

# Habitats Regulations Assessment



## Kings Cople Neighbourhood Area

June 2016

## Habitat Regulation Assessment Screening Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14 Consultation – June 2016

### Contents

1. Introduction
  - a. Figure 1: King Caple Neighbourhood Area
2. The requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment of neighbourhood development plans
3. Methodology
4. Results of the King Caple Initial Screening Report
  - a. Figure 2: King Caple Neighbourhood Area and European sites.
5. Description of the King Caple Neighbourhood Plan
6. Identification of other plans and policies which may have in-combination effects
7. Assessment of the likely significant effects of the King Caple Neighbourhood Plan
8. Conclusions from the screening matrix

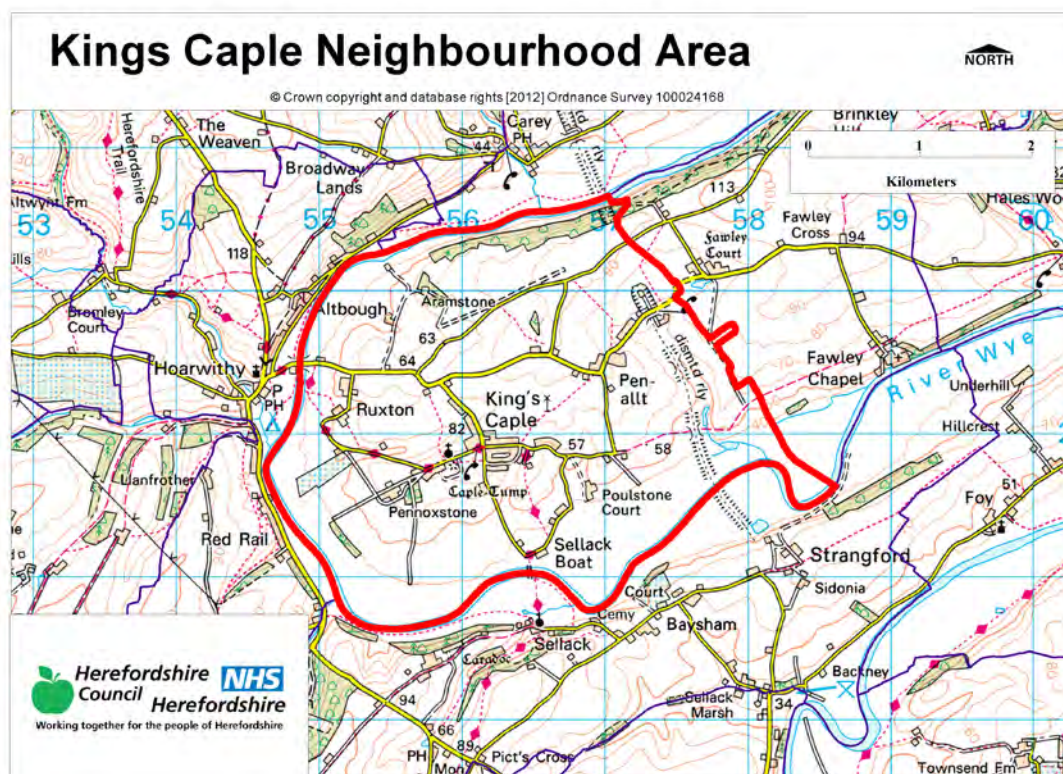
Appendix 1 Initial Screening Report (November 2012)

Appendix 2 Screening of initial options matrix

Appendix 3 Screening of emerging policy matrix

## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Screening Assessment relates to a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) that is considered to be in general conformity with higher level strategic plans, such as the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the National Planning Policy Framework. The screening stage involves assessing broadly whether the Draft Kings Cagle Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have a significant effect on any European site(s).
- 1.2 Kings Cagle Parish Council is producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for whole administrative area of Kings Cagle parish, in order to set out the vision, objectives and policies for the development of the parish up to 2031 (Draft plan June 2016 being assessed).
- 1.3 The NDP has allocated three sites and provides general policies that clarify and provide detail to the policies within the Herefordshire Core Strategy 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 Local Plan-Core Strategy Habitat Regulations Assessment Report (May 2014) to ensure that there will not be any significant impacts upon Natura 2000 sites.
- 1.4 The map below shows Kings Cagle Neighbourhood Area and parish boundary.



## 2 The requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment of plans

2.1 The requirement to undertake HRA of development/neighbourhood 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 neighbourhood plan, Kings Caple Parish Council is required by law to carry out an assessment known as “Habitats Regulations Assessment”. Reg 32 Schedule 2 Neighbourhood Planning Regulations.

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 development 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.
- **Ramsar sites** support internationally important wetlands habitats

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

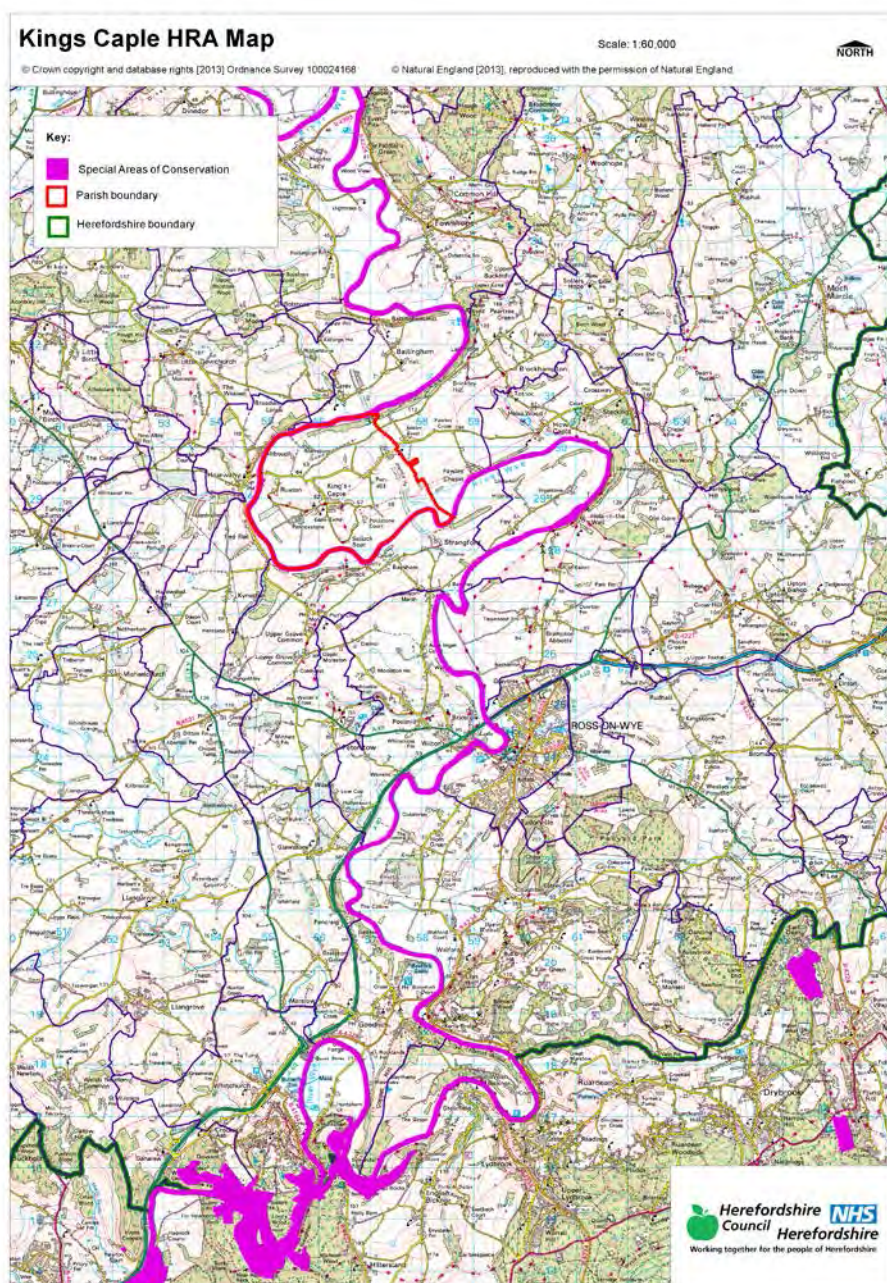
3.1 The Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan is not directly connected with the management of any European sites but does include proposals for development which may affect European sites. Therefore, it is necessary under Regulation 102(1)(a) of the Habitats Regulations 2010 to undertake screening for likely 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 Neighbourhood Plan 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 (29 November 2012) (Appendix 1) found that the River Wye SAC forms the boundary of the Kings Cagle Neighbourhood Area to the north, south and west. Therefore a full screening assessment is required. Figure 2 below highlights the location of River Wye SAC in relation to the neighbourhood area.





- 4.2 European sites can be sensitive to changes in water quantity and quality. As outlined within the Habitat Regulation Assessment to the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), the water supply in this area comes from Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) and no likely significant effects on European sites as a result of changes in water quality are expected in relation to the proportional growth outlined with the Herefordshire Core Strategy. In relation to water quality, the Nutrient Management Plan for the River Wye SAC should ensure that developments within the area can be accommodated within existing water discharge permits would not be likely to have a significant effect upon the River Wye SAC. Work is currently ongoing with DCWW to ensure that sufficient permitted headroom exists and or measure can

be put in place in the Kings Caple Sewerage treatment works (STW) to accommodate the specific growth highlighted within the Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan.

- 4.3 For full details of the River Wye's attributes which contribute to and define their integrity and vulnerable data see Appendix 1 of the Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan Initial Screening Report (Full report in Appendix 1 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 Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan may affect site integrity.
- 4.4 Options for initial policy choices (See appendix 2) have been assessed to determine their environmental impact for each option that could impact the River Wye SAC. The alternative options were concerning the delineation of the settlement boundary for the village of Kings Caple, potential allocation sites and criteria for agricultural development. The village itself lies outside of the flood plain but the parish boundary on three sides is formed by the River Wye SAC and therefore is within the hydrological catchment of the River Wye. This has been taken into account within the screening of both the options and policies. The HRA screening matrix of emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan can be found in appendix 3.

## **5 Description of the Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan**

- 5.1 The Draft Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) presents detailed policies for development in the Neighbourhood Area, which is equivalent to the administrative parish boundary, up to 2031.
- 5.2 The neighbourhood plan sets out the vision for the Parish over the plan period and objectives of how this will be achieved. The objectives cover the following topics:
- NDP01: To protect and enhance the natural beauty and diverse habitat of the local AONB environment
  - NDP02: To maintain the character, vitality and community spirit of the village
  - NDP03: To protect and enhance village heritage, historic assets and other important village features
  - NDP04: To comply with the Herefordshire Council Core Strategy housing development requirements (Policy RA2)
  - NDP05: To minimise the impact of any new development on the surrounding countryside, landscape and ecosystems
  - NDP06: To enhance the prospects for local employment and tourism
- 5.3 The Neighbourhood Plan also sets out 23 general policies (including 3 site allocations). This policy are mainly concerning various design requirements and criteria to conserve and enhance the landscape and historic character given the parish location within the Wye Valley

AONB. At this stage there are few references to the River Wye SAC within the plan. Policies are arranged on topics based on the objective headings above as follows:

- Policy E1 – E4            Environment
- Policy CH1 – CH4        Conservation and Heritage
- Policy SB1 – SB2        Settlement boundary
- Policy H1 – H5            Housing
- Policy BD1 – BD7        Building Design
- Policy EM1                Employment
- Policy T1                 Tourism
- Policy TT1 – TT2        Traffic and Transport

5.4 Although there is reference within the Kings Cople Neighbourhood Plan to a review and monitoring process during the plan period, no specific timeframe have been set. It is suggested that a formal review of the plan is undertaken midway through the plan period to examine the plan's effectiveness.

5.5 A draft consultation is planned to be undertaken in line with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations, any amendments or changes suggested as part of this assessment would need to be considered as part of the review of comments received to this consultation.

## **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. It should be noted however, that neighbourhood plans cannot be made if like significant effects occur.

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) and its Addendum (May 2015). It is seen that as the Kings Cople Neighbourhood Plan does not go over and beyond the requirements set out in the Core Strategy this review will also be substantial for the NDP. Adjacent neighbourhood plans (Ballingham, Bolstone and Hentland Group; Brockhampton with Much Fawley) at this stage have not progressed enough to indicate whether they are intending to go over and beyond the requirements set out within the Core Strategy for their area.



- 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 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 Kings Caple 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 3 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.

Table1

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 Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), was also taken 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. The Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan will has a number of policies which seek to protect and enhance both the natural and historic environment. The first 8 policies of the NDP are specifically related to this. The Neighbourhood Plan will do this by ensuring there is no adverse impact on the environment, landscape, habitats and biodiversity.

## 8 Conclusions from the Screening Matrix

- 8.1 None of the Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan policies (June 2016) were concluded to be likely to have a significant likely effect on the River Wye SAC. This is primarily because although the parish lies within the mender of the River Wye SAC, however development is in line with the Core Strategy and existing safeguards exist within both plan policies. Some suggestions have been made to three policies to strengthen the policy wording in connection with the River Wye (BD7, SB1 and E3) It is also suggested that Objective NDP05 includes

specific reference to the SAC. Based on assumptions that these additional will be made in the review of the plan, Herefordshire Core Strategy and the HRA for the Core Strategy, the NDP policies were found to be unlikely to result in a significant likely effect on the River Wye SAC.

- 8.2 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 Kings Caple area to continue to treat the water from the amount of housing provided for in the Core Strategy policies. Continuing work is required with DCWW to ensure that sufficient headroom remains and a potential feasibility study may be required to assess any further upgrade requirements. In addition, 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.
- 8.3 It is unlikely that the Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan will have any in-combination effects with any Plans from neighbouring parishes due to the level of growth proposed is of the same that is proposed for the Hereford Housing Market Area in the Herefordshire Core Strategy and all of the proposed housing will be of a small scale.
- 8.4 It is therefore concluded that the **Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan will not have a likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC.**
- 8.5 Any further amendments to the policies (post June 2016) will be rescreened if required and an addendum to this report will be produced to accompany the submission plan.

# Appendix 1

---

**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)**

---

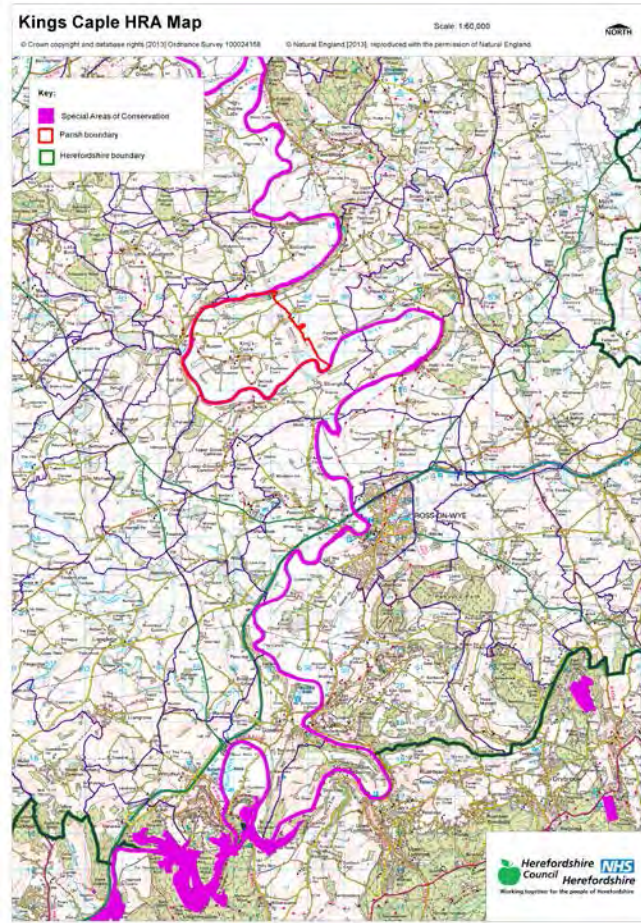
<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Kings Capse Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Kings Capse Parish Council
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	29/11/2012

### **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.

**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 flows along the northern, western and southern borders 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 River Wye hydrological catchment area.
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	There is mains drainage at Kings Caple

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 44.3km away from the Parish
---	---	--



**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 38.1km 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	The Group Parish is 10.94km away from Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites
--	---	---

**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	The Parish is 13.83km away from the Wye Valley Woodlands
--	---	--

**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 Kings Cuple 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 Kings Caple 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.

<b>SEA features</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>SEA required</b>
Air Quality Management Areas	0	There are no AQMA's within the Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	2	Armastone Wood; Carey & Capler Wood (border)	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAI's within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	1	The whole Parish is within the Wye Valley AONB	Y
Conservation Areas	0	There are no Conservation Areas within the Parish	N
European Sites	1	The River Wye flows over the northern, western and southern border of the Parish	Y
Flood Areas		Flood Zones 2 and 3 follow the River Wye on the northern, western and southern borders of the Parish	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous Listed Buildings scattered all around the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCS/RIGS)	6 (SWS)	River Wye; Fawley Railway Tunnel; Pools nr Strangford Viaduct; Woods along the Wye from Capler Camp; Although Wood (border); Castlemeadow Wood (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails (e.g. Herefordshire Trail)	1	Herefordshire Trail	Y
Mineral Reserves	0	There are no Minerals Reserves Sites within the Parish	N
National Nature Reserve	0	There are no NNR's within the Parish	N
Registered & unregistered parks and gardens	5 Unregistered	Aramstone; Pennoxstone; Poulstone Court; Caradoc Court (border); Fawley Court (border)	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	1	Caple Tump, a Motte Castle 175m south west of Caple Court	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	1	River Wye (Unfavourable Recovering)	Y

**Decision Notification:**

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Kings Caple Neighbourhood Area:

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

**Assessment date: 29/05/2013**

**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.

<b>Downton Gorge</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> 10km for air quality associated with poultry units or other intensive agricultural practices.
<b>River Clun</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Water quality is important to maintain the site feature. Parishes either side of the River Clun will be affected.
<b>River Wye</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> 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>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> 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: <a href="http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf">http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf</a> 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.

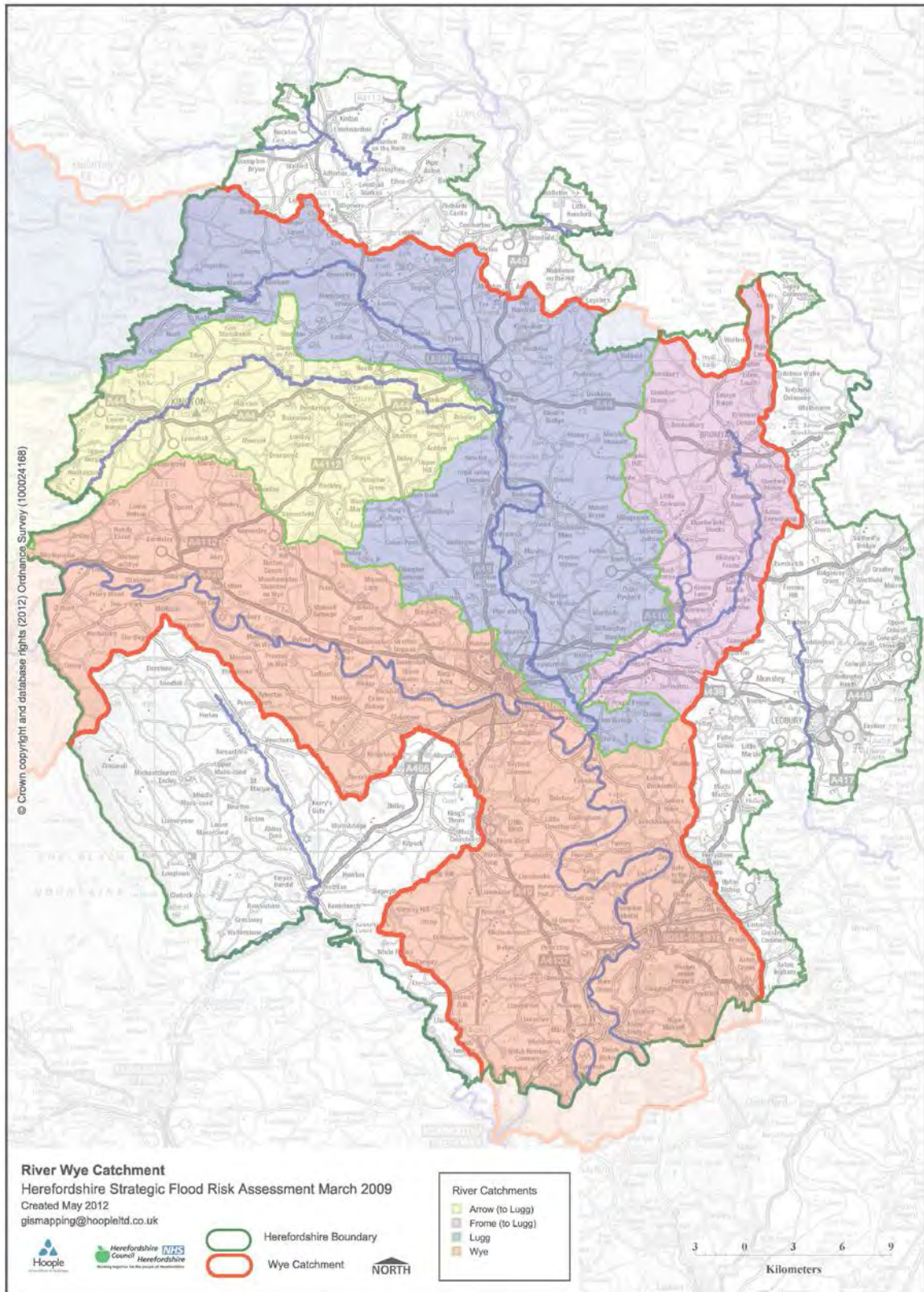
### Wye Valley Woodlands

**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



# Appendix 2

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Options

Date undertaken: **June 2016**

Core Strategy HRA version: **Adopted Core Strategy (June 2016) and Proposed Modifications Addendum B (April 2015)**

NDP options	HRA Screening of Emerging NDP options				
	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence of the option	Likely effect if option implemented. Could they have Likely Significant Effects (LSE) on European Sites?	European Sites potentially affected	Mitigation measures to be considered, as necessary, through redraft of option and to be considered as part of Appropriate Assessment	Could the policy have likely significant effects on European sites (taking mitigation into account?)
Option 1 Do nothing	Not producing a neighbourhood plan would result in any future growth decisions within the parish being made based on the strategic policies within the Core Strategy.  Proportional housing and employment growth in accordance with the Core Strategy.	Core Strategy HRA has examined the likely significant effects of the Core Strategy rural policies in May 2014 and April 2015 and concluded that there are no LSE but acknowledges the role of neighbourhood plans to provide additional certainty.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC.	n/a	n/a
Option 2 Allocate sites for housing	Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within the River Wye catchment. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies to	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	n/a	No; policy criteria can be added to any allocation policy to mitigate.

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Options

	within the policy wording.	ensure no likely significant effect would occur			
Option 3 Manage future housing using a settlement boundary	The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside. This can aid the direction of further growth to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. There is less certainty as any growth will be adjudged by criteria based policy.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against any likely effects.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	n/a	No; policy criteria can be added to any settlement boundary criteria policy to mitigate.
Option 4 Allocate site and identify a settlement boundary	Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within the River Wye catchment. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies. However the majority of the village where proportional growth and the settlement boundary are likely to be located are outside of the Wriggle	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	n/a	No; policy criteria can be added to any allocation policy to mitigate.

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Options

	built form and open countryside	Brook floodplain			
Option 5 Criteria for small scale business / agricultural development	Potential Physical disturbance depending upon location and type of employment  Increased traffic levels	Good practice techniques for construction may help to eliminate disturbance during construction phases.  Ensure future policy balances out the scale of promoted schemes and avoid the location to close to the River Wye SAC	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Impact would depend upon location and scale. Need to ensure sufficient safeguards are in place to prevent significant effect occurring.	Potential Physical disturbance depending upon location and type of employment  Increased traffic levels
Site allocation options Location north	Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within the River Wye catchment.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	n/a	No; policy criteria can be added to any allocation policy to mitigate.
Site allocation options Location east	Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within the River Wye catchment.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	n/a	No; policy criteria can be added to any allocation policy to mitigate.
Site allocation options	Allocation of sites for housing or other uses	Pursuing this option would give greater	River Wye (including	n/a	No; policy criteria can be added to any



HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Options

Location south	would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.	certainty over future development within the area particularly within the River Wye catchment.	River Lugg) SAC		allocation policy to mitigate.
Site allocation options Location west	Allocation of sites for housing within the area would be.	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within the River Wye catchment.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC		No; policy criteria can be added to any allocation policy within the location to mitigate.

# Appendix 3

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

Date undertaken: **June 2016**

NDP objectives, policies	HRA Screening of Emerging NDP objectives and policies				
	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence of the objective/policy	Likely effect if objective/policy implemented. Could they have Likely Significant Effects (LSE) on European Sites?	European Sites potentially affected	Mitigation measures to be considered, as necessary, through redraft of objective/option/policy.	Could the policy have any likely significant effects on European sites (taking mitigation into account)?
NDP01	Protect and enhance beauty and habitats of Wye Valley AONB	N/A	River Wye SAC	N/A	No; this objective will not lead to development; rather it seeks to protect and enhance beauty and habitats of Wye Valley AONB
NDP02	Maintain the character, vitality of the village	N/A	N/A	N/A	No; this objective will not lead to development; rather it seeks to maintain the character, vitality of the village
NDP03	Protect and enhance historic assets	N/A	N/A	N/A	No; this objective in itself does not lead to development but seeks to protect and enhance historic assets
NDP04	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	No; this objective would not lead to development itself but seeks to ensure compliance

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

					with the Core Strategy
NDP05	Minimise the impact of development on the countryside, landscape and ecosystem	N/A	River Wye SAC	N/A	No; this objective would not lead to development itself but seeks to minimise the impact of development on the countryside, landscape and ecosystem  Reference to the River Wye SAC would strengthen this objective
NDP06	Increase tourism and employment	N/A	River Wye SAC	N/A.	No, the objective itself will not lead to development, instead it seeks to enhance the prospects of local employment and tourism opportunities.
E1	Small scale housing development	N/A	River Wye SAC	N/A	No, this policy is seeking it site and design new development to preserve and enhance the qualities of the AONB
E2	Seeking to ensure agricultural development conserves and enhances AONB	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, this policy will not lead to development itself but highlights criteria in order to conserve the qualities of the AONB

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Cuple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

E3	Encouragement to include wildlife corridors within developments	N/A	River Wye SAC	N/A	No: this policy will not lead to development itself but encourages the inclusion and protection of wildlife corridors and trees within schemes.  Additional reference to the River Wye SAC and the safeguarding of its water quality would help strengthen the policy.
E4	Renewable energy methods within new housing schemes	N/A	N/A	N/A	No: this policy seeks the include of renewable energy design within any residential schemes
CH1	Criteria for any developments within the 'Heritage Area'	N/A	N/A	N/A	No: this policy will not lead to development but sets criteria for developments within the 'Heritage Area'
CH2	Criteria for any agricultural or animal related development within the 'Heritage Area'	N/A	N/A	N/A	No: this policy will not lead to development but sets criteria for developments within the 'Heritage Area'

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

CH3	Conservation of heritage assets	N/A	N/A	N/A	No: this policy will not lead to development but seeks to protect any heritage assets in development proposals.
CH4	Requirement to show mitigation within development proposals	N/A	River Wye SAC	N/A	No: this is not a land use policy but indicates the requirement for developers to demonstrate mitigation for an loss of landscape character
SB1	Proportionate housing development within the settlement boundary.	<p>Some small scale housing development.</p> <p>Housing, infrastructure development</p> <p>Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impact on the River Wye SAC as dependant on the location of the development. The River Wye flows along</p>	River Wye SAC	<p>Specific environmental 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><b>The policy could be strengthened with</b></p>	<p>No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) policy RA2 and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p> <p>Although it is acknowledged that there will be an increase in the demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment, the latest version of the HRA underlying the Core Strategy (April 2015) confirms that the roll out of Policy RA2 across the rural areas should not lead to adverse effects on the integrity of the River Wye</p>

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.



HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

		the border of the parish but not adjacent to the settlement boundary		<p>the inclusion of the following:  <b>Development should ensure that any adverse effects on the River Wye SAC can be avoided or mitigated.</b>  <b>Development will only be permitted when it does not compromise the ability of the NMP to deliver the necessary overall nutrient reductions along those stretches of the River Wye SAC which are already exceeding water quality targets or at risk of doing so.</b></p>	<p>SAC, provided the mitigation measures set out in the NMP are implemented</p> <p>Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at site allocation stage.</p>
SB2	Policy limiting development within the countryside. Smalls scale in line	Some small scale housing development.  Housing, infrastructure development	River Wye SAC		No, this policy merely supports the provisions of Policies RA3, RA4 and RA5 of the Core Strategy. There are additional policy criteria in

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

	with RA3	<p>Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of development, however the policy would result in small scale growth.</p>			place in both the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the suggested additions to the NDP to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.
H1	Proposed site allocations for 20 houses within the settlement boundary	<p>Some small scale housing development.</p> <p>Housing, infrastructure development</p> <p>Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Allocation of sites with given more certainty</p>	River Wye SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) policy RA2 and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

		and impacts can be assessed.			
Site Allocations	Characteristics	Locations			
Site 1 HLAA/218/001	Site for 8 dwellings 0.78 hectares, Land classification 2 and flood zone 1	North of the village, adjacent the Light Fields	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC – this site is not within 100m of the SAC	Additional criteria suggested to other policies within the plan should provide safeguards.  There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy SB1 should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts.  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	No: 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.

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

				Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated. 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 2 O/Kinc/003	Site for 6 dwellings 0.48 hectares. Land classification 2. Flood zone 1.	East of the village, adjacent to the primary school	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC – this site is not within 100m of the SAC	Additional criteria suggested to other policies within the plan should provide safeguards.  There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy	No: 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.

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Cuple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

				<p>wording in the attendant Policy SB1 should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts.</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. 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</p>	
--	--	--	--	---	--

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

				Plan's requirements.	
Site 3 HLAA/222/001	Site for 1 dwelling. Potential barn conversion. Within the curtilage of list building.	Centre of the village. Kings Caple Court	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC – this site is not within 100m of the SAC	<p>Additional criteria suggested to other policies within the plan should provide safeguards.</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 SB1 should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts.</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</p>	No: 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.

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.



HRA Report – Kings Cuple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

				<p>proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated. 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>	
H2	<p>Small scale windfall development within the settlement boundary or in line with policy RA3</p>	<p>Some small scale housing development.</p> <p>Housing, infrastructure development</p> <p>Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p>	River Wye SAC		<p>No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) policy RA2 and RA3 and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p>

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

		Allocation of sites with given more certainty and impacts can be assessed.			
H3	Small scale housing development	Design criteria to ensure form, scale are characteristic	N/A	N/A	No; this policy will not lead to development itself but highlights design criteria and the need for evidence
H4	Small scale affordable housing	Some small scale housing development.  Housing, infrastructure development  Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.	River Wye SAC	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy SB1 should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts.  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	No; sufficient policy safeguards exist within other policies of the plan.

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Cuple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

				Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated. 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	
H5	Need for affordable housing assessment regarding sustainable	N/A	N/A	N/A	No; this policy is a requirement for affordable housing to demonstrate sustainability in terms of location. Other policy safeguards exists within the plan regarding water quality and mitigation of adverse impacts.
BD1	Use of design and materials	N/A	N/A	N/A	No; this policy will not lead to development itself but highlights the criteria for design and building materials

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Caple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

					to preserve character
BD2	Avoidance of street furniture and lighting	N/A	N/A	N/A	No; this policy is seeking to reduce street furniture/signage and lighting within the parish
BD3	Limit height of buildings	N/A	N/A	N/A	No: this policy is a further design criteria restricting the height of buildings within the village
BD4	Provision of private gardens	N/A	N/A	N/A	No: this policy will not lead to development but is design criteria for future housing
BD5	Additional planting and screening in schemes	N/A	N/A	N/A	No; this is a design criteria for housing schemes to include additional planting to screen developments
BD6	Protection of residential amenity	N/A	N/A	N/A	No; this is a design criteria for housing schemes to protect existing residential amenity
BD7	Design criteria regarding agricultural and industrial buildings within the parish	Criteria included within the policy for natural landscape and historical character but not specific mention of the SAC and water quality issues.	River Wye SAC	The policy could be strengthened with the inclusion of reference to the River Wye SAC as it surrounds three sides of the parish.  Development should	The inclusion of reference to the River Wye SAC and the Nutrient Management Plan would provide additional safeguards in a parish which is bordered by the river on three sides.

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Cuple Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

				<p>ensure that any adverse effects on the River Wye SAC can be avoided or mitigated.</p> <p>Development will only be permitted when it does not compromise the ability of the NMP to deliver the necessary overall nutrient reductions along those stretches of the River Wye SAC which are already exceeding water quality targets or at risk of doing so.</p>	
EM1	Greater availability of broadband, additional ability to work for home / locally	N/A	N/A	N/A	No; this is a design policy encouraging all housing developments to include broadband
T1	Continuing use of public rights of way	Possible increase in tourism activity	River Wye SAC	Policies within the Core Strategy and other suggested additions to the NDP	No; sufficient safeguards are included within the Core Strategy and the additions to the NDP to provide policy

This document is copyright of Herefordshire Council, please contact the Neighbourhood Planning team if you wish to reuse it in whole or part.

HRA Report – Kings Cople Neighbourhood Plan (June 2016) - HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies and sites

				should provide sufficient safeguards in this respect	safeguard as impacts will be minor.
TT1	Inclusion of highways safety measures within schemes	More cycling and walking, reduce traffic movements	N/A	N/A	No; this policy is relevant to pedestrian and cyclist safety within the village
TT2	Transport assessment regards HGVs on new schemes	Reduction of HGV movements	N/A	N/A	No; this is seeking to reduce HGV movements within the parish by encouraging developers to include details within a transport assessment