

**Statement of Reasons – Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening for the Birmingham Draft Parking Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)**

Criteria (from Annex II of SEA Directive and Schedule I of Regulations)	Birmingham City Council's Response
<b>Characteristics of the plan or programme</b>	
(a) The degree to which the plan or programme sets a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size and operating conditions or by allocating resources.	<p>The Birmingham Parking Supplementary Planning Document expands on the existing policies of the Birmingham Development Plan (BDP), with particular reference to policies TP38 to TP45. These policies have been subject to detailed Sustainability Appraisal, incorporating the SEA regulation requirements.</p> <p>The SPD will provide further guidance on parking provision around the city and the requirements of new developments in respect of parking levels and design (including provision for cycling, electric vehicles, disabled parking, car sharing and servicing requirements). The SPD will therefore supplement existing policies rather than setting the framework. The detailed design and development of facilities for subsequent schemes or developments is not covered within the scope of the document.</p>
(b) The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy.	<p>As noted above the SPD will supplement policies contained within the BDP. It also aligns to national guidance within the National Planning Policy Framework. As such it is influenced by other higher level plans, rather than influencing them.</p> <p>In terms of a hierarchy, the Strategy sits below the Birmingham Connected Transport Strategy and Birmingham Development Plan.</p>
(c) The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations, in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development.	<p>The SPD is relevant to promoting and developing sustainable transport options in the city, in the wider context of the Birmingham Development Plan, which sets out policies on sustainable development.</p> <p>Guidance within the document will be aligned to adopted policies in the BDP, where environmental considerations on the policies were subject to Sustainability Appraisal (see [A] above). The SPD will therefore not have significant effect on environmental considerations which have not already been considered.</p>
(d) Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme.	<p>Guidance within the SPD can support a decrease in air pollution and noise pollution by supporting provision of a sustainable, integrated transport network and by limiting travel demand through levels of parking provision.</p>
(e) The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community (EU) legislation on the environment (for example, plans and programmes linked to waste management or water protection).	<p>As noted above the SPD will support the Birmingham Clean Air Strategy and 'Brum Breathes' programme which is aimed at meeting EU and UK standards on air quality.</p>

Characteristics of the effects and of the area likely to be affected	
(a) The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects.	<p>The SPD will deliver on policies contained within the BDP. It will not in itself bring developments or projects forward; these will need to go through separate approval processes (e.g planning applications or transport schemes subject to Environmental Impact Assessments)</p> <p>The guidance set out in the SPD will promote sustainable development through well-defined parking standards, appropriate management of on and off-street parking, and a focus on greater provision for sustainable transport. However there is no mechanism for significant environmental effects to arise from the SPD itself which have not or been considered as part of the production of the BDP SEA. The effects of individual projects which will take guidance from the SPD will be subject to individual planning applications and environmental assessments in relation to future project delivery.</p>
(b) The cumulative nature of the effects	As noted above there is no mechanism for significant environmental impacts to arise from the SPD itself. Should cumulative parking impacts arise from parking provision, the City Council will, through the determination of planning applications, ensure such issues are appropriately addressed.
(c) The trans-boundary nature of the effects	As noted above, there is no mechanism for significant environmental effects to arise from the SPD itself. It is therefore unlikely that any trans-boundary impacts will arise. Where these effects are likely to arise, the City Council will, through the determination of planning applications, ensure such issues are appropriately addressed.
(d) The risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents)	As noted above, there is no mechanism for significant environmental effects to arise from the SPD itself. It is therefore unlikely that any risks to human health or the environment impacts will arise. Where these effects are likely to arise, the City Council will, through the determination of planning applications, ensure such issues are appropriately addressed.
(e) The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	The SPD applies to the entire city of Birmingham – with a resident population of 1,141,400 people (2018 mid-year population estimate). It is considered that any effects not previously considered as part of the BDP will be limited in magnitude.
(f) The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to: i) Special natural characteristics or cultural heritage; ii) Exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; iii) Intensive land-use.	<p>Given the nature of the document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) None;</li> <li>ii) None;</li> <li>iii) None</li> </ul> <p>The SPD will provide guidance but will not bring individual schemes forward – which will be subject to other environmental assessments.</p>
(g) The effects on areas or landscapes which have recognised national, Community or international protection status.	No significant effects are considered to arise on the adoption of the SPD in line with BDP policies.

