

Notice of Determination that a Strategic Environmental Assessment is Required

*Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026;
Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (as amended)*

Local Plan – Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening Determination

Notice is hereby given that Eastleigh Borough Council (“the Authority”), as the responsible authority for the purposes of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (“the SEA Regulations”), has undertaken a screening assessment of the emerging Eastleigh Local Plan.

Regulatory context

In accordance with Regulation 5(1) and 5(2) of the SEA Regulations, an environmental assessment is required for plans or programmes:

- which are:
 - prepared for town and country planning or land use; and
 - subject to preparation and/or adoption by an authority at national, regional or local level; and
- which:
 - set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annex I or II of Directive 2011/92/EU¹ or otherwise establish a framework for development consent decisions.

Further, under Regulation 5(3) and 5(4), an environmental assessment is required where:

- the plan is likely to have significant environmental effects having regard to the criteria set out in Schedule 1; and
- the plan is not excluded as a minor modification or as applying to a small area at local level (unless significant environmental effects are likely).

¹ Annex I and Annex II of Directive 2011/92/EU are transposed into UK law primarily through Schedule 1 and Schedule 2 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/571)

Application of Regulation 5 to the Local Plan

The Authority has determined that the emerging Local Plan:

1. Falls within the scope of Regulation 5, because:
 - it is a plan prepared for town and country planning and land use;
 - it is subject to preparation and adoption by the Authority pursuant to statutory requirements; and
 - it will set the framework for future development consent, including the location, scale and nature of development and associated infrastructure.
2. It is not exempt from SEA, because:
 - it applies to the entire administrative area of the Authority and not merely to a small area at local level; and
 - it does not constitute a minor modification of an existing plan.
3. It is likely to have significant environmental effects, having regard to the criteria in Schedule 1, including (but not limited to):
 - the extent to which the plan establishes a framework for development and influences other plans and programmes;
 - the scale, duration and cumulative nature of potential environmental effects;
 - the value and sensitivity of the area likely to be affected, including environmental, heritage and landscape considerations; and
 - the likely effects on environmental receptors such as population, human health, biodiversity, soil, water, air, climatic factors and cultural heritage.

Determination

In accordance with Regulation 9 of the SEA Regulations, the Authority has determined that:

The Eastleigh Local Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects and therefore requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

22 June 2026