

MEETING OF THE LOCAL PLAN COMMITTEE

MONDAY, 29 JUNE 2026

ADDITIONAL PAPERS

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Local Plan Committee

29 June 2026

UPDATE

Item 5 East Midlands Freeport Contributions SPD

In accordance with Regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations) in respect of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)), where the responsible authority determines that the plan (in this case the SPD) is unlikely to have significant environmental effects it shall prepare a statement of reasons for its determination.

The statement is attached to this update.

Recommendation

No change to the recommendation.

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The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

East Midlands Freeport Strategic Infrastructure and Contributions Supplementary Planning Document – Screening for Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment

This statement is made by North West Leicestershire District Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council and South Derbyshire District Council (“the Councils”) pursuant to Regulation 9 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations) in respect of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) (and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)) screening exercise undertaken for the updated East Midlands Freeport Strategic Infrastructure and Contributions Supplementary Planning Document (SPD).

An updated SEA and HRA Screening Report for the SPD was prepared in May 2026. This concluded that there are no likely significant effects on the environment as a result of the SPD and that neither an SEA nor an HRA is required.

The three statutory consultation bodies (Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England) were consulted on the Screening Report and its conclusions between 14 May 2026 and 5 June 2026. The outcome of which is that:

- Natural England agrees with the Screening Report’s conclusion that it is not likely there will be significant environmental effects arising from the SPD, which have not already been accounted for within the adopted local plans; and
- Historic England has no comments on the conclusions of the Screening Report; and
- Environment Agency did not respond and therefore did not raise any issues with respect to the conclusions of the Screening Report.

Accordingly, it is the Councils’ final determination that there are no likely significant effects on the environment as a result of the SPD and that the SPD does not require an SEA to be undertaken.

The reasons supporting this determination including taking into account the criteria specified in Schedule 1 to the SEA Regulations are set out in full in the SEA and HRA Screening Report, May 2026 and should be read alongside this statement.

For further details please email localdevelopment@rushcliffe.gov.uk or telephone 0115 914 8457 and ask for the Planning Policy team.

North West Leicestershire District Council
Rushcliffe Borough Council
South Derbyshire District Council

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