



Historic England

Planning Policy Team
Planning and Borough Development
The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea
The Town Hall
Hornton Street
London W8 7NX

Our ref: PL00609842
Date: 20/09/2019

By email: astrid.coughlan@rbkc.gov.uk

Dear Astrid,

Re: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Statement Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) August 2019

Thank you for inviting Historic England to comment on the above consultation. As the Government's adviser on the historic environment Historic England is keen to ensure that the protection of the historic environment is fully taken into account at all stages and levels of the planning process. Therefore we welcome this opportunity to review the Screening Report for this SPD. For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine its advice to the question, "Is it (the SPD) likely to have a significant effect on the historic environment?". Our comments are based on the information supplied with the Screening Opinion.

The Screening Report indicates that the Council considers that the SPD will not have any significant effects on the historic environment, because the SPD is providing further guidance on how the affordable housing policy will be applied and that the SPD will not result in new development in the borough. The SPD will instead clarify the position on affordable housing provision in relevant development.

On the basis of the information supplied, and in the context of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment Regulations [Annex II of 'SEA' Directive], Historic England concurs with the Council that the preparation of a Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required.

The views of the other two statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for an SEA is made.

I should be pleased if you can send a copy of the determination as required by REG 11 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

We should like to stress that this opinion is based on the information provided by you with your correspondence dated 15th August 2019. To avoid any doubt, this does not reflect our



Historic England, 4th Floor, Cannon Bridge House, 25 Dowgate Hill, London EC4R 2YA
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obligation to provide further advice on later stages of the SEA process and, potentially, object to specific proposals which may subsequently arise (either as a result of this consultation or in later versions of the SPD) where we consider that, despite the SEA, these would have an adverse effect upon the environment.

Historic England strongly advises that your conservation staff are closely involved throughout the preparation of the SPDs and plans. They are best placed to advise on; local historic environment issues and priorities, including access to data held in the Historic Environment Record (HER), how the policies or proposals can be tailored to minimise potential adverse impacts on the historic environment; the nature and design of any required mitigation measures; and opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of heritage assets.

Please do contact me if you have any queries.

Regards

Katie Parsons
Historic Environment Planning Advisor
katie.parsons@historicengland.org.uk



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