

Screening Statement

On the determination of the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in accordance with the *Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004* and *European Directive 2001/42/EC* of the:

Archaeology and Development Guidance Supplementary Planning Document

Sept 2016



Sustainability Appraisal/Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening for:

Archaeology and Development Guidance SPD

1. Purpose of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) / Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
 - 1.1. The SEA Directive identifies the purpose of SEA as “ to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and - adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development” (Directive 2001/EC/42)
 - 1.2. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is the process by which this Directive is applied to Local Plan documents. SA aims to promote sustainable development through the integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the preparation of plans.
 - 1.3. The City’s Local Plan is subject to Sustainability Appraisal. However the 2008 Planning Act allows for Supplementary Planning Documents to be prepared without a full SA as long as they are screened to establish whether they will result in significant effects as defined by the SEA Directive.
 - 1.4. The SEA Directive exempts plans and programmes from assessment *“When they determine the use of small areas at local level or are minor modifications to the above plans or programmes...”* and states that *“they should be assessed only where Member States determine that they are likely to have significant effects on the environment.”*
 - 1.5. The criteria for determining the significance of effects are taken from schedule 1 (9 (2) (a) and 10 (4) (a) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and are defined in appendix 1. These can be split into the criteria related to (i) the scope and influence of the document (ii) the type of impact and area likely to be affected
2. Purpose of the Archaeology and Development Guidance:
 - 2.1. The key objective of this guidance is: To provide support in the interpretation of Local Plan policies relating to archaeological remains in the City by identifying the standards required of archaeological work within the City.
 - 2.2. This guidance is a Supplementary Planning Document which provides guidance regarding the City’s Local Plan policies for Ancient monuments and archaeology DM 12.4 and CS12.3.
 - 2.3. The London Plan and City of London Local Plan have been evaluated through the SA and Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) screening process, which incorporates the requirements of the SEA Directive, and have been found to be sound. This document provides details of how the City will apply the London Plan and Local Plan policies associated with ancient monuments and archaeology.
3. SEA Screening Procedure
 - 3.1. The Responsible Authority (the City of London Corporation) must determine whether the plan or program under assessment is likely to

have significant environmental effects. This assessment must be made taking account of the criteria set out in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (see appendix 1), and in consultation with the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England.

3.2. Where the Responsible Authority determines that the plan or programme is unlikely to have significant environmental effects, and therefore does not need to be subject to full Strategic Environmental Assessment, it must prepare a statement showing the reasons for this determination.

3.3. Appendix 1 shows the results of this screening process for the Archaeology and Development Guidance SPD.

4. Screening and Consultation Outcome

4.1. This screening demonstrates that the Archaeology and development guidance SPD is unlikely to have significant effects on the environment. Therefore it will not be necessary to carry out a full SA/SEA on this document.

4.2. Each of the statutory consultees has been consulted on this initial screening statement and their responses are summarised below:

Consultee	Response
Environment Agency	Insert consultation responses
Natural England	
English Heritage	

5. Determination

6. The Archaeology and Development Guidance SPD is unlikely to have significant effects on the wider environment since it provides guidance on the implementation of Local Plan policies which will have largely positive impacts. Therefore it will not be necessary to carry out a Strategic Environmental Assessment on this SPD

Appendix 1 Criteria for determining the likely significance of effects on the environment

1. Characteristics of the Archaeology and Development guidance SPD having particular regard to:

<p>SEA Directive Criteria Schedule 1 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004</p>	<p>Summary of significant effects</p>
<p>(a) The degree to which the SPD sets out a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size or operating conditions or by allocating resources</p>	<p>This SPD gives detailed guidance on the requirements for archaeological assessment of development sites in line with the City of London Local Plan. It applies to development sites within the City of London which typically involve replacement or refurbishment of single buildings.</p>
<p>(b) The degree to which the SPD influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy</p>	<p>This SPD influences the archaeological assessment works to be carried out on specific development sites within the City. It does not influence other plans or programmes.</p>
<p>(c) The relevance of the SPD for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development</p>	<p>This SPD is in line with the City of London Local Plan which promotes sustainable development. The Local Plan has been subject to Sustainability Appraisal and found to be sound.</p>
<p>(d) Environmental problems relevant to the SPD</p>	<p>The City of London is a designated Air Quality Management Area for oxides of nitrogen and particulates. The River Thames is vulnerable to water pollution from diverse sources including rainwater run-off and sewer outflows. Although there is no identified land contamination in the City care must be taken to avoid the creation of pathways for contamination.</p>
<p>(e) The relevance of the SPD for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example plans and programmes related to waste management or water protection)</p>	<p>This SPD gives guidance on the implementation of Local Plan policies which are in line with Community legislation on the environment. This SPD emphasises the need for archaeological works to avoid contamination of air, water or land and to exercise the Duty of Care over waste arising from development sites.</p>

2 Characteristics of the effects and area likely to be affected having particular regard to:

SEA Directive criteria Schedule 1 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004	Summary of significant effects
(a)The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	This SPD provides guidance on the safeguarding of archaeological remains. In providing guidance on the processes and procedures, this ensures that any environmental effects of this SPD are likely to be minimal.
(b)The cumulative nature of the effects of the SPD	This SPD will ensure that all archaeological assessment and investigation is carried out to a high standard taking care to avoid environmental impacts. The cumulative nature of such investigations should therefore be negligible.
(c)The trans boundary nature of the effects of the SPD	This SPD applies to small sites at a local level within the City therefore no trans boundary environmental effects are likely.
(d)The risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accident)	This SPD provides guidance on health and safety aspects of archaeological assessment and investigation.
(e)The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographic area and size of the population likely to be affected) by the SPD	This SPD applies to development sites within the City's square mile. This is primarily a business district with around 400K workers and only 7.5K residents. Visitors also constitute a significant population whose experience of the archaeology of the City will be enhanced by the application of this SPD.
(f)The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected by the SPD due to: Special natural characteristics or cultural heritage Exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values Intensive land use	The archaeological sites affected by this SPD provide a unique record of previous occupation of the City dating back to the Roman period. This SPD will assist in ensuring that sites and artefacts are preserved. The intensity of land use in the City creates specific challenges which are addressed by this SPD. Air and water quality limit values in the City are frequently exceeded. This SPD highlights the need for archaeological investigation to avoid further deterioration in these factors, and for monitoring to consider potential deterioration of remains due to climate change.
(g)The effects of the SPD on areas or landscapes which have recognised national Community or international protected status	This SPD applies to Scheduled Monuments but also provides guidance for assessment of newly discovered remains which may have equivalent archaeological potential. As such it will assist in the protection of such areas.