

# SEA Screening Assessment and Draft Lazonby Neighbourhood Plan



Rachael Armstrong  
Planning Officer (Policy)  
Eden District Council  
Mansion House  
Penrith  
CA11 7YG

Our ref: PL00078141 & PL00081858  
Your ref: E-mail 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017  
Telephone: 07500 121974

24<sup>th</sup> April 2017,



Dear Rachael,

Re: SEA Screening Assessment and Draft Lazonby Neighbourhood Plan.

I am writing in reply to your E-mail dated 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017. The Neighbourhood Plan Forum requests a formal Screening Opinion from Historic England in compliance with the *Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004* based on a draft Neighbourhood Plan provided by yourself. The draft Opinion prepared for the Forum concludes that Strategic Environmental Assessment is not required. We note that the Plan appears to propose no site allocations/policies which would have significant environmental effects upon the historic environment and as such we concur that in this regard Strategic Environmental Assessment is *not* required. Please note that Historic England is a statutory consultee in such matters and ought to be referred to at 3.1 of your Screening Assessment. Our national advice on Sustainability Appraisal and SEAs is set out here: <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainability-appraisal-and-strategic-environmental-assessment-advice-note-8/>

We have no record of previously being consulted on this Neighbourhood Plan by the Lazonby Forum as statutorily required at key stages. I have therefore read the draft plan you have sent and offer the following advice; please can you pass this letter onto the Forum's chair.

Having considered the proposals we do not consider that there is a need for Historic England to be involved in the development of the strategy for your area at this time. However in light of the heritage assets that are in the area, we consider that the conservation officer at Allerdale Council is the best placed person to assist you in the development of your Neighbourhood Plan. They can help you to consider how the strategy might address the area's heritage assets. I was disappointed when reading Section 6 (entitled "*Design and Conservation*") to find



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no reference or policy relating to the Lazonby Conservation Area or its 7 (GdII) designated heritage assets, their significance, setting and future management.

You might also consider contacting the staff who look after the Historic Environment Record and give advice on archaeological matters. They should be able to provide details of not only any designated heritage assets but also locally-important buildings, archaeological remains and landscapes. Some Historic Environment Records may also be available on-line via the Heritage Gateway ([www.heritagegateway.org.uk](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk)). It may also be useful to involve local voluntary groups such as the local Civic Society, local history groups, building preservation trusts, etc. in the final production of your Neighbourhood Plan.

Your local authority might also be able to provide you with more general support in the production of your Neighbourhood Plan, National Planning Practice Guidance is clear that where it is relevant, Neighbourhood Plans need to include enough information about local heritage to guide planning decisions and to put broader strategic heritage policies from your local authority led local plan into action at a neighbourhood scale. If appropriate this should include enough information about local non-designated heritage assets including sites of archaeological interest to guide decisions.

Further information and guidance on how heritage can best be incorporated into Neighbourhood Plans has been produced by Historic England. This signposts a number of other documents which your community might find useful in helping to identify what it is about your area which makes it distinctive and how you might go about ensuring that the character of Lazonby is retained. These can be found at:-

<http://www.historicengland.org.uk/advice/planning/plan-making/improve-your-neighbourhood/>

And;

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/>

if you have any queries about this matter or would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely



Darren Ratcliffe RIBA  
Historic Places Adviser



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