HILLINGDON
LONDON

Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report

Revision History

Version	Date	Description	Prepared	Approved
1.0	October 2023	First full draft for client	CA	MM

Executive Summary

A Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is required to be undertaken whenever a plan or programme is being implemented to ensure that the plan or programme poses no negative effects on the environment. This SEA serves to review whether implementing the actions associated with the proposed Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) could pose any likely significant effects on the environment. There are five stages of the SEA process, this document represents the Screening Report, which is the first stage. Through undertaking a Screening Report, it is possible to understand the potential risks to the local and wider environment that could be brought about by implementing the Strategic Objectives of the LFRMS and associated Action Plan. As a result, the outcome of this Screening Report can inform whether the LFRMS requires further investigation and progression of the SEA to the second stage.

The environmental, social and economic baseline data collated and reviewed as part of this process includes the following factors:

- Biodiversity, flora and fauna
- Infrastructure assets
- Population
- Public health
- Air quality
- Climate factors
- Soil and water
- Historic and cultural environments

By examining the existing policies and collating the baseline information for the London Borough of Hillingdon (Hillingdon), nine environmental and socio-economic issues have been identified. These issues may trigger potential impacts for the delivery of the actions associated with Hillingdon's LFRMS.

Based on the above factors, the following seven SEA Objectives have been created:

- **SEA Objective 1:** Promote sustainable development to ensure that new infrastructure does not contribute to increased environmental degradation.
- **SEA Objective 2:** Conserve and enhance local green spaces through tree planting and the implementation of sustainable drainage systems across Hillingdon to support habitat generation and biodiversity net gain.
- **SEA Objective 3:** Increase resilience of local populations to flooding and climate change, through improvements in education, so that residents understand how to report flooding and are empowered to take action to protect their properties from flooding.
- **SEA Objective 4:** Champion initiatives geared towards supporting vulnerable communities, improving awareness of who they can contact in relation to environmental matters.
- **SEA Objective 5:** Improve the WFD status of waterbodies within Hillingdon to ensure that water quality does not decline or pose harm to wildlife.
- **SEA Objective 6:** Protect cultural and historical assets from loss, decay or decline to minimise socio-economic damages.

To conclude the evaluation process, the SEA Objectives were assessed against the LFRMS Strategic Objectives to evaluate whether there would be negative, neutral or positive environmental, socio-

economic impacts posed by the implementation of the LFRMS. On the contrary, implementation of the LFRMS enables positive effects on the SEA Objectives in addition to some neutral effects. Therefore, this SEA Screening Report evidences that the proposed Strategic Objectives are not likely to pose negative impacts on the environmental and socio-economic issues identified and described within Hillingdon. As a result, it is not required to progress the LFRMS to the second stage of the SEA process.

Contents

FIGURES AND TABLES

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Definition
AQAP	Air Quality Action Plan
EA	Environment Agency
FWMA	Flood and Water Management Act, 2010
GLA	Greater London Authority
HE	Historic England
Hillingdon	London Borough of Hillingdon
JHWS	Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
JSNA	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
LFRMS	Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
LPA	Local Planning Authorities
NE	Natural England
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
RMA	Risk Management Authority
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SINCs	Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
SSSIs	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
TfL	Transport for London
The Council	The administrative Council of London Borough of Hillingdon
TWUL	Thames Water Utilities Limited

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of screening

The purpose of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is to identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing a proposed plan or strategy. In accordance with the European SEA Directive (2001) a SEA must be undertaken to review potential environmental issues and risks of applying actions associated with these prospective plans or programmes. Through this process, the SEA can identify whether alternative actions should be proposed to reduce any possible negative socio-economic or environmental impacts that may be identified. The Screening Stage (detailed in *Table 1-1*) is the first phase of the SEA process and if any negative effects are identified, progression to the second stage of the SEA process will be required.

This SEA Screening Report aims to review whether the implementation of the LFRMS and the measures from its associated Action Plan for the London Borough of Hillingdon (Hillingdon) could cause any negative impacts on the local and wider environment. The Strategic Objectives of the LFRMS will be assessed against the SEA Objectives, which will be based on local baseline data that identifies any environmental issues and problems. Subsequently, the results of this Screening Report will inform a decision on whether the LFRMS requires further investigation through undertaking a full SEA.

1.2 Methodology

The SEA process consists of five stages which are comprised of individual tasks that must be completed to meet the requirements of each stage. These five stages are presented in *Table 1-1*; this Screening Report is the output of the first stage (Stage A). Should the Screening Stage identify potential significant environmental impacts caused by implementing the LFRMS, a full SEA must be undertaken. Stage B would focus on evaluating the existing actions and proposing alternatives to mitigate negative effects in preparation for Stage C, which involves preparation of the Environmental Report. The penultimate Stage D includes consulting the draft Strategy and Environmental Report with the public and relevant consultation bodies. Finally, Stage E would involve evaluating and responding to the outcomes of this consultation, ensuring that any adverse effects are mitigated and then monitoring these effects in the future.

Table 1-1 Summary of SEA Stages

SEA Stages		SEA Task
Screening Stage	**Stage A:** Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope.	A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives.
		A2: Collecting baseline information.
		A3: Identifying environmental issues and problems.
		A4: Developing the SEA Objectives and framework.
		A5: Consulting on the scope of the SEA.
Full Assessment Stage	**Stage B:** Developing and refining options and assessing affects.	B1: Testing the plan objectives against SEA Objectives.
		B2: Developing strategic alternatives.
		B3: Predicting the effects of the plan, including alternatives.
		B4: Evaluating the effects of the plan, including alternatives.
		B5: Mitigating adverse effects.
		B6: Proposing measures to monitor the environmental effects of implementing the plan.
	Stage C: Preparing the environmental report.	C1: Preparing the environmental report.
	Stage D: Consulting on the draft strategy and the SEA report.	D1: Consulting on the draft strategy and environmental report with the public and consultation bodies.
		D2: Assessing significant changes.
		D3: Making decisions and providing information.
	Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the strategy.	E1: Developing aims and methods for monitoring.
		E2: responding to adverse effects.

1.3 Consultation process

It is required that this SEA Screening Report undergoes a statutory consultation process involving three statutory consultees: the Environment Agency (EA), Natural England (NE) and Historic England (HE). The EA, NE and HE will review and provide feedback on the scope and results of this SEA Screening Report during a six-week period from December 2023 to January 2024. As part of this process, the statutory consultees will have sight of the consultation questions within this SEA Screening Report, which are detailed in *Section 1.4*. Any feedback provided will be integrated into an updated version of this document. Following this, a public consultation will be undertaken during a six-week period from January to February 2024, during which members of the public, internal stakeholders and strategic stakeholders

will be able to provide comment on this SEA Screening Report. Similarly, suggested amendments will be reviewed and incorporated into the final version prior to finalisation of this document.

1.4 SEA consultation questions

In line with *Section 1.3*, those consulted on this SEA Screening Report will be asked specific questions to ensure that this Screening Assessment satisfies the SEA requirements. The below 14 questions correspond to the five Tasks within Stage A of the SEA process, as presented in *Table 1-1*.

Task A1: Legislation, plan, and policies:

1. Do you feel we have included all relevant policies, documents, plans and legislation that relate to or could affect the LFRMS?
2. If not, which additional documentation should be taken into consideration?

Task A2: Baseline data:

3. Do you agree that the baseline data that we have included herein are appropriate to the LFRMS that is being developed? If you do not agree, please explain why.
4. Do you have, or know of, any additional baseline indicators or data that should be added into this SEA Screening Report? If so, please provide any appropriate links and/or documents.
5. As far as you are aware, is the baseline data correct? If not, please provide any appropriate links and/or documents with correct data.

Task A3: Environmental issues affecting Hillingdon:

6. Do you agree that these are the main environmental issues relating to the LFRMS affecting Hillingdon? If not, which main issues do you believe should be included?
7. Are there any other environmental issues that you believe should be added into this SEA Screening Report? If so, please provide details.
8. Do you believe that any of these environmental issues do not affect Hillingdon? If so, please provide details.

Task A4: Proposed SEA Objectives:

9. Do you agree that these proposed SEA Objectives are suitable in the context of Hillingdon? If not, which Objectives are unsuitable and why?
10. Are there any other SEA Objectives that you believe should be included? If so, please provide details.

Task A5: Screening analysis:

11. Do you have any comments on the proposed method for assessing the SEA Objectives against the LFRMS Strategic Objectives?
12. Do you agree with the screening analysis of each of the LFRMS Strategic Objectives? If not, please provide reasons as to why you would screen a certain Objective differently.

Conclusion and further comments:

13. Do you have any comments on the conclusions within this SEA Screening Report of the LFRMS?
14. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for this SEA Screening Report?

1.5 Summary of Local Flood Risk Management Strategy

The Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA) brought about the role of the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA), which is the unitary authority or county council. Hillingdon undertakes the role of the LLFA and, under Section 9 of the FWMA, is responsible for developing, maintaining, applying and monitoring a strategy for local flood risk management in its area. The purpose of a LFRMS is to assess local flood risks, set out the roles and responsibilities of relevant risk management authorities (RMAs) and develop Strategic Objectives to manage local flood risk. A LFRMS should be updated every six years, or as and when there are any changes to policy or legislation. The three documents associated with the LFRMS include the detailed Action Plan which sets out measures to achieve the Strategic Objectives, a Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report and this SEA Screening Report.

Five Strategic Objectives have been identified in alignment with the EA's National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy and local Council priorities:

Figure 1-1 LFRMS Strategic Objectives

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE A: Sources of Flooding

Improve knowledge of flood risks in the London Borough of Hillingdon.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE B: Working with Others

Improve the collaboration of Risk Management Authorities, and understanding of roles and responsibilities, to manage flood risk effectively

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE C: Opportunities and Projects

Identify and implement opportunities for flood risk management.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE D: New Development and Planning

Ensure that development within the London Borough of Hillingdon accounts for and mitigates flood risk

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE E: Local Communities and Flooding

Engage with communities to develop the awareness of flood risk in local areas and improve their resilience

2 IDENTIFICATION OF RELEVANT POLICIES

2.1 Task A1 summary

The purpose of Task A1 is to identify relevant policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives, in line with *Table 1-1*. Task A1 is completed by compiling a list of relevant policies, documents and legislation that could affect the actions of the LFRMS in relation to its Strategic Objectives (which are detailed in *Figure 1-1* LFRMS Strategic Objectives).

2.2 Relevant policies

Table 2-1 presents all relevant policies, strategies and action plans that have been considered at an international, national, regional and local level as being significant to the implementation of the LFRMS.

Table 2-1 Policies, Strategies and Action Plans relevant to the SEA process

International
UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972)
Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (1985)
EU Habitats Directive (1992)
The Valletta Treaty *(formally European Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage)* (1992)
EU Water Framework Directive (2000)
European Landscape Convention (2000)
European SEA Directive (2001)
EU Floods Directive (2007)
EU Birds Directive (2009)
EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 (2020)
National
Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act (1979)
Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)
Environmental Protection Act (1990)
Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act (1990)
Land Drainage Act (1991)
The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (1994)
Civil Contingencies Act (2004)
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)
The Pitt Review - Lessons learned from the 2007 summer floods (2007)
The SuDS Manual C753F (2015)
Climate Change Act (2008)
Future Water: The Government's Water Strategy for England (2008)
Flood Risk Regulations (2009)
Flood and Water Management Act (2010)
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)
National Standards for Sustainable Drainage Systems (2011)
Water Act (2014)
Environmental Permitting Regulations (2016)

DEFRA: 25 Year Environment Plan (2018)
National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) Strategy for England (2020)
Meeting our Future Water Needs: A National Framework for Water Resources (2020)
Environment Act (2021)
National Planning Policy Framework (2012, revised 2021)
National Planning Practice Guidance (2016, revised 2022)
Regional
Thames Catchment Flood Risk Management Plan (2009)
Mayor of London's Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (2011)
Thames Estuary 2100 Flood Risk Management Plan (2012)
Thames River Basin District, River Basin Management Plan (2015)
GLA: Review of Metropolitan SINCs (2016)
London Regional Flood Risk Appraisal (2018)
London Environment Strategy (2018)
West London Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (2018)
Zero carbon London: A 1.5ºC compatible plan (2018)
The London Plan (2021)
Thames Estuary 2100: 10-Year Review (2022)
Thames Estuary 2100 Plan (2023)
Local
Hillingdon's Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (2011) (Addendum 2017)
Hillingdon's Air Quality Action Plan (2019-2024)
Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026)
Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 2 – Site Allocations and Designations (2020-2026)
Hillingdon's Strategic Climate Action Plan (2021)
Hillingdon's Catchment Plan (2022)
Hillingdon's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2022)
Hillingdon's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2022-2025)
Hillingdon's Tree Strategy (2023)
Hillingdon's Climate Change Declaration (2030)

2.3 Task A1 consultation questions

1. Do you feel we have included all relevant policies, documents, plans and legislation that relate to or could affect the LFRMS?
2. If not, which additional documentation should be taken into consideration?

3 BASELINE INFORMATION

3.1 Task A2 summary

The purpose of Task A2 is to collate baseline data about Hillingdon's socio-economic and environmental indicators, in line with *Table 1-1*. This includes information regarding Hillingdon's:

- Biodiversity, flora and fauna
- Infrastructure assets
- Population
- Public health
- Air quality
- Climate factors
- Soil and water
- Historical and cultural environment

This information is presented in *Section 3.3* and has been collated from a range of sources. The information will then be used to establish any existing environmental issues within Hillingdon. Though the SEA predominantly focuses on identifying and evaluating environmental effects, additional social and economic baseline indicators have been included to broaden the scope of any potential impacts of the actions outlined in the LFRMS.

3.2 Hillingdon borough characteristics

Hillingdon is located in north-west London and is the second largest of London's 33 boroughs, sharing its borders with Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Ealing, Harrow, Hertfordshire, Hounslow and Surrey. Over half of the borough's 42 square miles is comprised of countryside land, including watercourses, parks and woodland. Heathrow (Europe's busiest Airport) is located in Hillingdon and Terminal 5 is the largest free-standing building in the UK.

Major settlements in Hillingdon include Northwood, Harefield, Ruislip, Uxbridge, Hayes and West Drayton. There are 21 wards within Hillingdon and the borough is predominantly rural with natural surfaces and inland water in the north and largely manmade surfacing in the south. Hillingdon has been awarded over 60 Green Flag Awards for their parks and open spaces, such as Ruislip Woods and Stockley Country Park.

Hillingdon is well-connected by highway, London Underground, train, air and buses. The primary highway transport links within Hillingdon include the M4 and M25 motorways, the A4, A40, A30, A312, A4180 and A3113 main roads. Hillingdon is served by the Central, Metropolitan and Piccadilly Lines operated by Transport for London (TfL). Great Western Railway operate at Hayes and Harlington and West Drayton Stations; Chiltern Railways run via South Ruislip, West Ruislip and Heathrow Airport, which has a network of over 350 destinations worldwide and is also served by the Heathrow Express. Buses operate from within and outside London, primarily into Uxbridge Town Centre and Heathrow Airport.

3.3 Baseline information

3.3.1 Biodiversity, flora and fauna

As defined in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (1994), biodiversity is the variety of life forms that surround us and incorporates a wide variety of flora and fauna. The EU Biodiversity Strategy for

2030 (2020) identifies that during the past four decades, global wildlife populations declined by 60% as a result of human activity; biodiversity loss is one of the biggest threats facing humanity in the current decade.

Hillingdon is one of the most biodiverse boroughs in London and has a mosaic of habitats, such as trees, grasslands, wetlands and parklands, which are home to a variety of common and protected species. According to Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026), Hillingdon contains over 5,000 acres of open countryside, including 4,970 hectares of Green Belt, 200 parks and open spaces, over 11,500 species of habitats and more than 8,000 individual trees protected by Tree Protection Orders. Approximately 7% of Hillingdon is comprised of Conservation Areas.

The Local Plan identifies several challenges to biodiversity, predominantly relating to development pressures, with direct competition of land between wildlife habitats and increasing urban population in addition to climate change. In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (2012, revised 2021) (NPPF), Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) should aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity, including by refusing developments that reduce or damage irreplaceable habitat spaces. Hillingdon's Strategic Climate Action Plan (2021) details Hillingdon's Climate Commitment to enhance opportunities for biodiversity particularly in urban areas. A key way to achieve biodiversity is through encouraging wildflower growth and increasing tree planting. Hillingdon's Tree Strategy (2023) establishes the importance of Hillingdon's trees, the benefits of which should be appreciated at various stages of their life cycle for the provision of different habitats and other benefits to wildlife. COVID-19 demonstrated the importance of local green

spaces for both physical and mental health and the Council's progress in deploying green infrastructure will contribute to wellbeing improvements while cooling urban areas and increasing biodiversity across Hillingdon.

It is necessary to designate areas of natural importance because many sites encompass ecologically important habitats that increase biodiversity value. Therefore, these should be protected to enable habitat generation and biodiversity enhancements. *Table 3-1* lists the designated sites of natural importance within Hillingdon. For example, the Greater London Authority's (GLA) Review of Metropolitan SINCs (2016) identifies Little Britain as a SINC with a large range of species, including Unbranched Bur-Reed (Sparganium Emersum) and Water Dock (Rumex Hydrolapathum). The floodplain grassland is of key significance; originally used as gravel pits and now supports a variety of flora and fauna, such as the Sharp-Flowered Rush (Juncus Acutiflorus) and protected water voles and otters, in addition to bats, which are present in good numbers.

Table 3-1 Designated sites of natural importance within Hillingdon

Designation	No. of Sites	Site Names
Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) *Source: NE LNR dataset*	9	Cranebank Frays Valley Stockers Lane Islip Manor Ruislip Yeading Woods Yeading Brook Meadows Denham Quarry Park Denham Country Park
National Nature Reserve (NNRs) *Source: Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026)*	1	Ruislip Woods
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Site (RIGS) *Source: Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026)*	1	Gravel Pits, Harefield
Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs) *Source: Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026)*	64	14 Sites of Metropolitan Grade Importance 15 Sites of Borough Grade I Importance 25 Sites of Borough Grade II Importance 7 Sites of Local Importance 3 Sites of Countryside Conservation Area
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) *Source: NE SSSI dataset*	6	Ruislip Woods Harefield Pit Frays Farm Meadow Mid Colne Valley Old Park Wood Denham Lock Wood

3.3.2 Infrastructure assets

The Council has a variety of critical infrastructure assets which are vulnerable to flooding and thus must be considered when preparing plans, strategies or programmes to confirm that the document implementation will not negatively impact upon flood risk. *Table 3-2* details a list of infrastructure assets located in Hillingdon, which has been collated through review of Hillingdon's Strategic Infrastructure Plan (2017) and Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026) in conjunction with Annex 3 of the NPPF and the Council's webpages.

Table 3-2 Designated infrastructure assets within Hillingdon

Level of Infrastructure	Number of Assets	Types of Infrastructure
Essential infrastructure assets	30	One electricity substation; one airport; eight A-Roads and two motorways; five National Rail train stations; 13 London Underground tube stations.
Highly vulnerable infrastructure assets	20	12 emergency service stations (comprised of five police stations, three ambulance stations, and four fire stations); one traveller site (Colne Park, West Drayton); seven telephone exchanges.
More vulnerable infrastructure assets	203	Three hospitals; 94 educational establishments (65 primary schools, 18 secondary schools, six special schools, one nursery and two pupil referral units, one college [Harrow, Richmond & Uxbridge Colleges] and one university [Brunel University]); two waste and recycling centres; 87 places of worship; 17 public libraries.

There are currently 99,800 households residing in Hillingdon as reported in the Council's Local Plan and a total of 6,375 new homes are proposed in accordance with Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 2 – Site Allocations and Designations (2020-2026). Further, Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026) identifies that approximately 7,000 properties (6%) are in areas of flood risk. Large parts of Hillingdon sit above a Principal Aquifer and the borough is a major producer of minerals compared to other London Boroughs. *Table 3-3* presents the number of properties at risk of surface water flooding during the 1 in 30-year, 1 in 100-year and 1 in 1,000-year rainfall events across Hillingdon. This data was produced by the EA in 2014 and more information regarding the Council's flood risk and management procedures can be found in Hillingdon's Catchment Plan.

Table 3-3 Properties at risk of flooding from surface water in Hillingdon (EA data, 2021)

Return Period	Residential	Commercial	Other	Total
1 in 30-year rainfall event	2,155	454	702	**3,311**
1 in 100-year rainfall event	5,357	1,082	1,421	**7,860**
1 in 1000-year rainfall event	18,999	3,076	4,906	**26,981**

3.3.3 Population

As of 2012, according to Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026), the population of Hillingdon was approximately 260,000 and was expected to grow by 14% by 2026. However, Hillingdon's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2022) (JSNA) states that the population of Hillingdon by 2020 was already 309,000; therefore, by 2020, Hillingdon's population had already grown by 84% when comparing to 2012 statistics. For comparison purposes, ONS Census Data (2021) indicates that Hillingdon's population has a significantly higher growth rate when comparing to the 7% national increase between 2011 to 2021 and to Kensington and Chelsea's 10% population reduction during this timeframe.

The Council's Local Plan notes that Hillingdon's population is comprised of approximately 20% of under 16-year-olds, which is expected to remain relatively constant until 2026 and 15% of over 65-

year-olds, which is set to increase to approximately 8% of Hillingdon's population by 2026. Hillingdon's JSNA states that the Council's population is younger when comparing to the national average and that there were approximately 3,000 more males (156,000) than females (153,000) in 2020. The number of people aged 25 to 29 decreased from 2018 to 2020 and individuals aged 40 to 44 increased from 2018 to 2019.

Furthermore, the JSNA demonstrates that homelessness is worse in Hillingdon than the national average and when compared to London-wide rates between 2019 and 2020. The number of children residing in low-income families is increasing and this is particularly evident in Yeading and Townfield. To mitigate this, the Council seeks to provide 35% of all new housing provision as affordable housing as stipulated in Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026).

3.3.4 Public health

Hillingdon's population is diverse and individuals are living longer lives. The Council's JSNA (2022) identifies that Hillingdon includes both affluent areas (in the top 20% in the country) and areas of deprivation (in the lowest 20% in the country). Average life expectancy for men and women is greater than the national average and is comparable to the average for London. Women in Hillingdon have a higher average life expectancy at 84 years while the life expectancy for men is 80.4 years. The JSNA evidences that, as of 2020, the main cause of death within Hillingdon was cancer and circulatory diseases (23% of deaths can be attributed to these causes), COVID-19 (which claimed the lives of 373 people) and respiratory diseases. NO_2 levels caused by road traffic continue to exceed recommended levels; therefore, poor air quality increases the likelihood of acute asthma and Chronic Pulmonary Disease, in addition to heart disease and cancer. The onset of dementia is predicted to increase by approximately 0.3% in 2024/2025 and the rate of mortality of individuals with dementia in people over the age of 65 is 803 per 100,000 people; this is comparable to the London-wide rate which is 723 per 100,000.

The Council has a range of facilities geared towards providing public healthcare, such as 45 GP practices and a single provider for mental and physical health. Hillingdon's Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2022-2025) (JHWS) details the steps the Council is taking to reduce risk to public health. The JHWS (2022-2025) is centred on six Council priorities, including supporting the young to live healthier lives; tackling unfair inequalities in health and disparities in access to services; helping prevent the onset of chronic conditions, such as dementia; supporting individuals to live well for longer; improving mental health services and improving ways the Council works within and across organisations to improve health and social care. Respective actions include reducing the levels of child obesity by implementing a Child Healthy Weight Plan; expanding support for those with learning difficulties; working to reduce diabetes while promoting a healthy lifestyle; identifying vulnerable people who may be at risk of age-related diseases; providing timely responses to crises, working with GPs and monitoring healthcare staff retention.

3.3.5 Air quality

Air pollution is defined by the GLA's Demystifying Air Pollution in London Report as the presence of materials or substances in the air that have harmful impacts on health. It is recognised that air pollution reduces life expectancy for thousands of people annually; the GLA identified that approximately 9,400 premature deaths arise from exposure to particulate matter (PM) and nitrogen dioxide (NO_2) in London alone. PM and NO_2 are often viewed as the most dangerous forms of air pollution due to their high concentrations and the negative health implications. Hillingdon's

JHWS (2022-2025) recognises respiratory disease as the third highest cause of death in Hillingdon. Managing its air quality is therefore a priority within Hillingdon, especially considering that the borough is home to Heathrow – Europe's busiest airport.

Hillingdon's Air Quality Action Plan (2019-2024) (AQAP) details the sources of pollution within Hillingdon, maps the areas of focus, outlines key actions assigned to relevant RMAs and lists the Council's priorities for managing air quality over the six-year period. Mapping within the AQAP indicates that Hillingdon are meeting their current objectives for PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$; however, the annual mean NO_2 levels in 2013 exceeded the limit values, a situation that persists to the present day. The key contributors to the levels of NO_2, PM_{10} and $PM_{2.5}$ are attributed to the major highway network and Heathrow, which generates around 50% of the NOx emissions within Hillingdon. The GLA in partnership with TfL produced the London Atmospheric Emissions Inventory (2019 Air Quality Focus Areas, which included mapping Focus Areas described as areas where the risk of exceeding pollution limits is high and there is broad public exposure. 12 Focus Areas were identified, which include:

- Stretch of the M4 north of Heathrow
- Hayes Town Botwell Lane/Pump Lane
- Hayes North Hyde Road
- A40/Swakeleys Road
- A40/South Ruislip
- Ossie Garvin to Southall Park
- West Drayton/Yiewsley
- A40/Long Lane
- Uxbridge Town Centre
- Uxbridge Road Corridor
- Ruislip Town Centre
- Heathrow Area

Hillingdon's AQAP acknowledges that the Council currently holds Cleaner Air Borough status, which was awarded by the GLA in recognition of the actions the Council and partner RMAs have taken to improve its air quality. There are further opportunities for air quality improvements across Hillingdon, such as increasing the number of Electric Vehicle charging points and a proposal for the first north-south bus route from Hillingdon to Ruislip. Progress is recognised through the recent addition of the Elizabeth Line to encourage public transport usage across Hillingdon and to wider reaches in and outside of London.

The Council will prioritise improving air quality around schools, promote the use of greener walking and cycling infrastructure and raise public awareness via targeted campaigns, for example encouraging alternatives to car travel. Hillingdon are committed to press Heathrow Airport to reduce their emissions as quickly as possible and remain firmly opposed to airport expansion, or any changes to operation which will increase emissions. Collaboration with external stakeholders combined with the lobbying of central and regional governments will be essential to minimise the risk of air pollution and improve air quality within Hillingdon.

3.3.6 Climate factors

The IPCC Climate Change 2023 Synthesis Report states that global temperatures are predicted to rise by 1.5°C within the 21st century due to human activity via emission of greenhouse gases. As a result, heavy rainfall events are projected to intensify and become more frequent, which is likely to increase local flooding. The latest State of the UK Climate Report confirms that the UK has become wetter over the past few decades. Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026) notes that Hillingdon has the fourth highest carbon emissions of all London Boroughs.

432,000 tonnes can be attributed to transport within Hillingdon (though this figure excludes the aviation fuel and motorway travel), 560,000 tonnes of CO_2 is associated with domestic fuel and 1,000,000 tonnes of CO_2 from industrial processes. On average, eight tonnes of carbon dioxide (CO_2) are emitted per person across Hillingdon.

Hillingdon's Strategic Climate Action Plan (2021) details the Council's vision to become the greenest London Borough by achieving carbon neutral status and 100% clean electricity by 2030. A fundamental way to accomplish this is through planting more trees. The Council's Tree Strategy (2023) notes that increasing tree cover can reduce the urban heat island effect by providing shade, deflecting solar radiation and releasing moisture into the atmosphere. Trees can also absorb and store CO_2 which helps to combat the effects of climate change. The Council acknowledges in its Climate Change Declaration (2023) the clear evidence that global warming levels should be limited to 1.5°C in accordance with the IPPC Report. This Declaration recognises progress Hillingdon has made to date, citing a 54% reduction in CO_2 emissions since 2018 from non-domestic electricity and gas supplies, the provision of drinking fountains across Hillingdon to reduce single use plastic and urban greening initiatives, including offering 5,000 free saplings for local residents to grow.

Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 2 – Site Allocations and Designations (2020-2026) notes that Heathrow Airport is a major source of Hillingdon's emissions and therefore, the growth of housing and employment should be carefully managed, so as not to cause damaging impacts to climate change initiatives. Heathrow's Net Zero Plan (2022) is centred on achieving up to 15% reduction in carbon from aviation and at least a 45% decline in carbon from surface access, supply chain, vehicles and infrastructure. Two fundamental actions Heathrow are taking to accomplish these goals include switching to low carbon sustainable aviation fuel, which is contributing up to 7% of the 2030 goal and by continuing research and development to bring net zero carbon aircraft into service. Heathrow's Climate Change Adaptation Report (2022) summarises the Airport's longer-term commitments, which include improving data sharing between transport and energy sectors, integrating green infrastructure, including sustainable urban drainage systems, into developments and ongoing asset maintenance to identify issues in enough time to act.

3.3.7 Soil and water

The geology of Hillingdon is comprised of various Superficial Deposits, including Taplow Gravel Formation and Langley Silt Member to the south and Lynch Hill Gravel Member to the north. Hillingdon is predominantly underlain by London Clay Formation bedrock geology, is situated in the Thames Estuary and has an average elevation of 46m AOD. The southern region encompassing Heathrow Airport is the flattest locality, with a 4m AOD minimum elevation, while the maximum elevation is approximately 150m AOD in the north.

Several rivers run through Hillingdon, including the Colne, Frays, Pinn, Wraysbury and the Yeading Brook, in addition to approximately 20km of the Grand Union Canal. The River Colne is 36 miles long and forms the boundary between Buckinghamshire and Hillingdon, joining the River Thames at Staines-upon-Thames, south of Hillingdon. Frays River is a semi-canalised short river (5.5 miles) that branches off the River Colne in Buckinghamshire; is joined on its east bank by the River Pinn and then re-joins the River Colne at Drayton Point. The River Pinn is an ancient rivulet, approximately 12 miles long, which flows in a southerly direction, joining Frays River at Yiewsley. Wraysbury River is an anabranch of the River Colne, measuring approximately 6km in length. The River runs parallel with the M25 towards the Wraysbury Reservoir and re-joins the River Colne in Staines shortly before its confluence with the River Thames. The Yeading Brook is a 16-mile

tributary of the River Crane; its source is on the east side of Pinner Park where it flows southeast into the only surviving filled moat in Middlesex at Headstone Manor. The Brook is culverted beneath housing for half a mile and ultimately becomes the River Crane at Cranford, Hounslow.

The EU Water Framework Directive (2000) (WFD) focuses on ensuring good qualitative and quantitative health of the water environment. *Table 3-4* details the rivers that have been identified as situated in Hillingdon in accordance with the WFD and their respective hydrogeomorphological designation (modification status), ecological status and physico-chemical quality. According to EA data, all of the identified rivers are heavily modified, with moderate ecological status and physico-chemical quality.

Table 3-4 WFD waterbodies located in Hillingdon

Waterbody Name	Waterbody ID	Hydromorphological Designation	Ecological Status	Physico-Chemical Quality
River Colne (Confluence with Chess to River Thames)	GB106039023090	Heavily modified	Moderate	Moderate
Colne Brook	GB106039023010	Heavily modified	Moderate	Moderate
River Pinn	GB106039023070	Heavily modified	Moderate	Moderate
Yeading Brook	GB106039023051	Heavily modified	Moderate	Moderate

3.3.8 Historical and cultural environment

Hillingdon is a suburban borough that was an ancient parish in Middlesex. The borough was created in 1965 through the merging of the previous Borough of Uxbridge including the urban districts of Hayes and Harlington, Ruislip-Northwood and Yiewsley and West Drayton. Hillingdon's Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026) details the borough's historical and cultural assets, which are mapped in Hillingdon's Heritage Asset Map (2020). These architectural and archaeological heritage sites are recognised in HE's at Risk Register (2020), which notes the designation, condition and occupancy of the sites. *Table 3-5* provides a list of these sites, their classification[1] and notable examples of infrastructure.

Table 3-5 Historical and cultural assets within Hillingdon

Type of Classification	Number of Assets	Examples of Infrastructure
Listed buildings (Grade I, II, or II*) *From HE Heritage at Risk Register (2020)*	0 (I) 26 (II) 4 (II*)	Granaries at Knightscote Farm, Harefield; Enterprise House, Hayes; Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood and Church of St John, Royal Lane

[1] HE Listed Buildings defines the following Listed Building classifications:
Grade I buildings are of exceptional interest (only 2.5% of listed buildings are in this class)
Grade II* buildings are important buildings of more than special interest (5.8% of listed buildings are in this class)
Grade II buildings are of special interest (91.7% of all listed buildings are in this class)

Type of Classification	Number of Assets	Examples of Infrastructure
Registered parks and gardens *From Hillingdon's Heritage Asset Map (2020)*	2	Stockley Park: Business Park Phases I and II, & Country Park & Golf Course and Harefield Place Registered Park and Garden
Scheduled ancient monuments *From Hillingdon's Heritage Asset Map (2020)*	5	Ickenham Manor Farm; Park Pale; Brackenbury Farm Moated Site
Areas of Special Local Character *From Hillingdon's Heritage Asset Map (2020)*	14	Hillside, Northwood Hills; Copsewood Estate, Northwood; North Uxbridge; Hillingdon Court Park
Conservation areas *From Local Plan: Part 1 – Strategic Policies (2012-2026)*	30	Cowley Lock; Eastcote Village; Springwell Lock; Cranford Park
Archaeological Priority Areas (APAs) *From Hillingdon's Heritage Asset Map (2020)*	9	Heathrow APZ; Colne Valley; Ruislip Motte & Bailey

3.4 Task A2 consultation questions

3. Do you agree that the baseline data that we have included herein are appropriate to the LFRMS that is being developed? If you do not agree, please explain why.
4. Do you have, or know of, any additional baseline indicators or data that should be added into this SEA Screening Report? If so, please provide any appropriate links and/or documents.
5. As far as you are aware, is the baseline data correct? If not, please provide any appropriate links and/or documents with correct data.

4 IDENTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

4.1 Task A3 summary

The purpose of Task A3 is to identify the environmental issues that Hillingdon face and that could be further impeded through implementing the actions from the LFRMS, in line with *Table 1-1*. These key environmental issues have been identified by examining the policies listed during Task A1 and then analysing the baseline information collated during Task A2. *Table 4-1* presents these issues.

4.2 Local environmental issues

After assessment of the relevant policies listed in *Section 2.2* and evaluation of the baseline information in *Section 2.3*, the following environmental and social issues have been identified and summarised in Table 4-1 Environmental issues, potential problems and related LFRMS Objectives*Table 4-1*, which details the issue, the potential associated problems and the relevant LFRMS Strategic Objective that comprises actions to resolve or improve the issue.

Table 4-1 Environmental issues, potential problems and related LFRMS Objectives

Environmental/Social Issues	Potential Associated Problems	Proposed LFRMS Objective
Development pressures causing a decline in biodiversity	• Loss of protected species • Decrease in natural green spaces and conservation areas • Reduction in mental and physical health benefits associated with access to open spaces • Urban heat island effect, increasing energy prices • Decline in amenity value • Rise in CO_2 across Hillingdon that would usually be stored in woodland and other flora • Increase in flooding incidents by reducing natural drainage	A C D
Increasing amount of infrastructure at risk of flooding	• More residents and businesses at risk of flooding • Increased insurance premiums and cost of property repairs • Greater risk for elderly, isolated and vulnerable populations • Disruption to Hillingdon's transport network, including TfL's red routes, the motorway network, rail travel and Heathrow Airport operations • Increase in pressure on Hillingdon's emergency services • Increased LLFA funding required for Section 19 flood investigations	A B C D E
Rapid population increase	• Increased populaces at risk of flooding • Greater demand for housing, pushing up rental and purchase prices • Rise in homelessness and inequality • Higher crime rates • More pressure on existing healthcare facilities and services	A C D
Ageing population	• Increased elderly, vulnerable residents at risk of flooding • Pressure on the NHS, ambulance and hospital staffing • Greater risk of loneliness and social isolation • Higher levels of age-related illnesses.	B E
Increasing NO_2, $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10} levels	• Decrease in air quality across Hillingdon	B D

Environmental/Social Issues	Potential Associated Problems	Proposed LFRMS Objective
	• Increase in acute asthma and Chronic Pulmonary Disease, in addition to heart disease and cancer • Greater mortality rates • Decline in life expectancy • Inequalities in access to clean air across Hillingdon • Pressure on health and wellbeing services	E
Increasing CO_2 emissions	• Contribution to local and global climate change • Increase in frequency and severity of storms • Rise in precipitation and surface water, flash flooding • Greater vulnerability to flooding as more areas are at risk	A C
Reduction in quality of existing waterbodies	• Decline in water quality • Reduced physico-chemical quality of waterbodies • Poorer ecological status of waterbodies • Decline in fish species and subsequent effects on local fauna	B C D
Decline, decay, neglect of historical and cultural heritage assets	• Reduced value of local spaces • Loss of recreation for local residents • Exacerbated loss through increased flooding related to climate change • Loss of historical and culturally significant infrastructure • Reduction in local tourism geared around history and culture	A B C D E

4.3 Task A3 consultation questions

6. Do you agree that these are the main environmental issues relating to the LFRMS affecting Hillingdon? If not, which main issues do you believe should be included?
7. Are there any other environmental issues that you believe should be added into this SEA Screening Report? If so, please provide details.
8. Do you believe that any of these environmental issues do not affect Hillingdon? If so, please provide details.

5 SEA OBJECTIVES

5.1 Task A4 summary

The purpose of Task A4 is to develop the SEA Objectives and framework, in line with *Table 1-1*. Through identifying the environmental issues presented in *Section 4.2*, seven SEA Objectives have been developed. The performance of Hillingdon's LFRMS and associated actions will subsequently be assessed against these SEA Objectives in *Section 6.2*.

5.2 SEA Objectives

The following SEA Objectives have been produced to address the key issues identified from Task A4. These SEA Objectives will not be specifically delivered; however, the aims are likely to be addressed through the delivery of the LFRMS actions. Therefore, the SEA Objectives will support in the ongoing review of the progress made to deliver the LFRMS Action Plan.

- **SEA Objective 1:** Promote sustainable development to ensure that new infrastructure does not contribute to increased environmental degradation.
- **SEA Objective 2:** Conserve and enhance local green spaces through tree planting and the implementation of sustainable drainage systems across Hillingdon to support habitat generation and biodiversity net gain.
- **SEA Objective 3:** Increase resilience of local populations to flooding and climate change, through improvements in education, so that residents understand how to report flooding and are empowered to take action to protect their properties from flooding.
- **SEA Objective 4:** Champion initiatives geared towards supporting vulnerable communities, improving awareness of who they can contact in relation to environmental matters.
- **SEA Objective 5:** Improve the WFD status of waterbodies within Hillingdon to ensure that water quality does not decline or pose harm to wildlife.
- **SEA Objective 6:** Protect cultural and historical assets from loss, decay or decline to minimise socio-economic damages.

5.3 Task A4 consultation questions

9. Do you agree that these proposed SEA Objectives are suitable in the context of Hillingdon? If not, which Objectives are unsuitable and why?

10. Are there any other SEA Objectives that you believe should be included? If so, please provide details.

6 SCREENING ANALYSIS OF THE LFRMS

6.1 Task A5 summary

The purpose of Task A5 is to consult on the scope of the SEA, in line with *Table 1-1*. Using the Matrix presented in *Table 6-1*, the LFRMS Strategic Objectives are assessed against the SEA Objectives to understand whether there will be positive impacts, negative impacts or no effect on the SEA Objectives in the implementation of the LFRMS.

6.2 Screening analysis

The Matrix in *Table 6-1* summarises the outcomes of examining the LFRMS Strategic Objectives against the SEA Objectives; the criteria for this qualitative assessment is listed in *Table 6-2* and *Section 6.3* outlines the justification for these decisions.

The below screening analysis indicates that none of the LFRMS Strategic Objectives will negatively impact any of the SEA Objectives that were selected in Task A4. Conversely, there is likely to be both minor and major positive effects to the SEA Objectives from the delivery of Hillingdon's LFRMS, although there are some neutral outcomes where the LFRMS Strategic Objective does not relate directly to certain SEA Objectives.

Table 6-1 Scoring matrix of LFRMS against SEA Objectives

		SEA Objective Number					
		SEA 1	SEA 2	SEA 3	SEA 4	SEA 5	SEA 6
LFRMS Strategy Objective	A	++	+	++	++	0	+
	B	++	0	++	++	0	0
	C	++	++	++	0	+	0
	D	++	++	+	+	0	0
	E	0	0	++	++	0	0

Table 6-2 Legend of criteria for Table 6-1

++	**Major positive effect on SEA Objective.**
+	Minor positive effect on SEA Objective.
0	Neutral effect on SEA Objective and/or dependent on implementation.
-	Minor negative effect on SEA Objective.
- -	Major negative effect on SEA Objective.
?	Uncertain

6.3 Screening analysis outcomes

6.3.1 LFRMS Strategic Objective A

Improve knowledge of flood risks in the London Borough of Hillingdon.

Outcome	SEA Objective	Justification
Major positive	1	By promoting sustainable development to ensure it does not contribute to increased environmental degradation across the borough, this will support improvements to local knowledge of the flood risks that residents face across the borough.
	3	By increasing the resilience of local populations to flooding, these populations will then have a greater awareness of the risk they face and how they can improve their resilience further.
	4	Local vulnerable communities, such as the elderly, should be able to contact the correct RMA so that they can report environmental issues. By doing so, these communities can improve their own knowledge of their local environmental issues, such as flood risk.
Minor positive	2	While useful to understand the types of flooding across Hillingdon, this knowledge is not essential to ensuring the conservation and enhancement of local green spaces.
	7	Sources of flooding that affect a given asset should be considered and minimised where necessary, as part of a wider asset protection and maintenance regime.
Neutral	5	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective A.
	6	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective A.
Minor negative	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a minor negative impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective A.
Major negative	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a major negative impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective A.
Uncertain	N/A	There were no uncertainties when assessing LFRMS Strategic Objective A with any of the SEA Objectives.

6.3.2 LFRMS Strategic Objective B

Improve the collaboration of Risk Management Authorities, and understanding of roles and responsibilities, to manage flood risk effectively

Outcome	SEA Objective	Justification
Major positive	1	If stakeholders, such as developers and planners, ensure they are aware of the roles of RMAs and their environmental and flood risk functions, collaborative efforts can bring about effective consideration and management of flood risk ansd other environmental issues.

Outcome	SEA Objective	Justification
	3	Clarity on who residents should report flooding to depending on the flood source is key to ensure residents have the information required to report flooding.
	4	It is imperative that all residents, but particularly the vulnerable and elderly, understand who they need to contact should they experience environmental issues or flooding. Initiatives to support vulnerable populations can improve their awareness of flood risk.
Minor positive	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a minor positive impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective B.
Neutral	2	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective B.
	5	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective B.
	6	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective B.
Minor negative	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a minor negative impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective B.
Major negative	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a major negative impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective B.
Uncertain	N/A	There were no uncertainties when assessing LFRMS Strategic Objective B with any of the SEA Objectives.

6.3.3 LFRMS Strategic Objective C

Identify and implement opportunities for flood risk management.

Outcome	SEA Objective	Justification
Major positive	1	Implementation of new, sustainable development provides a good opportunity to incorporate flood risk management. By incorporating measures (such as sustainable drainage systems) in new developments it can be ensured that the new developments do not contribute to increased flood risk or environmental degradation.
	2	The conservation of local green spaces will bring about improved flood risk management by increasing sustainable urban drainage and natural flood management measures.
	3	By understanding historic flooding as reported by residents, Hillingdon will be better able to target mitigation measures to areas at highest risk.
Minor positive	5	Improvements to flood risk management have the potential to supplement activities that aim to enhance a waterbody's WFD status. For example, sustainable drainage systems and natural flood management can improve water quality and contribute to habitat generation.

Outcome	SEA Objective	Justification
Neutral	4	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective C.
	6	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective C.
Minor negative	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a minor negative impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective C.
Major negative	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a major negative impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective C.
Uncertain	N/A	There were no uncertainties when assessing LFRMS Strategic Objective C with any of the SEA Objectives.

6.3.4 LFRMS Strategic Objective D

Ensure that development within the London Borough of Hillingdon accounts for and mitigates flood risk.

Outcome	SEA Objective	Justification
Major positive	1	Accounting for environmental matters, such as flood risk, when producing guidance for sustainable development will ensure that new infrastructure does not contribute to increased flooding and instead mitigates flood risk.
	2	By enhancing local green spaces through incorporating sustainable drainage systems or natural flood management, Hillingdon would be accounting for and mitigating flood risk, while supporting opportunities for biodiversity net gain.
Minor positive	4	By creating initiatives geared towards supporting vulnerable communities, this information can be shared with developers and associated RMAs to ensure that new infrastructure addresses the needs of these populations while not increasing flood risk or environmental degradation.
Neutral	3	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective D.
	5	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective D.
	6	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective D.
Minor negative	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a minor negative impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective D.
Major negative	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a major negative impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective D.
Uncertain	N/A	There were no uncertainties when assessing LFRMS Strategic Objective D with any of the SEA Objectives.

6.3.5 LFRMS Strategic Objective E

Engage with communities to develop the awareness of flood risk in local areas and improve their resilience.

Outcome	SEA Objective	Justification
Major positive	3	By engaging with local populations to improve their knowledge on how they can report flooding, residents can become empowered to act to improve their resilience; for example, through incorporating Property Flood Resilience measures.
	4	Engagement initiatives to support vulnerable communities can ensure that they are receiving the required support and that steps are taken to improve their resilience where necessary.
Neutral	1	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective E.
	2	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective E.
	5	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective E.
	6	This SEA Objective had little to no correlation with the LFRMS Strategic Objective E.
Minor negative	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a minor negative impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective E.
Major negative	N/A	No SEA Objectives are likely to have a major negative impact by the delivery of LFRMS Strategic Objective E.
Uncertain	N/A	There were no uncertainties when assessing LFRMS Strategic Objective E with any of the SEA Objectives.

6.4 Task A5 consultation questions

11. Do you have any comments on the proposed method for assessing the SEA Objectives against the LFRMS Strategic Objectives?

12. Do you agree with the screening analysis of each of the LFRMS Strategic Objectives? If not, please provide reasons as to why you would screen a certain Objective differently.

7 CONCLUSIONS AND NEXT STEPS

7.1 Conclusions

This SEA Screening Report concludes that the implementation of the actions associated with the proposed LFRMS Strategic Objectives are not likely to pose any negative effects on the environmental issues that have been identified within Hillingdon. By contrast, the outputs of this Screening Report evidence that the LFRMS Strategic Objectives have the potential to bring about both major and minor positive effects to the generated SEA Objectives, in addition to some neutral effects. As a result, the LFRMS has suitably considered the impacts of its Action Plan on Hillingdon's environmental, social and economic issues. Implementing the delivery of the LFRMS actions provides multiple opportunities to mitigate some of the key issues while ensuring that there are no detrimental impacts on these existing issues.

Based on the outcome of this SEA Screening Report, it can be concluded that the delivery of the LFRMS does not require progression onto the SEA Environmental Report (second) stage and that it is thus not necessary for a full SEA to be undertaken.

7.2 Consultation of the SEA

As part of this SEA Screening Report, a statutory consultation will be carried out over a six-week period between December 2023 to January 2024. This will enable the EA, NE and HE (as statutory consultees) to review and provide feedback on the scope of the SEA Screening Report. During a six-week period from January to February 2024, a wider public consultation will be undertaken where internal stakeholders, strategic stakeholders and members of the public will be consulted on their views on the document. Following statutory consultation and public consultation, feedback will be appropriately incorporated into the final version of the SEA Screening Report, which is due to be finalised in April 2024.

13. Do you have any comments on the conclusions within this SEA Screening Report of the LFRMS?

14. Do you have any additional comments or suggestions for this SEA Screening Report?