

**Bradwell  
Neighbourhood  
Plan**



**PEAK  
DISTRICT  
NATIONAL  
PARK**

**Strategic Environmental  
Assessment**

**Screening Report**

**November 2014**

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## 1. Introduction

A neighbourhood plan must be compatible with European Union (EU) obligations, as incorporated into UK law, in order to be legally compliant.

This screening report is designed to determine whether or not the contents of the submission draft Bradwell Neighbourhood Plan (November 2014) (hereafter known as 'BNP') requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the European Directive 2001/42/EC.

The Peak District National Park Authority (PDNPA) must decide whether the BNP is compatible with the above Directive:

- when it takes the decision on whether the neighbourhood plan should proceed to referendum; and
- when it takes the decision on whether or not to 'make' the neighbourhood plan (which brings it into force)

The consultation draft BNP can be viewed at [http://www.bradda.org/N\\_Plan.htm](http://www.bradda.org/N_Plan.htm)

## 2. Legislative Background

The basis for Strategic Environmental Assessments and Sustainability Appraisal legislation is European Directive 2001/42/EC (the Directive) and was transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the Regulations).

Article 3(2) of the Directive makes SEA mandatory for plans and programmes 'which are prepared for . . . town and country planning or land use and which set the framework for future development consent for projects . . .'

There are plans for which an SEA is not always required. For plans which 'determine the use of small areas at local level' or are 'minor modifications' to existing plans, the Directive only requires SEA where they are **likely to have significant environmental effects**. The expressions 'small area' and 'local level' are not defined in the Directive and must be interpreted in relation to the nature and scope of a particular plan.

In order to determine whether the BNP is likely to have significant environmental effects, and therefore require an SEA, and (if so) the level of detail needed, the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) National Planning Practice Guidance advises that the relevant planning authority should:

- at an early stage assess the draft neighbourhood plan's potential scope against the criteria set out in Schedule 1 to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004); and
- in so doing, should consult the statutory consultation bodies, in this case, English Heritage, Natural England and the Environment Agency; and
- where a plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects, prepare a statement of its reasons.

Where a neighbourhood plan is likely to have a significant effect on the environment an SEA must be carried out. Section 3 of this report assess BNP for the likeliness of significant environmental effects.

### 3. Determination of the likeliness of significant environmental effects of Bradwell neighbourhood plan

| Table 1: Comparison of Bradwell Neighbourhood Plan against Schedule 1 of Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004  |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| Significance Criteria set out in SEA Directive (Annex ii) and Schedule 1 of Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004   | Impact of the draft Bradwell Neighbourhood Plan  | Likelihood of significant environmental effects |
| <b>1. The characteristics of plans and programmes, having regard, in particular, to:</b>  |  |   |
| (a) 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 | Bradwell Neighbourhood Plan (BNP) would, if adopted, form part of the statutory development plan for the Bradwell neighbourhood area. However, the BNP sits within the wider framework set by the National Planning Policy Framework, Peak District National Park Authority's (PDNPA) Core Strategy and the saved Local Plan policies. The projects and other activities (principally managing land-use and development) for which this Plan helps to set a framework are local in nature and have limited resource implications. The Core Strategy was subject to a full Sustainability Appraisal which included an SEA assessment. This ensured that there were no likely significant effects which would be produced from the implementation of the Core Strategy and if so ensured mitigation measures were in place. An assessment of the BNP policies and their conformity to the adopted Core Strategy has been undertaken and can be viewed in <b>Appendix 1</b> . This confirms that there is general conformity between the Core Strategy and BNP and there are no significant changes introduced by the BNP.  | Not likely                                      |
| (b) the degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy.   | As set out in Appendix 1 the BNP has been found to be in general conformity with the adopted Core Strategy and saved policies of the Local Plan. The issues raised in the BNP, including the scope for localised policy responses, have been noted and will inform any future review of the Core Strategy.   | Not likely                                      |
| (c) the relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development   | BNP is relevant for the integration of environmental considerations at a local (parish) level (a population of 1,416 in 2011 <a href="http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/">http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/</a> ). One of the 'basic conditions' that the plan in law must meet is that it will contribute to improvements in environmental, economic and social conditions or that consideration has been given to how any potential adverse effects arising from the proposals may be prevented, reduced or offset. One of the 'visions' of BNP is 'development has been carefully managed to be in keeping with our heritage and to protect and enhance the environment'. Detailed policies in BNP integrate environmental considerations in the consideration of housing, employment, transport & health and wellbeing. The strategic conformity of the BNP to the Core Strategy also ensures that Bradwell plays its part in the sustainability of the wider strategic planning objectives for the National Park by aiming to conserve and enhance the local environment and addressing the social and economic needs of the locality in tune with the statutory purposes and duty of the National Park. | Not likely                                      |
| (d) environmental problems  | BNP is relevant for the consideration of environmental problems but at a purely local level. The   | Not likely                                      |

|   |  |            |
|---|--|------------|
| relevant to the plan or programme   | environmental concerns addressed by BNP are: unique quality of the cultural heritage and landscape, connectivity (transport & communication) and economic sustainability.  |            |
| (e) the relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation (for example plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection.) | BNP is restricted to land use planning and not directly relevant to the implementation of European legislation.  |            |
| <b>2. Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, in particular to :</b>   |  |            |
| (a) the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects.  | The area to be affected is the village & parish of Bradwell. The area is part of the wider 'White Peak' landscape - an elevated limestone plateau dissected by deeply cut dales and gorges. Limestone is the principal walling material for buildings and structures. Bradwell developed organically, with many small lanes and footpaths connecting to and curving around the main thoroughfares so that the overall sense is of a haphazard, confusing layout to the settlement. The almost total non-uniformity of layout, orientation and appearance of buildings is one of the most distinctive and defining characteristics of Bradwell.<br>Bradwell neighbourhood plan is likely to have a small, positive effect on the area, by enabling both small scale developments and the redevelopment of the larger Newburgh Engineering site in ways which respect the historic settlement pattern and character of the parish. | Not likely |
| (b) the cumulative nature of the effects  | Overall the cumulative nature of the effects is likely to be small scale but positive in terms of their environmental impact.  | Not likely |
| (c) the transboundary nature of the effects   | There will be no transboundary effects.  | Not likely |
| (d) the risks to human health or the environment  | No risks to human health identified. Risk to the environment is minimised by conformity with National Park Core Strategy as described in Appendix 1.   | Not likely |
| (e) the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects.  | BNP covers the parish area of Bradwell, population 1,416 (2011 census). Magnitude and spatial extent is small.   | Not likely |
| (fi) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to special natural characteristics or cultural heritage.   | The value of the BNP area in this regard is high, recognised by existing designation as national park. Part of the BNP area is also a conservation area. The effects of the BNP in this regard are likely to be small scale and positive.  | Not likely |
| (fii) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values.  | Environmental quality standards or limit values are not relevant to BNP  | Not likely |
| (fiii) the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to intensive land use  | Intensive land use is not proposed by BNP  | Not likely |

|   |  |                   |
|---|--|-------------------|
| <p>(g) the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status.</p> | <p>The area of BNP is within a National Park. The effects of BNP on this protected status will be small as BNP conforms to National Park Core Strategy as described in Appendix 1.</p> | <p>Not likely</p> |
|---|--|-------------------|

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#### **4. Conclusion of Screening Process**

It is demonstrated, through assessment against the significance criteria in the SEA Directive and Regulations, as set out in Section 3, that the impact of Bradwell Neighbourhood Plan will not result in significant environmental effects.

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| <b>Appendix 1: Assessment of the BNP policies and their conformity to the adopted Core Strategy and the saved Local Plan</b> |                    |   |  |   |   |
|--|--------------------|---|--|---|---|
| <b>Content from Bradwell Neighbourhood Plan</b>  |                    | <b>Summary of content</b>   | <b>Corresponding Section of NPA Core Strategy, saved Local Plan or supplementary planning document</b>         | <b>Difference between BNP policy (&amp; content) &amp; PDNPA Core Strategy &amp; saved Local Plan &amp;</b> | <b>Likelihood of significant environmental effects of the BNP policy/proposal in regards to SEA criteria.</b> |
| Vision   |                    | Sustainable community   | CS 'Securing national park purposes' preamble, spatial vision & outcomes for white peak, GSP 1,2,3 and DS1     | None  | None  |
| Vision   |                    | Development in-keeping with heritage, protect/enhance environment | CS 'Securing national park purposes' preamble, spatial vision & outcomes for white peak, GSP 1,2,3 and DS1, L3 | None  | None  |
| Vision   |                    | Vibrant, balanced economy, & services for residents & visitors    | CS 'Securing national park purposes' preamble, spatial vision & outcomes for white peak, GSP 1,2,3 and DS1, E1 | None  | None  |
| Vision   |                    | Connected to services, transport & communication                  | CS 'Securing national park purposes' preamble, spatial vision & outcomes for white peak, GSP 1,2,3 and DS1     | Conform & supplement  | None  |
| Objective  | Section 1: Housing | Provide housing to meet needs of Bradwell parish                  | Core Strategy DS1, HC1   | Conform   | None  |



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| Policy   | H1: Local needs affordable housing | The provision of local needs affordable housing is encouraged, provided it is limited to the needs of the Parish & adjoining parishes and based on the current local needs housing survey. | Core Strategy HC1, Local Plan 'saved' LH2.   | Conform & supplement  | None  |
| Policy   | H2: Newburgh site                  | Provides for 40 open market homes in context of mixed development with land and commuted sum to address local needs housing  | Core Strategy HC1,   | Conform & supplement  | None  |
| Policy   | H3: Housing sites                  | Sets priority for site selection   | DS1, L1, L2  | Conform & supplement  | None  |

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|--|------|---|---|--|--|
| Policy                                   | H4   | Broad mix of housing types              | Supplementary Planning Guidance 'meeting the local need for affordable housing'                 | Conform & supplement   | None   |
| Policy                                   | H5   | High quality design                     | Core Strategy L1, L3  | Conform & supplement   | None   |
| Policy                                   | LE1  | Safeguarding employment sites           | Core Strategy E1  | Conform & supplement   | None   |
| Policy                                   | LE2  | Industrial development at Newburgh site | Core Strategy DS1, E1, T4   | Conform & supplement   | None   |
| Policy                                   | LE3  | Broadband                               |   |  | None   |
| Policy                                   | T1   | Footpaths & cycleways                   | Core Strategy T1, T6  | Conform  | None   |
| Policy                                   | T2   | Prevent loss of existing parking        | Core Strategy T7 & Local Plan LT 10,11,14,15  | Conform  | None   |
| Policy                                   | T3   | Parking for new residential             | Core Strategy T7 and Local Plan LT11  | Conform & supplement   | None   |
| Policy                                   | T4   | New Car Parking Facilities              | Core Strategy T7, Policy LT10, Policy LT14, Policy LT15   | Conform & supplement   | None   |
| Policy                                   | HEW1 | Provision of allotments                 | Core Strategy DS1   | Conform & supplement   | None   |
| Policy                                   | HEW2 | Designate & protect local green space   | Core Strategy DS1C  | Conform & supplement   | None   |

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|--|------|---|---|--|--|
| Policy                                   | HEW3 | Requiring new residential development to support education      | No policy   |  |  |
| Policy                                   | E1   | Drainage requirements   | Core strategy CC5   | Conform & supplement   | None   |
| Policy                                   | E2   | Design  | Core Strategy L1, L3  | Conform & supplement   | None   |
| Policy                                   | E3   | Energy generating infrastructure                                | Core Strategy CC2, Renewables SDG   | Conform  | None   |
| Policy                                   | E4   | Conversion of buildings to residential or holiday accommodation | Core Strategy RT2, Local Plan LC8   | Conform  | None   |