

	<u>RESPONSES TO SCOPING REPORT MARCH 2015</u>	
CONSULTEE NAME	COMMENTS	NHP Committee response 5.5.2015
HISTORIC ENGLAND(formerly English heritage)	Thank you for consulting English Heritage on the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for Slaugham Neighbourhood Plan. The appraisal provides a suitable overview of the designated built, archaeological and landscape heritage assets of the plan area from which to assess the potential impacts of policy and proposal options for the neighbourhood plan. Indeed the brief review of the character and designated heritage assets of each settlement stands out as good practice in presenting evidence of the historic environment within a plan area.	
	However, it would also be helpful to consider the potential for the area to contain non-designated heritage assets (as defined within the National Planning Policy Framework and policies within the Mid-Sussex local plan), for example Buildings of Merit and sites of local and regional archaeological interest, as well as the potential for previously unidentified assets to be present. In the absence of a 'local list' the summary should set out the types of features in these areas that are likely to be considered as heritage assets. For example, the Anglo-Saxon village of Warninglid is likely to be a focus of archaeological remains of early medieval and later occupation that are likely to be of, at least, local interest, including evidence of the regionally distinctive Wealden iron working industry's development. A rapid review of archaeological sites and findspots recorded on the Sussex Historic Environment Record within the plan area would be an important step in ensuring the overview accurately represents the historic environment of the plan area and could be used to provide a very brief overview of types and disposition of previously recorded archaeological remains in the plan area.	Agreed - some further detail will be added to Sustainability Appraisal.
	Whilst the settlements are likely to be a focus of consideration for allocation of sites and provision of new facilities, the overview should also consider the presence of heritage assets within the countryside areas of the parish. Including different areas of historic character. This might be presented graphically using the Sussex Historic Landscape Characterisation to review the distribution of different historic landscape types, identify any that are considered as of particular value (e.g. due to rarity or contribution to the character of the AONB, including historic woodlands), as well as present settlement boundaries.	Agreed-some further detail will be added to Sustainability Appraisal.

	<p>Whilst heritage is often seen as a resource to be protected to pass this onto future generations, it is also a positive resource that is used by our communities in many ways. It would be helpful to consider the present value of the area's heritage to the local economy and communities, including identifying any historic buildings that serve as assets of community value as well as considering where heritage, including access to the countryside and heritage attractions adds to the economy. As an example it would be interesting to consider how the presence of a National Trust property attracts tourists who use local businesses or how an attractive historic environment adds to the attraction of village centres. This can then help with consideration of how the plan might promote greater use of heritage assets, including improving physical and intellectual access, developing opportunities for communities to contribute to management or identifying ways in which heritage assets can provide opportunities for local businesses. This might present some further ways in which changes to heritage can be measured and monitored.</p>	Noted.
	<p>We hope these comments are of assistance in developing the scoping report and in supporting the Parish Council in developing the Neighbourhood Plan. Please don't hesitate to contact me if there are any queries arising from these comments or if there is any further information that Historic England can provide.</p>	
NATURAL ENGLAND	Natural England have made the following/attached representation to the Scoping report:	
	<p>Thank you for giving Natural England the opportunity to comment on the Scoping Report for the Slaugham Neighbourhood Plan Sustainability Appraisal. My brief comments are as follows:</p>	
	<p>Overall, the Report appears to provide a sound basis for producing a good Sustainability Appraisal. We particularly welcome the commitment to reflect the aims of the High Weald AONB Management Plan and the recognition of the importance of ancient woodland within the area. The area also falls within the High Weald National Character Area so this profile should also be referenced as it is a useful source of information and was produced in collaboration with the AONB Unit.</p>	Agreed- include in Sustainability Appraisal.

	https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making/national-character-area-profiles#ncas-in-south-east-england-and-london	
	Section 4.2 (p7) identifies key issues relating to Nature Conservation. This list should also include reference to the five SNCI within the area (albeit some are mentioned elsewhere):	Agreed - these will be included in Sustainability Appraisal.
	Orange Gill & Homestead Wood	
	Mill Pond	
	Darkalley Ghyll & Canadian Valley Ghyll	
	High Beeches	
	Hydehill Wood & Hyde Hill (part of)	
	Also the SWOT Assessment in section 5.1 (p22) mentions LNRs even though there are none in the area. It may be best to remove this reference to avoid confusion. It could be replaced by SNCI.	Agreed.
	The suggestions for measuring effectiveness of the Plan appear logical, assuming there is some existing baseline to assess progress.	
	Due to the current pressure of consultations on land-use plans, I have not been able to spend the time I would have wished reviewing and commenting on your Neighbourhood Plan. Nevertheless, I hope you find these comments helpful.	
	If there are issues I have not covered, please let me know and I will respond as quickly as possible. If discussion would be helpful, please contact me.	
ENVIRONMENT AGENCY	Hi Mark	
	We are happy for our standard advice to be applied to this consultation.	
	Kind regards,	

	Hannah	