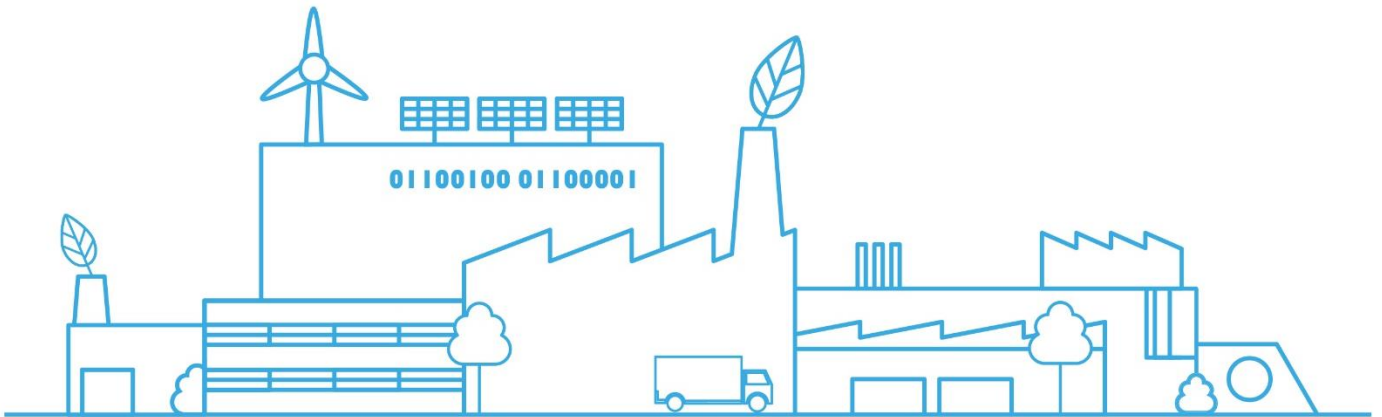


# Industrial

## Supplementary Planning Document

### Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening and Determination Statement

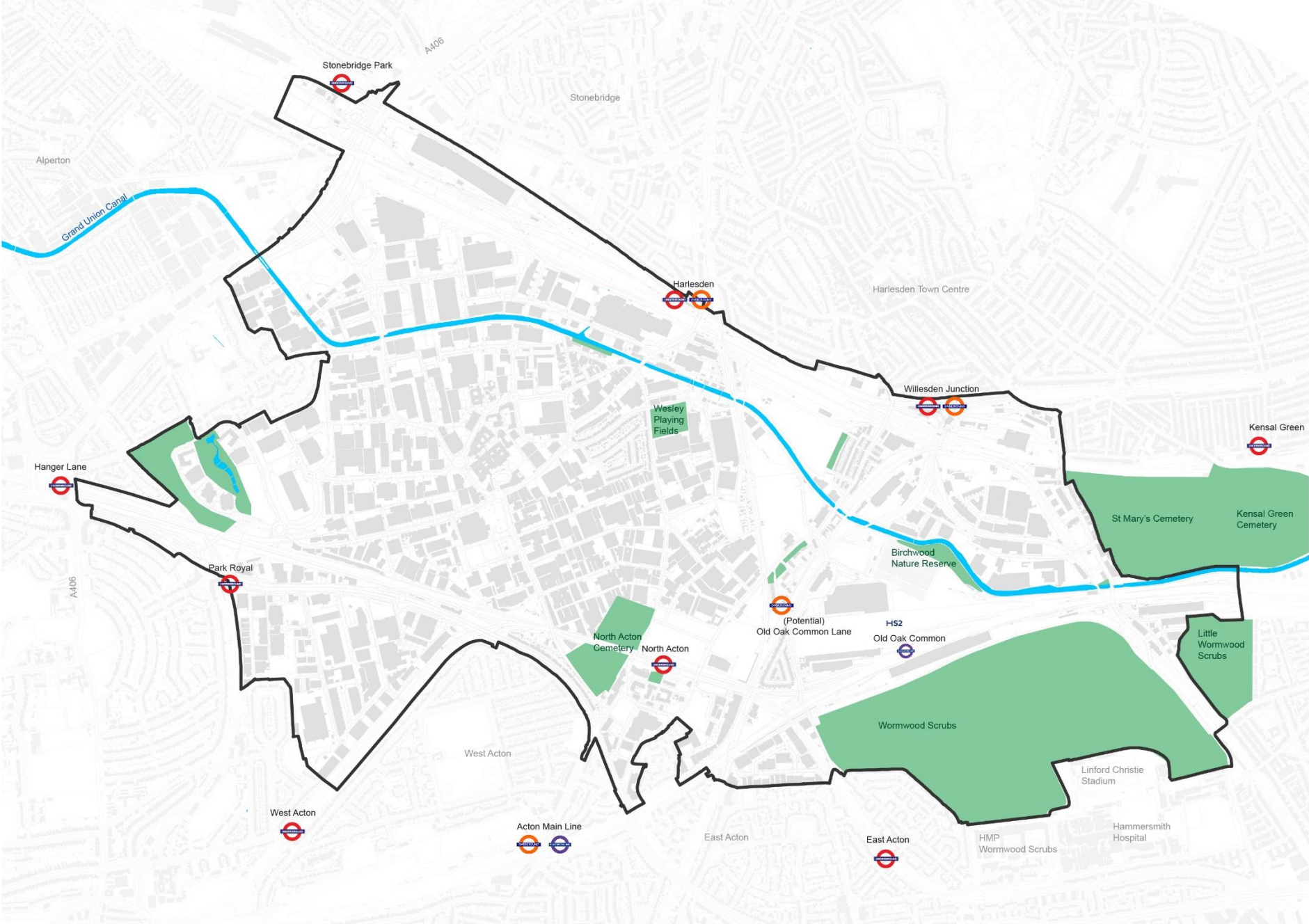
June 2023



## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The Old Oak Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) is preparing a Industrial Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to provide further guidance to OPDC's Local Plan. The SPD will provide additional information and detail on how OPDC will, as the Local Planning Authority (LPA), implement policies of the Local Plan where they relate to industrial development.
- 1.2 Section 3 of this document describes the proposed scope of the SPD. Figure 1 provides a map of the OPDC area; the SPD covers the extent of this area.
- 1.3 This Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) screening was prepared in accordance with the requirements of Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Plans and Programmes on the Environment and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 as amended. The following guidance has also been taken into account:
- The National Planning Practice Guidance ([Paragraph: 001 Reference ID: 11-001-20190722](#)) in relation to SEA/SA
  - [A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive \(ODPM 2005\)](#)
- 1.4 This document also includes the Determination Statement on the need for a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in section 4.
- 1.5 The screening consultation was undertaken to enable the Environmental Bodies as specified in section 4 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 to provide comment on the appropriateness of the screening process and its conclusion for this proposed SPD. Those bodies are:
- Natural England
  - Historic England
  - Environment Agency
- Other bodies that were specifically invited to comment are:
- London Boroughs of Brent, Ealing, and Hammersmith and Fulham
  - Greater London Authority
- 1.6 The consultation period ran from 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023 to midnight 14<sup>th</sup> March 2023. Any comments were invited to be made in writing and returned to the OPDC Planning Policy Team at:
- [planningpolicy@opdc.london.gov.uk](mailto:planningpolicy@opdc.london.gov.uk); or
  - SPDs SEA Screening Consultations, Planning Policy team, Brent Civic Centre, 32 Engineers Way, Wembley, HA9 0FJ

Figure 1: OPDC area and extent of the Industrial SPD



## 2.0 Purpose of Sustainability Appraisal (SA) / Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 2.1 The [ODPM's practical guidance on applying European Directive 2001/42/EC](#), and the [Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004](#) (as amended) both detail the requirements of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). These documents place an obligation on local planning authorities to undertake an SEA on any land use plan or programme "which sets the framework for future development consent of projects."
- 2.2 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is the process by which this Directive is applied to Local Plan documents. An SA is required under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 for all Development Plan Documents (DPDs), including Local Plans, and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs). The EU Strategic Development Directive also requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to be carried out on certain types of plans with significant environmental effects. The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2009 removes the automatic need for an SA of SPDs. Exceptions to this requirement are for plans "which determine the use of small areas at a local level" or which only propose "minor modifications to plans," if the local planning authority determines that the plan is unlikely to have significant environmental effects.
- 2.3 Both SA and SEA processes are undertaken during the preparation of a plan or strategy to aid the implementation of sustainable development. The main difference between them is that while an SEA has more of an environmental focus, an SA should focus on social, economic and environmental issues. Although SA and SEA are distinct requirements, government guidance has recommended a single appraisal process. The SA process for planning documents therefore incorporates the requirements of the European SEA Directive. In the case of the OPDC Local Plan preparation an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) has been undertaken. The IIA incorporates the requirements of a SA and SEA as well as incorporating the Health Impact Assessment (HIA) and the Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) which are two additional assessments a Local Planning Authority are required to undertake in preparation of a plan.
- 2.4 The requirements and extent for SA/SEA on Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are also set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 11-008-20140306:
- "Supplementary planning documents do not require a sustainability appraisal but may in exceptional circumstances require a strategic environmental assessment if they are likely to have significant environmental effects that have not already have been assessed during the preparation of the Local Plan ... Before deciding whether significant environment effects are likely, the local planning authority will need to take into account the criteria specified in [schedule 1 to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004](#) and consult the consultation bodies."*
- 2.5 Using the definitions set out in national planning policies the purpose of the screening process is therefore to ascertain if the OPDC Industrial SPD requires a separate SEA to the SA component of the OPDC's Local Plan IIA. In general terms the screening is testing if this SPD will create policy additional to that in the Local Plan that needs to be tested against the SA criteria.

### 3.0 OPDC Industrial SPD

- 3.1 The OPDC area has London's largest Strategic Industrial Location (SIL), with over 1,700 businesses, employing around 43,000 people.
- 3.2 Demand from a range of broad industrial type activities is anticipated and has already been planned for through the policies set out in OPDC's adopted Local Plan. The Local Plan policies support a net gain in industrial floorspace and associated jobs growth across the OPDC area. The Plan accepts the principle for this to occur via:
- **Industrial intensification within the SIL area** – intensifying existing land and sites for broad industrial type activities<sup>1</sup> on designated SIL sites.
  - **Co-locating industrial uses in mixed use areas outside of the SIL area** - co-locating industrial floorspace for broad industrial type activities that are compatible with the new high density mixed use development to ensure that the legacy of economic, creative and cultural activity and vibrancy can continue as part of the area's future.
- 3.3 It also indicates the spatial locations where industrial uses would be acceptable across the OPDC area.
- 3.4 The purpose of the Industrial Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is to provide additional information and detail on how OPDC will, as the Local Planning Authority, implement policies in the Local Plan that relate to industrial development across the OPDC area. The core focus is on explaining how:
- industrial developments, within and outside of SIL, can be intensified and integrated within the urban fabric and demonstrate best practice from both a design perspective and a placemaking perspective.
  - industrial developments can respond to local character, by setting out spatially specific design guidance where appropriate.
- 3.5 It will not create any new policy or amend any policies set out in OPDC's Local Plan. The Local Plan has been subject to a full Sustainability Appraisal (including SEA) as part of the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA).
- 3.6 Table 1 sets out the proposed structure of the SPD. Once produced, a draft of this SPD will be subject to formal public consultation.

**Table 1: Proposed structure of the Industrial SPD**

<b>Chapter</b>	<b>Content</b>
<b>1. Introduction/context summary</b>	Sets out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Role and extent of the SPD</li><li>• Status of SPD</li><li>• Context</li></ul>
<b>2. Vision, objectives and outcomes</b>	Sets out the vision, objectives and outcomes.
<b>3. Guidance</b>	Sets out SPD guidance in the form of Principles and Ambitions:

Chapter	Content
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principles provide guidance on things that must be considered when industrial schemes are being designed.</li> <li>• Ambitions encourage and signpost additional areas of innovation and best practice that could be explored.</li> </ul> <p>The Principles and Ambitions will cover the following core themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Locational considerations</li> <li>○ Movement</li> <li>○ Character, Heritage and Sense of Place</li> <li>○ Built Form</li> <li>○ Green Infrastructure</li> <li>○ Mitigating Impacts</li> <li>○ Sustainable Construction and Resources</li> <li>○ Delivery; and</li> <li>○ Equity, Diversity and Inclusion</li> </ul> <p>Signposts to other national, London and OPDC policy and guidance will also be identified.</p>

#### 4.0 SEA Determination Statement

##### 4.1 Determination Statement on the need for Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the OPDC Industrial SPD.

4.2 This section of the report constitutes the determination statement as to the need for a full SEA under Regulation 9(3) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. This section sets out the results of the SEA screening process set out in the earlier sections of this document for the OPDC's proposed Industrial Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) along with the reasoning behind the determination that an SEA is not required.

##### 4.3 Consultation with Statutory Bodies

4.4 In accordance with the Regulations, OPDC, as the Local Planning Authority for its area, has consulted with specific environmental organisations (Natural England, Historic England and the Environment Agency) and in light of the Duty to Cooperate, has also consulted other relevant parties, to determine the need or otherwise for a SEA of the proposed Industrial SPD. OPDC has determined that a SEA is not required in this instance and the reasons for reaching that conclusion are set out in paragraph 6.1 of this document. The conclusion states:

*"In considering the scope of the Industrial SPD against the criteria from the guidance document "A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive" (ODPM, 2005) and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, it is concluded that as the OPDC Industrial SPD will not change or introduce new planning policy, proposals or allocations and that those on which it will rely are within the Local Plan which are subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment*

(IIA) (including a SA/SEA), it is considered that a SEA is not required for the Industrial SPD.”

4.5 The SEA Screening Statement was sent to the following organisations:

- Historic England;
- Natural England;
- The Environment Agency;
- London Boroughs of Brent, Ealing and Hammersmith and Fulham; and
- The Greater London Authority

4.6 Their comments are summarised in Table 2 below:

**Table 2: Summarised Consultation Responses**

	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Summarised comment</b>
<b>1</b>	Historic England	No comment received
<b>2</b>	Natural England (NE)	<p>Based on information provided and as far as NE strategic environmental interests are concerned, there are unlikely to be significant environmental effects from the proposed plan and can view the proposals contained within the plan will not have significant effects on sensitive sites that Natural England has a statutory duty to protect.</p> <p>Not aware of significant populations of protected species which are likely to be affected by the policies / proposals within the plan. The responsible authority should provide information supporting this screening decision, sufficient to assess whether protected species are likely to be affected.</p>
<b>3</b>	Environment Agency	<p>Do not anticipate that the SPDs will have any significant negative effects on the environment. In fact, we believe the SPDs will support the Local Plan’s commitments to sustainable development and positive environmental outcomes.</p> <p>In line with Local Plan Policy EU13: Land Contamination, it is essential that proposed development manages the risks posed by potential contamination and supports the remediation of former industrial land. We strongly welcome the opportunity to advise on guidance provided in the SPD, especially given the</p>

	<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Summarised comment</b>
		presence of permitted sites and historic landfill across the OPDC area, and look forward to reviewing the draft document.
<b>4</b>	GLA	No comment received
<b>5</b>	London Borough of Brent	No comment received
<b>6</b>	London Borough of Ealing	No comment received
<b>7</b>	London Borough of H&F	No comment received

- 4.7 All of these bodies will also be consulted when the draft SPD is published for formal consultation. All consultation comments will be considered.
- 4.8 With respect to Natural England comments, the London Plan and OPDC's Local Plan already set out the policy framework for protecting biodiversity. The Industrial SPD is supported by the Biodiversity and Urban Greening Strategy that identifies Landscape Ecology Areas (LEA's) and the key elements of habitat, flora and fauna of each particular LEA. It is not a comprehensive list, but picks out species of importance (e.g. rare or a priority species) and are key to the LEA's character. The recommendations have informed more detailed guidance in the SPD on how industrial sites can protect, enhance, improve connectivity and strengthen resilience in relation to habitats, flora and fauna.
- 4.9 In light of the comments received by the Environment Agency, we will continue to work closely with the agency and seek comments and advice as part of the formal consultation process. It should, however, be noted that the Industrial SPD will not provide additional information on issues relating to land contamination as this is already covered in the London Plan and Local Plan.
- 4.10 **Conclusion/Reasoning**
- 4.11 OPDC's Industrial SPD will provide additional information on the policies set out in OPDC's adopted Local Plan. It will not create additional planning policies or amend current planning policies. As such, the screening of this document, and the



comments received from consulted bodies listed in paragraph 4.6 above, has led to the conclusion that the SPD is unlikely to have any significant environmental impacts, and therefore, an SEA is not required.

4.12 This section therefore constitutes the OPDC’s Determination Statement outlining the process that has led to the conclusion that a SEA is not required.

## 5.0 Screening Assessment of the Industrial SPD

5.1 The document “A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive” (ODPM, 2005), sets out eight criteria that should be taken into account when screening a plan or programme to determine whether it will require SEA.

**Table 2: ODPM Assessment - application of the SEA Directive to the Industrial SPD**

	<b>Screening Question</b>	<b>Screening Assessment</b>
<b>1</b>	Is the SPD subject to preparation and/or adoption by a national, regional or local authority OR prepared by an authority through legislative procedure by Parliament or Government?	Yes. The SPD will be prepared and adopted by the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) in its role as Local Planning Authority (LPA).
<b>2</b>	Is the SPD required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions?	No. The preparation of an SPD is not required by legislative, regulatory or administrative provisions.
<b>3</b>	Is the SPD prepared for agricultural, forestry, fisheries, energy, industry, transport or waste 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?	Yes and yes. The SPD is intended to provide supplementary town planning guidance to the OPDC Local Plan. The London Plan, Local Plan and Harlesden Neighbourhood Plan provide the town planning policy framework for the OPDC area.  The SPD will not create new policy or land use designations.
<b>4</b>	Will the SPD, in view of its likely effects on sites, require an assessment under Article 6 or 7 of the Habitats Directive?	No. The Local Plan was subject to Habitats Regulation Screening Assessment in accordance with the requirements of the Habitats Directive. The assessment confirmed that the Local Plan policies are unlikely to have any significant effects on the European sites identified, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects.  As the SPD will not create any new policy or amend any policies, proposals or designations within the Local Plan, it is not considered that further screening for such an assessment is necessary.
<b>5</b>	Does the SPD determine the use of small areas at local	No. The policies, proposals and allocations that determine use within the

	<b>Screening Question</b>	<b>Screening Assessment</b>
	level, OR is it a minor modification of a plan subject to Article 3.2?	SPD area have already been set within OPDC's Local Plan. There will be no aspect of the SPD which would modify the Local Plan.
<b>6</b>	Does the SPD set the framework for future development consent of projects (not just projects in Annexes to the EIA Directive)?	No. This framework is already set within the Local Plan. The SPD will provide supplementary guidance to the relevant policies within the Local Plan.
<b>7</b>	Is the SPD's sole purpose to serve the national defence or civil emergency, OR is it a financial or budget plan, OR is it co-financed by structural funds or EAGGF programmes 2000-2006/7?	No.
<b>8</b>	Is it likely to have a significant effect on the environment?	<p>It is not likely that the SPD will have any significant effect on the OPDC area or elsewhere that has not already been assessed through the IIA (including SA/SEA) of the Local Plan.</p> <p>The IIA assessed the relevant policies within the Local Plan and concluded that they are likely to result overall in positive impacts. Local Plan policies that are likely to be specifically within the scope of the further guidance within the SPD are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SP5: Economic Resilience</li> <li>• SP10: Integrated Delivery</li> <li>• Place and Cluster policies</li> <li>• D2: Accessible and inclusive design</li> <li>• D3: Well-designed buildings</li> <li>• D5: Amenity</li> <li>• D7: Heritage</li> <li>• EU1: Open Space</li> <li>• EU2: Urban Greening and Biodiversity</li> <li>• EU3: Water</li> <li>• EU4: Air Quality</li> <li>• EU5: Noise and Vibration</li> <li>• EU6: Waste</li> <li>• EU7: Circular and Sharing Economy</li> <li>• EU8: Sustainable Materials</li> <li>• EU9: Minimising Carbon Emissions and Overheating</li> <li>• EU10: Energy Systems</li> <li>• EU11: Smart Technology</li> <li>• T1: Roads and Streets</li> <li>• T2: Walking</li> </ul>

	Screening Question	Screening Assessment
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• T3: Cycling</li> <li>• T4: Parking</li> <li>• T7: Freight, Servicing and Deliveries</li> <li>• T8: Construction</li> <li>• T9: Transport Assessments and Travel Plans</li> <li>• E1: Protecting, Strengthening &amp; Intensifying the Strategic Industrial Location</li> <li>• E2: Employment sites outside of SIL</li> <li>• E3: Supporting Small Businesses and Start Ups</li> <li>• E4: Work Live Units</li> <li>• E5: Local Access to Training, Employment, and Economic Opportunities</li> </ul>

5.2 The below tables assess the likely significant effects of the SPD in relation to the SEA Directive Criteria as set out in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004:

**Table 3: Determining the likely significance of effects of the proposed Industrial SPD.**

SEA Directive Criteria Schedule 1 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004	Is there a significant environme ntal effect?	Summary of significant effects
(a) The degree to which the SPD sets out a framework for projects and other activities, either with regard to the location, nature, size or operating conditions or by allocating resources	No	<p>The SPD will not set out new policies or allocate resources; rather it will provide further guidance on how aspects of the policies, proposals and the allocations that are contained within the Local Plan can be implemented.</p> <p>The SPD Principles and Ambitions, coupled with case studies and signposts, will ensure the design and form of individual industrial developments demonstrates best practice wherever feasible. The SPD is limited to matters that relate to planning.</p> <p>The IIA assessed the relevant policies within the Local Plan and concluded that they are likely to result overall in positive impacts.</p>

<b>SEA Directive Criteria Schedule 1 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004</b>	<b>Is there a significant environme ntal effect?</b>	<b>Summary of significant effects</b>
(b) The degree to which the SPD influences other plans and programmes including those in a hierarchy	No	The Industrial SPD will sit at the lowest level in the hierarchy of planning policy documents providing supplementary guidance to policies in the Mayor's London Plan and OPDC's Local Plan. As such it does not affect other specific plans or programmes but rather is influenced by the Local Plan, London Plan and National Planning Policy Framework.
(c) The relevance of the SPD for the integration of environmental considerations in particular with a view to promoting sustainable development	No	<p>The Local Plan and London Plan set the policies for achieving sustainable development. This guidance will not change the Local Plan policy. The IIA for the Local Plan concludes that the majority of effects generated against all IIA Objectives are predicted to be positive.</p> <p>The SPD will assist in the promotion of sustainable development by providing more detailed supplementary guidance to show how to comply and deliver best practice when implementing these existing policies.</p>
(d) Environmental problems relevant to the SPD	No	<p>The guidance in the Industrial SPD supplements OPDC's Local Plan. As such, the SPD will not introduce or exacerbate any environmental problems already identified in the IIA for the Local Plan. Rather it should assist in the mitigation of environmental impacts.</p> <p>Where the IIA has indicated that there are possible negative impacts on the environment for instance from the Housing Policies, there is an acknowledgement that objectives and policies elsewhere in the Local Plan provide opportunities in minimise the effect.</p> <p>Given the identification of mitigation measures through other policies within the Local Plan, it is concluded that there are no identified impacts relevant to the Industrial SPD that cannot be mitigated. As, the SPD supplements the Local Plan it will support the mitigation of this impact.</p>

<b>SEA Directive Criteria Schedule 1 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004</b>	<b>Is there a significant environme ntal effect?</b>	<b>Summary of significant effects</b>
(e) The relevance of the SPD for the implementation of Community legislation on the environment (for example plans and programmes related to waste management or water protection)	No	The SPD will supplement the Local Plan and is not relevant to the implementation of Community legislation on the environment. It will provide supplementary guidance to policies in the Local Plan.

**Table 4: Characteristics of the effects and area likely to be affected having particular regard to:**

<b>SEA Directive criteria Schedule 1 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004</b>	<b>Is there a significant environme ntal effect?</b>	<b>Summary of significant effects</b>
(a)The probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects	No	<p>The SPD will not provide guidance for a period longer than the period covered by the Local Plan. The IIA was undertaken for the Local Plan and has already assessed the policies that the SPD provides additional guidance on.</p> <p>The evidence to support the IIA for the Local Plan is up-to-date and examined the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of effects.</p> <p>The SPD will provide further guidance on how aspects of the policies, proposals and the allocations that are contained within the Local Plan can be implemented. The Principles and Ambitions, coupled with case studies and signposts, will elaborate on how the design of industrial developments can comply with Local Plan policies and deliver best practice.</p>
(b)The cumulative nature of the effects of the SPD	No	Cumulative effects of the Local Plan will be largely beneficial; therefore any cumulative impacts associated with the SPD, given that it will not depart from the Local Plan, is also expected to be beneficial.

<b>SEA Directive criteria Schedule 1 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004</b>	<b>Is there a significant environme ntal effect?</b>	<b>Summary of significant effects</b>
(c)The trans boundary nature of the effects of the SPD	No	There will be no national trans-boundary effects resulting from the Industrial SPD. The likely cross boundary effects of the Local Plan policies were considered in detail within the Local Plan IIA. The majority of these were found to be positive. Depending on the nature of the effect, the Industrial SPD could provide mitigation with positive impacts.
(d)The risks to human health or the environment (e.g. due to accident)	No	No risks to human health are envisaged to occur through the application of this SPD.
(e)The magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographic area and size of the population likely to be affected) by the SPD	No	The spatial extent of the SPD is confined to the OPDC area and industrial developments that would occur within this boundary.  The scale of overall scale of development as identified in the Local Plan policies were considered in detail within the Local Plan IIA. The SPD does not depart from the scale of development proposed in the Local Plan.
(f)The value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected by the SPD due to: • Special natural characteristics or cultural heritage • Exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values Intensive land use	No	The value and vulnerability of the area of the Industrial SPD have been considered as part of the Local Plan IIA.  IIA Objectives 1-2 consider enhancing the built environment and optimising the efficient use of land through increased development densities. IIA Objectives 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 consider environmental elements, whilst IIA Objective 12 specifically considers heritage.  The majority of these showed positive impacts, but also some mixed impacts. Where other impacts were identified these were identified to be mitigated and managed through other policies of the plan.
(g)The effects of the SPD on areas or landscapes which have recognised national Community or international protected status	No	There are a range of areas with various types of protected status within and adjacent to the area covered by the SPD. The SPD is unlikely to have a negative impact on these areas. It is anticipated that supplementary guidance on Industrial development within the SPD would be largely positive with regard to ensuring the

SEA Directive criteria Schedule 1 Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004	Is there a significant environme ntal effect?	Summary of significant effects
		enhancement and improvement of protected areas.

## 6.0 Conclusion

- 6.1 In considering the scope of the Industrial SPD against the criteria from the guidance document “A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive” (ODPM, 2005) and the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, it is concluded that as the OPDC Industrial SPD will not change or introduce new planning policy, proposals or allocations and that those on which it will rely are within the Local Plan which are subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) (including a SA/SEA), it is considered that a SEA is not required for the Industrial SPD.