



COTSWOLD
District Council

Moreton-in-Marsh
Neighbourhood Development Plan
Strategic Environmental Assessment &
Habitat Regulation Assessment
Screening

May 2025

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Conclusion

1. In February 2025, Moreton-in-Marsh Town Council supplied a preliminary draft of their Neighbourhood Development Plan to Cotswold District Council, for the express purpose of having their proposals screened in line with the requirements of both the Strategic Environmental Assessment ('SEA') and Habitats Regulation Assessment Regulations ('HRA').
2. Cotswold District Council commissioned Land Use Consultants Ltd ('LUC') to carry out both these assessments on their behalf. LUC provided two reports, one for each screening requirement: the SEA screening is attached as Annex A; the HRA Screening as Annex B.
3. Following review by the Council, these screening reports were provided to the statutory consultation bodies for SEA and HRA (Historic England, the Environment Agency and Natural England) for their opinion, in line with the SEA and Habitats Regulations. The 5 week consultation period ended on 7 May 2025. The responses provided indicated no concerns with the conclusions reached by LUC in their review (see responses in Annex C; the Environment Agency declined to comment).
4. Based on the Screening Report and taking into account responses from the statutory environmental bodies, it is determined by Cotswold District Council in accordance with SEA Regulation 9, as the 'responsible authority', that the Moreton-in-Marsh Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects and is therefore 'screened out' i.e. that no Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
5. In accordance with Regulation 106(1) of the Habitats Regulations, Cotswold District Council, as the 'competent authority,' does not consider that an 'appropriate assessment' under Regulation 105 is required.
6. If the issues in the Neighbourhood Plan should change then a new screening may need to be undertaken. New development proposals in Moreton-in-Marsh will be determined in line with the Development Framework, and may individually require screening for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) based on their type, scale and location.