

## 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:

### **Barbican and Golden Lane Conservation Area Strategy Supplementary Planning Document**

October 2020



## **Sustainability Appraisal/SEA Screening for Barbican and Golden Lane Conservation Area Strategy 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 Development Plan Documents (DPD), which for the City includes the City Local Plan 2015, are 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 Regulations 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, and (ii) the type of impact and area likely to be affected

### **2 Purpose of the Barbican and Golden Lane Conservation Area Strategy SPD**

- 2.1 The Barbican and Golden Lane Conservation Area Strategy SPD provides the context background and policy that will guide protection of the historically significant features of the Golden Lane and Barbican Estates.
- 2.2 This Supplementary Planning Document provides guidance on the implementation of policies relating to the City of London Local Plan 2015 and the adopted London Plan 2016.

### **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 Barbican and Golden Lane Conservation Area Strategy SPD.

#### 4 Screening and Consultation Outcome

4.1 This screening demonstrates that the City of London Barbican and Golden Lane Conservation Area Strategy 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	Insert consultation responses
Historic England	Insert consultation responses

#### 5 Determination

5.1 The City of London Barbican and Golden Lane Conservation Area Strategy SPD is unlikely to have significant effects on the wider environment for the reasons set out in Appendix 1 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

SEA Directive Criteria Schedule 1 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004	Summary of significant effects Scope and influence of the document
1. Characteristics of the Barbican and Golden Lane Conservation Area Strategy SPD having particular regard to:	
(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.	This SPD provides guidance as to the historic features of the Barbican and Golden Lane conservation area and how these will be protected and enhanced. It will provide guidance to supplement the Local Plan which is the overarching framework for development in the City. It will not allocate resources but will provide additional guidance to assist in development management in the Barbican and Golden Lane conservation area, making sure that the historic significance of the area and its listed buildings are conserved.
(b) The degree to which the SPD influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy.	This SPD should influence the implementation of individual schemes within the Barbican and Golden Lane Conservation Area. However, this will be in line with policy in the Local Plan which was subject to full Sustainability Appraisal.
(c) The relevance of the SPD for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.	This SPD provides guidance for any development within the conservation area, with reference to planning documents which have been subject to sustainability appraisal. As such it will contribute to the implementation of policies for sustainable development in the City.
(d) Environmental problems relevant to the SPD.	The Barbican and Golden Lane Estates are within an Air Quality Management Area for NO <sub>x</sub> and fine particulates. The architecture may be prone to overheating as our climate changes and the predominance of hard landscaping makes flooding from rainwater run-off a key risk. These risks are addressed in the SPD and Local Plan.
(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).	This SPD provides supplementary guidance to complement the policies of the London Plan and Local Plan. These parent documents have been prepared having regard to other plans and programmes including all relevant Community legislation. As such it will contribute to the implementation of Community legislation.

SEA Directive criteria Schedule 1 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004	Summary of significant effects Type of impact and area likely to be affected
2 Characteristics of the effects and area likely to be affected having particular regard to:	
(a) The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects.	The aim of the Barbican and Golden Lane Conservation Area SPD is to identify the historically important features of the area with

	<p>a view to ensuring their conservation and enhancement in line with Policy CS12.</p> <p>Therefore, any sustainability effects of this SPD are likely to be positive, in line with the findings of the SA of Policy CS12</p>
(b)The cumulative nature of the effects of the SPD.	The impact of this SPD is likely to be positive, affecting a small area at local level, therefore it is anticipated that any cumulative impacts will tend to be positive.
(c)The trans boundary nature of the effects of the SPD.	This SPD will cover a relatively small area at local level therefore it is unlikely to have any trans boundary effects.
(d)The risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accident).	This SPD does not present any risks to human health or the environment.
(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 a small part of the City, with a relatively high resident population. The effects of this SPD will be mainly positive and will be likely to affect the immediate area of the two estates.
(f)The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected by the SPD due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special natural characteristics or cultural heritage</li> <li>• Exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values</li> <li>• Intensive land use.</li> </ul>	The SPD is supplementary to the London Plan and Local Plan and emerging City Plan 2036 which provide protection for areas which are valued for their natural characteristics or cultural heritage and which set environmental standards for the City's new development. This SPD will not adversely affect the value and vulnerability of the area.
(g)The effects of the SPD on areas or landscapes which have recognised national Community or international protected status.	The SPD is supplementary to the London Plan Local Plan and emerging City Plan 2036 which provide protection for views and townscapes some of which have international protected status.