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Date: 22 March 2019

Draft BENP SEA Screening Opinion

Dear Andy

As you are aware, I have reviewed the original SEA Screening Opinion (carried out in September 2015) in order to take account of the sites to be allocated within the BENP.

Based on the information provided and following consultation with statutory bodies, the SEA Screening Opinion has concluded that an SEA will not be required for the Blunsdon East Neighbourhood Plan.

However, in order to satisfy specific points in relation to Site B and the nearby heritage assets, and in order to satisfy the recommendations of the SBC Conservation Officer, within the policy relating to the allocated sites wording will need to be provided as follows:

'This site is within the setting of the Broad Blunsdon Conservation Area. Development proposals should retain the existing open rural setting of the Broad Blunsdon Conservation Area. In order to mitigate against potential indirect harm to this setting, development should be restricted to the western part of the site and proposals should demonstrate appropriate consideration of siting, density and scale. Development proposals should also demonstrate how the nearby listed milestone will be protected whilst the development is being built out.'

Consultation was also carried out with the Lead Local Flood Authority and in order to comply with their advice, the following wording should be included within the policy for the allocated sites:

'Development proposals will be expected to provide Flood Risk Assessments and drainage strategies in accordance with Swindon Borough Local Plan 2026 Policy EN6: Flood Risk.'

Yours faithfully,

Karen Phimister, SBC Neighbourhood Planning Officer

