02 May 2017

Dear Ms Bateman

Request for screening for SEA – Irchester, Knuston and Little Irchester Neighbourhood Plan

Thank you for consulting Historic England on the above 07 March 2017 and for the further information submitted 07 April.

For the purposes of this consultation, Historic England will confine its advice to the question ‘Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?’ in respect of our area of concern, cultural heritage. We note that the SEA screening statement considers that an SEA is not required. Following submission of more detailed information described above and with further consideration, we remain of the view that a rigorous assessment of the potential impact on the historic environment (both designated and non-designated assets and their settings) of a site allocation for 75 dwellings at land south of James Street is required. In this case, a more rigorous heritage impact assessment of the proposed housing site south of James Street would instead be acceptable.

We understand that our views, together with the views of other statutory consultation bodies should be taken into account before the overall decision on the need for SEA is made. I should be pleased if you could send a copy of the determination when this is issued.

We would like to stress that this is based on the current information provided in the screening request and the current draft Neighbourhood Plan. To avoid any doubt, this does not reflect our obligation to provide further advice on the SEA process, and subsequent draft Plan’s.

Yours sincerely

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