

Habitats Regulations Assessment



Eaton Bishop Neighbourhood Area

July 2016

Eaton Bishop HRA

HRA Screening Assessment

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Screening Assessment relates to a Neighbourhood Development Plan that is considered to be in general conformity with higher level strategic plans, such as the Herefordshire Core Strategy and the National planning Policy Framework. The screening stage involves assessing broadly whether the Draft Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have a significant effect on any European site(s).
- 1.2 Eaton Bishop Parish Council is producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Eaton Bishop Parish, in order to set out the vision, objectives and policies for the development of the Parish up to 2031. This HRA reviews the Draft Eaton Bishop Plan July 2016.
- 1.3 The NDP allocates settlement boundaries and site allocations within Eaton Bishop and Ruckhall. It provides general policies that clarify and provide detail to the policies within the Herefordshire Core Strategy and allocated 6 potential housing sites. Therefore it requires a high level screening assessment to build upon the HRA Screening Assessment Report for the Herefordshire Core Strategy. This high level screening assessment should be read in combination with the Herefordshire Pre-submission publication of the Local Plan-Core Strategy Habitat Regulations Assessment Report (April 2014) and ensures that there will not be any significant impacts upon Natura 2000 sites.
- 1.4 The map below shows Eaton Bishop Neighbourhood Area with the European Site highlighted.



2 The requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment of neighbourhood plans

- 2.1 The requirement to undertake HRA of development plans was confirmed by the amendments to the "Habitats Regulations" published for England and Wales in July 2007 and updated in 2013. Therefore, when preparing its NDP, Eaton Bishop Parish Council is required by law to carry out an assessment known as "Habitats Regulations Assessment". It is also a requirement in Regulation 32 schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.
- 2.2 Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive provides that:
Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [European] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.
- 2.3 HRA is an impact-led assessment and refers to the assessment of the potential effects of a neighbourhood plan on one or more European sites, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs):
- **SPAs** are classified under the European Council Directive 'on the conservation of wild birds' (79/409/EEC; 'Birds Directive') for the protection of **wild birds and their habitats** (including particularly rare and vulnerable species listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive, and migratory species).
 - **SACs** are designated under the Habitats Directive and target **particular habitats** (Annex 1) and/or species (Annex II) identified as being of European importance.
- 2.4 For ease of reference during HRA, general practice has been that these three designations are collectively referred to as either **Natura 2000** or **European sites**. This means that a Screening Assessment is carried out with regard to the Conservation Objectives of the European Sites and with reference to other plans or projects to identify if any significant effect is likely for any European Site.

3 Methodology

- 3.1 As the Eaton Bishop NDP is not directly connected with the management of any European sites, and includes proposals for development which may affect European sites, it is necessary under Regulation 102(1)(a) of the Habitats Regulations 2010 to undertake screening for likely significant effects on European sites.
- 3.2 The HRA of neighbourhood plans is undertaken in stages and should conclude whether or not a proposal or policy in a neighbourhood plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site in question. This is judged in terms of the implications of the plan for a site's 'qualifying features' (i.e. those Annex I habitats, Annex II species, and Annex I bird populations for which it has been designated) and are measured with reference to the conservation objectives for those qualifying features as defined by Natural England.
- 3.3 The first process is to undertake an initial screening report to determine the need to undertake the requirement for a HRA, this initial screening identifies whether the Plan could impact upon any European site that could be within the Neighbourhood Area or nearby.

- 3.4 If a European Site is within the Neighbourhood Area or the Neighbourhood Area could impact upon a European site then this will need to be taken into account and a full screening assessment will need to be undertaken.
- 3.5 The full screening stage consists of a description of the plan, identification of potential effects on European Sites, assessing the effects on European Sites (taking into account potential mitigation provided by other policies in the plan). For Neighbourhood Plans the outcome should demonstrate there are no likely effects upon the European sites. If any likely effects occur then there will need to be amendments to the NDP made and be re-screened until all likely effects have been mitigated.

4 Results of the Initial Screening Report and options

- 4.1 The initial Screening report (August 2014) found that the River Wye SAC is located to the of the village of Eaton Bishop therefore a full screening assessment is required.
- 4.2 For full details of the River Wye's attributes which contribute to and define their integrity and vulnerable data see Appendix 1 of the Eaton Bishop Initial Screening Report. The Initial Screening Report, August 2014, can be found in Appendix 3 of this HRA report. This information made it possible to identify the features of each site which determine site integrity, as well as the specific sensitivities of each site, therefore enabling later analysis of how the potential impacts of the Eaton Bishop Neighbourhood Plan may affect site integrity.
- 4.3 The initial options for the NDP were assessed to determine their environmental impact that could affect the River Wye SAC. Five general options were considered, all of the options strive to meet the proposed growth target and unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC. To allocate sites and settlement boundary were chosen as it provides the most certainty for the parish. Of the twenty one site options, six sites were selected as the most viable; two for Ruckhall and four in Eaton Bishop.
- 4.4 As Eaton Bishop progresses from options onto their NDP policies, the Plan will need to identify ways in which the least effect on the River Wye SAC could be achieved, alongside taking forward the preferred option from the consultation from the community. A list of the options assessed can be found in Appendix 1, and the Assessment matrix for the options can be found Appendix 2.

5 Description of the Eaton Bishop Neighbourhood Development Plan

- 5.1 The Draft Eaton Bishop NDP presents detailed policies for development in the Neighbourhood Area, which is equivalent to the group parish boundary, up to 2031. The first part of the Plan introduces the Plan and its preparation and discusses the background of the village.
- 5.2 The NDP then details the vision for the Group Parish over the Plan period and five objectives of how this will be achieved. The objectives cover the following topics:
- Community involvement**
Safeguarding of built environment and landscape character
Sustainable development
Infrastructure development
Business development
- 5.3 The NDP also sets out 13 general policies on various topics based on the objective headings above and also for the village, these include:

New housing within the settlements of Eaton Bishop and Ruckhall
Site allocations within Eaton Bishop and Ruckhall
Housing development phasing
Mixtures of housing development
Green infrastructure and protecting local landscape character and biodiversity
Protecting built heritage and archaeology and requiring high quality design
Protecting community facilities and supporting new infrastructure
Maintaining flood risk
New business development in former agricultural buildings
Polytunnels and large agricultural buildings and rural business buildings
Design guidance for rural buildings
Intensive livestock units
Community energy schemes

6 Identification of other plans and projects which may have ‘in-combination’ effects

- 6.1 Regulation 102 of the Habitats Regulations 2010 requires an appropriate assessment where a land use plan (not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. In addition, in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulation 2012 a NDP cannot have a significant effect on any European Site whether alone or in combination with another Plan.
- 6.2 There are a number of potentially relevant plans and projects which may result in in-combination effects with the Core Strategy across Herefordshire, these plans have been reviewed and can be found in Appendix 2 of the pre-submission publication of the Herefordshire Local Plan – Core Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment (May 2014). It is seen that as this NDP does not go over and beyond the requirements set out in the Core Strategy this review will also be substantial for the NDP.
- 6.3 The HRA for the Core Strategy also identifies that both the Water Cycle Study for Herefordshire, which indicates the potential for planned water abstraction requirements combined with pressures on European Sites from the Core Strategy policies, and the work on the Nutrient Management Plan, to ensure the favourable conservation status of the SAC in respect of phosphate levels as soon as possible and at the latest by 2027, have both been considered as part of the in-combination assessment.

7 Assessment of the ‘likely significant effects’ of the Eaton Bishop NDP

- 7.1 As required under Regulation 102 of the Habitats Regulations 2010, a screening assessment has been undertaken to identify the ‘likely significant effects’ of the NDP. A screening matrix was prepared in order to identify whether any of the policies in the Plan would be likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye SAC.
- 7.2 The findings of the screening matrix can be found in the Screening Matrix in Appendix 2 of this report. Colour coding was used to record the likely impacts of the policies on the European site and its qualifying habitats and species as shown in the table 1 below.

Red	There are likely to be significant effects
Green	Significant effects are unlikely

- 7.3 The Screening matrix took the approach of screening each policy individually, which is consistent with current guidance documents. The results from the HRA report for the pre-submission version of the Herefordshire Core Strategy was also taking into consideration.

- 7.4 Mitigation of some of the identified potential effects could be achieved through implementation of the other policies within the NDP which require good practice measures during and after construction phases, such as more efficient use of water, reduction in waste and encouragement of recycling. The provision and encouragement of use of more sustainable transport measures when improving the transport infrastructure, will also help to reduce car traffic around the parish and surrounding areas.

8 Conclusions from the Screening Matrix

- 8.1 None of the Draft Eaton Bishop Plan (November 2014) policies were concluded to be likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye SAC. Based on assumptions and information contained within the Eaton Bishop Plan, Herefordshire Core Strategy and the Pre-submission version / proposed modifications addendum of the HRA for the Core Strategy all of the NDP policies were found to be unlikely to result in significant effects on the River Wye SAC.
- 8.2 In many cases this is because the policy itself would not result in development, i.e., it related instead to criteria for development. In a number of cases the policies also included measures to help support the natural environment, including biodiversity and therefore no significant effect conclusion could be reached. In addition, these policies have the potential to mitigate some of the possible adverse effects arising from other policies.
- 8.3 The plan is has allocated 6 small scale sites for development as well as settlement boundaries for the settlement of Eaton Bishop and Ruckhall. Two sites have been identified in the 4.15 settlement of Ruckall and 4 have been identified in Eaton Bishop a 4.14 settlement. 21 sites options have been considered for housing development within parish of Eaton Bishop and 2 sites have been allocated for the smaller 4.15 identified settlement of Ruckhall.
- 8.4 Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) has stated for the Core Strategy that there is sufficient existing permitted headroom in the Sewerage Treatment works serving the Hereford area to continue to treat the water from the amount of housing provided for in the Core Strategy policies. In addition, the preparation of the Nutrient Management Plan for the River Wye SAC should ensure that development within Herefordshire which can be accommodated within existing water discharge permits would not be likely to have a significant effect upon the River Wye SAC.
- 8.5 It is unlikely that the Eaton Bishop Plan will have any in-combination effects with any Plans from neighbouring parish councils as the level of growth proposed is the same as that proposed for the Housing Market Area in the Herefordshire Core Strategy and all of the proposed housing sites will be of a small scale.
- 8.6 It is therefore concluded that the Eaton Bishop Plan will not have a likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC.
- 8.7 Any further amendments to policies (post July 2016) will be rescreened if required and an addendum to this report will be produced.

Appendix 1

Options for Eaton Bishop NDP

Option 1- Do nothing

Option 2- Allocate sites for housing

Option 3- Manage future housing using a settlement boundary

Option 4 - Allocate site and identify a settlement boundary

Site option 1- Honeymoon House, Eaton Bishop

Site option 2- Land to the South of the Pippins, Eaton Bishop – Site 1

Site option 3- Meadow End, Eaton Bishop

Site option 4- The Carpenters, Eaton Bishop

Site option 5 Hillcrest, Ruckhall

Site option 6- 1, Orchard Cottage, Eaton Bishop

Site option 7- Well House, Eaton Bishop

Site option 8- Lane Head Farm, Lower Eaton

Site option 9- Brown's Field, Eaton Bishop

Site option 10- West Entrance to Ruckhall

Site option 11 Church Field, Eaton Bishop

Site option 12 Church Field, Near Green Court, Eaton Bishop

Site option 13 Lane Head Farm – Site 1, Eaton Bishop

Site option 14 Lane Head Farm – Site 2, Eaton Bishop

Site option 15 Broadstone, Eaton Bishop

Site option 16 Land to the South of the Pippins, Eaton Bishop – Site 2

Site option 17 Corner Field, Opposite Phone Box, Ruckhall

Site option 18 Old Post Office, Ruckhall

Site option 19 Paddock, c/o Yew Tree Farm, Ruckhall

Site option 20 The Orchard, c/o Yew Tree Farm, Ruckhall

Site option 21- Glenwood, Ruckhall

Appendix 2

Table 1: HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies

Parish Council Name: Eaton Bishop Parish Council

NDP Title: Eaton Bishop Neighbourhood Plan

Date undertaken: July 2016

Core Strategy HRA version: October 2015

NDP objectives and policies	HRA Screening of Emerging NDP objectives, options and policies				
	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence of the objective/option/policy	Likely effect if objective/option/policy implemented. Could they have Likely Significant Effects (LSE) on European Sites? (Yes/No, with reasons)	European Sites potentially affected (Refer to Initial Screening)	Mitigation measures to be considered, as necessary, through redraft of objective/option/policy and to be considered as part of Appropriate Assessment	Could the policy have likely significant effects on European sites (taking mitigation into account?)
Objectives					
Objective 1	Community involvement in the neighbourhood plan making process. Community events	No	River Wye SAC	N/A	No. This objective will not directly lead to development. Instead it encourages a democratic approach to community planning engaging with the local community.
Objective 2	Historic character is protected along with landscape character. Sustainable development encouraged.	No	River Wye SAC	This objective is likely to protect the local built environment and landscape character from inappropriate development.	No. This objective will not directly lead to development. Instead it aims to protect against unsuitable development within the Eaton Bishop.

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Objective 3	Sustainable development encouraged Promotion of recycling Water quality improved Promotion of sewage treatment	No	River Wye SAC	This objective is likely to encourage sustainable infrastructure development especially in water services and sewage.	No. This objective is unlikely to have a detrimental impact on the River Wye SAC. This is likely to improve sewage management , recycling and energy conservation.
Objective 4	Promotion of phased building development Increase in water consumption Small increase e in traffic and energy consumption	No	River Wye SAC	Promotion of sustainable construction methods should be encouraged.	No. This objective is unlikely to have a significant effect on the river Wye SAC.
Objective 5	Encouragement of small scale business development Job creation	No	River Wye SAC	-	No. This objective is unlikely to have a significant effect on the river Wye SAC.
Policy options (for site options please refer to site allocation and site options screening).					
Option 1- Do nothing	No NDP to determine planning applications.	Criteria policies within the Core Strategy would guide further development. Specific policies and proposals for the parish would not exist.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Option 2- Allocate	Small scale	Greater degree of	River Wye (including	Specific environmental	No, development in

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sites for housing	proportionate growth on specific sites identified on a proposals map.	certainty over the impact of future development on the European sites, as the location of housing would be pre-determined and not left to market forces.	the River Lugg) SAC	<p>issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.</p> <p>Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.</p>	<p>line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p> <p>Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.</p>
Option 3- Manage future housing using a settlement boundary	Small scale proportionate growth within a defined settlement boundary area.	Uncertain as to the impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	<p>Additional criteria would be required when formulating the accompanying settlement boundary policy to ensure that no likely significant effects could occur.</p> <p>Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.</p>	<p>No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p> <p>Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.</p>

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<p>Option 4 - Allocate site and identify a settlement boundary</p>	<p>Small scale proportionate growth on specific sites identified on a proposals map and within a defined settlement boundary area.</p>	<p>Greater degree of certainty over the impact of future development on the European sites, as the location of housing would be pre-determined and the settlement boundary would provide a clear distinction between open countryside and the built environment.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.</p> <p>Additional criteria would be required when formulating the accompanying settlement boundary policy to ensure that no likely significant effects could occur.</p> <p>Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.</p>	<p>No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p> <p>Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.</p>
<p>Option 5 Manage future housing through a development management policy.</p>	<p>Small scale proportionate growth where the location would be determined by a criteria based policy.</p>	<p>Uncertain as to the impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>Criteria based housing policy would require to include reference to mitigation measures to avoid any non-disturbance effects on the River Wye via its catchment.</p> <p>Policy would need to take account of the</p>	<p>No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p> <p>Policy criteria should</p>

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				proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.
Policies					
EB1	New housing development within the designation settlement boundary of Ruckhall and Eaton Bishop Increase in vehicle traffic. Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye SAC	This policy helps allocate and realise sustainable growth for Eaton Bishop and Ruckhall settlement boundary. Adverse effects will be mitigated by NDP policy EB.	No. The scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant, as the development is contained in a sustainable approach.
EB2	New housing allocated in selected sites	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye SAC	This policy helps Eaton Bishop and Ruckhall contain development and control growth in a sustainable way. Adverse effects will be mitigated by NDP policies	No. The scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant, as the development is contained in a sustainable approach. Allocations help give greater certainty.
EB3	Phased building	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect	River Wye SAC	This policy will help development be	No. The scale and extent of such

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	<p>development</p> <p>Increase in water consumption</p> <p>Small increase in traffic and energy consumption</p>	<p>on the European Site.</p>		<p>sustainable. Helping to manage development is a measured and sustainable way.</p>	<p>development is unlikely to be significant, as the development is contained in a sustainable approach. Allocations help give greater certainty.</p>
EB4	<p>Small scale housing development</p> <p>Increase in vehicle traffic.</p> <p>Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.</p>	<p>Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.</p>	<p>River Wye SAC</p>	<p>Promotion of sustainable construction methods should be encouraged. Core strategy and Eaton Bishop NDP policy EB5, EB6 and EB8.</p>	<p>No. The scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant.</p>
EB5	<p>Protection of biodiversity</p> <p>Safeguard local landscape character</p>	<p>Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.</p>	<p>River Wye SAC</p>	<p>This policy helps to safeguard greenspace in line with policy LD2, and help mitigate adverse effects caused from development.</p>	<p>No: Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant. This objective is likely to have a beneficial effect on environment and biodiversity of Eaton Bishop.</p>
EB6	<p>Safeguard historic assets OF Eaton Bishop</p>	<p>Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.</p>	<p>River Wye SAC</p>	<p>This policy helps Eaton Bishop maintain historic character and helps safeguard against inappropriate development.</p>	<p>No this policy safeguards against inappropriate development in order to preserve the historic character of Eaton Bishop.</p>

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EB7	Protect community facilities	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye SAC	-	No, although this policy could result in the development of new community facilities or the loss of existing provision to new uses, which depending on location could have potential effect on the River Wye, sufficient policy safeguards are in place within both the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and NDP policy to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects on the River Wye.
EB8	Safeguard from flooding Flood prevention schemes developed and maintained.	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye SAC	This policy will help mitigate the impact from flooding.	No. This policy will help safeguard new development from potential flooding.
EB9	Promotion of business development Promotion of farm diversification	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye SAC	-	No. It is unlikely that the scale of proposed development will have an impact on the River Wye SAC.

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EB10	Appropriate poly tunnel development Rural business development	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye SAC	-	No. It is unlikely that the scale of proposed rural business development is unlikely to have a significant impact on the baseline data.
EB11	Appropriate development within Eaton Bishop	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye SAC	In accordance with policy Core Strategy policy SD1, this policy can help mitigate the effects of development through sustainable housing design. This can help minimise adverse impact on the environment and the SAC.	No, this policy will not lead to development; rather it sets out design criteria for development to adhere to.
EB12	Interactive livestock units developed in a suitable way	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye SAC	Ensure livestock development is developed in a sustainable way.	No. This policy has in built safeguards to ensure environmental impact is kept at a minimum.
EB13	Community energy schemes promoted	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye SAC	This policy will ensure suitable community energy schemes within Eaton Bishop.	No. This policy ensures suitable community energy project will have minimal environmental impact.

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Table 1a: HRA Screening of Neighbourhood Development Plan Proposed Site Allocations and optional allocations

Parish Council Name: Eaton Bishop

NDP Title: Eaton Bishop Neighbourhood Plan

Date undertaken: July 2016

Core Strategy HRA version:

Proposed Site Allocations	Characteristics of development, such as size	Location of proposed site allocation	HRA Screening of NDP Proposed Site Allocations			
			European Sites potentially affected (Refer to Initial Screening)	Likely effect if proposed site allocation is developed. Could the site result in LSE on European Sites? (Yes/No, with reasons)	Mitigation measures to be considered to avoid any impacts	If recommendations are implemented, would it be possible that it would result in no likely significant effect? (Yes/No with reasons)
Eaton Bishop site EB2/1- Land to the south of the pippins 1, Eaton Bishop	Site area 0.57 ha in size. Potential capacity of 8 dwellings Sited on greenfield and brownfield land.	Located within Eaton Bishop settlement, on the southern edge of the settlement .	River Wye including the River Lugg SAC	No. Providing sewerage capacity exists and that the SuDS are adequately designed to cope with surface-water runoff, then there should be no LSE on the SAC in question. In addition, the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects alone.	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy EB3,EB5 EB6, EB8 should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts. This site has been	No: the latest iteration of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) confirms that NMP can mitigate the effects of 5,300 dwellings in rural areas and the proposed site allocation, in combination with the others, will not exceed the proportional growth target for the settlement.

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					identified in direct response to the proportional growth target within that policy and its development, either in isolation or in tandem with the other proposed site allocations, would not exceed the Local Plan's requirements.	
Eaton Bishop site EB2/2- The Carpenters Eaton Bishop	<p>Site area 0.86 ha in size.</p> <p>Potential capacity of 8 dwellings.</p> <p>Sited on greenfield and brownfield land.</p>	Located within Eaton Bishop settlement, behind existing development in the north east of Eaton Bishop settlement.	River Wye including the River Lugg SAC	No. Providing sewerage capacity exists and that the SuDS are adequately designed to cope with surface-water runoff, then there should be no LSE on the SAC in question. In addition, the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects alone.	<p>There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy EB3, EB5 EB6, EB8 should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts.</p> <p>This site has been identified in direct response to the proportional growth target within that policy and its development, either in isolation or in tandem with the other proposed site</p>	No: the latest iteration of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) confirms that NMP can mitigate the effects of 5,300 dwellings in rural areas and the proposed site allocation, in combination with the others, will not exceed the proportional growth target for the settlement.

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					allocations, would not exceed the Local Plan's requirements.	
Eaton Bishop site EB2/3 Hillcrest, Ruckhall	Site area 0.15 ha in size. It is a long strip of greenfield land. Potential capacity of 1 dwelling.	Located in the settlement of Ruckhall, the site is in the centre of Ruckhall.	River Wye including the River Lugg SAC	No. Providing sewerage capacity exists and that the SuDS are adequately designed to cope with surface-water runoff, then there should be no LSE on the SAC in question. In addition, the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects alone.	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy EB3, EB5 EB6, EB8 should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts. This site has been identified in direct response to the proportional growth target within that policy and its development, either in isolation or in tandem with the other proposed site allocations, would not exceed the Local Plan's requirements.	No: the latest iteration of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) confirms that NMP can mitigate the effects of 5,300 dwellings in rural areas and the proposed site allocation, in combination with the others, will not exceed the proportional growth target for the settlement.
Eaton Bishop EB2/4-Well House, Eaton	Site area 0.15 hectares in size, and is greenfield land. Potential capacity of 1 dwelling. The site	Located in the centre of Eaton Bishop	River Wye including the River Lugg	No. Providing sewerage capacity exists and that the SuDS are adequately	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts,	No: the latest iteration of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) confirms that NMP can mitigate the effects of 5,300 dwellings in rural areas

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Bishop	is small and infill in between existing development.	settlement.	SAC	designed to cope with surface-water runoff, then there should be no LSE on the SAC in question. In addition, the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects alone.	and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy EB3,EB5 EB6, EB8 should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts. This site has been identified in direct response to the proportional growth target within that policy and its development, either in isolation or in tandem with the other proposed site allocations, would not exceed the Local Plan's requirements.	and the proposed site allocation, in combination with the others, will not exceed the proportional growth target for the settlement.
Eaton Bishop EB2/5-Land to the south of the pippins 2, Eaton Bishop	Site area 0.76 ha in size and is on greenfield land. Potential capacity of 8 dwellings.	Located on the southern edge of Eaton Bishop settlement.	River Wye including the River Lugg SAC	No. Providing sewerage capacity exists and that the SuDS are adequately designed to cope with surface-water runoff, then there should be no LSE on	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy	No: the latest iteration of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) confirms that NMP can mitigate the effects of 5,300 dwellings in rural areas and the proposed site allocation, in combination with the others, will not exceed the proportional

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				<p>the SAC in question. In addition, the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects alone.</p>	<p>EB3,EB5 EB6, EB8 should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts.</p> <p>This site has been identified in direct response to the proportional growth target within that policy and its development, either in isolation or in tandem with the other proposed site allocations, would not exceed the Local Plan's requirements.</p>	<p>growth target for the settlement.</p>
<p>Eaton Bishop EB2/6-The Orchard, Ruckhall.</p>	<p>Site area 0.33 hectares in size.</p> <p>Potential capacity of 2 dwellings, located on a small plot of greenfield land in the north east of Ruckhall settlement.</p>	<p>Located on the north east of Ruckhall settlement.</p>	<p>River Wye including the River Lugg SAC</p>	<p>No. Providing sewerage capacity exists and that the SuDS are adequately designed to cope with surface-water runoff, then there should be no LSE on the SAC in question. In addition, the scale of development proposed would not</p>	<p>There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy EB3,EB5 EB6, EB8 should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse</p>	<p>No: the latest iteration of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) confirms that NMP can mitigate the effects of 5,300 dwellings in rural areas and the proposed site allocation, in combination with the others, will not exceed the proportional growth target for the settlement.</p>

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				give rise to likely significant effects alone.	impacts. This site has been identified in direct response to the proportional growth target within that policy and its development, either in isolation or in tandem with the other proposed site allocations, would not exceed the Local Plan's requirements.	
Site Options						
Site option 1- Honeymoon House, Eaton Bishop	Site area 0.30 hectares in size. Potential capacity of 2 dwellings.	Located in south of Eaton Bishop settlement .	River Wye including the River Lugg SAC	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts in the Core Strategy and NDP. In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated.	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.

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Site option 3- Meadow End, Eaton Bishop	<p>Site area 3.71ha in size.</p> <p>The large site has a capacity for 35-50 dwellings, located on a small plot of greenfield land</p>	Located outside the settlement of Eaton Bishop and at the south of the parish boundary.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Yes. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC	Due to the size and scale, his proposal is highly likely likely to have an impact on the River Wye SAC impacting local biodiversity and wildlife.	Yes. Due to the proposed large scale size of site it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. It conflicts against the Core strategy policy as the site proposes exceeds proportionate growth proving unsustainable. It falls outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.
Site option 6- 1, Orchard Cottage, Eaton Bishop	<p>Site area 0.43 hectares in size.</p> <p>Potential capacity of 3 dwellings, located on a small plot of greenfield land outside the settlement of Eaton Bishop.</p>	Located outside the settlement of Eaton Bishop and at the south west edge of the parish boundary.	River Wye including the River Lugg SAC	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	<p>There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts in the Core Strategy and NDP.</p> <p>In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated.</p>	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.
Site option 8- Lane Head Farm, Lower Eaton	<p>Site area 0.75 hectares in size.</p> <p>Potential capacity of 5-7 dwellings,</p>	Located outside the settlement of Eaton Bishop and at the south west	River Wye (including the River Lugg)	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts in the	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.

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	located in greenfield land outside the settlement of Eaton Bishop.	edge of the parish boundary.	SAC	significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	Core Strategy and NDP. In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated..	However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3, so it unlikely to go ahead as it conflicts with the Core Strategy.
Site option 9- Brown's Field, Eaton Bishop	Site area 1.71 ha in size. It is greenfield land with a potential capacity of up to 10 houses.	Located outside the settlement of Eaton Bishop , this is sited north east outside the settlement boundary.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts in the Core Strategy and NDP. In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated.	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.
Site option 10- West Entrance to Ruckhall	Site area 0.74 ha in size. The site is greenfield	Located west of the settlement of Ruckhall. It is not within Ruckhall	River Wye (including the River Lugg)	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts in the	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.

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	land with a potential capacity up to 5 houses.	settlement boundary.	SAC	significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	Core Strategy and NDP. In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated.	However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.
Site option 11 Church Field, Eaton Bishop	Site area is 1.00 ha size. The site is greenfield land that has a potential to accommodate 2 dwellings.	Located outside the Eaton Bishop settlement boundary on the western side.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts in the Core Strategy and NDP. In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated.	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.
Site option 12 Church Field, Near Green Court, Eaton	Site area is 0.42ha in size. The site is on	Located outside the Eaton Bishop settlement boundary on the	River Wye (including the River Lugg)	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts in the	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.

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Bishop	greenfield land and has a capacity of 2 dwellings.	northern side.	SAC	significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	Core Strategy and NDP. In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated.	However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.
Site option 13 Lane Head Farm – Site 1, Eaton Bishop	Site area 0.31ha in size. The site is on greenfield land and has a capacity of 1 dwelling.	Located outside the settlement of Ruckhall.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts in the Core Strategy and NDP. In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated.	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.
Site option 14 Lane Head Farm – Site 2, Eaton Bishop	Site area 0.52ha in size. The site is on	Located in open countryside in between settlements of	River Wye (including the River Lugg)	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts in the	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.

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	greenfield land and has a capacity of 1 dwelling.	Ruckhall (to the north) and Eaton Bishop (to the south).	SAC	significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	Core Strategy and NDP. In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated.	However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.
Site option 15 Broadstone, Eaton Bishop	Site area 4.77ha in size. The large site is on greenfield land and has a capacity of 50-75 dwellings.	Located in the south west of the parish it is located within open countryside.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Yes. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC	Due to the size and scale, his proposal is highly likely likely to have an impact on the River Wye SAC impacting local biodiversity and wildlife.	Yes. Due to the proposed large scale size of site it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. It conflicts against the Core strategy policy as the site proposes exceeds proportionate growth proving unsustainable. It falls outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.
Site option 17 Corner Field, Opposite Phone Box, Ruckhall	Site area 0.35ha in size. The site is on greenfield land and has a capacity of 1 dwelling.	Located outside t south east of the Ruckhall settlement boundary.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	No. Providing sewerage capacity exists and that the SuDS are adequately designed to cope with surface-water runoff, then there should be no LSE on the SAC in question. In addition,	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.

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					the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects alone	
Site option 18 Old Post Office, Ruckhall	Site area in 0.03ha size. The site is on greenfield land and has a capacity of 1 dwelling.	Located north east in the Ruckhall settlement boundary	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	No. Providing sewerage capacity exists and that the SuDS are adequately designed to cope with surface-water runoff, then there should be no LSE on the SAC in question. In addition, the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects alone	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.
Site option 19 Paddock, c/o Yew Tree Farm, Ruckhall	Site area in 0.03ha size. The site is on greenfield land and has a capacity of 1 dwelling.	Located north east in the Ruckhall settlement boundary.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.	No. Providing sewerage capacity exists and that the SuDS are adequately designed to cope with surface-water runoff, then there should be no LSE on the SAC in question. In addition, the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects alone .	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.
Site option 20 The Orchard,	Site area in 0.33ha	Located west of the Ruckhall	River Wye (including the	No. Due to the location and	No. Providing sewerage capacity exists and that	No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely

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c/o Yew Tree Farm, Ruckhall	<p>size.</p> <p>The site is on greenfield land and has a capacity of 2 dwellings.</p>	<p>settlement boundary.</p>	<p>River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.</p>	<p>the SuDS are adequately designed to cope with surface-water runoff, then there should be no LSE on the SAC in question. In addition, the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects alone.</p>	<p>to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.</p>
Site option 21- Glenwood, Ruckhall	<p>Site area in 0.03ha size.</p> <p>The site is on greenfield land and has a capacity of 1 dwelling.</p>	<p>Located on the eastern edge of Eaton Bishop parish.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>No. Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC.</p>	<p>There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts in the Core Strategy and NDP.</p>	<p>No: Due to the location and proposed size it is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. However this is outside the existing settlement and would fall under rural countryside policy RA3.</p>

Appendix 3

**Initial Habitat Regulations Assessment and Strategic Environmental
Assessment Screening Notification**

**The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulation 2012 (Reg. 32)
Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d)**

Neighbourhood Area:	Eaton Bishop Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Eaton Bishop Parish Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	17/09/2014

Introduction

This Initial Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Screening has been undertaken to assess whether any European Sites exist within or in proximity to the Neighbourhood Area which could be affected by any future proposals or policies.

Through continual engagement the outcomes of any required assessments will help to ensure that proposed developments will not lead to Likely Significant Effects upon a European Site or cause adverse impacts upon other environmental assets, such as the built historic or local natural environment.

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**HRA Initial Screening: Map showing relationship of Neighbourhood Area with European Sites
(not to scale)**



Initial HRA Screening

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC:

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	Y	The River Wye runs along the northern border of the Parish.
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	Y	The Parish is within the hydrological catchment of the River Wye
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	There is mains drainage at Eaton Bishop.

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 31.4km away from the Parish.
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River Clun SAC:

Does the Neighbourhood Area include: Border Group Parish Council or Leintwardine Group Parish Council?	N	River Clun does not border the Parish.
--	---	--

Usk Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 31.4km away from the Parish.
--	---	--

Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites are 27.5km away from the Parish.
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Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	Wye Valley Woodlands are 24km away from the Parish.
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HRA Conclusion:

The assessment above highlights that the following European Sites will need to be taken into account in the future Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Eaton Bishop Neighbourhood Area and a Full HRA Screening will be required.

European Site

(List only those which are relevant from above)

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC

Strategic Environmental Assessment Initial Screening for nature conservation landscape and heritage features

The following environmental features are within or in general proximity to the Eaton Bishop Neighbourhood Area and would need to be taken into account within a Strategic Environmental Assessment. In addition, the NDP will also need to consider the other SEA topics set out in Guidance Note 9a to ensure that the plan does not cause adverse impacts.

SEA features	Total	Explanation	SEA required
Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA)	0	There are no AQMAs within the Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	5	Ruckhall Wood (border); Priors Shell Wood (border); Old Hill Coppice (border); Newton Coppice (border); Bucknells Wood (border)	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest (AAI)	0	There are no AAIs within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	0	There are no AONBs within the Parish	N
Conservation Areas	0	There are no Conservation Areas within the Parish	N
European Sites (SAC)	1	River Wye	Y
Flood Areas/Zones		Flood Zones follow the River Wye and Cage Brook	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous Listed Buildings within the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCS/RIGS)	17 (SWS)	River Wye; Cage Brook; Little Marsh Common; Honeymoon Common; Cagebrook Valley & Woodlands; Eaton Bishop Church; Field near Eaton Camp; Warlow Pool; Pond near Longmoor Cottage (border); Field near Bage Mill (border); Bucknall's Wood (border); Two ponds at Castle Farm (border); First pond near Bunshill (border); pool near Magna castra (border); Two pools at Stretton Sugwas Gravel Workings (border); Kings Acre Reserve (border); Clehonger Village Pond (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	1	Wye Valley Walk (border)	Y
Mineral Reserves Sites	10	South of Canon Bridge; South of Roman Road to A438 and area between River Wye and A438 (border); Kings Acre, Linden House (border); Kings Acre Caraven Park (border); Between Lower Breinton Farm and Court Farm (border); Hunderton Rough to Clehonger to Allensmore (border); South of River Wye and Bridge Sollars to Lulham (border); North west of Credenhill (border); Courtlands Farm (border); Cobhall Farm (border)	Y
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	0	There are no NNRs within the Parish	N

Registered & Unregistered Parks and Gardens	8 Unregistered	Cagebrook House; Lower Eaton; Sugwas Court (border); New Weir (border); Canon Bridge House (border); Wyecliffe Court (border); Warham House (border); Belmont House (border)	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)	5	Eaton Camp; New Weir Roman Site (border); Moated site south west of church (border); Site of Romano-British town of Magna (border); Churchyard cross in St Marys churchyard (border)	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	3	River Wye (Unfavourable Recovering); Cage Brook Valley (Favourable (part) Unfavourable No Change (part) Unfavourable Declining (part)); Littlemarsh Common (Unfavourable Declining)	Y

Decision Notification:

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Eaton Bishop Neighbourhood Area:

- a) Will require further environmental assessment for Habitat Regulations Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Assessment date: 13/08/2014

Assessed by: James Latham

Appendix 1: European Sites

The table below provides the name of each European Site, which has been screened in for the purposes of neighbourhood planning in Herefordshire; includes their site features of integrity; and vulnerability data. This is based on the sites individual features of integrity and their vulnerabilities, which could include distance criteria. This has been used in identifying which parishes are likely to require a full HRA Screening of their future Neighbourhood Development Plan, to establish if their plan might have Likely Significant Effects on a European Site.

Downton Gorge
Site Features: <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines
Vulnerability data: 10km for air quality associated with poultry units or other intensive agricultural practices.
River Clun
Site Features: Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>
Vulnerability data: Water quality is important to maintain the site feature. Parishes either side of the River Clun will be affected.
River Wye
Site Features: Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation. Transition mires and quaking bogs. White-clawed (or Atlantic Stream) crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> . Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> . Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> . River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> . Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> . Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> . Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> . Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> . Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i>
Vulnerability data: Proximity: Developments should not be within 100m of the designated bank. Some developments beyond 100m may also have impacts based on proximity and these issues should be addressed where possible when developing NDP policy and choosing site allocations. Water Quality: Within the whole catchment of the River Wye, which includes the River Lugg, mains drainage issues with regards to water quality are being resolved through the Core Strategy / Local Plan and development of a Nutrient Management Plan. Welsh Water should be consulted to ensure that the proposed growth will be within the limit of their consents. Otters: "An otter will occupy a 'home range', which on fresh waters usually includes a stretch of river as well as associated tributary streams, ditches, ponds, lakes and woodland. The size of a home range depends largely on the availability of food and shelter, and the presence of neighbouring otters. On rivers, a male's home range may be up to 40km or more of watercourse and associated areas; females have smaller ranges (roughly half the size) and favour quieter locations for breeding, such as tributary streams. Otters without an established home range are known as 'transients'. They are mostly juveniles looking for a territory of their own, or adults that have been pushed out of their territories. Transient otters may use an area for a short while, but they will move on if conditions are not suitable or if they are driven away by resident otters. Transients will have been important in extending the range of otters, but they are very difficult to identify from field signs. Within a home range an otter may use many resting sites. These include above-ground shelters, such as stands of scrub or areas of rank grass, and underground 'holts' – for example, cavities under tree roots and dry drainage pipes." (Source: EA website: http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf accessed 09/04/2013)

Usk Bat Site

Site Features: Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection: European dry heaths, Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration, Blanket bogs, Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation, Caves not open to the public, *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines. Annex II species of primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, UK population 5%, although it is suggested this is an underestimate.

Vulnerability data: Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues.

Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites

Site Features: Annex II species that are a primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*. Greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*

Vulnerability data: Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues.

Greater Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 20-30km between their summer and winter roosts.

NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider:
Woodland habitat buffer.

Lesser Horseshoe Bat: Old buildings; woodland locations; sheltered valleys, extensive deciduous woods or dense scrub, close to roost sites. In areas of fragmented habitats, linear habitats such as hedgerows are important corridors. Vulnerable to loss or disturbance of both summer and winter roosts and removal of linear habitat.

Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation. A system/series of sites required. Vulnerable to loss of insect food supply, due to insecticide use, changing farming practices and loss of broad-leaved tree-cover and loss / disturbance of underground roosts sites.

Wye Valley Woodlands

Site Features: Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for site selection: Beech forests *Asperulo-Fagetum*, *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines, *Taxus baccata* woods of the British Isles. Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, 51-100 residents

Vulnerability data: Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues. NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider: Woodland habitat buffer. Lesser Horseshoe Bat: Old buildings; woodland locations; sheltered valleys, extensive deciduous woods or dense scrub, close to roost sites. In areas of fragmented habitats, linear habitats such as hedgerows are important corridors. Vulnerable to loss or disturbance of both summer and winter roosts and removal of linear habitat.

Appendix 2: Wye Catchment Map

