



## **Queniborough Neighbourhood Plan - Published 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

### **STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA) SCREENING DETERMINATION UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT OF PLANS AND PROGRAMMES REGULATIONS 2004**

Charnwood Borough Council undertook a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening (July 2020) to determine the requirement for SEA for the Submission Queniborough Neighbourhood Plan.

The relevant statutory bodies (The Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England) were consulted on the SEA Screening Report as part of the Regulation 16 consultation and no specific comments were made. Following this consultation, the Submission Queniborough Neighbourhood Plan was examined by an independent examiner who concluded at paragraph 42 of his report that the preparation of the plan had complied with European legislation. The examiner recommended several minor changes to the Plan none of which allocate additional land for development or proposed a significant change in policy approach.

Following consultation with the relevant statutory bodies and considering the examiner's recommendations, Charnwood Borough Council has determined that a SEA of the Queniborough Neighbourhood Plan is not required as it is not likely to have significant environmental effects. As such, it is the opinion of Charnwood Borough Council that the Queniborough Neighbourhood Plan is in accordance with the provisions of European Directive 2001/42/EC as incorporated into United Kingdom law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. The reasons for this decision are:

#### **Statement of Reasons**

- The Neighbourhood Plan has been written to be in general conformity with the Charnwood Local Plan Core Strategy 2011-2028 and emerging draft local plan. The environmental credentials of the Core Strategy have been assessed through reports such as Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment. The Neighbourhood Plan does not alter the development strategy set out in the Core Strategy or emerging draft local plan.
- The policies in the Plan are considered to have a generally neutral/ positive environmental impact at a local level, particularly through the inclusion of local design considerations or protective designations.
- The analysis undertaken in the Queniborough Neighbourhood Plan SEA Screening Report (July 2020) supports the conclusion that a SEA is not required and this has been confirmed through consultation with the statutory consultees.
- The examiner's recommendations did not significantly alter the policies of the Plan or allocate additional land for development.

#### **A copy of the SEA Screening Report is available for inspection:**

- Online [https://www.charnwood.gov.uk/pages/queniborough\\_neighbourhood\\_plan](https://www.charnwood.gov.uk/pages/queniborough_neighbourhood_plan)
- At the Council Offices, Southfield Road, Loughborough (email [localplans@charnwood.gov.uk](mailto:localplans@charnwood.gov.uk) to arrange this).