

*Due to an administrative error, the response from the Environmental Agency (dated 24<sup>th</sup> October 2016 - attached) to the Melton Neighbourhood Plan draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Scoping Report was not addressed in the final Scoping Report and therefore in the Sustainability Appraisal that accompanies the Submission Version Neighbourhood Plan. However, the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has reviewed the submission and would make the following comments in response the points raised:*

<b><u>Matter Raised</u></b>	<b><u>Response</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>
<i>Flood risk and specifically the wording in Table 5.1 for sustainability theme 1/Env which currently says, 'Number of developments in 'highly vulnerable' or 'more vulnerable' flood risk areas.' Recommends options for alternative wording.</i>	<i>Agreed – intention of assessment was to identify 'highly vulnerable' and 'more vulnerable' developments. This does not materially affect the SEA assessment.</i>	<i>Amend Final Scoping Report, Table 5.1, and Sustainability Appraisal, Table 6.1, to read: 'Number of highly vulnerable and more vulnerable developments in Flood Zone 3 (high probability) and Flood Zone 2 (medium probability)'</i>
<i>It would be beneficial if future development in Melton could contribute to the funding of future improvements to the flood defences on the River Deben.</i>	<i>Noted</i>	<i>No change</i>
<i>As there are areas at risk of surface water flooding in Melton we recommend that you consult with the Lead Local Flood Authority Suffolk County Council.</i>	<i>Noted, this has been done.</i>	<i>No change</i>
<i>The section entitled "Water," page 19 and following may wish to make reference to the south of the area being situated over a Source Protection Zone 2 and across the whole area are Principle and Unproductive Aquifers. These features will require future developments to put in place measures to</i>	<i>Agreed. This does not materially affect the SEA assessment and it is not considered necessary, given the specific nature of the advice to future developments (which should be addressed at the planning application stage), to suggest any change</i>	<i>Add a paragraph following paragraph 3.19 in both the Final Scoping Report and the Sustainability Appraisal to say: 'In southern part of the Neighbourhood Plan area is situated over a Source Protection Zone 2 and across the whole area are Principle and Unproductive Aquifers. These features will</i>

<i>protect the water environment.</i>	<i>to the Neighbourhood Plan.</i>	<i>require future developments to put in place measures to protect the water environment.'</i>
<i>Section 3.23 may wish to make reference to the area being a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone.</i>	<i>Agreed. This does not materially affect the SEA assessment.</i>	<i>Add a paragraph following paragraph 3.23 in both the Final Scoping Report and the Sustainability Appraisal to say: 'The Neighbourhood Plan area is a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone.'</i>
<i>Development that proposes to dispose of foul water to the existing sewer network will increase the discharge loading from the receiving sewage treatment works which may have an adverse impact on the consented permit and subsequent water quality issues.</i>	<i>Noted and it is considered that this should be reflected. This does not materially affect the SEA assessment.</i>	<i>Add a paragraph following paragraph 3.23 in both the Final Scoping Report and the Sustainability Appraisal to say: 'Development that proposes to dispose of foul water to the existing sewer network will increase the discharge loading from the receiving sewage treatment works which may have an adverse impact on the consented permit and subsequent water quality issues.'</i>
<i>Reference to the Anglian River Basin Management Plan should be updated to refer to the latest information, data sets and targets, February 2016</i>	<i>Agreed. This does not materially affect the SEA assessment.</i>	<i>Amend the 'Key targets/indicators' in the final row of the 'National and Regional Context' table on p11 of both the Final Scoping Report and the Sustainability Appraisal to say: '43% water bodies have an objective of maintaining or aiming to achieve good ecological status between 2015 and 2027; 6% have been set an objective of reaching moderate ecological status by 2027.'</i>

***Overall, it is our opinion that this does not materially affect the work undertaken on the SEA or the Plan as a whole.***