

## George Pavey

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**From:** HNL Sustainable Places [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14 September 2021 13:23  
**To:** Laura Guy  
**Subject:** [External] RE: BISHOPS STORTFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (1 of 2) - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Request (NP for Silverleys and Meads)

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Completed

Hi Laura,

Apologies for this.

I note that no development is allocated through the neighbourhood plan. Hence, on the basis that future development is steered away from sensitive aspects of the environment (in particular Flood Zones 2 and 3 and main rivers), we do not consider there to be potential significant environmental effects. Nevertheless we recommend the inclusion of relevant policies to cover the management of flood risk.

I should note for future, we will not be able to respond to neighbourhood consultations due to resource constraints. We've had to make cuts and allowances and this is one of the places we don't feel there is a high enough level of risk to warrant our involvement.

Kind regards,

Becki

**Becki Ingram**

Planning Advisor, Hertfordshire & North London Sustainable Places

**Environment Agency** | Alchemy, Bessemer Road, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire, AL7 1HE

[REDACTED]

Pronouns: she/her ([why is this here?](#))



## George Pavey

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**From:** Goodman, Thomas [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 02 September 2021 09:24  
**To:** Goodman, Thomas  
**Subject:** FW: BISHOPS STORTFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Request  
  
**Importance:** High

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**From:** Marsh, Andrew [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 08 June 2021 11:32  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Marsh, Andrew [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** BISHOPS STORTFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Request  
**Importance:** High

Dear George

**Re: BISHOPS STORTFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Request (NP for All Saints, Central, South and part of Thorley, Silverleys and Meads)**

Thank you for consulting Historic England on the Bishops Stortford Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening Request for All Saints, Central South and Part of Thorley, Silverleys and Meads. Having reviewed both Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment Screening Reports I can confirm that we support the conclusion that there is no requirement to conduct a Strategic Environment Assessment on the Neighbourhood Plan. I would be grateful if you would confirm receipt of this email.

Best wishes

Andrew Marsh BSc MA MRTPI  
Historic Environment Planning Adviser  
Development Advice | East of England  
Historic England  
Mobile: [REDACTED]  
Direct line: [REDACTED]

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Date: 21 May 2021  
Our ref: 352667  
Your ref: Bishops Stortford Neighbourhood Plan - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Request (NP for Silverleys and Meads)



George Pavey  
East Herts District Council  
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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

T [REDACTED]

Dear George Pavey

**BISHOPS STORTFORD NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (1 of 2) - Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Request (NP for Silverleys and Meads)**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 10 May 2021 which was received by Natural England on 10 May 2021

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 plan.

**Neighbourhood Plan**

Guidance on the assessment of Neighbourhood Plans, in light of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended), is contained within the [National Planning Practice Guidance](#). The guidance highlights three triggers that may require the production of an SEA, for instance where:

- a neighbourhood plan allocates sites for development
- the neighbourhood area contains sensitive natural or heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals in the plan
- the neighbourhood plan may have significant environmental effects that have not already been considered and dealt with through a sustainability appraisal of the Local Plan.

We have checked our records and based on the information provided, we can confirm that in our view the proposals contained within the plan 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 plan. 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 plan, 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

Dominic Rogers  
Consultations Team