

# Habitats Regulations Assessment

Report for:

**Dinedor Neighbourhood Area**

**August 2017**



## Dinedor HRA

### HRA Screening Assessment

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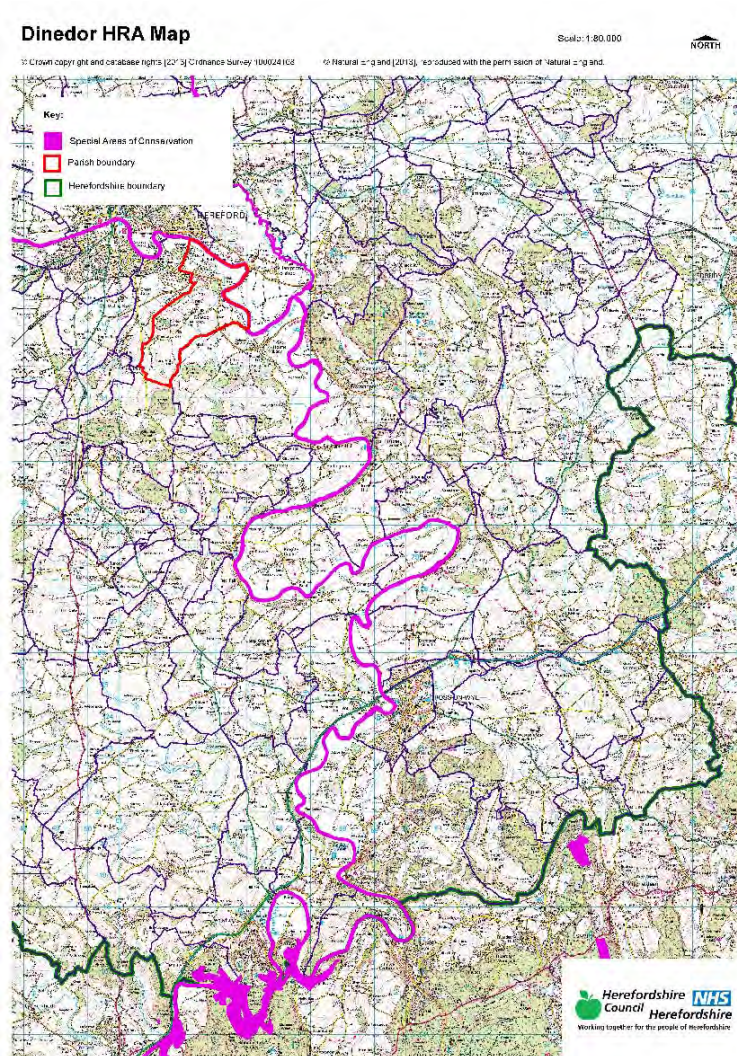
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## 1 Introduction

- 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 Dinedor Parish Council is producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Dinedor 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 Dinedor Plan August 2017.
- 1.3 The NDP is criteria based and does not allocate any sites. It 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 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 Dinedor 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, Dinedor 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 Dinedor 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 2013) found that the River Wye runs along the north and north western borders. The Parish is within the River Lugg hydrological catchment area, 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 Dinedor Initial Screening Report. The Initial Screening Report, August 2013, can be found 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 Dinedor 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. Of the five overall options put forward, the 'no NDP' option was not considered viable for the Parish. The other options were supplied by Dinedor Parish Council for testing – do nothing, allocate housing sites, manage future growth using a settlement boundary and allocation together with a settlement boundary. Overall these options are predominately considering the alternatives to accommodate proportion growth for Dinedor village rather than options for the plan as a whole. The village itself is within of the hydrological catchment of the River Wye. Mitigation measures within the Neighbourhood Plan and Core Strategy will help alleviate impact from potential development, therefore any options regarding the future growth of the village is unlikely to have a significant impact on the catchment. However this can be tested further at application stage on a case by case basis. Options 6 and 7 does not have an impact on the HRA baseline. Option 8 to have a cluster settlement boundary has an uncertain impact on the HRA baseline.
- 4.4 As Dinedor 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. The assessment matrix for the options can be found Appendix 3.

#### **5 Description of the Dinedor Neighbourhood Development Plan**

- 5.1 The Draft Dinedor 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 two objectives of how this will be achieved. The objectives cover the following topics:
- Objective 1 - To help meet local housing needs up to 2031

- Objective 2 - To ensure all new development is of good quality design
- Objective 3 – Travelling in and around Dinedor
- Objective 4 – To promote the development and diversification of rural businesses
- Objective 5 – Protecting and enhancing the rural environment and landscape
- Objective 6 - To protect local heritage assets and support heritage investigations
- Objective 7 – To protect local green spaces
- Objective 8 – To protect community facilities
- Objective 9 – Promoting local residents' enjoyment of the parish

5.3 The NDP also sets out 11 general policies on various topics based on the objective headings above and also for the village, these include:

- A-NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN DINEDOR VILLAGE
- B-RURAL EXCEPTION HOUSING
- C-HIGH QUALITY DESIGN
- D-THE MANAGEMENT OF TRAFFIC AROUND DINEDOR
- E-SUPPORT GROWTH OF SMALL SCALE RURAL BUSINESSES
- F-TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPE
  
- G-PROTECTING LOCAL HERITAGE ASSETS
- H- TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT INVESTIGATIONS INTO LOCAL HERITAGE ASSETS
- I-PROTECTING LOCAL GREEN SPACES
- J-COMMUNITY FACILITIES
- K-LOCAL RESIDENTS ENJOYMENT OF THE PARISH

## **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 Dinedor 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:

Table 1

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 adopted version of the Herefordshire Core Strategy were 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 Dinedor Plan (August 2016) policies were concluded to be likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye SAC. Based on assumptions and information contained within the Dinedor Plan, Herefordshire Core Strategy and the 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 is criteria based and would not directly result in 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 very much criteria based, and does not allocate sites for development.
- 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 Dinedor area, which is covered by the Eign STW, 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 Dinedor 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.

- 8.6 It is therefore concluded that the **Dinedor Plan will not have a likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC.**
- 8.7 Any further amendments to policies (post August 2017) will be rescreened if required and an addendum to this report will be produced.



# Appendix 1

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**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)**

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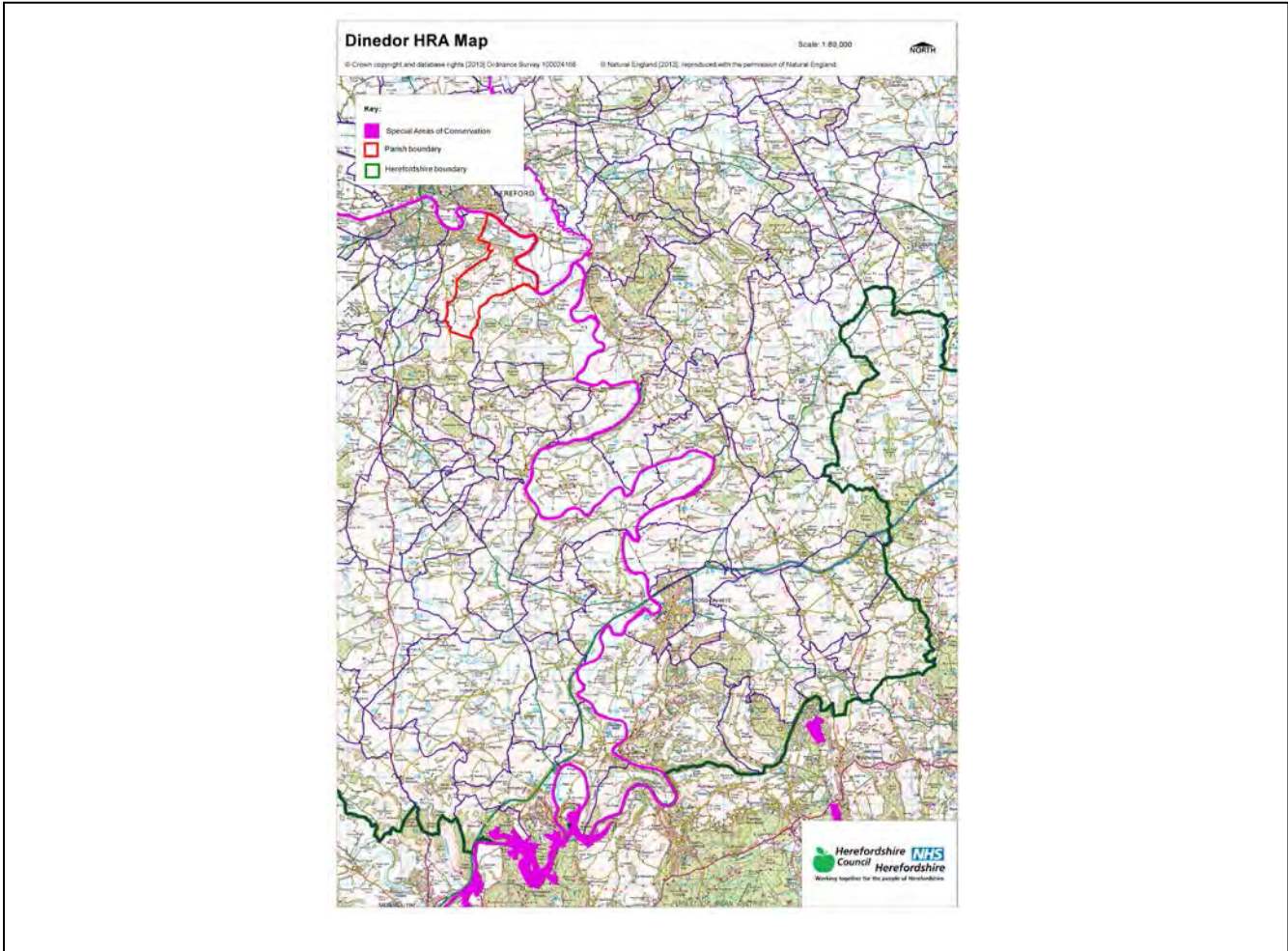
<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Dinedor Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Dinedor Parish Council
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	04/10/2013

### **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 runs along the north and north west 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 hydrological catchment of the River Wye
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	The northern part of the Parish is served by Herefords mains drainage system

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 35.5km 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
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**Usk Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 36.6km away from the Parish
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**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 are 19.3km away from Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites
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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	The Group Parish is 20.4km away from the Wye Valley Woodlands
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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 Dinedor 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 Dinedor 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	3	Rotherwas Park Wood; Widows Wood (border); Nether Wood (border)	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAls within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	There are no AONBs within the Parish	N
Conservation Areas	2	Hampton Bishop (border); Hampton Park (border)	Y
European Sites	1	River Wye	Y
Flood Areas		There are Flood Zones in the north of the Parish following the River Wye, and flowing down the western borders of the Parish	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous listed buildings scattered throughout the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCs/RIGS)	3 (SWS)	Pool at Rotherwas; Rotherwas Park Wood; River Wye	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	1	Wye Valley Walk (border)	Y
Mineral Reserves	2	Barry's Cross; West of Holme Lacy (border)	Y
National Nature Reserve	0	There are no NNRs within the Parish	N
Registered & Unregistered parks and gardens	1 Unregistered	Rotherwas Park	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	4	Dinedor Camp; Site of Medieval Village; Site of Rotherwas House, earthwork remains of formal gardens and Rotherwas Chapel; Lower Bullingham deserted medieval village	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 Dinedor Neighbourhood Area:

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

**Assessment date: 15/08/2013**

**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.

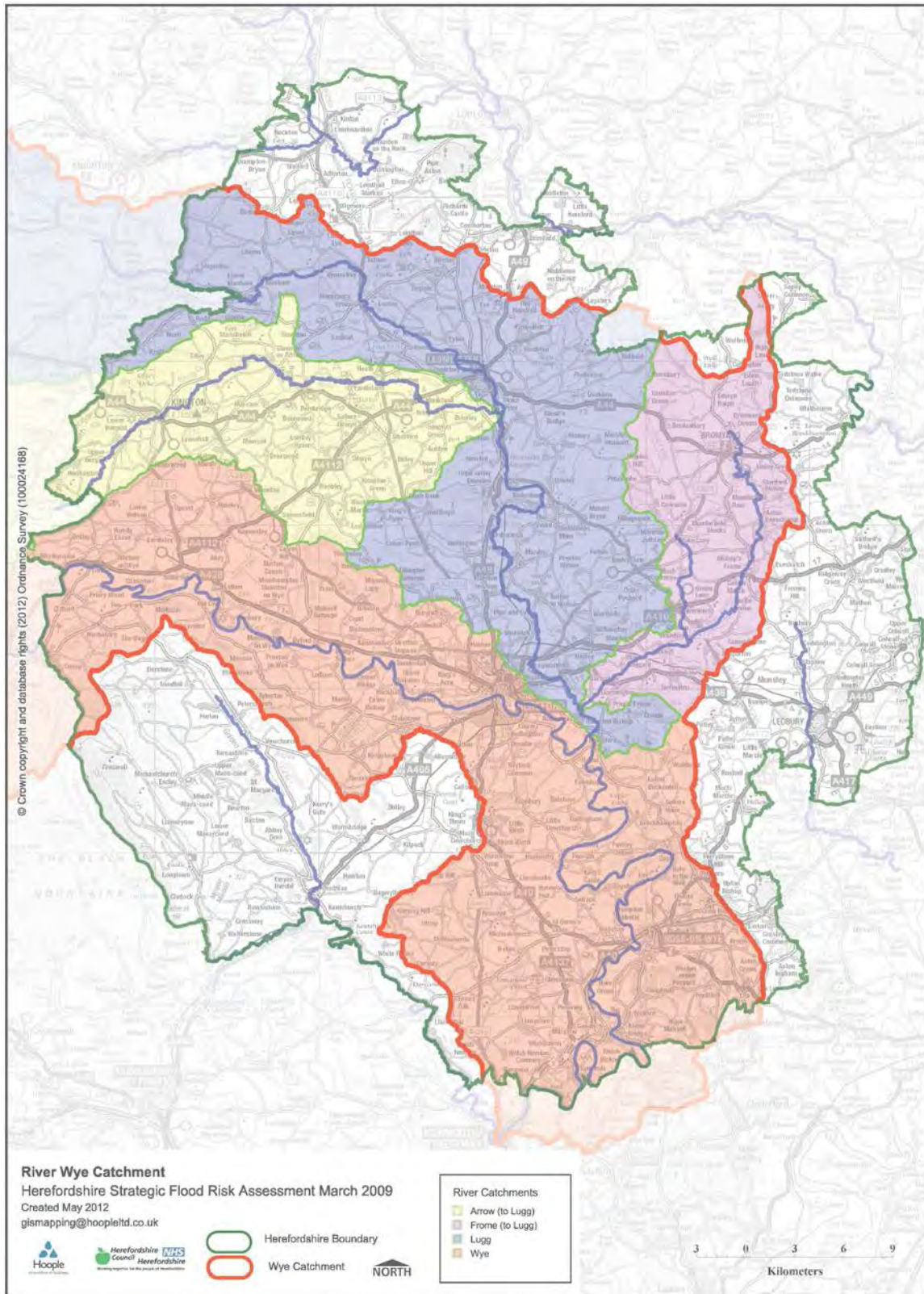
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation. 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

## Table 1: HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives

Parish Council Name: Dinedor Parish Council

NDP Title: Dinedor Neighbourhood Development Plan (Reg14 Consultation Draft)

Date undertaken: August 2017

NDP objectives	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?)
Objective 1 - To help meet local housing needs up to 2031	<p>Small scale housing development</p> <p>Increase in vehicle traffic.</p> <p>Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.</p>	<p>The River Wye runs along the north and north west borders of the Parish. The majority of the small scale housing growth will be located in Dinedor village in the centre of the parish.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the specific location of development, however the policy would result in small scale growth.</p>	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	<p>Measures set out within the Core Strategy policies should help to avoid adverse impacts upon the European site.</p> <p>Improved water efficiency measures, metering and addressing leakages in supply may help to mitigate any additional pressure placed on the water supply as a result of new developments.</p>	No: this objective will allow for the small scale sustainable growth of Dinedor village in line with Core Strategy policy RA1/RA2. Additional policy criteria are in place in both the Core Strategy and the Dinedor Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.

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Objective 2 - To ensure all new development is of good quality design	The protection of the village character, wildlife, and established trees alongside the installation of signage and prevention of disruption of the visual impact of the landscape of the parish.	None identified.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None identified.	No: this objective will not lead to new development rather it aims to ensure that all development proposed will be of a high quality and well designed.
Objective 3 – Travelling in and around Dinedor	Promote safe and sustainable measures of transport.  Supports building of cycleway infrastructure and an eastern crossing over the River Wye.	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None identified.	No; this objective would only lead to some small scale sustainable transport links and addresses traffic and transport issues associated with development.
Objective 4 – To promote the development and diversification of rural businesses	Promotion of business development  Promotion of farm diversification  More residents home working.  Increase of live/work units in Dinedor.	The River Wye runs along the north and north west borders of the Parish. The majority of the small scale housing growth will be located in Dinedor village in the centre of the parish.  Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of development, however the policy would result in	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	Measures are included in both the Core Strategy and the Dinedor Neighbourhood Plan to help relieved any increased pressure on the River Wye for development and rural diversification purposes.  The implementation of the Nutrient Management Plan will specifically address issues relating to water quality in the River	No: this objective reiterates the criteria within the Core Strategy policies RA3, RA4 and RA5. Any resulting development will be very small scale. Additional Core Strategy and Dinedor Neighbourhood Plan policies will avoid any likely significant effects.

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		very small scale growth.		Wye.	
Objective 5 – Protecting and enhancing the rural environment and landscape	Protection of biodiversity Safeguard local landscape character	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site. This objective aims to safeguard the natural environment.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None identified.	No: this objective in itself would not result in new development rather it relates to the safeguarding and enhancement of existing rural environment and landscape.
Objective 6 - To protect local heritage assets and support heritage investigations	Safeguard historic assets of Dinedor. Support heritage investigations.	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site. This objective aims to safeguard the built environment.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None identified.	No this objective safeguards against inappropriate development in order to preserve the historic Character of Dinedor.
Objective 7 – To protect local green spaces	Safeguard local green spaces Increase recreation activities	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None identified.	No this objective safeguards against inappropriate development on local greenspace in Dinedor.
Objective 8 – To protect community facilities	Protect community facilities St Andrews Church Village Hall Preserve local character	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site. This objective aims to safeguard the built environment.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None identified.	No, although this objective 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

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					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.
Objective 9 – Promoting local residents' enjoyment of the parish	Preserve rural characteristics and environmental quality of Dinedor.	None identified.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	This policy acts as a mitigation measure itself, to ensure the rural character of the parish is not diminished.	No this objective safeguards against inappropriate development in Dinedor which impact's on the character and environmental quality of the parish. This is not a land use policy which will lead to development.
Policies					
<b>A-NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENT IN DINEDOR VILLAGE</b>	Small scale housing development  Increase in vehicle traffic.  Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.	The River Wye runs along the north and north west borders of the Parish. The majority of the small scale housing growth will be located in Dinedor village in the centre of	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	Criteria within the policy should take place within the settlement boundary.  Measures set out within the Core Strategy policies should help to avoid adverse impacts	No: this policy will allow for the small scale sustainable growth of Dinedor village in line with Core Strategy policy RA1/RA2. Additional policy criteria are in place in both the Core Strategy and

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		<p>the parish.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the specific location of development, however the policy would result in small scale growth.</p> <p>Housing, employment and infrastructure development. Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p>		<p>upon the European site.</p> <p>Improved water efficiency measures, metering and addressing leakages in supply may help to mitigate any additional pressure placed on the water supply as a result of new developments.</p> <p>The implementation of the Core Strategy policies SD3 and SD4 should help to avoid adverse impacts in relation to hydrological regimes at the River Wye. Water quality in the River Wye SAC is also specifically addressed through the Nutrient Management Plan produced by Natural England and the Environment Agency.</p>	<p>the Dinedor Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p>
<b>B-RURAL EXCEPTION HOUSING</b>	Policy to support the delivery of affordable housing in line with Core Strategy policy H2.	<p>Some small scale housing development.</p> <p>Housing, infrastructure development</p>	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Measures set out within the Core Strategy policies should help to avoid adverse impacts	No: this policy would allow for small affordable housing schemes and supports the Core

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		<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>		<p>upon the European site.</p> <p>Improved water efficiency measures, metering and addressing leakages in supply may help to mitigate any additional pressure placed on the water supply as a result of new developments.</p> <p>The implementation of the Core Strategy policies SD3 and SD4 should help to avoid adverse impacts in relation to hydrological regimes at the River Wye. Water quality in the River Wye SAC is also specifically addressed through the Nutrient Management Plan produced by Natural England and the Environment Agency.</p>	<p>Strategy Policy H2. These would be in areas not normally released for housing.</p> <p>However there are additional policy criteria in place in both the Core Strategy and the Dinedor Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p>
<b>C-HIGH QUALITY DESIGN</b>	Promote high quality design within Dinedor.	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	This policy helps to safeguard high quality design in line with policy LD1, and help mitigate adverse effects caused from development.	No, this policy will not lead to development; rather it sets out design criteria for development to adhere to.

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<p><b>D – THE MANAGEMENT OF TRAFFIC AROUND DINEDOR</b></p>	<p>Promote safe and sustainable measures of transport.</p> <p>Supports building of cycleway infrastructure and an eastern crossing over the River Wye.</p>	<p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the specific location of improved links, however the policy would result in small scale sustainable transport links.</p> <p>Possible increase in recreation activities and vehicular movements associated with car parking.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).</p>	<p>The implementation of the Core Strategy policies SD3 and SD4 should help to avoid adverse impacts in relation to hydrological regimes at the River Wye. Water quality in the River Wye SAC is also specifically addressed through the Nutrient Management Plan produced by Natural England and the Environment Agency.</p>	<p>No; this policy would only lead to some small scale sustainable transport links. Additional policy safeguards exist within the Core Strategy to mitigate any potential likely significant effects.</p>
<p><b>E-SUPPORT GROWTH OF SMALL SCALE RURAL BUSINESSES</b></p>	<p>Promotion of business development</p> <p>Promotion of farm diversification</p>	<p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of any development.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).</p>	<p>None identified.</p>	<p>No. It is unlikely that the scale of proposed development will have an impact on the River Wye SAC.</p>
<p><b>F-TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE RURAL ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPE</b></p>	<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 (including the Lugg 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 Dinedor.</p>
<p><b>G-PROTECTING LOCAL HERITAGE</b></p>	<p>Safeguard historic assets of Dinedor.</p> <p>Local heritage assets</p>	<p>Unlikely that there will have a significant effect</p>	<p>River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).</p>	<p>This policy helps Dinedor maintain historic character and</p>	<p>No this policy safeguards against inappropriate</p>

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<b>ASSETS</b>	protected.	on the European Site.	SAC).	helps safeguard against inappropriate development.	development in order to preserve the historic character of Dinedor.
<b>H- TO ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT INVESTIGATIONS INTO LOCAL HERITAGE ASSETS</b>	Support heritage investigations. Local heritage assets protected.	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	This policy helps Dinedor maintain historic character and helps safeguard against inappropriate development.	No this policy safeguards against inappropriate development in order to preserve the historic character of Dinedor.
<b>I-PROTECTING LOCAL GREEN SPACES</b>	Protection of green space  Designation of green space	No likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None identified.	No. This policy will not lead to development but will ensure local green spaces are protected. This policy could help to provide mitigation against the potential of other NDP policies, potentially conserving and enhancing local biodiversity.
<b>J-COMMUNITY FACILITIES</b>	Protect community facilities  Community using facilities	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None identified.	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

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					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.
<b>K-LOCAL RESIDENTS ENJOYMENT OF THE PARISH</b>	Preserve rural characteristics and environmental quality of Dinedor.	None identified.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	This policy acts as a mitigation measure itself, to ensure the rural character of the parish is not diminished.	No this policy safeguards against inappropriate development in Dinedor which impact's on the character and environmental quality of the parish.



**Table 1: HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Options** Parish Council Name: Dinedor Parish Council

NDP Title: Dinedor Neighbourhood Development Plan (Reg14 Consultation Draft)

Date undertaken: August 2017

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?)
<b>Option 1</b>  Do nothing / Rely on Core Strategy policies	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
<b>Option 2</b>  Criteria based policy	Small scale proportionate growth where the location would be determined by a criteria based policy.	Uncertain as to the impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	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.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential	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.  Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further

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				headroom capacity at the local STW.	assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.
<b>Option 3</b> Allocate sites for housing	Small scale proportionate growth on specific sites identified on a proposals map.	Greater degree of 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.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	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.  Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.
<b>Option 4</b> Manage future housing using a settlement boundary and criteria policy.	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	Additional criteria would be required when formulating the accompanying settlement boundary policy to ensure that no likely significant effects could occur.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core	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.  Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects

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				Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.
<p><b>Option 5</b></p> <p>Manage future housing using a settlement boundary and criteria policy and allocate sites.</p>	<p>Small scale proportionate growth within a defined settlement boundary area.</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>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><b>Option 6</b></p> <p>Use a nucleated settlement boundary</p>	<p>New housing will be developed in settlement boundary in a central form. Increase demand in transportation. Increase demand in water abstraction and waste production. New houses developed.</p>	<p>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. Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</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</p>	<p>No, this option acknowledges sustainable scale growth within defined settlement boundaries in line with Core Strategy policy. Safeguard policies exist within the plan.</p>

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				headroom capacity at the local STW.	
<p><b>Option 7</b></p> <p>Extend settlement boundary to the north east</p>	<p>New housing will be developed in settlement boundary to the north east. Increase demand in transportation. Increase demand in water abstraction and waste production. New houses developed.</p>	<p>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. Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</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, this option acknowledges sustainable scale growth within defined settlement boundaries in line with Core Strategy policy. Safeguard policies exist within the plan. This will extend the boundary to cater for development to the north east of Dinedor settlement.</p>
<p><b>Option 8</b></p> <p>Cluster form settlement including Dinedor Cross</p>	<p>New housing will be developed in settlement boundary in a cluster form. Increase demand in transportation. Increase demand in water abstraction and waste production. New houses developed.</p>	<p>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. Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.</p> <p>Having a dispersed settlement boundary may have an impact on the</p>	<p>River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</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>Uncertain, although this option acknowledges sustainable scale growth within defined settlement boundaries in line with Core Strategy policy. Dispersing development in clusters is likely to be unsustainable and have an impact on the River Wye SAC .</p>

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		SAC and have an environmental impact on several areas within Dinedor.			
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# Appendix 3



## Dinedor NDP Options

<b>Option1</b> - To do nothing
<b>Option 2</b> -Criteria based policy
<b>Option 3</b> - Allocate sites
<b>Option 4</b> - Criteria policy and settlement boundary - final option.
<b>Option 5</b> - Criteria policy/settlement boundary/allocate sites.
<b>Option 6</b> - Use a nucleated settlement boundary
<b>Option 7</b> -Extend settlement boundary to the north east
<b>Option 8</b> - <i>Cluster form settlement including Dinedor Cross</i>