

Broads Authority
Strategic Environmental Assessment
Marketing and Viability SPD
August 2019

The Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive is a European Union requirement that seeks to provide a high level of protection of the environment by integrating environmental considerations into the process of preparing certain plans and programmes. Its aim is “to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development, by ensuring that, in accordance with this Directive, an environmental assessment is carried out of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.”

With regards to a SPD requiring a SEA, the NPPG says:

Supplementary planning documents do not require a sustainability appraisal but may in exceptional circumstances require a strategic environmental assessment if they are likely to have significant environmental effects that have not already have been assessed during the preparation of the Local Plan.

A strategic environmental assessment is unlikely to be required where a supplementary planning document deals only with a small area at a local level (see regulation 5(6) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004), unless it is considered that there are likely to be significant environmental effects.

Before deciding whether significant environment effects are likely, the local planning authority should take into account the criteria specified in Schedule 1 to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and consult the consultation bodies.

The following is an internal assessment relating to the requirement of the Draft Marketing and Viability SPD to undergo a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 requirement	Assessment of the Marketing and Viability SPD
Environmental assessment for plans and programmes: first formal preparatory act on or after 21st July 2004	
Is on or after 21st July 2004.	Yes. The SPD will be completed in 2019.
The plan or programme sets the framework for future development consent of projects.	No. It elaborates on already adopted policy.
The plan or programme is the subject of a determination under regulation 9(1) or a direction under regulation 10(3) that it is likely to have significant environmental effects.	See assessment in this table.
CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING THE LIKELY SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT	
1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to	
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 SPD expands on adopted policy. It will be a material consideration in determining planning applications. It is considered that the subject of the SPD does not negatively impact this criterion.
the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy	The SPD does not influence other plans, rather expands on adopted policy. That is to say, it has been influenced by other plans or programmes.
the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	It is considered that the subject of the SPD does not negatively impact this criterion.

environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme	It is considered that the subject of the SPD does not negatively impact this criterion.
the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	It is considered that the subject of the SPD does not negatively impact this criterion.
2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular, to	
the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	It is considered that the subject of the SPD does not negatively impact this criterion.
the cumulative nature of the effects	It is considered that the subject of the SPD does not negatively impact this criterion.
the transboundary nature of the effects	<p>The Broads Authority sits within six districts so by its very nature there are transboundary considerations, in relation to administrative boundaries.</p> <p>It is considered that the subject of the SPD does not negatively impact this criterion. The requirements will relate to a specific scheme and site.</p>
the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	It is considered that the subject of the SPD does not negatively impact this criterion.
the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	The SPD will cover the Broads Authority which includes 6,000 permanent residents. There are also visitors throughout the year.
the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; • exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or • intensive land-use; 	<p>The Broads is special in its natural characteristics and cultural heritage.</p> <p>Unsure if standards or limits have been exceeded in the Broads</p> <p>Not relevant</p>
The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.	The area to which the SPD applies is the Broads with an equivalent status to that of a National Park.