

BNP CHAIRMANS REPORT – 10 MAY 2022

The Botley Neighbourhood Plan has recently been screened by Eastleigh Borough Council and it was determined that, as the Plan allocates a site for future development, an SEA and HRA were required.

An SEA is a "**Strategic Environmental Assessment**" which is a document showing the likely effect of the Plan on the Environment. It also shows how the Neighbourhood Plan will contribute to sustainable development, improvements to the environment and how it will mitigate for any detrimental effects the policies in the plan might have.

The HRA or "**Habitats Regulation Assessment**" considers how habitats and species will be protected and considers whether there are any proposals in the Neighbourhood Plan which would significantly affect any European sites.

Botley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has commissioned both of these documents which are nearing completion. Alongside this, Eastleigh Borough Council gave initial feedback on the policies contained within the Screening Draft of the Plan and these comments are currently being incorporated into the "**Regulation 14**" or "**Pre-submission Document**" by Planet. Once the SEA and HRA are received, the **Regulation 14 Neighbourhood Plan** can be finalised, and it will then be ready for formal consultation.

This formal consultation takes a minimum of six weeks (eight weeks if during a holiday period) and must fulfil the following requirements:

- It must be publicised to all members of the Neighbourhood Plan area, surrounding parishes, statutory consultees and key stakeholders and must include details of how and when to make comments.
- It must be provided to the Local Authority for their formal comments
- It must be available in hard copy for anyone who wants it and online for those that wish to access it this way

Once Regulation 14 has completed, the comments are considered, and action is determined. All comments are noted and the response to them is recorded.

The **final "submission document" (Regulation 15)** and its accompanying formal documentation is then completed prior to submission for examination to Eastleigh Borough Council.