Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
Strategic Environmental Assessment
Screening Report

Report Author:	Flood and Water Management Officer
Report Date:	February 2016
Revision:	FINAL

HILLINGDON
LONDON

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1. Introduction

1.1. What is a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)?

Article 3 of the SEA Directive 2001[1], states that SEAs

> *are mandatory for any local plan programme relating to, amongst other topics, water management*
>
> *AND which set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive 2009[2].*
> *OR*
> *have been determined to require an assessment under the Habitats Directive[3].*

The Directive was transposed into English legislation by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004[4] (the 'SEA Regulation'), which came into force on 21 July 2004. It requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be carried out for all plans and programmes 'which are subject to preparation and/or adoption by an authority at national, regional or local level or which are prepared by an authority for adoption, through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government, and required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions'. The few exceptions are detailed in Article 3 (8, 9) of the SEA Directive.

The aim of the SEA is to identify potentially significant environmental effects created as a result of the implementation of the plan or programme on issues specified in Annex 1(f) of the Directive, such as 'biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors'.

1.2. Screening for SEA

Prior to starting the SEA process a plan or programme would normally undergo 'screening'. The LGA Framework for Flood Risk Management Strategy[5] Figure 2 Application of the SEA to Plans and Programmes provides a useful guide to the process to determine whether the plan is subject to the SEA Directive and therefore requires an SEA. A summary of the process undertaken for this strategy is shown in *Figure 1 Summary of the process of application of SEA to the LFRMS*.

[1] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strategic-environmental-assessment-directive-guidance
[2] http://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/eia-legalcontext.htm
[3] http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/legislation/habitatsdirective/index_en.htm
[4] http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/schedule/1/made
[5] http://www.local.gov.uk/local-flood-risk-management/-/journal_content/56/10180/3618366/ARTICLE

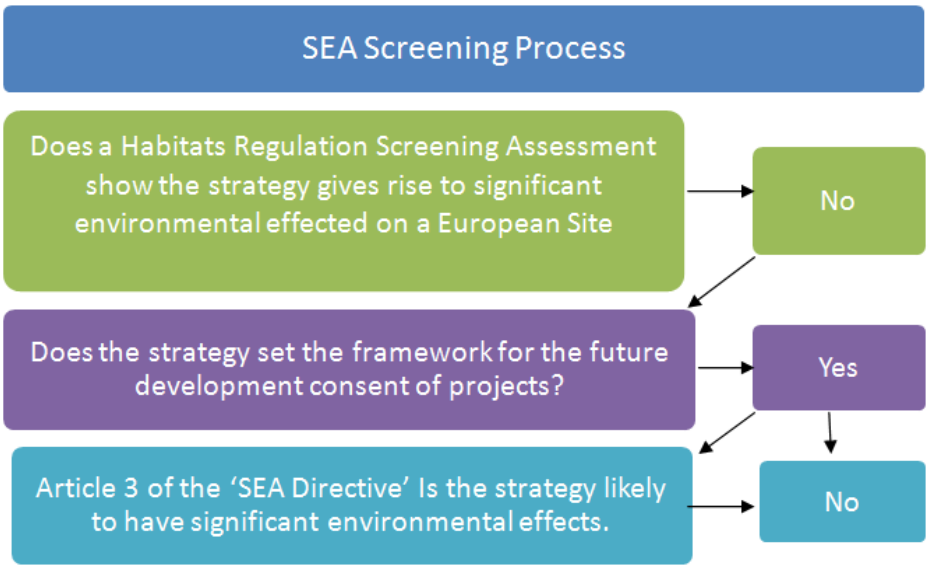

Figure 1 *Summary of the process of application of SEA to the LFRMS*

1.3. Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

As a Lead Local Flood Authority, the London Borough of Hillingdon has the responsibility of developing, maintaining, applying and monitoring a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The 'strategy' assesses the risk of flooding in the Borough, the flood risk management functions and the duty to set the framework and objectives for managing local flood risk, together with the measures proposed to achieve those objectives. This will be adopted by the Council.

The strategy is also required to contribute to the achievement of wider environmental objectives so it is important that it meets the aims of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) directive and the Water Framework Directive (WFD).

The main objective of the SEA is to integrate environmental considerations within policy development at the earliest opportunity, so as to demonstrate that the strategy has, as far as is practicable, met environmental concerns.

1.4. Purpose of this Report

The London Borough of Hillingdon is therefore, in this document, undertaking the screening phase of the SEA requirements for the Flood Risk Management Strategy. It also includes an initial assessment of existing environmental issues within the Borough, outlining possible future issues that may occur and/or may be exacerbated by the implementation of the Strategy. This highlights the environmental issues that need to be taken into account.

The assessment is performed through a comparison exercise of the Strategy objectives against SEA objectives.

2. Methodology

2.1. Stages of the SEA process

The methodology adopted has been developed in accordance with the following guidance:

- A practical guide to the SEA Directive[6]
- Local Government Association Framework for Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, 2nd edition[7]

Figure 2 below outlines the stages of the whole SEA process. This report comprises Stage A. The methodology is set out in relation to each of the tasks associated with Stage A.

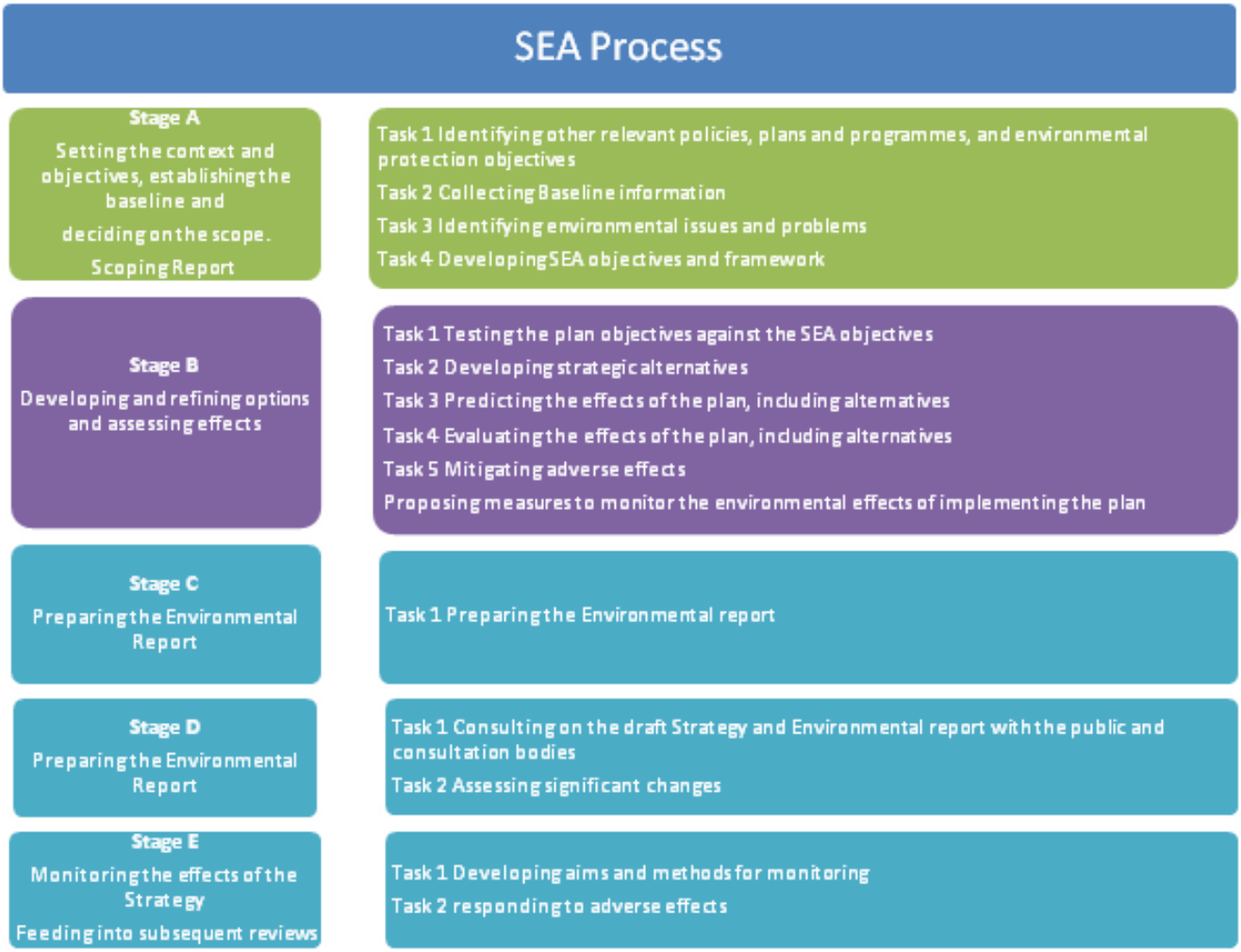

Figure 2 *SEA Process and Tasks*

[6] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/strategic-environmental-assessment-directive-guidance
[7] http://www.local.gov.uk/local-flood-risk-management/-/journal_content/56/10180/3618366/ARTICLE

3. Stage A Task 1: Relevant policies, plans and programmes

The first task is to identify all policies, documents and legislation that impact on the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The majority of these are listed in Section 2 of the Hillingdon Local Flood Risk Management Strategy along with more detail on what they include.

International	**Date**	**Organisation**
EU Biodiversity Strategy	2011	EC
EU Birds Directive	2009	EC
EU Floods Directive	2007	EC
EU Habitats Directive	1992	EC
EU Water Framework Directive	2000	EC
EU Groundwater Directive	1980	EC
National		
Biodiversity – The UK Action Plan	1994	UK Government
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services	2011	Defra
Climate Change Act	2008	UK Government
Directing the Flow: Priorities for Future Water Policy	2002	Defra
Flood and Water Management Act	2010	UK Government
Flood Risk Regulations	2009	UK Government
Future Water, The government's water strategy for England	2008	UK Government
Guidance for risk management authorities on sustainable development in relation to their flood and coastal erosion risk management functions	2011	UK Government
Land Drainage Act	1991	UK Government
Making Space for Water	2005	Defra
National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England	2011	Defra & EA
National Planning Policy Framework	2012	DCLG
National Planning Policy Guidance	2014	DCLG

National Standards for Sustainable Drainage Systems	2011	Defra
The Civil Contingencies Act	2004	UK Government
The Impact of Flooding on Urban and Rural Communities	2005	Defra & EA
The Pitt Review - Lessons learned from the 2007 summer floods	2009	UK Government
The SuDS Manual	2015	CIRIA
Water Act	2003	UK Government
Water for People and the Environment: Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales	2009	EA
The Localism Act	2011	UK Government
Regional		
London Regional Flood Risk Appraisal	2009	GLA
London Strategic Emergency Plan	2010	LRP
London Strategic Flood Framework	2012	LRP
Managing risks and increasing resilience: the Mayor's climate change adaptation strategy	2011	GLA
Thames Catchment Flood Management Plan	2009	EA
Thames Estuary 2100 Flood Risk Management Plan	2012	EA
Thames River Basin Management Plan	2015	Defra & EA
The London Plan	2011	GLA
The Colne Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy	2013	EA
Local		
Local Plan Part 1: Strategic Policies	2012	LBH
Local Plan Part 2	2014	LBH
Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2018	2007	LBH
The Flood Risk Portfolio for LBH includes:		
Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment	2011	LBH
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	2008	LBH
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and Sequential test Addendum	2014	LBH

Surface Water Management Plan Part 1 Evidence Base	2013	LBH
Surface Water Management Plan Part 2 Options and Action Plan	2014	LBH

Table 1 *List of relevant plans and policies*

4. Stage A Task 2: Collecting baseline information

4.1. London Borough of Hillingdon baseline information

To ensure that the relevant data was collected and captured, the relevant themes in the environmental topics referred to in Annex 1 (f) of the SEA Directive were used:

- Population and Human Health
- Soil
- Water
- Noise and Air Quality
- Biodiversity,
- Climate Change
- Material Assets
- Cultural Heritage
- Landscape
- Transport

Information has been collected from a variety of sources, mainly other London Borough of Hillingdon documentation and the 2011 Census[8].

4.2. Population and Human Health

Table 2 2011 Population Census Results show that for the London Borough of Hillingdon the total population was:

Years old	2011 Census	%
0-4	19,704	7.2
5-15	37,189	13.6
16 - 24	37,570	13.7
25 - 59	131,509	48.0
60 - 74	30,847	11.3

Table 2 *2011 Population Census Results Source GLA*[9]

Total population in Hillingdon in 2001 was 246,100, in 2011 it was 273,900 and the GLA predict that it will be 297,500 in 2015. The level of growth is faster than the average for England. Although a less densely populated London Borough, this density increased from 8.6 dwellings per hectare in 2001 to 9.0 in 2011.

[8] http://data.london.gov.uk/census/

[9] http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/29581/Population-statistics

Hillingdon is also an ethnically diverse borough with 43% of residents from Black and Minority Ethnic groups. This is set out in detail in the document 'Ethnic Groups'.

Figures from the GLA indicate that, generally, those in Hillingdon have on average better health than most Londoners and that this health is improving.

The Council now has a more important role in Public Health. Data from Census 2011 shows that Hillingdon, in comparison with other London Boroughs, has a higher percentage of people with good or very good health. Further information about public health, and the Council's role, can be found on the Council's website in the Director of Public Health Annual report.[10] The link between the environment and health is outlined further in 'Better Environment - Better Health Guide[11]' produced by the GLA.

4.3. Soil

Agriculture is still a major land use within the Borough, providing both economic income and a visually pleasing environment which provides opportunities for informal recreation

The dominant solid geology, similar to most other London Boroughs, is the London Clay formation, although along the Colne Valley there are some areas of Chalk. Drift deposits of Langley silt overly River Terraced Deposits, which in a number of areas have been excavated in the southern part of Hillingdon. To the north, there are mainly pockets of Glacial Sand and Gravel (information obtained from the SFRA).

On the Council Contaminated land[12] webpages, three to four hundred sites within Hillingdon have been identified as being potentially contaminated. Over eighty sites have been identified as previously used as landfill. Of these landfills, 30-40% have been identified as being suitable for new use, for example agriculture, building land and nature conservation.

4.4. Water

4.4.1 Water Resources

The London Borough of Hillingdon covers two Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy areas identified within the Thames Catchment. The 'CAMS' for the Colne and London[13], set out how water resources are managed and the licensing needed for abstraction. They provide evidence that abstraction in Hillingdon will need to be carefully monitored in the future. The Environment Agency has also identified Groundwater Source Protection Zones where groundwater is abstracted for drinking. Two inner zones in the London Borough of Hillingdon, where activities which could affect groundwater must be strictly controlled, are illustrated in Figure 3, Map of Source Protection Zones, identified by the Environment Agency on the Environment Agency website[14].

[10] http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/25203/Director-of-Public-Health-Annual-Report-for-2014

[11] https://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/health/focus-issues/better-environment-better-health-guides-for-london-boroughs

[12] http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/8676/Contaminated-land

[13] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/colne-catchment-abstraction-licensing-strategy

[14] http://apps.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby/37833.aspx

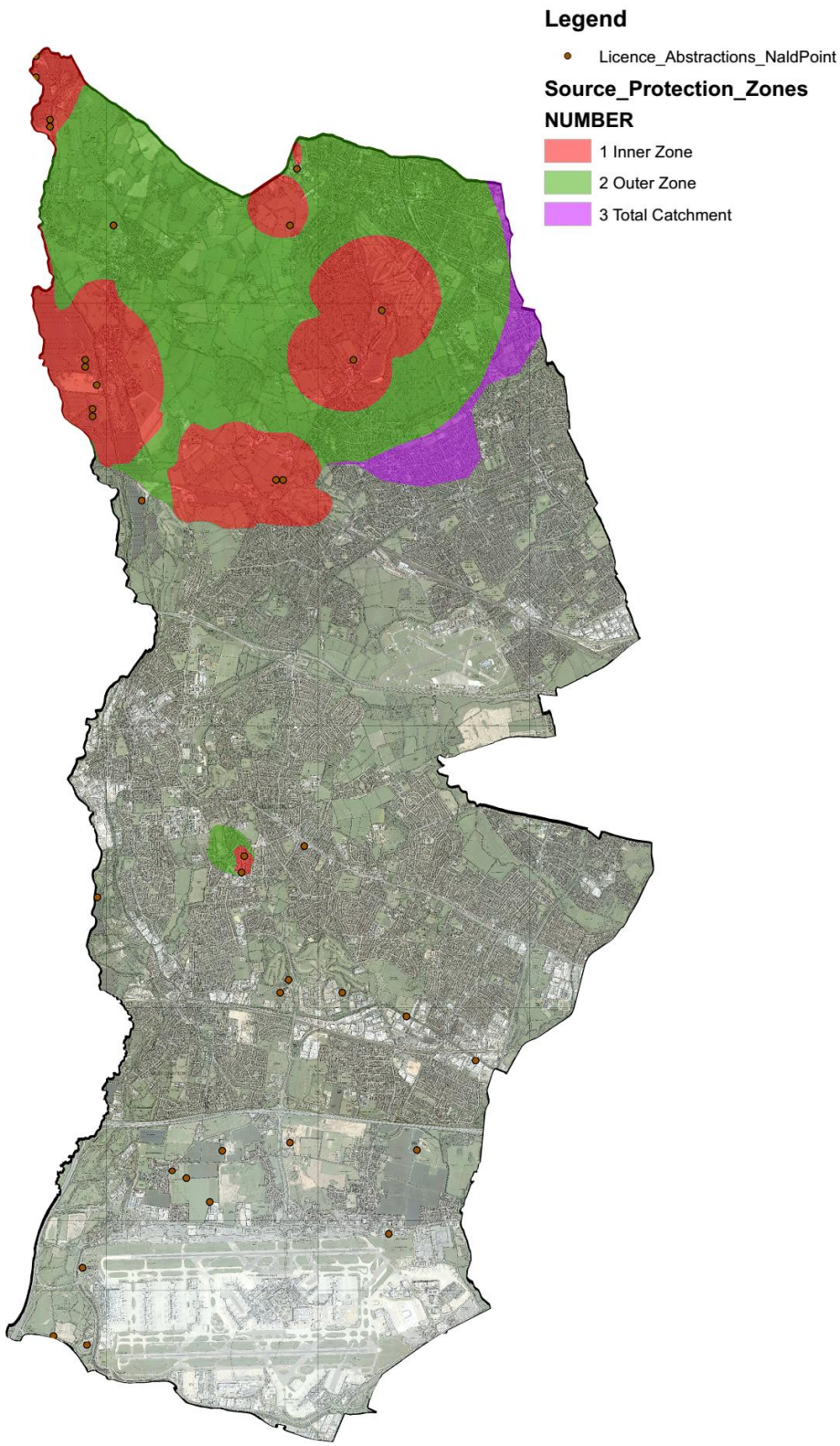

Figure 3 *Map of Source Protection Zones identified by the Environment Agency*

4.4.2 Flooding

The Flood Risk Portfolio of documents[15] produced by Hillingdon identifies the flood risks from a variety of flooding sources. The key risk is shown to be Surface Water affecting 29,300 residential properties and 1,300 non residential properties as well as key transport infrastructure.

4.4.3 Water Quality

The Water Framework Directive is a EU legislative approach to managing and protecting water. River Basin Management Plans identify the Yeading Brook, River Crane and River Pinn within Hillingdon as having a moderate water quality with the River Colne having 'good' status. Information on the status of each waterbody within the London Borough of Hillingdon can be found on the Environment Agency website Flood Maps for River Basin Management Plans[16] The key risks identified with water quality are poor phosphorous levels.

4.5. Air Quality

The European Union air quality policy sets the overall context for national policy. The aim of the EU policy is to develop an overall strategy through the setting of long-term air quality targets. These air quality limit values are set through a series of Daughter Directives. The UK National Air Quality Strategy defines the future air quality policy in the UK and sets objectives for several key air pollutants. Under the Local Air Quality Management regime, Air Quality is also one of the UK government's indicators of sustainable development. The indicator measures the number of days that pollutants (carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, fine particles and sulphur dioxide) are above certain levels. The level of air quality in the borough remains a major and high profile issue, with parts of Hillingdon having some of the worst air quality in the country.

The Council has carried out a review and assessment of air quality in the Borough to identify if these air quality objectives will be achieved. Of the seven pollutants assessed, two have been identified as being of particular concern in Hillingdon, namely nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate matter (PM10). In 2001 an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was designated, comprising an area stretching from the Chiltern-Marylebone railway line in the north down to the southern Borough boundary. Since June 2004, an Air Quality Action plan has been in place setting out measures that will be pursued in order to improve air quality in the Borough. Further information can be found on the Council's website pages on Air Pollution[17].

4.6. Noise

The main issues relating to noise are the current patterns of problems relating to road traffic and noise connected with Heathrow airport. Heathrow is a major source of regular noise pollution along the flight paths and this could be exacerbated in the future with the potential for further airport expansion.

Road noise in London has been assessed and noise maps drawn up. Road noise along the major routes in the borough exceeds 80 decibels and 70 decibels in many areas.

[15] http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/24117/Flood-risk-management

[16] http://maps.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby/wiybyController?topic=wfd_rivers&ep=map&x=513367.6705&y=177723.0005&scale=7&lang=_e&layerGroups=default&layerGroupToQuery=1&textonly=off#x=509895&y=182843&lg=1,8,9,5,6,&scale=7

[17] http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/airpollution

4.7. Climate Change

Many of the challenges faced in local government are likely to be exacerbated by climate change. Infrastructure, buildings, businesses, and community cohesion are all likely to feel the impacts of more regular severe flooding, heatwaves, extreme weather events and reduced access to important resources like water. It is a key area for councils to engage in resilience thinking.

Local authorities are required to pay attention and take action in order to address many aspects of short and long term resilience to a changing climate. Recent legislation has made this an imperative for local government.

4.8. Biodiversity

The London Borough of Hillingdon contains a diverse mixture of built-up areas and open space, including agricultural land which constitutes much of the Green Belt, with a high ecological value.

The Borough does not contain any sites which carry a European designation and thus has no sites as part of the Natura 2000 network.

4.8.1 Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

There are 500 hectares across 6 SSSI within the London Borough of Hillingdon: Denham Lock Wood, Frays Farm Meadows, Harefield Pit, Mid Colne Valley, Old Park Wood and the 300-hectare Ruislip Woods. Appendix 1 shows the 'Condition of the SSSI in Hillingdon' below. Most of the SSSI are for broadleaved woodland.

Hillingdon also contains a designated national nature reserve (NNR) at Ruislip Woods and five local nature reserves wholly or partially within the borough, covering 380 hectares.

4.8.2 Green Belt

As the westernmost borough in London, Hillingdon has over 123,000 acres of Green Belt land. This is vital for preserving London's character and distinctiveness, and for safeguarding the countryside.

4.8.3 Sites of Nature Conservation (SINC)

There are over 40 sites of importance for nature conservation (SINCs) present in the Borough. The 137 mile long Grand Union Canal passes through the Borough and is designated across London as a Site of Nature Conservation Importance. The 1920’s saw the full integration of the water transport system, which started in 1793. This was once the busiest canal in the country linking London to the Midland cities of Birmingham and Leicester. The canal, which once supplied and transported goods from the industrial cities, now acts principally as a leisure destination, attracting walkers to its towpath and holidaymakers to its canal boats.

4.8.4 Woodland

Hillingdon contains 875 hectares of woodland, covering 7.6% of the Borough's area. This is a large amount for a London Borough and compares with the 8.5% average for the whole of England. Of the 875 hectares in Hillingdon, 810 are subject to tree protection orders (TPO).

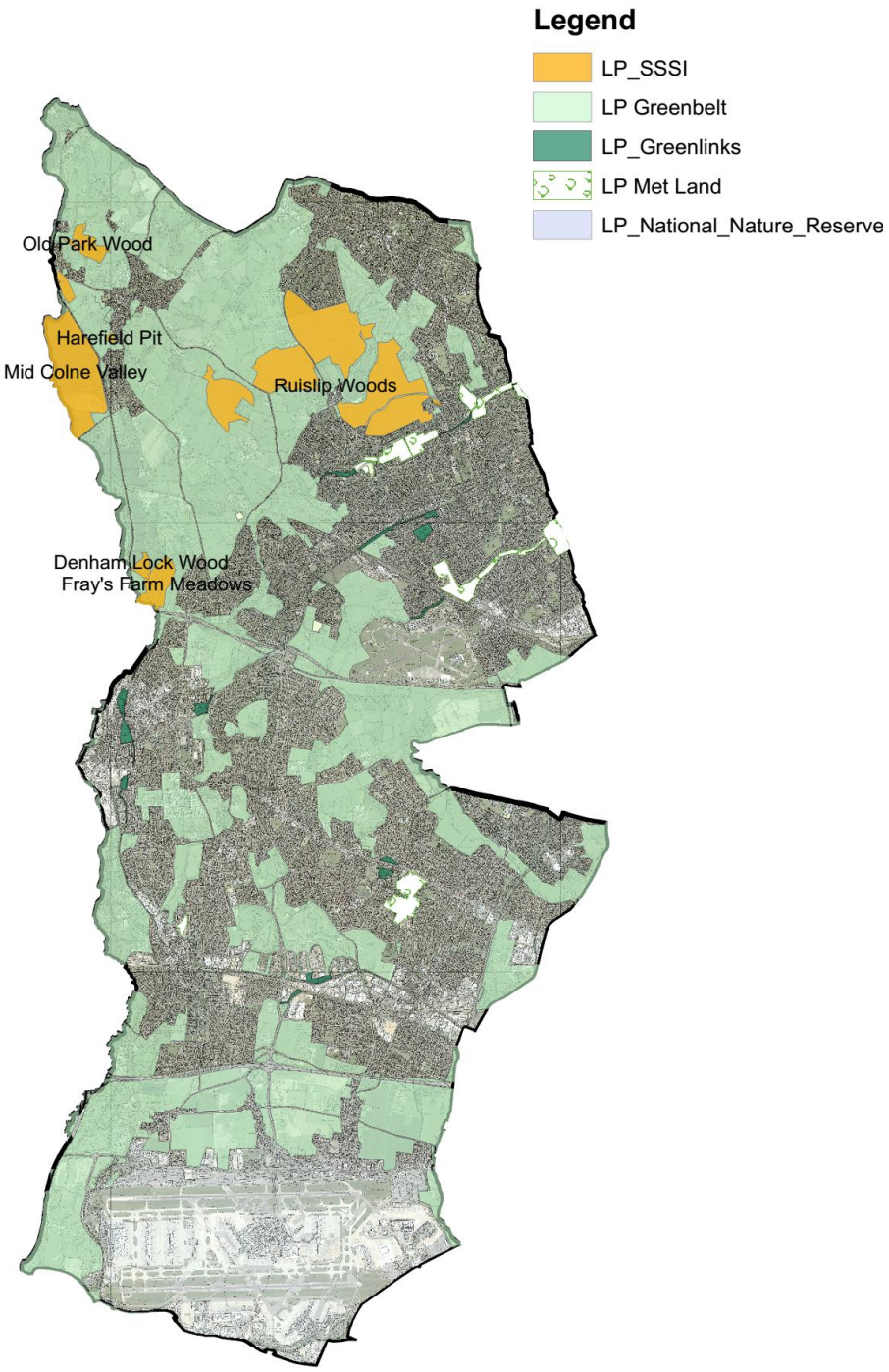

Figure 4 *Map of important biodiversity and landscape sites in Hillingdon*

4.9. Material Assets

The London Borough of Hillingdon has invested in many of its sports and leisure facilities, for example Ruislip Lido, Highgrove Pool, Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Centre and Botwell Green Community Sports and Leisure Centre. In addition, seventeen libraries have been either rebuilt or refurbished since 2007 as part of a £10m libraries investment programme. In addition the Borough has one of the largest schools programmes.

4.10. Cultural Heritage (Including architectural and archaeological heritage)

There are hundreds of designated assets within the Borough and many more that have been identified but not 'designated' as such. All of the following information can be found on the Hillingdon website on the Council Conservation and heritage[18] pages, and their relevant sources.

4.10.1 Scheduled Monuments

Within the Borough are five scheduled ancient monuments (SAM) none of which are deemed to be at risk. These are:

- **The Ruislip Motte and Bailey**
- **Manor Farm Moat, off Long Lane, Ickenham**
- **The moated site by River Pinn off Copthall Road West**
- **Brackenbury Farm Moated Site, Breakspear Road South**
- **The Barn at Manor Farm, Harmondsworth.**

Key areas are illustrated in Figure 5 Important Cultural Heritage Areas in Hillingdon, derived from supporting evidence from the Local Plan.

4.10.2 Archaeological Priority Areas (APA) and Archaeological Priority Zones (APZ)

Significant prehistoric sites at Three Ways Wharf, Uxbridge and at Heathrow Terminal Five have been excavated. The excavations at Heathrow have highlighted the Borough's potential for providing important information about the changing landscape of London from prehistory through to modern times. Currently, the Council has identified a number of Archaeological Priority Areas (APA) and Archaeological Priority Zones (APZ).

4.10.3 Historic parks and Gardens

Hillingdon has one entry in the register held by English Heritage: Harefield Place, which is designated grade II. The site comprises the earthwork remains of a 17th-century country mansion and later gardens including a brick arcade.

[18] http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/9094/Conservation-and-heritage

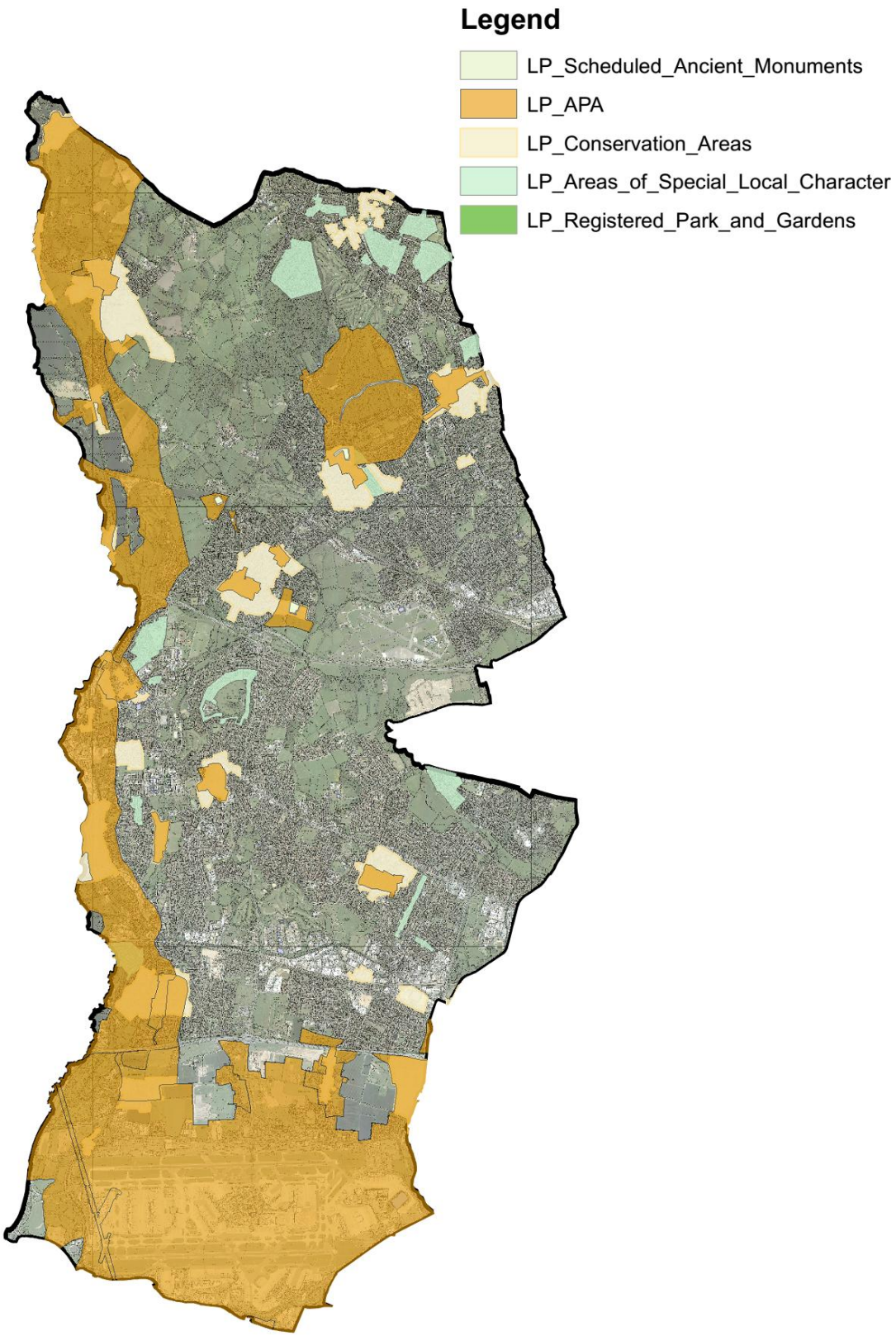

Figure 5 *Important Cultural Heritage Areas in Hillingdon*

4.10.4 Conservation Areas

The Borough contains 31 Conservation areas[19] (an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance), more information on which can be found on the Council's website.

4.10.5 Listed Buildings

There are 423 statutory listed buildings in the borough, 9 Grade I, 29 Grade II and 385 Grade III. There are also 302 Locally Listed Buildings.

4.10.6 Areas of Special Local Character

There are 15 designated Areas of Special Local Character (ASLC). These are designated on the basis of their local architectural, townscape or historic merits, as defined in the adopted plan.

4.11. Landscape

As supporting evidence for the Local Plan, a Landscape Character Assessment has been undertaken[20]. Unlike many London Boroughs, Hillingdon is distinctive for its mix of landscapes. The Borough comprises 13 landscape types.

Hillingdon also contains Harefield, the only village remaining in London to be completely surrounded by greenfield land.

In addition as supporting evidence for the Local Plan Part 2 a Townscape Character Study[21] has been undertaken to support key strategic objective (SO1) in the Local Plan to "conserve and enhance the borough's heritage and their settings" and new development should use this study to ensure it works closely to create places and spaces which integrate with the existing understanding of townscape and identified opportunities.

English Nature has classified the Borough as being within the London basin natural area. The majority of the Borough is in the Thames Valley Countryside Character area, with the eastern fringe classified as the Northern Thames Basin (111) by the Countryside Commission.

4.11.1 Green and Open Space

Hillingdon contains over 5000 hectares of countryside and open land. Included within this total are 239 areas classified as green and open spaces, including 128 playgrounds and recreational spaces and parks of regional, metropolitan, district or local importance. The Borough has the highest number of Green Flag areas, (benchmark national standard for parks and green spaces) in England.

[19] http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/22670/Conservation-areas-in-Hillingdon
[20] http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/9123/Hillingdons-Landscape-Character-Assessment
[21] http://www.hillingdon.gov.uk/article/29909/Local-Plan-Part-2-evidence-base-studies

4.11.2 Metropolitan and Open Land (MOL) and Green Chains

MOL is a London designation and has same level of protection as Green Belt. The Local Plan Part 2 identifies the MOL and Green Chain Links within the Policies map. Hillingdon has identified strips of open land that link together to form 'green chains'. Much of this land is already designated as Green Belt, but green chains seek to provide additional access to open space, providing opportunities for countryside leisure for Hillingdon's residents and visitors and acting as wildlife corridors. The current green chains in the borough are:

- **Eastcote - West Drayton, along line of the River Pinn.**
- **Eastcote - Hayes, along line of Yeading Brook.**
- **Ruislip Manor - West Drayton, through Hayes Park, Town Hall Park and Stockley Park.**
- **Ickenham - West Drayton along line of the River Frays.**
- **Ruislip Manor - Harlington through Yeading, Minet Estate and Cranford Park.**
- **Grand Union Canal.**

4.11.3 Blue Ribbon Network

This is defined in the London Plan, 'Chapter 7: London Living Spaces and Places'.[22] It identifies a number of strategic waterways and corridors, alongside rivers, in Hillingdon which it is important to maintain and enhance.

4.12 Transport

Hillingdon is crossed by some major transport links into and out of London, including the M4, M40/A40, and major rail lines including the Chiltern Line and London underground network of the Piccadilly and Metropolitan and Central lines. It also contains the strategic airport of Heathrow and RAF Northolt.

[22] https://www.london.gov.uk/what-we-do/planning/london-plan/current-london-plan/london-plan-chapter-7/chapter-seven-london%E2%80%99s

5. Stage A Task 3: Identification of Environmental Issues

5.1. Identify existing or possible future environmental issues

From a review of the baseline information, there are a number of environmental issues that could be affected by the implementation of the strategy. These are outlined in Table 3 Environmental Issues.

Topic	Influence of the LFRMS
Population and Human Health	The LFRMS will need to ensure that the increasing population is located in the most sustainable location. Rising numbers living in households may increase demand for householder extensions within the floodplain, for which planning guidance will need to be provided to ensure flood risk does not increase. The LFRMS may affect public access to recreational features, goods and public services that can make a material difference to quality of life. The perceived level of flood risk that communities feel they are exposed to may also affect levels of stress and impact on Quality of Life. Opportunities for flood risk management schemes could improve access to areas, reducing risk and therefore levels of stress.
Soil	The LRMS projects will need to recognise and avoid contaminated areas and encourage the remediation of such land to allow the natural flow of groundwater. The LFRMS should influence gravel workings where the sensitive management of these sites will be needed to minimise impact on sensitive ground water levels and flood risk.
Water	The LFRMS may propose changes in construction and land use and flood risk frequency which may have the potential to affect water levels, and water quality.
Air Quality	The LFRMS should influence air quality projects to be able to incorporate flood risk reduction measures.
Biodiversity	The LFRMS may include changes in bio-diversity such as the plan to reduce non native species as well as construction, land use or flood risk and water levels which may affect nature conservation and biodiversity. This may improve existing habitats or create new features. The impact of the LFRMS on sites of international importance is reviewed separately in the Habitats Regulation Scoping report.
Climate Change	There is a greater potential for shorter heavier storm events, increasing the likelihood of surface water flooding. Also, Hillingdon is in the South East of England, the driest area of the UK, and additional growth could increase water stresses in summer. More sustainable ways of managing flood risk increase the resilience and capacity to adapt. This will be one of many ways in which future climate change can be managed.

Material Assets	The LFRMS could result in improved flood risk management of Hillingdon's assets, thus reducing flood risks.
Cultural Heritage	The LFRMS may propose changes in construction, land use and flooding which have the potential to adversely affect historic environment sites and their settings. It may also manage the flood risk to heritage features or lead to improved access to historic sites.
Landscape	There is likely to be a continuing increase in development, reducing permeable surfacing and thus increasing surface water run off. The LFRMS may include changes in construction, land use, flood risk frequency or water levels that have the potential to adversely affect landscape features. Alternatively proposals may include opportunities to create and diversify landscape features.
Transport	The LFRMS will seek to manage flood risk to and from existing critical infrastructure within Hillingdon. It should also influence major infrastructure to ensure flood risk is fully assessed and monitored before, during and after construction. One of the key issues affecting Hillingdon is major transport infrastructure projects: HS2 and the possible 3rd Runway at Heathrow.

Table 3 *Environmental Issues*

6. Stage A Task 4: SEA Objectives

6.1. Creating the SEA Objectives

In a Practical Guide for Strategic Environmental Assessment, Appendix 5, Figure 11 provides examples of SEA objectives and indicators. These should be adapted to local circumstances by deletions, additions or refinements. They have been considered and refined and the following shown in Table 4 are proposed for comparison with the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy objectives and actions:

SEA 1	Maintain, and enhance where possible, leisure and recreational benefits within and adjacent to water bodies
SEA 2	Prevent any decline in the quality or quantity of water resources and enhance the WFD status of rivers where possible
SEA 3	Enable local economic growth and development
SEA 4	Promote sustainable development to reduce and mitigate the potential impacts of climate change on water resources
SEA 5	Maintain and enhance biodiversity and habitats near water

Table 4 *List of SEA Objectives*

7. Next Steps and Conclusions

The significance of the effect is ranked, in Table 5 using the following criteria and giving consideration to the factors outlined.

LFRMS Objective		SEA Objective				
		1	2	3	4	5
1	Develop the knowledge and awareness of different flood risks, and roles and responsibilities in managing flooding	0	0	0	0	0
2	Maintain and improve communication and cooperative working between strategic parties, flood risk management authorities and the public.	+	+	+	0	0
3	Ensure that development in Hillingdon takes account of flood risk issues and plans to reduce them	+	+	+	+	+
4	Identify and implement new flood risk management measures.	+	+	+	+	+
5	Promote the effective management of flood risk assets.	0	0	+	0	0
6	Ensure that emergency plans and responses to flood incidents are effective and that communities understand their role in an emergency	0	0	0	0	0

Table 5 *Effect of the Flood Risk Management Strategy*

7.1. Impact

The strategy is at a high level and the potential effects are therefore fairly generic. However from this work the strategy objectives and or actions will not cause any threat or damage to the environment and will not reduce the protection that the Council provides the environment. In fact by improving flood risk management, it may have a beneficial impact on other environmental issues, such as residents' health, by reducing worry and concern over flooding.

As a consequence, this scoping report and initial testing of the plan objectives against the SEA objectives no Environmental report is required.

It is expected that the Flood Risk Management Strategy and the documents within the London Borough of Hillingdon's Flood Risk Management Portfolio which inform the strategy, will be updated and specific flood risk management schemes developed. There is potential for positive impacts by pursuing mutual benefits that could help contribute to achieving key environmental issues for the London Borough of Hillingdon, as identified within this document.

EIA Directive Annex II, states that Infrastructure Projects, such as flood relief works and installations to store water on a long term basis, may also still require an Environmental Impact Assessment.

All future flood risk schemes should have regard to the key environmental issues that Hillingdon face, and consider opportunities to contribute to the other environmental aims and objectives identified as priorities for the London Borough of Hillingdon.