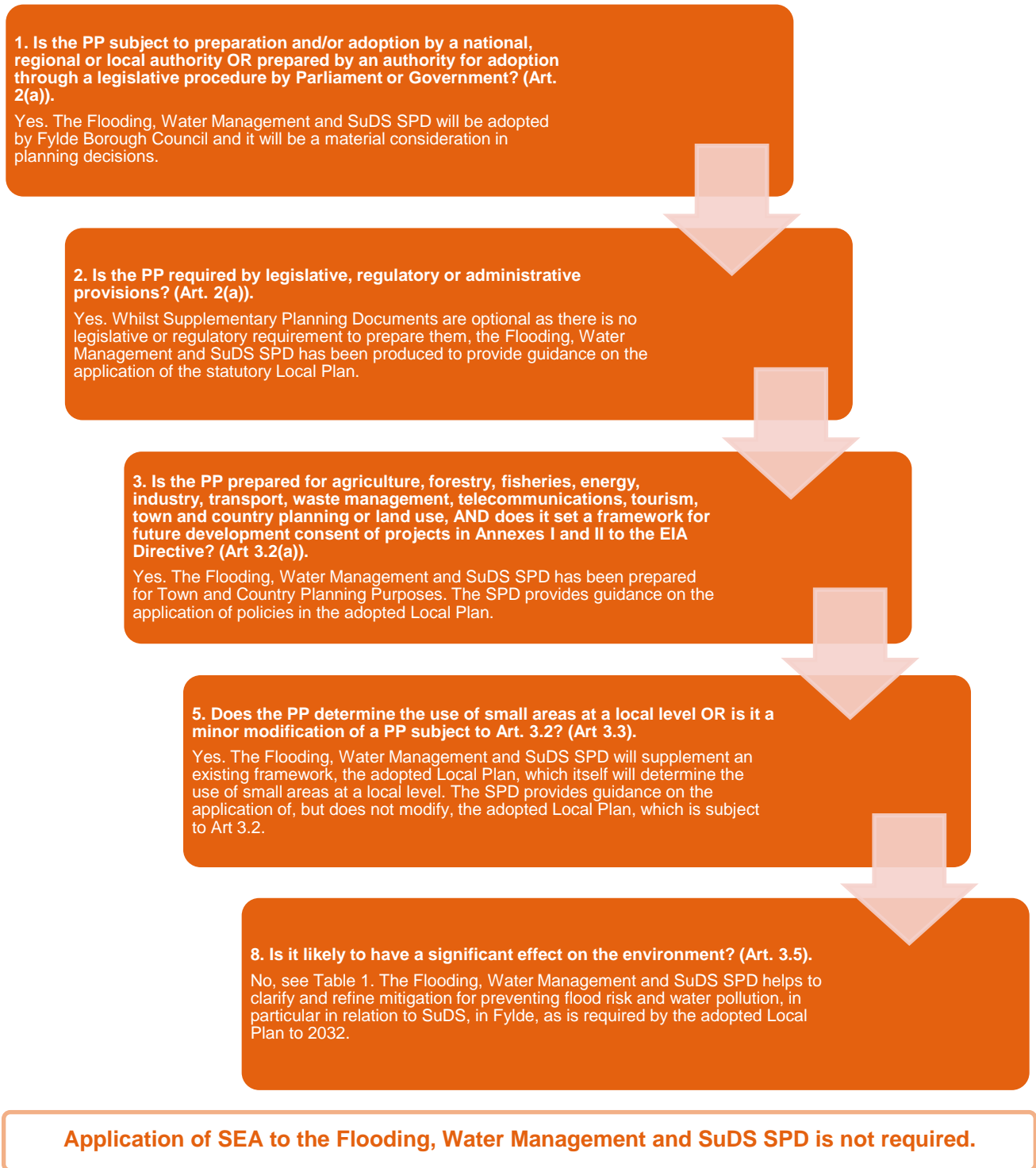


Table 1: Establishing whether the Fylde Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD could potentially have a likely significant effect (LSE) on the environment, in accordance with the criteria of a 'significant effect' per Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations

SEA Regulations Criteria	Response	Is there an LSE?
<b>1. Characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to:</b>		
1a) 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.	The Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD sets framework for projects by providing detail and guidance on policies of the adopted Fylde Local Plan, particularly Policy CL1: Flood Alleviation, Water Quality and Water Efficiency and Policy CL2: Surface Water Run-Off and Sustainable Drainage. The SPD does not allocate any land for specific uses including land for flood mitigation or flood protection.	No
1b) The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy.	The Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD does not create new policies, but instead it provides further guidance to relevant Fylde Local Plan policies and will not influence documents above it. The guidance of the SPD will not be in conflict with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).	No
1c) The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.	The SPD provides guidance on the interpretation of local policy along with national guidance, all of which promote sustainable development. The SPD does not introduce new policy which is in conflict with the NPPF or existing adopted Local Plan.	No
1d) Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme.	SPD promotes sustainable development in terms of water management and flooding. Some relevant environmental problems include flooding issues caused downstream of a proposed development, surface water assets by developers which may not be maintained in the long term and pollution issues as a result of leaching. There are no negative environmental issues associated with this SPD. The SPD seeks where possible to achieve environmental improvements via steering development to areas with the lowest probability of flooding, flood risk mitigation measures include the use of SUDS for new development, encouraging the use of water efficient and recycling devices in new development.	No
1e) 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).	Due to the detailed nature of the Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD, it has no relevance to the implementation of community legislation on the environment, over and above that of the existing policies within the Fylde Local Plan.	No
<b>2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to:</b>		
2a) The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects.	The Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD is not expected to give rise to any significant adverse environmental effects.	No



SEA Regulations Criteria	Response	Is there an LSE?
2b) The cumulative nature of the effects.	Flood risk can be increased because of other developments. The SPD refers to the issue of increasing flood risk elsewhere which is linked to cumulative effects. The SPD states adhering to NPPF that strategic policies should be informed by a strategic flood risk assessment and should manage flood risk from all sources. All plans should apply a sequential and exception test as appropriate and take risk-based approach to the location of development – taking into account all sources of flood risk and the current and future impacts of climate change – so as to avoid, where possible, flood risk to people and property.	No
2c) The transboundary nature of the effects.	Flooding is not contained within borough boundaries, and therefore any development allocations in neighbouring areas could have an impact on the situation in Fylde, and vice versa. However, any potential significant transboundary environmental effects have already been assessed as part of the Local Plan.	No
2d) The risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents).	The SPD seeks to elaborate on policies relating to flood risk. Flood risk can affect human health and the environment. The contents of the SPD seek to reduce flood risk and therefore reduce impacts on human health and the environment.	No
2e) The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected).	The SPD will be applied to all relevant planning applications in the Plan area.	No
2f) 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 or limit values; or (iii) intensive land-use	The SPD references Saint Anne’s on the Sea Neighbourhood Development Plan in which ‘Policy SU1: Incorporate sustainable urban drainage into new development’ requires that new developments to incorporate SuDS to the maximum standards stipulated in DEFRA’s Non-Statutory Technical Standards for SuDS unless agreed otherwise with Fylde Council to avoid any effects on water quality and efficiency.  Where there are no reasonably available sites in Flood Zone 1, the Fylde Council will take into account the flood risk vulnerability of land uses and consider reasonably available sites in Flood Zone 2, applying the Exceptions Test if required. Only where there are no reasonably available sites in Flood Zones 1 or 2 should the suitability of sites in Flood Zone 3 be considered, taking into account the flood risk vulnerability of land uses and applying the Exception Test if required. The SPD does not allocate any land for specific uses including land for flood mitigation or flood protection.	No
2g) The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.	No relevance	No

## Screening Decision

The screening has determined that the Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD does not meet the criteria for a plan that requires the application of SEA (**Figure 2**). The results presented in **Table 1** show that the SPD would also be unlikely to result in significant effects on the environment.

It should also be noted that the nature of the Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD, i.e. the provision of guidance and advice in order for development in Fylde to satisfy the requirements of policies in the Adopted Local Plan to 2032, would be expected to only lead to positive effects on water, biodiversity and soils in Fylde and no adverse effects would be likely.

It is therefore concluded that SEA does not need to be applied to the Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD.

## Consultation

This SEA Screening Report was issued for consultation with the three statutory bodies: Natural England, Environment Agency and Historic England. They all agreed that SEA would not be required for the Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD. Their responses can be found in Appendix A.

# Appendix A

## Consultation Responses



Historic England

By Email: [REDACTED]

Our ref: PL00792864  
Your ref:

Date: 24 April 2023

Dear [REDACTED]

**Fylde Council Flooding, water management and SUDs SEA Screening**

Thank you for your email dated 18 April 2023 regarding the proposed SPD SEA screening statement.

Historic England is the Government's statutory adviser on all matters relating to the historic environment in England. We are a non-departmental public body established under the National Heritage Act 1983 and sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). We champion and protect England's historic places, providing expert advice to local planning authorities, developers, owners and communities to help ensure our historic environment is properly understood, enjoyed and cared for.

Historic England has produced a document, which you might find helpful in providing guidance on the effective assessment of the historic environment in Strategic Environmental Assessments. This can be found at <https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>.

In terms of our area of interest, we would concur with your assessment that the document is unlikely to result in any significant environmental effects and will simply provide additional guidance on existing policies which have already been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal. As a result, we would endorse the conclusions that it is not necessary to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment of the document.

If you have any queries about this matter or would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Historic Environment Planning Adviser (North West)**  
Historic England  
Telephone: 0161 242 1423  
e-mail: [REDACTED]



Historic England, Suite 3.3, Canada House, 3 Chepstow Street, Manchester M1 5FW  
Telephone 0161 242 1416 [HistoricEngland.org.uk](http://HistoricEngland.org.uk)

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



Date: 05 May 2023  
Our ref: 429972  
Your ref: Fylde Local Plan - Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD



[REDACTED]  
Senior Environmental Consultant  
Arcadis Consulting (UK) Limited  
2 Glass Wharf  
Temple Quay  
Bristol BS2 0FR

Hornbeam House  
Crewe Business Park  
Electra Way  
Crewe  
Cheshire  
CW1 6GJ

**BY EMAIL ONLY** - [REDACTED]

T 0300 060 3900

Dear [REDACTED]

## **Fylde Local Plan - Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD**

Thank you for your consultation request on the above dated and received by Natural England on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2023.

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.

### **Screening Request: Strategic Environmental Assessment**

It is our advice, on the basis of the material supplied with the consultation, that, in so far as our strategic environmental interests (including but not limited to statutory designated sites, landscapes and protected species, geology and soils) are concerned, that there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects from the proposed supplementary planning document.

We have checked our records and based on the information provided, we can confirm that in our view the proposals contained within the supplementary planning document will not have significant effects on sensitive sites that Natural England has a statutory duty to protect.

We are not aware of significant populations of protected species which are likely to be affected by the policies / proposals within the SPD. It remains the case, however, that the responsible authority should provide information supporting this screening decision, sufficient to assess whether protected species are likely to be affected.


Notwithstanding this advice, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all potential environmental assets. As a result the responsible authority should raise environmental issues that we have not identified on local or national biodiversity action plan species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites or local landscape character, with its own ecological and/or landscape advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local landscape and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by this supplementary planning document, before determining whether an SA/SEA is necessary.

Please note that Natural England reserves the right to provide further comments on the environmental assessment of the plan beyond this SEA/SA screening stage, should the responsible authority seek our views on the scoping or environmental report stages. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make.

For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk)

.

Yours sincerely

  
Operations Delivery  
Consultations Team  
Natural England

Good Morning, we were recently consulted by Arcadis on the SEA screening for Fylde Council's Parking Provision SPD and also the SEA screening for the draft Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD. I can confirm that we concur that additional SEA screening is not required for these two SPDs and we look forward to being consulted on the Flooding, Water Management and SuDS SPD in due course.

Best Regards


Sustainable Places Advisor, Environment Agency Cumbria and Lancashire

[clplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:clplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk/environment-agency](http://www.gov.uk/environment-agency)

**Arcadis UK**

Level 1  
2 Glass Wharf  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS2 0FR

T: +44 (0)117 372 1200

[arcadis.com](http://arcadis.com)