

Wiltshire Housing Site Allocations Plan Examination

Southwick Neighbourhood Plan Status Update

1. The Southwick Neighbouring Plan area was designated on the 31st May 2015.
2. A Neighbourhood Plan Screening Draft was published in March 2018 and can be found in the document library under [EXAM.16](#).
3. This document refers to a draft vision and objectives, policies and identification of potential development sites.
4. A Strategic Environmental Assessment screening exercise was carried out in November 2018 which concluded that Southwick Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have significant environmental effects and accordingly does require a Strategic Environmental Assessment.
5. The Neighbourhood Plan Screening Draft states in draft policy (Planning Policy 1) and supporting text (para 8.12) that:

“The chief aim of the policy [Planning Policy 1] is to take forward Wiltshire Core Strategy Policy in preserving the separate identity and landscape setting of Southwick, while balancing this with the need to provide housing for Trowbridge as explained in WCS CP 29 and in the HSAP. However, the plan does not seek to impose a blanket restriction all around the village since this seems unreasonable. It is not the aim of the plan to stop all development around the village, but to preserve the openness of the rural setting only between Southwick and Trowbridge. More detailed justification is found in the Landscape and Visual Setting Analysis Report published alongside the NDP. The area selected for the policy to apply within includes the Grade II * Listed building at Southwick Court and its setting, but deliberately excludes the proposed strategic site at Southwick Court in order to avoid conflict with an emerging development plan, to plan positively for development and in particular to support necessary strategic growth at the Principal Settlement of Trowbridge.”

6. The position of the work undertaken to date, as of April 2019, is that the neighbourhood planning group are currently working with consultants to produce a draft Regulation 14 Plan. Work undertaken to date is currently being reviewed by the steering group.