Strategic Environmental Assessment and Habitats Regulation Assessment Screening Report

Regis Road Area Guidance

Addendum to the Kentish Town Planning Framework Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)





Prepared by: London Borough of Camden January 2025 and updated March 2025 following statutory consultation



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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Kentish Town Planning Framework (KTPF) was adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in July 2020¹ and was subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening.
- 1.2 Following consultation with the relevant consultation bodies it was confirmed, in line with the statutory frameworks, that the KTPF SPD was unlikely to give rise to significant environmental effects requiring an SEA and there was unlikely to be significant effects on sites of European importance for habitats or species, or an adverse impact on the integrity of those sites to warrant an HRA.
- 1.3 Due to a changing context and circumstances within the area since 2020, including ownerships, land assembly and opportunities for more comprehensive development, a proposed addendum to the adopted KTPF SPD Draft Regis Road Area Guidance was prepared during 2024 and consultation took place during November and December 2024.²
- 1.4 The addendum does not change the boundary of the KTPF area or its overarching vision and development objectives but focuses more on the Regis Road sub-area which sits within it. It is intended to reinforce and add further detail to the KTPF's spatial strategy, principles and delivery objectives to guide future development and achieve the necessary improvements and infrastructure in the area originally envisaged by the adopted SPD and enhanced through further guidance in its Addendum.



The Kentish Town Planning Framework area and Regis Road sub-area

¹ Kentish Town Planning Framework

² Regis Road regeneration strategy - Camden Council

- 1.5 Like the adopted SPD, the additional guidance is also intended to support and complement other adopted and emerging development plan documents, which have undergone (or are undergoing) equivalent and more detailed assessments:³
 - Camden Local Plan (adopted July 2017)
 - Camden Site Allocations Plan (adopted 2013)
 - Draft New Local Plan 2025 (consultation took place in January to March 2024 and further consultation is to take place during 2025)
 - London Plan (adopted March 2021)
 - Kentish Town Neighbourhood Plan (adopted September 2016)
 - Dartmouth Park Neighbourhood Plan (adopted March 2020)
- 1.6 This updated screening report outlines the latest legislative and policy framework (which has changed since 2020) and process for the respective screening regimes. It then considers whether significant environmental effects are likely to arise through the SPD addendum that would require more detailed SEA and/or HRA.

2.0 Legal Framework

Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 2.1 SEA is a procedure that evolved in accordance with European Directive 2001/42/EC (SEA Directive) "on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment". The SEA Directive aimed to ensure a high level of protection for the environment and to integrate environmental considerations into the preparation of plans.
- 2.2 This was transposed into UK law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SEA Regulations)⁴, which requires the formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes if they are identified to be likely to have significant effects on the environment. Whilst the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Act 2023 included provisions to replace this regime with an Environmental Outcomes Reports system, the detailed requirements have yet to be established and the need for SEAs are therefore still considered under previous regulations.
- 2.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) defines an SPD as a document which adds further detail to the policies in the development plan (which encompasses Local Plans and Neighbourhood Plans) and can be used to provide further guidance for development on specific sites, or on particular issues, such as design.
- 2.4 National Planning Practice Guidance states that whilst SPDs do not require a Sustainability Appraisal they may *in exceptional circumstances* require a SEA if they are likely to have significant environmental effects *that have not already been assessed during the preparation of the relevant strategic policies* (our emphasis).⁵ This guidance goes on to state SEA is unlikely to be required where an SPD deals only with a small

⁴ As amended by The Environmental Assessments and Miscellaneous Planning (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2018 and 2020-primarily to ensure that the legislation would operate after the UK left the EU ⁵ Strategic Environmental Assessment

³ Where any required Sustainability Appraisals undertaken on these other plans have also incorporated the SEA requirements of the <u>Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004</u>

area at a local level, unless it is considered that there are likely to be significant environmental effects.⁶

- 2.5 In order to determine whether significant environment effects are likely, the local planning authority as "the responsible authority" needs to take into account the criteria specified in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 ⁷ and have consulted the relevant consultation bodies: the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England (who were also consulted on the proposed Regis Road Area Guidance addendum).
- 2.6 The outcome of Camden's SEA screening assessment is detailed further in this report.

Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA)

- 2.7 HRA relates to the procedures that originally evolved in accordance with European Directive (92/43/EEC) (the HRA Directive) to assess the possible impacts of a plan or project on designated European Sites of international nature conservation importance, that are protected for the benefit of the habitats and species they support, before deciding whether to undertake, permit or authorise them.
- 2.8 The Directive was transposed into legislation by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (the HRA Regulations) setting out the specific assessment steps required for the HRA process. These were amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019, which became operable on 1st January 2021.
- 2.9 The designated European Sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) relating to habitats and Special Protection Areas (SPA) relating to birdlife. Although not covered by the HRA Regulations, designated wetland sites of international importance (known as Ramsar sites) have previously been treated in the same way as these designated sites. Collectively these were known as internationally designated sites (and assessments also extend to potential new sites) and formed part of the EU's "Natura 2000" ecological network.
- 2.10 As a result of the EU Exit Regulations amendments, SACs and SPAs in the UK no longer form part of the Natura 2000 network and the 2019 Regulations created what is now termed the "national site network". For the purposes of HRA, these sites are referred to as "habitats sites" in the National Planning Policy Framework and defined as any site included within the definition at regulation 8 of the HRA Regulations. Ramsar sites do not form part of the national site network but are afforded the same level of protection as SACs and SPAs.
- 2.11 HRA screening establishes whether a more detailed analysis known as "appropriate assessment" is required and determine whether a plan or project, either alone or incombination with other plans or projects, could result in significant effects on sites in view of their conservation objectives. If the Council, as a "competent authority" in consultation with Natural England determines that a plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of relevant habitats sites then no further assessment is necessary.
- 2.12 The outcome of Camden's HRA screening assessment is detailed further in this report.

⁶ Regulation 5(6) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

⁷ Schedule 1 to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

3.0 Purpose, priorities and objectives of the Addendum to the adopted SPD

- 3.1 The NPPF defines SPDs as "documents which add further detail to the policies in the development plan. They can be used to provide further guidance for development on specific sites, or on particular issues, such as design. Supplementary planning documents are capable of being a material consideration in planning decisions but are not part of the development plan."
- 3.2 The Local Plan designates the Regis Road area south of the railway as a growth area and major landowner Murphys are looking to bring forward major new development proposals for their land to the north of the KTPF area. With significant change anticipated to take place and to ensure a strategic and coordinated approach is taken to deliver the best outcomes for the wider neighbourhoods and communities the Council adopted the KTPF SPD to support its Local Plan policies.
- 3.3 The SPD identifies and supports the opportunities for regeneration and growth for this part of inner London. Characterised by low density industrial and storage uses and land, it recognises the scope for intensification to deliver a significant increase in jobs and homes, new public open space and community facilities as part of an innovative mixed-use neighbourhood. With ambitious aspirations to transform the area the adopted KTPF identified a number of key development objectives:
 - Potentially 2,000 new homes
 - Over 3,000 new jobs and new employment space
 - Ambitious employment and training strategy providing genuine opportunities for local people
 - Innovative design approaches to intensify industrial buildings
 - New pedestrian and cycle friendly connections between Kentish Town, Gospel Oak and Hampstead Heath
 - New bridge connecting Murphy's Yard and Regis Road
 - Sustainable, innovative development that delivers a Zero Emissions Neighbourhood
 - Attractive, safe and green open spaces and public realm that is open and accessible to all
- 3.4 These objectives remain and with new landowners and further sites with development potential coming forward (including its own) the Council has since agreed a regeneration strategy⁸ to support a more comprehensive and co-ordinated approach across sites and ownerships within the Regis Road area. Some landowners have carried out their own consultation on masterplan proposals during 2024.⁹
- 3.5 These and other factors have contributed to the need for updated guidance to supplement and complement planning policies and the adopted SPD to help guide future development proposals. Whilst the context has evolved, the updated SPD in line with related policies continues to see the KTPF area remain an area of business, industry and employment, with infrastructure planned in a coordinated manner, with the right uses in the right places and the best use of land is achieved to deliver significant

⁸ Regis Road regeneration strategy - Camden Council

⁹ Have Your Say Today - - Camden Film Quarter

numbers of new and affordable homes as part of a mixed and more connected neighbourhood.



Indicative spatial strategy for the Regis Road Area

- 3.6 As an addendum to the adopted SPD, it is intended to limit itself to adding further detail and guidance to elaborate on the objectives and principles of the KTPF and supplement the existing guidance to inform future development and decisions focusing on the following issues and challenges:
 - Design and Character
 - Routes and Connections
 - Healthy Neighbourhoods
 - Delivery



Over 1,500 New Jobs and New Employment Space

The Regis Road Area will create over 1,500 new jobs in diverse sectors like creative industries, local services, retail and logistics as part of the Kentish Town Planning Framework ambition to deliver 3000 jobs across the wider area.



Ambitious Employment and Training Strategy

The Regis Road development will offer a variety of job opportunities, particularly within the creative industries like those found in the Camden Film Quarter. We will also invest in local talent through partnerships, apprenticeships, and procurement.



Creating 1,000 New Homes, including affordable homes

The Regis Road development will cater to a variety of residents. A key aspiration is to offer 50% affordable housing on site, in line with Camden's Local Plan policy. The broader goal is to potentially see 2,000 new homes in the KTPF area, with Regis Road potentially contributing around 1,000 of those homes.



Innovative Building Design

The development will employ innovative design principles, prioritising sustainability and flexibility to create a dynamic mixed-use neighbourhood.



New Pedestrian and Cycle Friendly Connections

Regis Road will be transformed into a key active transport spine, connecting Kentish Town, Gospel Oak, and Hampstead Heath. By removing servicing traffic and prioritising pedestrian and cycle movements, Regis Road will become a vibrant, accessible, and sustainable route.



Sustainable and Innovative Neighbourhood

The development will create a sustainable neighbourhood across its buildings, open spaces, public realm, and hormes. The area will be resilient to climate change, promote clean air, and incorporate energy-efficient and circular economy practices.



Transformed Character

Development should prioritise integration with Kentish Town, addressing the local community's desire for a more cohesive neighbourhood and enhancing access to existing and potential new social and community infrastructure. By aligning with the Neighbourhood Plan's vision, development should create a place that enhances the surrounding neighbourhood character.



Attractive, Safe and Green Public Realm

The Regis Road development will create attractive, accessible, and green public spaces that not only promote safety and welcome all residents, workers, and visitors, but also support local biodiversity and enhance the area's natural environment.

4.0 SEA screening assessment

- 4.1 The "responsible authority" (London Borough of Camden) must determine whether a plan or programme, in this case the KTPF SPD Addendum, is likely to have significant environmental effects with reference to the criteria specified in Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.
- 4.2 Whilst there is not any up-to-date guidance, a checklist guide to the application of the SEA Directive to plans and programmes from Government guidance (reproduced below)⁹ has been used as a starting basis to help consider whether SEA is required, with further assessment in the tables below this checklist.

Figure 2 – Application of the SEA Directive to plans and programmes				
This diagram is intended as a g programmes (PPs). It has no le	uide to the criteria for applicati gal status.	on of the D	irective to plans and	
 Is the PP subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government? (Art. 2(a)) 		No to	both criteria	
	Yes to either criterion			
 Is the PP required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a)) 		No		
	Yes			
3. Is the PP prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, AND does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive? (Art. 3.2(a))		No to either criterion	4. Will the PP, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Art. 3.2(b))	
	Yes to both criteria	Yes	↓ No 6. Does the PP set the	
★ 5. Does the PP determine the use of small areas at local level, OR is it a minor modification of a PP subject to Art. 3.2? (Art. 3.3)		Yes to either	framework for future	No
	No to both criteria	Cinteriori	Directive)? (Art. 3.4)	
7. Is the PP's sole purpose to serve national defence or civil emergency, OR is it a financial or budget PP, OR is it co-financed by structural funds or EAGGF programmes 2000 to 2006/7? (Art. 3.8, 3.9)		Yes	8 Is it likely to have a	No
	No to all criteria	Yes t	to any criterion	ļ
DIRECTIVE REQUIRES SEA			DIRECTIVE DOES NOT REQUIRE SEA	
	ffects. These determinations may		ammes in this category are likely t on a case by case basis and/or	to

Application of SEA Directive to Plans and Programmes			
1. Is the PP subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority for adoption through a legislative procedure by Parliament or Government? (Art. 2(a))?	Yes-The SPD Addendum is being prepared and is planned to be adopted by the local authority	Go to Step 2	
2. Is the PP required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions? (Art. 2(a))?	No - There is no statutory requirement to produce SPDs or regulations for addendums. However, SPD preparation and adoption is subject to relevant legislative, regulatory and administrative provisions and if adopted it will become a material consideration in decision-making	Go to Step 3	
3. Is the PP prepared for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport, waste management, water management, telecommunications, tourism, town and country planning or land use, AND does it set a framework for future development consent of projects in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive? (Art. 3.2(a))?	No – The SPD addendum has been prepared for town and country planning purposes. However, whilst it identifies potential development sites in the area where future proposals may meet criteria for which EIA may be required, it does not allocate sites or set out policies for the development or use of land (separately being done through the Camden Local Plan review). It does not set a framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive ¹⁰ .	Go to Step 4	
4. Will the PP, in view of its likely effect on sites, require an assessment under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive? (Art. 3.2(b))	No - The SPD and addendum are supplementary to the adopted Local Plan and Site Allocations Plan which have been subject of screening assessments under the Habitats Directive (as has the new draft Local Plan) where no significant adverse effects have been identified. The SPD Addendum is subject of its own HRA screening assessment outlined in Section 5 of this report.	Go to Step 6	
6. Does the PP set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in Annexes to the EIA Directive)? (Art. 3.4)	No - The SPD and addendum do not allocate sites or set out policies for the development or use of land and do not set a framework for future development consent of projects (even those not listed in Annexes I and II to the EIA Directive).	This indicates the SPD does not require SEA	
8. Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment? (Art 3.5)	The answers above indicate that SEA is unlikely to be required for the SPD addendum. However potential effects have been considered further and the SPD is subject of its own SEA screening assessment outlined below.	See table below: Determining the Likely Significance of Effects on the Environment	

¹⁰ Transposed into Schedule 1 and 2 Development in The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017)

4.3 The criteria within Schedule 1 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 are set out in the table below, along with consideration of the likely impact of the SPD addendum against each. This screening assessment has also taken into account that Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating SEA) has taken (or will be taking) place on the higher level adopted Camden Local Plan and Site Allocations DPD, Neighbourhood Plans and emerging new Local Plan.

SEA Directive Criteria and Schedule 1 of Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004	Comments	Likely Significant Effects?
Characteristics of plans a 1a) The degree to which the	Ind programmes, having regard, in particular to: The SPD addendum has regard to national policy and is in	No
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	general conformity with the strategic policies of the borough and, if adopted, would contribute to an existing framework of policies and guidance for projects and activities in the area. It includes broad themes, principles and objectives, but does not set a framework that would consent development or prejudge the outcome of subsequent applications for planning. The SPD does not create new policies or allocate sites for particular development or uses or address issues outside of those already assessed in development plan documents Sustainability Appraisals (incorporating SEA), and as such is not considered to have significant effects in this regard. Whilst the addendum delivery section identifies potential funding sources and local infrastructure priorities it does not	
	allocate resources.	
1b) The degree to which the plan or programme influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy	 Whilst a material consideration in decision-making, SPDs sit at a lower level in the hierarchy of planning policy documents and weighted accordingly. Providing supplementary guidance to support existing policies in the NPPF and the Development Plan (which includes the London Plan, Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans) the SPD addendum will have a limited influence on other plans and programmes at higher levels in the hierarchy and acts to provide more detail to the adopted SPD and some of the priorities and principles established in higher level plans, which have been subject to SA and SEA. The SPD and addendum provide a context and some principles which may be then incorporated in an emerging Local Plan (including Site Allocations) which is also undergoing SA. This is not considered to have significant 	No
	effects in this regard.	
1c) The relevance of the plan or programme for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	The SPD and addendum promote sustainable development in accordance with the principles of the NPPF and Development Plan and seeks to make a positive contribution to the three dimensions of sustainable development (social, economic and environmental).	No
	In particular, the potential redevelopment of sites creates opportunities, which the SPD and addendum supports, to reduce the dominance of vehicles, encourage active travel, deliver improvements to the quality of streets and connections across the area for walking and cycling and new areas of	

	aroon anoon on part of an anhanced are as infor-structure	
	green spaces as part of an enhanced green infrastructure network. It also sets out the need to consider embodied carbon carefully, whether that be in retrofitting buildings or using waste materials in the construction of new buildings.	
1d) Environmental problems relevant to the plan or programme	The SPD and addendum are not considered to introduce or exacerbate any environmental problems. It has appropriately identified, and responded to, some of the environmental issues in the area. Together with the Local Plan and other adopted plans and guidance, the SPD addendum adds further to a policy context and framework within which acceptable development proposals and associated improvements can be prepared and assessed.	No
	The addendum addresses local environmental problems and should positively assist in mitigating identified issues with an emphasis on more sustainable forms of development, improving the public realm and connectivity of the area and creating new areas of open and green spaces which are currently deficient including a potential new habitat corridor. It also reinforces policy that an existing recycling facility should be reprovided as part of development plans. Overall, it should have beneficial effects.	
1e) The relevance of the plan or programme for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (e.g. plans and programmes linked to waste-management or water protection).	The SPD and addendum through the objectives and the encouragement of high quality and sustainable design will be indirectly relevant to the implementation of Community legislation on the environment. However, this will not be to any significant extent in the scope and nature of the localised positive outcomes envisaged, e.g. reprovision of a recycling facility, supporting improved air quality through promotion of walking/cycling, through new greener routes across the area and improved health and well-being through urban greening as part of redevelopment proposals.	Νο
Characteristics of the effe	ects and of the area likely to be affected, having regard, i	in
2a) The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	The SPD and addendum guidance, objectives and principles are not considered to extend significantly beyond the policies which have already been subject to SEA and SA where no significant effects were identified. The phasing and impacts of development can be appropriately managed and mitigated through measures such as s106 agreements and Construction Management Plans.	Νο
2b) The cumulative nature of the effects	Cumulative effects occur where the outcome of one or more policies, when put together, have a significant combined effect. The SPD and addendum do not allocate sites for development, nor does the guidance extend beyond supplementing the plans and policies which have already been subject to SEA and SA.	No
2c) The trans-boundary nature of the effects	Whilst the SPD and addendum supports the creation of better links between the SPD area and adjacent neighbourhoods/areas there are not considered to be any significant trans-boundary effects arising from the SPD and addendum.	Νο
2d) The risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accidents)	The SPD and addendum will not create significant risks to human health or the environment. Instead, there are expected to be positive outcomes, e.g. through the creation of new green spaces and enhancement of green infrastructure and routes through the area, and improved health and wellbeing through realigned transport priorities to encourage walking and cycling.	Νο

2e) The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected)	The SPD and addendum guidance applies to a local area and the magnitude and spatial extent of potential effects will be limited. An Equalities Impact Assessment has been prepared to assess the community profile and the potential effects (negative and positive) of the SPD addendum on the local population and the extent of effects are not considered sufficient to warrant SEA.	Νο
 2f) 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 	Development Plan policies relating to land use, design, cultural heritage, amenity and environmental protection will apply alongside the principles and guidance in the SPD and addendum. The SPD and addendum highlight the character of the area and the need for appropriate and contextual design responses (including to views and heritage context) and includes a number of sustainability objectives to reflect adopted policies. The extent of effects is not considered sufficient to warrant SEA.	Νο
iii) intensive land-use		
2g) The effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, Community or international protection status	The SPD and addendum consider potential effects on the character of the local area, and on views to Hampstead Heath (designated MOL and woods designated SSSI) however there are no areas or landscapes of national, Community or international protection status within the SPD area or in such close proximity to be so directly affected by the guidance in the SPD and addendum to warrant SEA. The HRA screening opinions on other plans confirm this position (see HRA section at 5.0 below).	Νο

5.0 HRA screening assessment

- 5.1 In addition to the screening of the KTPF SPD Addendum in relation to SEA, there is a requirement to consider whether a plan or project is likely to have significant effects on internationally designated sites of nature conservation importance or an adverse impact on the integrity of those sites.
- 5.2 The regulations set out a process to assess the potential implications of a plan or project on these sites, the first stage of which is a screening assessment where designated sites within the area or a reasonable distance from the area are identified to see if there is any potential for a plan or project to have an adverse impact on any of these sites. These sites include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Offshore Marine Sites (OMS) as well as Ramsar sites, previously known as the "Natura 2000" network.
- 5.3 This screening assessment has taken into account that HRA screening has taken place on the adopted and emerging Local Plan, current Site Allocations Plan and existing adopted KTPF SPD respectively.
- 5.4 Camden Council's screening of the adopted Local Plan identified four Natura 2000 sites within 10 km of the borough three Special Areas of Conservation: Epping Forest, Richmond Park and Wimbledon Common; and one Special Protection Area: the Lee Valley (also a Ramsar site). Whilst these are no longer part of the Natura 2000 network, they are still designated sites within the new national site network.

- 5.5 The Screening opinion concluded that: *"It is considered that the policies contained in the draft Local Plan are unlikely to have significant effects on sites of European importance for habitats or species, or an adverse impact on the integrity of those sites. Therefore, it is not considered necessary to carry out Task 2 (Appropriate Assessment) and Task 3 (mitigation and alternative solutions) of the Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment."*
- 5.6 The Inspectors report (2017) confirmed that the HRA screening complied with legal requirements and that the determination that further assessment was not required was supported by Natural England.
- 5.7 The adopted Site Allocations Plan was subject of HRA screening (2012) and concluded that "None of the proposed sites were found to have likely significant effects on the sites of European importance for habitats or species, or an adverse impact on the integrity of the sites". The inspectors report confirmed compliance with relevant legal requirements. A draft new Site Allocations Plan was also subject of initial HRA screening (2020) and concluded "The proposed draft SALP policies in combination with other plans and projects are not considered likely to have significant effects on the sites of European importance for habitats or species, or an adverse impact on the integrity of the sites."
- 5.8 For the purposes of this HRA screening assessment a "reasonable distance" has been taken to be sites within approximately 15 km of the SPD area itself (see map below). It reconfirms that no designated national network sites or Ramsar sites are located within the borough and identifies the same four sites which have been identified through previous screenings. This screening has also considered whether any further potential candidate sites exist or have been designated since previous screenings and none have been identified.



KTPF area location and national network and Ramsar sites within c.15km

5.9 As the SPD addendum is in conformity with the policies of the Local Plan, and does not introduce new policies, the guidance contained in the lower-level SPD is similarly unlikely to have significant effects on sites of European importance for habitats or species, or an adverse impact on the integrity of those sites.

Conclusion

- 5.10 The Council has considered the scope and content of the Addendum and the proposed additional supplementary guidance. In making its assessment, the Council has had regard to the HRA screening previously undertaken. The SPD and addendum are in broad conformity with the policies of development plan documents that have undergone screening, which concluded they were unlikely to have significant effects on relevant sites of importance for habitats or species, or an adverse impact on the integrity of those sites. The KTPF SPD screening arrived at the same conclusion. In combination with other plans the further guidance contained in the lower-level addendum is similarly unlikely to have significant effects or an adverse impact on the integrity of those sites.
- 5.11 This does not mean other locally designated sites of nature conservation interest may not be affected by proposals. As development proposals come forward, they will be required to assess the impacts on the local area, the ecological context within and beyond sites and local nature conservation designations. These include railway corridors designated as SINCs (Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation) and the potential ecological and biodiversity impacts will need to be assessed and addressed.
- 5.12 One of the key principles of the adopted and updated guidance is the creation of a mix of open and green spaces of different forms and functions to enhance wellbeing and boost access to nature and biodiversity. It supports measures to improve and add to green infrastructure and networks, and development will create opportunities for urban greening, significant biodiversity gains and strengthening and linking existing biodiversity corridors, transport links and recreational destinations. These should have very positive local effects.



 Camden Nature Corridor map showing SINCs and Site Allocations on behalf of a consortium of organisations and community groups in Camden

Green Spaces

- The Western Gardens should provide a communal space at the core of the Regis Road Area, connecting Holmes Road and Regis Road.
 The Eastern Park should be a
- prominent public space visible from the High Street and connected to the biodiversity corridor.
- Regis Road should be designed to protect the existing trees and flora and provide new connectivity to the High Street.
- The improvements of Inkerman Garden should enhance this muchloved public space facing the Grade II listed College Francais de Londres.
- The Heathgate open space at the north should enhance the existing green corridor and help provide new access to the Heath Line and Gospel Oak Station, offering a 5-minute connection to Hamostead Heath.

Play Spaces Provision

- Play should be integrated throughout the Regis Road Area in various ways.
 This includes dedicated play spaces with equipped play areas, informal and incidental play areas, and kickabout areas.
- In line with the GLA's report on advancing gender equity, play features should be inclusive for children of all ages and abilities. The design should encourage girls to play and gather while feeling safe in their urban environment.





Play Street in Kings Crescent



Play space tailored to girls' interests in Bradford

6.0 SEA and HRA Screening Conclusions

- 6.1 As the overarching SPD (which underwent its own SEA and HRA screening) is in conformity with the policies of the Local Plan and do not introduce new policies or allocate sites, the Council has determined through this screening assessment that the KTPF SPD Addendum is also unlikely to give rise to significant environmental effects that require SEA.
- 6.2 The Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England as the relevant consultation bodies were consulted on this determination. The Environment Agency made no comments on the screening report, but if the Local Planning Authority did determine that an SEA is required, they should be consulted on the scope to ensure key environmental issues are addressed. Historic England agreed with the Council's screening conclusion that the addendum does not require its own SEA. Natural England agreed with the conclusion that the draft SPD addendum is unlikely to give rise to significant effects and therefore an SEA would not be required.
- 6.3 The guidance contained in the lower-level SPD, as part of the Council's adoption of the Local Plan and though the previous HRA determination in adopting the KTPF, indicate there are also unlikely to be significant effects on designated sites of importance for habitats or species. or an adverse impact on the integrity of those sites either alone or in combination with other plans or projects which could give rise to effects that require HRA.
- 6.4 Natural England as the statutory consultee on the HRA screening determination were consulted and agreed with the conclusion that that the draft SPD addendum is unlikely to give rise to significant effects and therefore an HRA would not be required.
- 6.5 This screening report will be published on the Council's website to illustrate that SEA and HRA issues have been taken into account and considered during the preparation of the SPD Addendum.
- 6.6 This assessment and conclusions will not however negate the need to consider other assessments that may be required. These include Environmental Impact Assessment and area/site specific sustainability, biodiversity, heritage, strategic views and flood risk assessments to support specific development proposals and planning applications that may emerge in the SPD area.