



Great Bardfield Neighbourhood Plan - Environmental Determination Notice

Braintree District Council (BDC) screening of the need for an environmental assessment of the Great Bardfield Neighbourhood Plan.

The Council supports communities who wish to undertake a neighbourhood plan. Government is clear that the intention of a Neighbourhood Plan should be to set out policies on the development and use of land in a neighbourhood area (In this case the Great Bardfield Parish Council administrative area), and that the local planning authority has a duty to support the production of a plan.

The Council's duty in this regard is to screen the likely contents of the Plan and environmental information outlined, in order to determine if a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA and/or Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) process is needed. The Council has commissioned Essex County Council place services to help it determine if a SEA or HRA is required.

This will allow the Neighbourhood Plan Examiner, to determine if the necessary conditions relating to SEA/HRA have been met, and enable the Neighbourhood Plan to proceed to referendum.

Braintree District Council Comment

The Place Services Screening opinion and responses from the Environmental Bodies have been considered, and this information is considered sufficient to determine the following;

- There will be no significant environmental effects as a result from the proposals in the plan.

Conclusion

Based on the information provided by the Great Bardfield Neighbourhood Plan Group and the Screening Opinion produced by Place Services, it is determined that an environmental assessment is not required as there are no new or additional sites being allocated for development in the Neighbourhood Plan and as such there will not be an impact on either the natural or historic environment as demonstrated in the Screening Opinion.