

# Environmental Report

Report for:

**Pixley & District Group Neighbourhood Area**

**October 2017**



# **Pixley and District Group Parish Environmental Report**

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## Non-technical summary

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is an important part of the evidence base which underpins Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP), as it is a systematic decision support process, aiming to ensure that environmental assets, including those whose importance transcends local, regional and national interests, are considered effectively in plan making.

The environmental appraisal of the Pixley and District Group NDP has been undertaken in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plan and Programmes Regulations 2004. Stage A of the SEA process involved Scoping and Stage B provided a review and analysis of the NDP. Stage C involved preparing an Environmental Report and Stage D comprises a formal consultation on both this and the Draft Plan itself.

The Pixley and District Group Parish has undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. The Group Parish comprises Pixley, Aylton, Little Marcle and Munsley parish they are situated around 12 miles east of Hereford and several miles west of Ledbury. The main connection to Hereford is via the A438 road which passes through the area to the middle of the group parish, forming Trumpet Crossroads with the A417.

The Draft Pixley and District group NDP includes 4 objectives and it is intended that these objectives will be delivered by 11 criteria based planning policies; no site allocations or settlement boundaries are proposed here. The plan is criteria based with no designated settlement boundaries or sites.

The group parish is rural in nature, with development focused throughout the parish as it has grown organically in the form of hamlets, scattered groups of houses and farmsteads. Pixley group has a dispersed rather than nucleated character, with services including a range of services located along the A438 Trumpet Crossroads. These include a hotel, café and shop, garden centre, pub, gallery and tea room.

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening has not been carried out as the Group Parish falls outside the catchment for the River Wye (including River Lugg), therefore a HRA is not required.

On the whole, it is considered that the Pixley and District group NDP is in general conformity with both national planning policy contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and strategic policies set within the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). Nor does it propose any growth that would be over and above that prescribed by strategic policies.

Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the effects of the policies within the Pixley and District group NDP will be monitored annually via the Council's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Pixley and District group Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 The Pixley and District group NDP does not propose any site allocations or settlement boundaries. Pixley and District group is not identified as a targeted rural village for proportionate housing growth, as is not within table 4.14 or 4.15 which in Policy RA1 of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). The NDP will, however, provide general policies for guiding future development across the group parish as a whole.

### Purpose of the SEA

- 1.3 SEA is a requirement of EC Directive 2001/42/EC (the SEA Directive) which requires the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment to ensure that the proposals in that plan or programme contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.
- 1.4 The Directive was transposed into domestic legislation through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and which applies to plans with significant environmental effects.
- 1.5 A screening opinion was carried out on the Pixley and District group NDP and it concluded that due to the range of environmental designations in and around the parish, there may be significant environmental effects and consequently an SEA would be required.

### Parish Neighbourhood Plan Context

- 1.6 Pixley and District Group Parish comprises the four Parishes of Pixley, Aylton, Little Marcle and Munsley. The Group Parish lies several miles west of the market town of Ledbury, and around 12 miles east of Hereford. The area is crossed with two busy A roads A438 the road connecting Hereford to Ledbury and A417 running north to south of the group parish. These A roads form a crossroads junction at Trumpet. The main public transport provision is between Hereford and Ledbury on the A438, where the bus service enables a weekday journey to work to either town. The Area is crossed by the Hereford/Ledbury railway line and by the Herefordshire Trail, a long-distance footpath.
- 1.7 The parish is rural in nature with the majority of the households spread throughout the parish, with small clusters of dwellings in Pixley and District group. The population of the area in 2011 was 554 in 209 households, with a population density of 0.3 persons per hectare. Local employment is largely linked to agriculture and provided through the established farm enterprises and local services. Most of the farmland is fertile mainly rated being grade 2 very good and some grade 1 excellent to the south of Little Marcle. Commercial apple, pear and soft fruit growing has been associated with the locality for many years and is a notable feature of the farming economy and land use.
- 1.8 Pixley and District group fall within the River Leadon hydrological catchment area and is not within the River Wye SAC. Pixley and District group has 1 Conservation Area, 5 Ancient Woodlands, 6 Local Wildlife Sites. There are numerous built heritage assets, too, including listed buildings, 1 unregistered park and garden.
- 1.9 The vision for Pixley and District group in 2031 is as follows:
- Tranquil rural parishes whose landscape, wildlife and historic heritage are identified, protected and sustainably managed;
  - A place where the next generation would want to raise their children;

- A location which supports farming, providing local employment;
- A thriving local community meeting the needs of all ages;
- A place that also supports small scale local businesses, tourism, well-designed affordable housing, and other services.

1.10 The 4 NDP objectives are as follows:

- Objectives for housing
- Objectives for the local economy
- Objective for the environment
- Objective for the local economy

#### **Context of Neighbourhood Plans**

1.11 NDPs are a relatively new type of planning document that form a key part of the Government's localism agenda. They enable local communities to develop plans that reflect local aspirations, in accordance with strategic policies.

1.12 The Pixley and District group NDP must therefore conform to national planning policy set within the NPPF and strategic level local policy including the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).

1.13 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) was adopted on the 16<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

1.14 Paragraph 216 of the NPPF and Planning Protecting the environment. Practice Guidance sets out the weight that may be given to relevant policies in emerging plans, including NDPs, and indicated that weight may be given to relevant policies in emerging NDPs according to:

- The stage of preparation of the emerging plan (the more advanced the preparation, the greater the weight that may be given);
- The extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies (the less significant the unresolved objections, the greater the weight that may be given); and
- The degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the policies in this Framework (the closer the policies in the emerging plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).

1.15 This part of the NPPF is reinforced by Planning Practice Guidance published in March 2014, once an emerging NDP may be a material planning considered once it has reached submission/local authorities publication stage (Regulation 16). This is reinforced by recent ministerial statements and case law (West Sussex), all of which have demonstrated that an emerging NDP may be a material consideration at the Regulation 16 stage<sup>1</sup>.

1.16 Table 4.14 and 4.15 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) does not list Pixley or any of the villages in Pixley and District group among the settlements which it considers to be sustainable locations for growth, which meet the needs of people with local connections or affordable housing in line with the provisions of Policy RA2. Therefore housing in Pixley and District will be judged under RA3 policy.

1.17 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the Pixley and District group NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the Parish, by setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined.

<sup>1</sup> For the avoidance of doubt, this NDP is currently at the Draft Plan Stage (Regulation 14) and cannot, therefore, be given weight in reaching decisions on planning applications

## Structure of SEA

1.19 The structure of the document is as follows:

- Section 2 – Explains the SEA methodology and summarises the comments received in respect of the SEA Scoping Report
- Section 3 - Introduces the Pixley and District group Neighbourhood Plan objectives and the SEA framework
- Section 4 - Appraises the objectives contained within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 5 - Appraises the options considered within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 6 – Appraises the policies contained within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 7 – Discusses the implementation and monitoring of the Neighbourhood Plan
- Section 8 - Concludes the SEA report by outlining next steps

## 2.0 Methodology

2.1 The SEA process comprised several stages and which are summarised, in some detail, below.

2.2 Stage A involved 4 tasks and culminated in a Scoping Report:

- *Task A1:* Identified and reviewed relevant policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives from European, National and Local sources.
- *Task A2:* Collected baseline information to provide a picture of past, present and likely future conditions within the area. This helped to establish indicators which will be used to monitor the effects and performance of the Pixley and District group NDP.
- *Task A3:* Focused on the environmental issues identified from the baseline, highlighting key issues and problems within the neighbourhood area.
- *Task A4:* Used the information gathered from Tasks A1-A3 to develop a set of SEA objectives, sometimes referred to as the 'sustainability framework'.
- *Task A5:* Collated the results of Tasks A1-A4 within a Scoping Report, a document which was subject to a statutory 5 week consultation.

2.3 Stage B involved 4 tasks and assessed the effects of the NDP.

- *Task B1:* Tested NDP Objectives against the SEA Objectives
- *Task B2:* Developed and refined the NDP options and policies
- *Task B3/B4:* Predicted and evaluated the significant effects of the NDP

2.4 Stage C involved preparing an Environmental Report. This report presents information compiled during Stage B of the SEA process and constitutes the Draft Environmental Appraisal of the NDP. It accompanies the Draft Plan during its formal Regulation 14 consultation with people who live, work and carry out businesses in the neighbourhood area, as well as statutory bodies listed in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

- 2.5 Producing an Environmental Report was therefore a legal requirement and the submission of this report to Herefordshire Council forms Stage D of the SEA process.

### Scoping Report Consultation

- 2.6 With regard to the SEA scoping assessments, documents A1 to A4 were completed by a Herefordshire Council Planning Officer and sent to the Parish Council for comment, in readiness for a 5 week consultation with statutory bodies, pursuant to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.
- 2.7 After the document was approved by the Parish Council, the Pixley and District group SEA Scoping Report was available to four<sup>2</sup> statutory bodies for consultation from 12<sup>th</sup> April to 17<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

### Consultation outcomes from Statutory Consultees

- 2.8 The consultation resulted in 2 responses, both of which are attached at Appendix 3.
- 2.9 Both responses were collated and incorporated within this document where relevant.

**Natural England:** Recommends that additional baseline data be sourced in respect of geodiversity and geological conservation in relation to designated features. NE also recommended reference to landscape characterisation studies.

**Historic England:** Have no substantive objection to the contents of the documents.

**Environment Agency:** No comments received

**Natural Resources Wales:** No comments received

## 3.0 The SEA Framework

- 3.1 As mentioned previously, Stage A of the SEA identifies and reviews relevant policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives from European, National and Local sources (refer to Table A1 in Appendix 2 for details of those documents that were reviewed in completing Stage A of SEA on the Pixley and District group NDP).
- 3.2 The requirement to undertake this 'context review' is contained in Annexes 1(a) and (e) of the SEA Directive which states that an Environmental Report should include:

*"...an outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes" and*

*"...the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation"*

### Policy context

- 3.3 The Pixley and District group NDP will deliver the Local Plan (Core Strategy) at parish level by adding locally specific detail to strategic policies. As a consequence, the Scoping Report for

<sup>2</sup> Statutory consultation bodies: Natural England; English Heritage; Environment Agency Natural Resources Wales

the NDP was based on the context review Herefordshire Council undertook for its Local Plan (Core Strategy).

3.4 The results of this assessment (context review) provide the source of the local baseline data and have been incorporated into the SEA framework. It should be noted that:

- No list of policies, plans and programmes can ever be exhaustive and that Herefordshire Council has selected those considered to be of particular relevance to the planning system;
- New or revised plans and policies can emerge during the SEA process

3.5 The following strategies and plans have been reviewed and, where appropriate, incorporated within the SA Framework objectives:

- *The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010)* - These regulations transpose the Habitats Directive in England, Wales and to a limited extent Scotland by ensuring that activities are carried out in accordance with the Habitats Directive, which is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna.
- *The EC Water Framework Directive (2000)* - Commits all EU member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water courses by 2015
- *The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)* - The major legal instrument for wildlife protection in Britain, although other significant acts have been passed since. It has numerous parts and supplementary lists and schedules many of which have been amended since publication.
- *Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)* - Forms part of the UK's Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework by setting out England's contribution towards the UK's commitments under the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity.
- *The Countryside and Right of Way Act (2000)* - Creates a statutory right of access on foot to certain types of open land, to modernise the public rights of way system, to strengthen nature conservation legislation, and to facilitate better management of AONBs
  - *The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)* - Designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering Government policy.
  - *Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy (2009)* - Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will more effectively meet its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.
  - *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012)* - Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.
  - *Planning Practice Guidance (2013)* - Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.
  - *Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP) 2013-2015* - Sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period April 2013 to April 2015.



- *Understanding Herefordshire Report (2014)* - Important to understand the place such as the local economy natural and built environment in which people live, Pixley and District group and work as part of understanding their quality of life. Enable development for economy and housing to required levels and growth should be supported by sustainable transport measures.
- *Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2009-2014 (2009)* - Identifies the issues and challenges facing the special features of the area and contains 24 guiding principles and 46 strategic objectives which will help address them.
- *Wye Valley AONB management Plan 2009-2014 (2009)* - The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision for the area and the priorities for its management.
- *Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016* - Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to support business growth up to 2016.
- *Herefordshire Employment Land Study (2012)* - Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.
- *Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (2009)* - The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:
  - Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development
  - Assessing sites for their housing potential; and
  - Predicting when a site could be developed for housing.
- *Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) (2013)* - Builds on an earlier Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) developed for Herefordshire and Shropshire. Its purpose is to inform the Local Plan's policies regarding housing need and demand (for market and affordable housing) within each of the 7 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031.
- *Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study (2012)* - Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.
- *Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report (2013)* - Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy
- *Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment (2013)* - Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2007)* - Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.
- *Building Biodiversity into the LDF (2009)* - Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.

- *Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010)* - Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.
- *Renewable Energy Study (2010)* - Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.
- *Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment (2012)* - Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.
- *Open Spaces Study (2006)* - The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snap shot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.
- *Play Facilities Study (2012)* - The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.
- *Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study (2009)* - The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development. The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.

3.6 Appendix 1 of the Pixley and District group NDP Scoping Report provides additional detail on the Plans, Policies and Programmes mentioned above and identifies the implications for the SEA and NDP.

### SEA Objectives and baseline characteristics

3.7 The SEA objectives that were used at Stages A and B of the process are listed in the following table.

SEA Objective	
1	To maintain or enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)
2	To maintain or enhance the quality of landscapes and townscape
3	To improve the quality of surroundings
4	To conserve or where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage
5	To improve air quality
6	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
7	To reduce contributions to climate change
8	To reduce vulnerability to climate change
9	To improve water quality
10	To provide for sustainable sources of water supply
11	To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk
12	To conserve soil resources and quality
13	To minimise the production of waste

14	To improve the health of the population
15	To reduce crime and nuisance
16	To conserve natural and manmade resources

- 3.8 The SEA objectives detailed above conform to the SEA Directive, and are derived from the Sustainability Appraisal undertaken for the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy 2011-2031.
- 3.9 Baseline information gathered during Stage A of the SEA process provided details of the current environmental characteristics of the neighbourhood area and the status of its natural assets and features (refer to Appendix 2). This information was analysed as part of Task B2 of SEA, which looked at the extent to which the emerging NDP policies will help or obstruct these characteristics.
- 3.10 Following the completion of Task B2 of SEA it was apparent that there is no significant environmental issues regarding the water quality as the group parish is outside the hydrological catchment area of the River Wye SAC.
- 3.11 The NDP does not propose that sites be allocated for development and contains only criteria-based policies. On this basis, the delivery of the NDP should not exacerbate existing problems regarding water quality or have an unacceptable adverse impact.
- 3.12 Baseline characteristics within the SEA detail the current environmental status of environmental characteristics in the neighbourhood plan area from different sources. The source of Baseline Information used in Table A2 in Appendix 2, and analysed in Table B2 can be found in Appendix 4 Baseline characteristics in relation to the Pixley and District group NDP SEA objectives can be found in appendix 4.
- 3.13 There are three objectives for which there is no direct local baseline data available and therefore this provides a limitation on the baseline data and whether the NDP policies are able to move towards or away from this data, this also means that there are no future trends to link the SEA objective too.

#### 4.0 Assessing the NDP Objectives

- 4.1 The following are four objectives listed in the NDP that aim to realise the vision for Pixley and District group in 2031.
- Objectives for housing
  - Objectives for the local economy
  - Objective for the environment
  - Objective for the local economy
- 4.2 The table below tests these NDP objectives against the SEA objectives, providing a summary of the results of Task B1 of SEA. The full results are available at Appendix 4 of this report.
- 4.3 The majority of those NDP objectives which have a relationship with the SEA framework are positively compatible with it or have a neutral effect.
- 4.4 Objective 1 and 2 had an uncertain impact on the SEA Objectives 9, 10, 11. This is because at this stage given the lack of detail over the exact locations of schemes that may come to fruition as a result of the implementation of these objectives; however, it is accepted that further development of the planning policies that relate to these objectives would move them towards a compatible outcome.
- 4.5 Task B1 of the SEA did not identify any potential conflicts between the NDP objectives and the SEA framework.

Key:	
+	Compatible
-	Possible conflict
0	Neutral
X	No relationship between objectives
?	Uncertain, more information needed

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Objective 1	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	?	?	?	0	0	+	+	0
Objective 2	0	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	0
Objective 3:	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	+	++
Objective 4	+	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

## 5.0 Assessing the NDP Options

- 5.1 All options that were considered by Pixley and District Group Parish during the development of their Plan have been assessed as part of the SEA, the summary matrix of the assessment can be found in Table B2 options these tables are in Appendix 4.
- 5.2 The options covered the topics that are likely to formulate the topics going forward in the Plan. These options were formulated from questionnaire and at public consultation events and publications across the Parish in 2017. The results of which will feed into the identification of the preferred options and ultimately the draft policies.
- 5.3 A 'do nothing' option 1, was also considered by the Parish, i.e. not undertaking a Neighbourhood Development Plan, however this was discounted after due consideration at an early stage by the Parish Council as it was highlighted within the Parish Plan that the majority of the community would support the work undertaken for a Neighbourhood Plan.
- 5.4 The Pixley and District Group two options all had a generally positive or unknown impact upon the Baseline data and SEA objectives. As no settlements within Pixley and District is identified as a settlement for proportionate growth. Options were not required regarding site selection or settlement boundaries, as growth is restricted to 'limited' in accordance with policy RA3 of the Herefordshire Core Strategy.
- 5.5 Option 2 to proceed with a criteria based plan is the most favoured this is due to the development being limited to very small projects in line with agreed Core Strategy criteria. Reuse of redundant farm building and development through farming diversification. The criteria is known, but the details of where these locations are have yet to be decided. This will be determined and assessed further at planning application stage.

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Option 1- Do nothing	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Option 2-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Criteria based policies																

## 6.0 Appraisal of the policies

6.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Pixley and District group NDP is developing a range of options and testing these, so that a preferred way forward can be selected.

6.2 Although the Draft NDP identifies a number of key themes or issues which are considered significant to the Group Parish, there were alternative approaches (see above) were considered prior to an informal consultation that took place in respect of an emerging draft plan. The scope for alternatives were limited by policy RA3 setting of the Neighbourhood Area. Therefore only the following, emerging set of draft policies can be appraised for the purposes of Stage B of the SEA:

- Policy PIX1: Sustainable development
- Policy PIX2: Housing in Pixley and District
- Policy PIX3: Rural Exception Housing
- Policy PIX4: Economic Development in Pixley and District
- Policy PIX 5: Poly tunnels
- Policy PIX 6: Communications and broadband
- Policy PIX 7: Natural Environment
- Policy PIX 8: Historic Environment
- Policy PIX 9: Design and Access
- Policy PIX 10: Renewable Energy
- Policy PIX 11: Community Facilities

### Stage B of SEA

6.3 In the context of Task B1 of SEA, the previous section of this report identified that many of the NDP objectives are compatible with the SEA framework, while others had either a neutral impact, no relationship with the SEA objectives or if needed; further information such as location of development. Additional policy safeguards within the NDP and Local Plan (Core Strategy) would help mitigate any possible conflicts.

6.4 With regard to Task B2 of SEA, the NDP policies were measured against both the SEA framework and the baseline characteristics identified during Stage A of the process; here, there was no direct baseline data available in respect of SEA Objectives 3 and 9. Full details of this appraisal are attached at Appendix 4.

6.5 The policies largely score as positive against the SEA objectives and will not, therefore, have an adverse impact on the baseline characteristics or immediate environmental impacts. This is because they are criteria based policies which only consider schemes on their own merits, as and when planning applications are submitted to the local planning authority.

6.6 Impact on water quality, water supply and flood risk can be fully assessed further when more details are known, such as location, scale and type of development. This could be determined

on an individual basis at planning application stage. Mitigation measures have been included within the Core Strategy and criteria policies within the NDP.

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Policy 1	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+
Policy 2	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	x	x	x	+	+	+	+	+
Policy 3:	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Policy 4	0	+	+	x	+	+	0	0	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	0
Policy 5	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	x	x	x	+	0	0	0	+
Policy 6	0	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	+	+	+	+	0
Policy 7	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++
Policy 8	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++
Policy 9	+	+	++	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+
Policy 10	0	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	+	+	+	+	0
Policy 11	0	+	+	x	0	0	x	x	x	x	x	+	+	+	+	0

6.7 The results of Task B3, as shown at Appendix 4, demonstrate that the cumulative impact of the NDP policies over the course of the plan period is generally positive. Although some policies may have a neutral or uncertain impact during the first 5 years of the plan period, there is no reason why they cannot have a positive effect in the medium to long-term due to policy safeguards included in the Local Plan (Core Strategy); these safeguards should avoid or mitigate against unacceptable adverse impacts.

6.8 Task B4 of SEA brings together the results of earlier tasks and thus identifies the cumulative impact of the entire of the NDP. This task, which is also attached at Appendix 4, reveals that the objectives and policies contained in the Pixley and District group NDP are mostly in general conformity with the Local Plan (Core Strategy), which means that the cumulative effect of the plan will contribute to the achievement of the SEA objectives.

6.9 None of the NDP policies are considered to be in direct conflict with or propose greater levels of growth and development than strategic policies contained in the Local Plan (Core Strategy), which themselves have undergone a full Sustainability Appraisal.

## 7.0 Implementation and monitoring

7.1 Herefordshire Council as the Local Planning Authority should make arrangements to monitor the significant effects of implementing a neighbourhood plan.

7.2 Indeed, Regulation 17 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 requires the Local Planning Authority to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of any NDP that was subject to SEA, in order to identify unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and to enable appropriate remedial actions.

7.3 Accordingly, Herefordshire Council will monitor outcomes from the NDP policies and the results of these will be reported in the Council's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).

7.4 The AMR runs from 1 April to 31 March each year and the topics covered therein include the following:

- Housing delivery;
- Previously developed land
- Housing completions

- Affordable housing conditions
- Employment land delivery.

## **8.0 Next steps**

- 8.1 This report will be subject to a formal public consultation of 6 weeks duration alongside the Draft Pixley and District group NDP.
- 8.2 Responses on the Draft NDP will be reviewed and the plan amended where appropriate.
- 8.3 Any changes made to the NDP as a consequence of the Regulation 14 consultation with those who live, work or carry out business in the neighbourhood area, as well as statutory consultation bodies, will trigger a review of the SEA, unless they do not materially affect the outcomes of Stage B of the SEA process.

# Appendix 1



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

**The Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations  
2015 (Reg. 32)**

**Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d)**

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<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Pixley & District Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Pixley & District Group Parish Council
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	16 August 2016

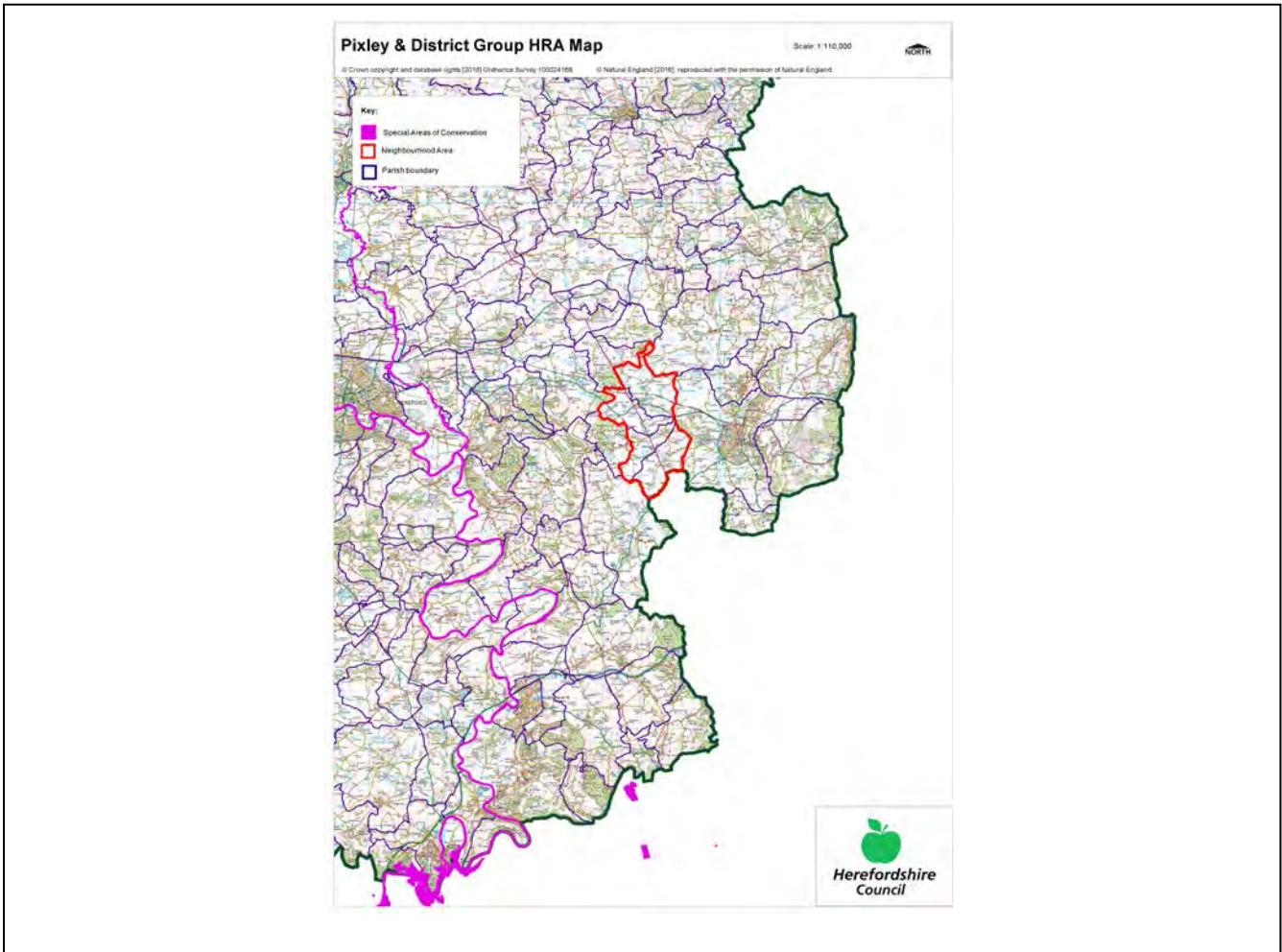
### **Introduction**

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)



### River Wye (including the River Lugg) Special Area of Conservation (SAC):

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	The River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC is 7.5km away from the Group Parish
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	N	The Group Parish is not with the River Wye (including the River Lugg) hydrological catchment area.
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	N/A	-

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 38km away from the Group Parish
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**River Clun SAC:**

Does the River Clun border the Neighbourhood Area	N	The River Clun does not border the Group 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 Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites are 14.75km away from the Group Parish
--	---	--

**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 Wye Valley Woodlands are 22.5km away from the Group Parish
--	---	--

**HRA Conclusion:**

The assessment above highlights that European Sites will not need to be taken into account in the future Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Pixley & District Group Neighbourhood Area and a Full HRA Screening will not be required.

**European Site**

*(List only those which are relevant)*

None

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

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

SEA features	Within Neighbourhood Area		Bordering Neighbourhood Area	
	Total number	Name(s)	Total number	Name(s)
Ancient Woodland	5	Hasnett Wood; Whitfield Coppice; Hay Grove Coppice; Ast Wood; Millpound Coppice.	8	Mains Wood; Priggles Wood; East Wood; Ashperton Park; Meephill Coppice; Baymans Wood; Grovesend Wood; Redhill & Mallins Wood.
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	0	-	0	-
Conservation Areas	1	Aylton.	1	Putley.
Flood Areas	There are Flood Zones running alongside watercourses in Little Marcle, Aylton and Munsley Parishes.			
Geoparks	0	-	1	Malvern Hills Geopark.
Listed Buildings	There are numerous listed buildings within the Group Parish.			
Local Geological Sites (LGS)	0	-	0	-
Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)	6	Hasnett Wood; Old canal at Ashperton; Roadside verge near The Trumpet; Whitfield and Slade Coppices; Ast Wood; Patches Coppice.	6	Putley Common and surrounding woodlands; East Wood; Ashperton Park; Highlea Wood; Meephill Coppice and Childer Wood; Woodlands on Wall Hills.
Mineral Reserves	0	-	0	-

National Nature Reserve (NNR)	0	-	0	-
Nature Trails	1	Herefordshire Trail.	0	-
Registered Parks and Gardens	0	-	0	-
Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)	0	-	3	Ashperton Castle; Wall Hills Camp; Roman Villa east of The Rectory.
Sites of Importance in Nature Conservation (SINC)	0	-	0	-
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	0	-	0	-
Unregistered parks and gardens	1	Mainstone Court.	3	Upleadon Court; Hall Court, Kynaston; Putley Court.
			<b>SSSI Status</b>	<b>SSSI Status</b>
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	0	-	-	1 Mains Wood. Unfavourable Declining.

**Decision Notification:**

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Pixley & District Group Neighbourhood Area:

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

**Assessment date: 4 August 2016**

**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."

### 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.

# Pixley & District Group SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:25,000



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**Key:**

- Ancient Woodlands
- Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Herefordshire Trail
- Unregistered Parks & Gardens
- Conservation Area
- Listed Buildings
- Parish Boundaries

**Herefordshire  
Council**

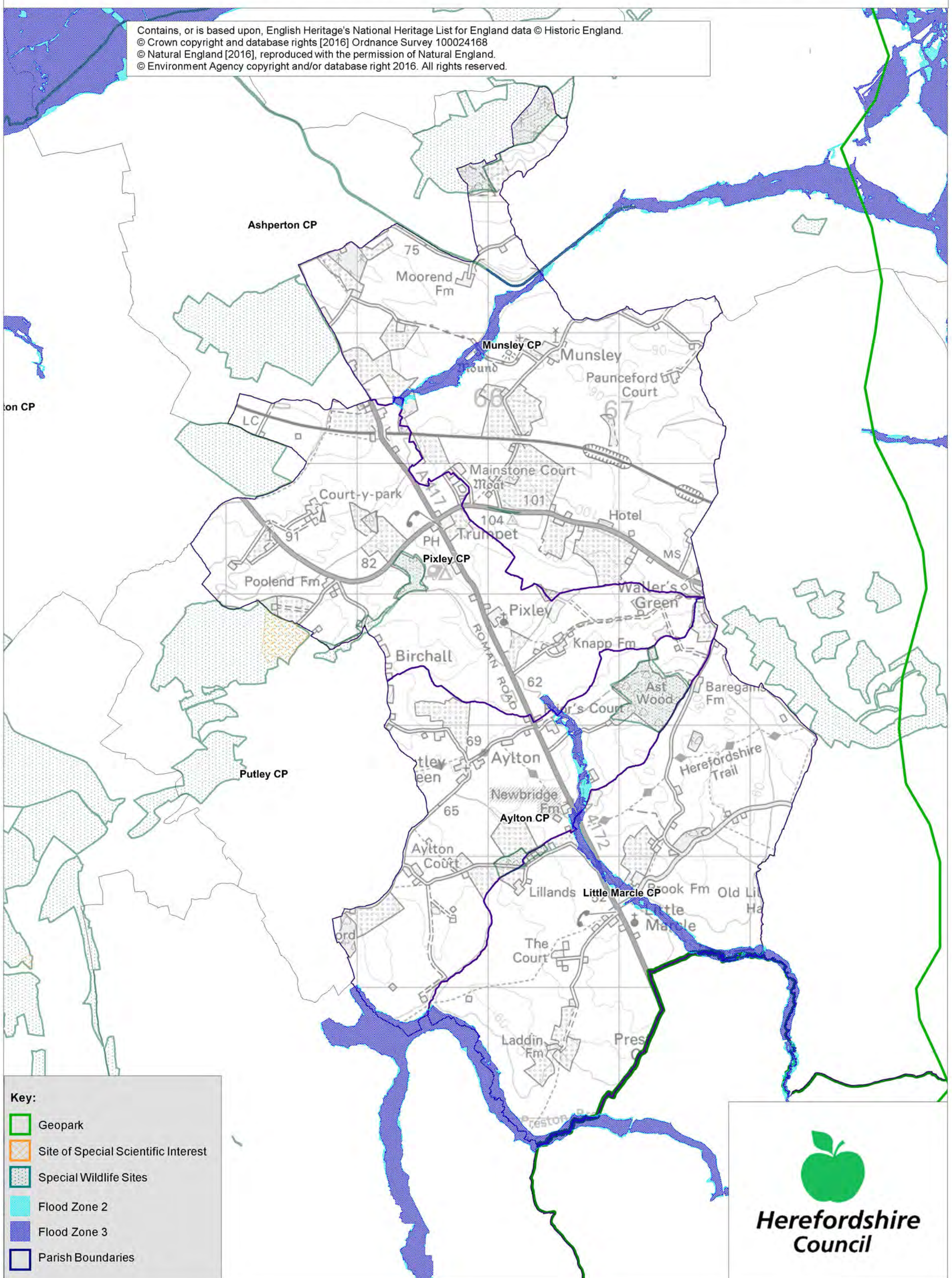


# Pixley & District Group SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:25,000



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**Key:**

- Geopark
- Site of Special Scientific Interest
- Special Wildlife Sites
- Flood Zone 2
- Flood Zone 3
- Parish Boundaries

**Herefordshire  
Council**

# Appendix 2

# Strategic Environmental Assessment



## Pixley & District Group Neighbourhood Area

Scoping Report

April 2017



**Herefordshire  
Council**

## Consultation on the Scoping Report

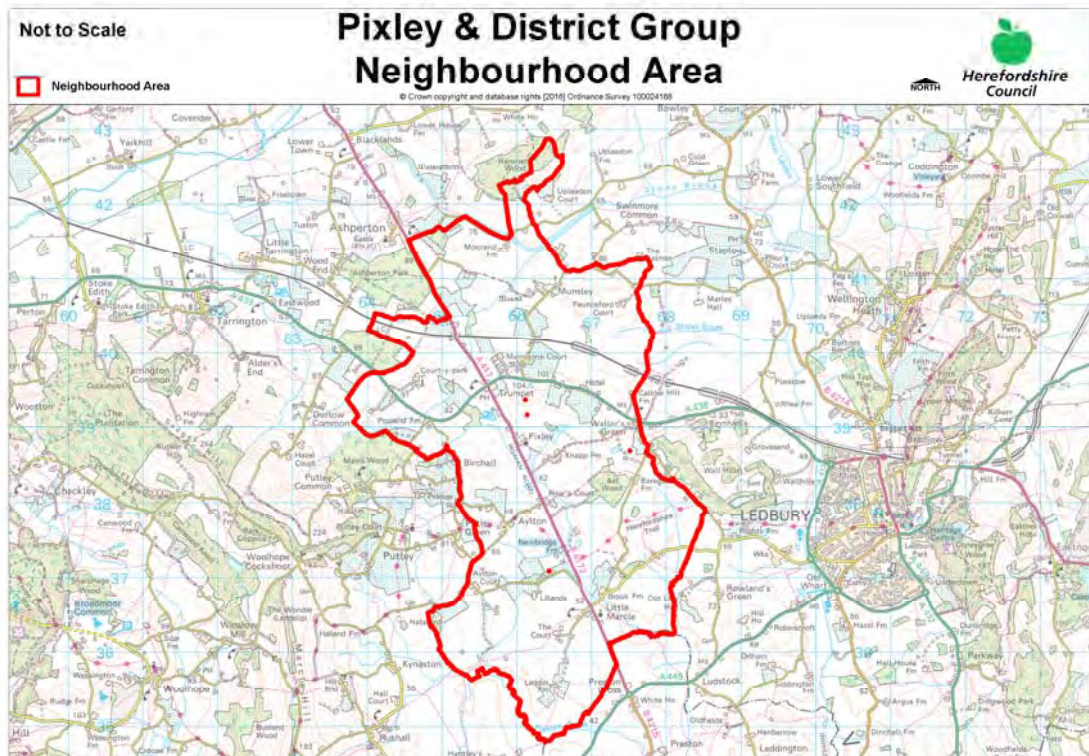
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

- Ensure the SEA is both comprehensive and sufficiently robust to support the Neighbourhood Development Plan during the later stages of full public consultation;
- Seek advice on the completeness of the plan review and baseline data and gain further information where appropriate;
- Seek advice on the suitability of key sustainability issues;
- Seek advice on the suitability of the sustainability objectives.

Comments on this Scoping Report have been invited from the three consultation bodies as required by the SEA regulations, together with Natural Resources Wales.

The three consultation bodies are as follows:

1. Natural England;
2. Historic England;
3. Environment Agency.



## Template A1: Identification and review of local Neighbourhood Area relevant plans, policies and programmes

**Parish Council Name:** Pixley & District Group

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name:** Pixley & District Group Neighbourhood Development Plan

**Date completed:** January 2017

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations	European Union Legislation	2010	These regulations transpose the Habitats Directive in England, Wales and to a limited extent Scotland by ensuring that activities are carried out in accordance with the Habitats Directive, which is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna.	The Regulations make it an offence (subject to exceptions) to deliberately capture, kill, disturb, or trade in the animals listed in Schedule 2, or pick, collect, cut, uproot, destroy, or trade in the plants listed in Schedule 4. However, these actions can be made lawful through the granting of licenses by the appropriate authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
The EC Water Framework Directive	European Union	2000	Commits all EU member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water courses by 2015	Aims for 'good status' for all ground and surface waters (rivers, lakes, transitional waters, and coastal waters) in the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)	Domestic Legislation	1981	The major legal instrument for wildlife protection in Britain, although other significant acts have been passed since. It	The principle mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>Flora and fauna</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.

<sup>1</sup> Derived from the LDF General Scoping Report (June 2007)

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
			has numerous parts and supplementary lists and schedules many of which have been amended since publication.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	
The Countryside and Right of Way Act (2000)	Domestic Legislation	2000	Creates a statutory right of access on foot to certain types of open land, to modernise the public rights of way system, to strengthen nature conservation legislation, and to facilitate better management of AONBs.	<p>The Act provides for a new right of access on foot to areas of open land comprising: Mountain (land over 600 metres); Moorland; Heath; Downland; Registered common land.</p> <p>There are provisions to consider extending the right in the future to coastal land, but not woodland despite some early publicity suggesting this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)	Domestic Legislation	2006	Designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering	Provides that any public body or statutory undertaker in England and Wales must have regard to the purpose of conservation of biological diversity in the exercise of their functions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
			Government policy.			
Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy	European Union Strategy	2009	Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will more effectively meet its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.	Recognises the need to gradually change current unsustainable consumption and production patterns and move towards a better integrated approach to policy making. The Strategy sets overall objectives, targets and concrete actions for seven key priority challenges, predominantly environmental: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change and clean energy;</li> <li>• Sustainable transport</li> <li>• Sustainable production and consumption;</li> <li>• Public health threats;</li> <li>• Better management of natural resources;</li> <li>• Social inclusion, demography and migration;</li> <li>• Fighting global poverty.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should take into account the objectives of the strategy. The aim of sustainable development should be implicit in its approach.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services	National Strategy	2011	Forms part of the UK's Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework by setting out England's contribution towards the UK's commitments under the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity.	Sets out to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>	The NDP should take account of the provisions of the strategy, making the most of opportunities to enhance wildlife habitats or restore degraded ecosystems in the process.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	National planning policy.	2012	Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The NDP should take into account the relevant policies set within the NPPF.
Planning Practice Guidance	Government Guidance	2014	Provides guidance to local planning authorities and others on the operation of the planning system.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>	The NDP should take into account the planning guidance provided within these documents.



Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	
Herefordshire Core Strategy, (adopted) 2011-2031	Development Plan Document (DPD)	2015	Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.	<p>Outlines the emerging suite of countywide planning policies relating to housing, economic development and the environment, which the NDP will need to be in conformity with where relevant.</p> <p>The Core Strategy includes a range of objectives, five of which directly relate to rural areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community</li> <li>• To improve access to services in rural areas</li> <li>• To strengthen the economic viability of the villages and their rural hinterlands</li> <li>• To achieve sustainable communities and protect the environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>The NDP should take account of relevant policies set within in the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Where necessary, the NDP should provide services, facilities and employment opportunities that are accessible to both local and neighbouring communities.</p> <p><b>Pixley &amp; District Group is made up of four areas.</b></p> <p><b>Pixley, Ayleton, Little Marcle and Munsley.</b></p> <p><b>These are not listed in the Core Strategy under Policy RA1 or RA2 but should be held against Policy RA3.</b></p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve, promote, utilise and enjoy our natural, built, historic and cultural assets for the fullest benefit of the whole community.</li> </ul> <p>To achieve a thriving rural Herefordshire, the Core Strategy seeks to enhance the role the villages have traditionally played in as accessible, sustainable centres for their rural catchments.</p> <p>Pixley &amp; District Group is not allocated under a Housing Market Area (HMA) and there is no requirement for proportional growth.</p>		

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 2016-2031	Corporate	2016	The Local Transport Plan outlines the significant role that transport will play to enable the delivery of the Core Strategy proposals. This sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period 2016 to 2031.	<p>The Transport Plan aims to increase highway capacity for new development sites as improve efficiency of existing transport network.</p> <p>The document includes five key objectives, one which plans to enable economic growth connecting new roads with developments. Intrinsic to this is to provide a good quality transport network. The other objectives aim to promote healthy lifestyles with pollution reduction and active travel schemes. Improvements will be made to make journeys easier and safer, ensuring access to services for living in rural areas maximising accessibility.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The LTP does not explore current transport issues in the Pixley & District Group Neighbourhood Plan area, but any new development proposed through the NDP should seek to reduce the environmental impacts of transport.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Understanding Herefordshire Report	Built and natural environment	2016	<p>Important to understand the place such as the local economy natural and built environment in which people live, learn and work as part of understanding their quality of life</p> <p>Promotion of healthy lifestyle choices.</p> <p>Enable development for economy and housing to required levels.</p> <p>Growth should be supported by sustainable transport measures.</p>	<p>An air quality management plan is in place to tackle this. Destination Hereford project is in place to give locals more sustainable transport options.</p> <p>Sustainable transport measures will also help to promote active lifestyles within Herefordshire.</p>	<p>Improve air quality.</p> <p>Have a more diverse range of transport options.</p>	None identified.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-2019	Corporate	2015	The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision and objectives for the Malvern Hills AONB area and the priorities for its management.	Identifies the issues and challenges facing the special features of the area and contains 21 guiding principles and 14 strategic objectives and 76 policies which will help address them.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Pixley & District Group Neighbourhood Plan Area is not within or adjacent to the Malvern Hills AONB.
Wye Valley AONB management Plan 2015-2020	Corporate	2015	The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision for the Wye Valley AONB area and the priorities for its management.	Sets out a range of objectives which seek to reconcile the competing interests of the environment, the ecology and the social and economic well-being of the AONB.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	Pixley & District Group Neighbourhood Plan Area is not within the Wye Valley AONB.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016	Corporate	2011	Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to support business growth up to 2016.	The document outlines the path and direction to foster economic vitality within Herefordshire. Key objectives therefore include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustaining business survival and growth</li> <li>• Increasing wage levels, range and quality of jobs</li> <li>• Having a skilled population to meet future work needs</li> <li>• Developing the county's built infrastructure so enterprise can flourish.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	None of merit

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Employment Land Study	Evidence	2012	Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.	<p>This study covers existing employment sites in Hereford, the five market towns and their rural hinterlands.</p> <p>There are no direct employment land allocations Pixley &amp; District Group at present and so the study does not identify sites which are worthy of continued protection from alternative uses. Nor does it make any recommendations in respect of employment need within the neighbourhood area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Material assets</li> <li>Population and human health</li> </ul>	None of merit.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Evidence	2015	<p>The HELAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development</li> <li>Assessing sites for their housing potential; and</li> <li>Predicting when a site could be developed for housing.</li> </ul>	There are no allocated SHLAA sites in Pixley & District Group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Climate factors</li> <li>Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>Flora and fauna</li> <li>Population and human health</li> <li>Soil</li> <li>Water</li> </ul>	The SHLAA assesses the potential availability of land for housing in the wider HMA, however does not directly allocate land for development in Pixley & District Group.



Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA)	Evidence	2013	Builds on an earlier Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) developed for Herefordshire and Shropshire. Its purpose is to inform the Local Plan's policies regarding housing need and demand (for market and affordable housing) within each of the 7 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031	The LHMA uses 7 HMAs as the geography for presenting data.  Pixley & District Group is not allocated under a direct HMA and therefore there is no applicable data for this section.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>The LHMA provides an indication of housing needs and affordability within the wider HMA, however this is not applicable to Pixley &amp; District Group.</p> <p>It provides evidence that could be used to inform policies or market and affordable housing requirements in the NDP.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study 2012 (updated in 2014)	Evidence	2014	Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.	<p>The delivery of 5,300 homes in the rural areas would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support growth in the rural population by 6%</li> <li>• Increase the number of households by 14.5%</li> </ul> <p>Forecasts also predict that growth in the population of the rural areas is likely to be primarily through an increase in those aged over 75.</p> <p>Moderate growth is expected in the 30-44 and 60-74 age brackets.</p> <p>The Local Housing Requirements Study therefore anticipates continuing improvements in life expectancy; significant growth is expected of those in their 80s, with the existing population in their 40s and 50s moving into retirement.</p> <p>As a consequence, the rural areas will face an increasing urgency to provide more 3 bedroom homes, with more 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>This study provides an indication of housing requirements in the rural areas.</p> <p><b>This evidence can be used to inform the content of the Pixley &amp; District Group, which could include policies to facilitate the provision of the right types of homes in the right places, however this is not directly applicable to the Parish Group.</b></p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				and 2 bed homes required in the affordable sector.		
Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report	Evidence	2013	Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy	There is no housing requirement or proportional growth allocated for Pixley & District Group area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Pixley & District Group NDP will need to be in conformity with the provisions of Core Strategy Policy RA3.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment	Evidence	2016	Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.	<p>Key findings from the survey of Gypsy and Traveller households in 2012 found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 31% of households surveyed have some sort of accommodation need</li> <li>• Of the 17 households with an accommodation need, 7 had a requirement for at least one additional pitch</li> <li>• 10 households had a requirement for bricks and mortar housing</li> <li>• There is an additional requirement for 7 pitches and 9 units of Registered Social Landlord accommodation within Herefordshire.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The <b>Pixley &amp; District Group</b> NDP must establish whether any of the need identified in this assessment falls within the neighbourhood area. The accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers are being addressed on a County-wide basis through the preparation of a Travellers' Sites DPD by Herefordshire Council, rather than directly through individual NDPs.
Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Evidence	2007	Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.	Integrating biodiversity objectives with other environmental, social and economic needs can provide a sustainable living and working environment that benefits both people and nature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>	The NDP can help to achieve the LBAP priorities.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Building Biodiversity into the LDF	Evidence	2009	Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.	This document provides useful information in respect of Hereford and the market towns only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	There is a lack of information about rural areas which means it will be necessary to gather and assess existing biodiversity and geodiversity data, in order to ensure that the <b>Pixley &amp; District Group NDP</b> can overcome any existing constraints and capitalise on opportunities to enhance habitats and their networks.
Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy	Evidence	2010	Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.	Establishes policies and principles for the protection and enhancement of those features and functions that contributes to the environment of Herefordshire across a range of scales.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the <b>Pixley &amp; District Group NDP</b> .

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Renewable Energy Study	Evidence	2010	Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.	<p>The total energy demand excluding transport for Herefordshire, at that point in time, was calculated as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electrical: 731 GWh/yr</li> <li>• Heat: 1,810 GWh/yr</li> <li>• Total: 2,541 GWh/yr</li> </ul> <p>There is scope for all types of renewable energy production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the <b>Pixley &amp; District Group NDP</b> .

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment	Evidence	2012	Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.	<p>The study updates components of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework 2010 such as updating population forecasts, setting local standards for synthetic turf pitches and grass playing fields within Herefordshire. It identifies any current gaps in provision, and looks forward to 2031 to assess what facilities are likely to be required by that date.</p> <p>There are no playing pitches within Pixley &amp; District Group.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	<p>The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the <b>Pixley &amp; District Group NDP</b>.</p> <p>Additional local evidence may be required to identify if there is a need for any secured playing pitch facilities within the Group Parish.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Open Spaces Study	Evidence	2006	The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snap shot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.	<p>The study reveals that within the <b>Ledbury area</b>, to which <b>Pixley &amp; District Group NDP</b> is a part, there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive under provision of parks and gardens and outdoor sport</li> <li>• Extensive over provision of natural and semi natural greenspace</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The open space audit and assessment of does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in <b>Pixley &amp; District Group NDP</b> .



Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Play Facilities Study	Evidence	2006	The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.	Pixley & District Group have a population of under 500 with no formal play provision.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Pixley & District Group NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study 2009	Evidence	2009	<p>The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development.</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.</p>	<p>Pixley &amp; District Group does not lie within the hydrological catchment of the River Wye SAC.</p> <p>It does sit within the Leadon River Catchment within the Lower Leadon catchment.</p> <p>The SFRA study states that:</p> <p>It has a 35% - 40% standard run off by sub catchment. This is potentially highly unsuitable for infiltration source control.</p> <p>A moderately slow (Tp-time to peak) time at around 9-11 hours.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Climate factors</li> <li>Material assets</li> <li>Population and human health</li> <li>Water</li> </ul>	<p>New development proposed through the Pixley &amp; District Group NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure. Where appropriate mitigation measures should be established within the NDP.</p> <p>Up-to-date flood risk information should be gathered from the Environment Agency, in order to ensure that any flood risks are considered when preparing the Pixley &amp; District Group NDP.</p>

**Appendix A2** – Baseline information for Pixley & District Group

*N.B. This is based on countywide baseline information with some additions relevant to Pixley & District Group (in red). Where no locally specific data is available for current status, trends and targets, only countywide data is reported. Any gaps in data may be filled following additional research.*

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</i>							
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	<p>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There are no local SSSI's</li> <li>• There is one bordering SSSI (mains wood – Unfavourable Declining)</li> </ul>	<p>2006: 22%</p> <p>2007: 22%</p> <p>2008: 22%</p> <p>2010: 24 %</p> <p>Proportion of SSSI land that was in unfavourable condition but recovering increased between 2010 and 2012 going from 41% to 65%.</p> <p>Proportion in unfavourable and declining condition had also decreased from 4% to 1%.</p>	<p>% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)</p>	<p>Herefordshire's SSSIs are in extremely poor condition relative to England as whole, where 96.1% of all SSSI land was in favourable condition in April 2014.</p> <p>The proportion of SSSI in unfavourable condition but recovering is greater than England as a whole, where the figure currently stands at 58.6%.</p>	<p>Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment</p> <p>NE &amp; DEFRA Website</p>

<sup>1</sup> Derived from the Pre Submission Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Assessment (May 2014)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	Percentage of opportunities taken	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	Countywide data is available, <b>but this indicator would not apply to this Neighbourhood Area, as the parish falls outside the hydrological catchment area for the River SAC.</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	Nutrient Management Plan

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	<p>The 2013 - 2014 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i></p>	<p>2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire.</p> <p>There are no formal records of any unacceptable adverse impacts on habitats or protected species.</p> <p>Originally 156 Priority Species were identified for inclusion in Herefordshire's LBAP.</p> <p>Similarly Herefordshire's LBAP covered 23 habitats with Action Plans.</p>	<p>To protect and where possible enhance the habitats of protected species identified.</p> <p>No net losses.</p>	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2013/14)

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SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.	<p><b>Pixley &amp; District Group has:</b></p> <p><b>SSSI: 0</b></p> <p>(Bordering SSSI's: 1) Mains Wood</p> <p><b>LWS: 6</b> Hasnett Wood; Old canal at Ashperton; Roadside verge near The Trumpet; Whitfield and Slade Coppices; Ast Wood; Patches Coppice. .</p> <p>(Bordering LWS:6) Putley Common and surrounding woodlands; East Wood; Ashperton Park; Highlea Wood; Meephill Coppice and Childer Wood; Woodlands on Wall Hills.</p> <p>There are no SACs, NNRs, SINC and LNRs within the parish.</p>	As of 2012, there had been no change in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of the planning permissions granted.	To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	Herefordshire Council Initial Screening Report for the Neighbourhood Plan  <b>Pixley &amp; District Group 16 August 2016</b>

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SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	<p>The neighbourhood area comprises the following types of landscapes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Small area of principal settled farmlands to the west</li> <li>• Plateau Estate Farmlands to the north</li> <li>• Principle wooded hills to the south</li> </ul>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Herefordshire Landscape Character Assessment (2004 updated 2009)
SEA Topic covered by objectives: <i>Material assets</i>							
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.	<p>Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.</p> <p>Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there are numerous scheduled monuments in Pixley &amp; District Group according to the latest version of the register. There are 38 shown on HER database.</p>	-	No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Herefordshire Environmental Records Register ( <a href="#">search January 2017</a> ).

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	<p>Historic Landscape Character assessments have only been undertaken for Hereford City.</p> <p>Rapid townscape Assessments (2010) were only undertaken for Hereford, Ledbury and Ross.</p> <p><i>Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis (2010) only considers sites on the urban fringe of Hereford and the five market towns.</i></p>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	<p>Historic Landscape Character Assessment for Hereford.</p> <p>Rapid townscape Assessments (2010)</p> <p><i>Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis (2010)</i></p>
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Population, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</i>							



SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design standards.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	AMR 2013-14
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning aspects of local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings particularly within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.  There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings within Pixley & District Group	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched January 2017)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Climatic Factors</i>							

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate change.	Transport patronage by mode	<p>% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by:</p> <p>Car: 70.1%  Foot: 14.7%  Bicycle: 4.3%  Bus: 2%  Train: 0.8%  Motorbike: 0.8%  Taxi: 0.3%  Other: 7%</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present</i></p>	The number of people cycling or travelling by bus as the main form transport to get to work declined between 2001 and 2011 – across England and Wales there was little change in either. Walking or driving a car or van on the other hand increased.	To encourage the take up of lesser polluting modes of transport.	There are a lack of transport options for many rural communities and therefore high car ownership and dependency – the last decade has seen a 15 per cent increase in household car ownership, although this is not reflected in traffic flows of recent years with volumes in Hereford City and wider county having decreased. The proportion of people working from home increased over the decade from 15 per cent in 2001 to 17 per cent in 2011.	2011 Census

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate change.	Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	To contribute towards the national target.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate	Total CO2 emissions per capita	<p>Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO<sup>2</sup>)</p> <p>Domestic emissions accounted for 35 per cent (438,237 tonnes) of Herefordshire's carbon footprint.</p> <p>There is no locally specific data available at present.</p>	<p>Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This trend hides an increase in emissions between 2009 and 2010 when total emissions in the county increased by 5% the same as across the UK (+5%).</p>	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.	CO <sup>2</sup> emissions produced are decreasing.	<p>Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).</p> <p>Understanding Herefordshire: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (July 2015).</p>

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water</i>							
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public wellbeing, the economy and the environment.	Natural environment	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.	2010/11: None 2011/13: Not specified 2013/14: None <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.	None identified.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water, air, soil, material assets</i>							
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	Natural environment	Agricultural land usage by quality . LA to monitor the number of hectares of the best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 3a and higher) lost to development.	<i>2011: Majority of land within the neighbourhood area was listed Grade 2 (Very Good) mainly to the north and south with a linear area running east to west around the middle of the Parish Group graded as 2 and 3 (Good to moderate) with a small area noted Grade 1 (Excellent) to the south of Little Marcle.</i>	-	Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	West Midland ALC Map (Natural England 2011).

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	Natural environment	Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive	Latest figures for the county as a whole dates back to 2005 when there was considered to be 84% assessed as good or very good. This represents a decrease in the % since 2002  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Figure steadily improved before going into decline:  Herefordshire 1999 85.9%, 2000 89.5%, 2001 92.2%, 2002 91.8%	To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality.	None identified.	The State of Herefordshire (2007)  Water Framework Directive (2000)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Soil</i>							
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.	2010/11: 67% 2011-13: 57% 2013-14: 65%  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Completions on PDL had risen to 71% by 2005.	To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy.	The number of brownfield completions has fallen slightly in recent years, though this is probably the offshoot of tough market conditions.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11),(2011-2013) and (2013-2014)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Housing densities in urban and rural areas	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Level of development in urban areas compared to rural.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>  This indicator would not be applicable to rural NDPs.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Cultural heritage</i>							

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (Historic England).	<p>Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR and which is due to be published in 2014. However, this data would be too large to incorporate into this template.</p> <p>There are numerous listed buildings within the parish group.</p> <p><b>HE Heritage at Risk Register:</b></p> <p>Church of St Andrew (1098989)</p> <p>Condition: Poor</p> <p>Priority Category: C - Slow decay; no solution agreed</p> <p>Owner Type: Religious organisation</p>	There were 71 heritage assets in Herefordshire that were considered to be at high risk and included in the Heritage at Risk Register January 2017.	<p>To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p> <p>Promote opportunities to improve condition</p> <p>Promote opportunities to achieve the removal of heritage assets from the at risk register.</p>	Church of St Andrew - Poor condition, slow decay; no solution agreed	Buildings at Risk Register (Historic England; search January 2017)
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SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning aspects of local loss of heritage assets, locally important buildings within the parish and particularly within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.  There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets locally important buildings particularly within conservation areas within Pixley & District Group	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within conservation area of Aylton.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched January 2017)

**Appendix A3** – Environmental issues identified from Ocle Pychard Group baseline

These environmental issues are the same as most of those identified for the Herefordshire Core Strategy<sup>1</sup>

SEA Topic		Environmental issue	SA objectives
1	Air	High reliance upon the private car causing high levels of air pollution and in Hereford in particular	Objective 16
		Need to reduce carbon emissions by encouraging alternative modes of travel.	
2	Biodiversity	Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from the adaptation and diversification of farming and forestry employment.	Objectives 13 & 15
		Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from development	
		Minimise loss of biodiversity and expand opportunities for wildlife everywhere.	
3	Climatic factors	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through planning, design and build.	Objective 16
4	Cultural heritage	There are numerous listed buildings and scheduled monuments in Pixley & District Group according to the latest version of the register, all of which require ongoing protection and many in need of high levels of maintenance. There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments.	Objective 20
5	Flora and fauna	Conserve and enhance the character and quality of historic landscapes, including all types of natural flora and fauna.	Objective 15
6	Material assets	How the countryside can continue to be managed in an economically, socially and environmentally beneficial way in the face of continuing pressures on traditional farming.	Objectives 14 & 18
7	Population	Minimise energy waste through good designs, which help to reduce energy consumption and maximise efficiency.	Objective 15
		Need to avoid enforcement investigations/action concerning locally important buildings and those within conservation areas in particular.	
8	Soil	Promoting development of previously developed land and buildings as opposed to greenfield sites or agricultural land of the highest quality.	Objectives 18 & 19

<sup>1</sup> Derived from the Pre-submission Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Assessment (May 2014) and LDF General Scoping Report (June 2007)

9	Water	Issues relating to availability of resources, foul drainage, pollution, and abstraction in a county which supports water dependent biodiversity of international and national importance, given the predicted climate change consequences for water availability and demanding projections for new housing.	Objectives 17 & 18
		Steady decline in the chemical quality of rivers over the last 10 years.	

## Appendix A4: SEA Framework

### SEA Scoping Stage A, Task A4 - SEA Framework SEA Objectives, Indicators, Targets

Parish Council Name: Pixley & District Group

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Pixley & District Group Neighbourhood Plan

Date completed: January 2017

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
Nature Conservation (Biodiversity, flora and fauna)	Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.  Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</li> <li>Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</li> <li>Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</li> <li>Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</li> <li>Create new appropriate habitats.</li> <li>Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic</li> </ul>	<p>Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.</p> <p>After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation</p> <p>Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.</p>	<p>% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)</p> <p>Percentage of opportunities taken</p> <p>To protect and where possible enhance the habitats of protected species identified. No net losses</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			<p>landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management</li> <li>• Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</li> <li>• Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</li> </ul>		
Landscape	Not covered in SA	<p>To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p> <p>To improve quality of surroundings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance the landscape everywhere and particularly in designated areas</li> <li>• Value and protect diversity and local distinctiveness</li> <li>• Improve landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside</li> <li>• Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space</li> </ul>	<p>Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.</p> <p>Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.</p> <p>Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.</p> <p>Area resulting in a loss of open space as a result of planning</p>	<p>To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live</li> <li>Decrease litter and graffiti in towns and countryside</li> <li>Result in the loss of open space</li> </ul>	permission	
Heritage	Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, historic environment and cultural heritage.	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and culture heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserve, protect and enhance heritage assets including conservation areas, listed buildings, archaeological sites and other culturally important features in both urban and rural settings.</li> <li>Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</li> <li>Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place.</li> </ul>	<p>The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.</p> <p>Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (Historic England).</p> <p>Ensure that Herefordshire Council's Sites and Monuments Register is kept up to date.</p>	<p>To improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p> <p>To improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p> <p>No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</li></ul>		

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
Air and Climate	<p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p> <p>Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.</p>	<p>To improve air quality</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>To reduce contributions to climate change</p> <p>To reduce vulnerability to climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</li> <li>Protect or enhance the quality of watercourses.</li> <li>Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</li> <li>Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</li> <li>Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</li> </ul>	<p>Transport patronage by mode</p> <p>Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.</p> <p>Total CO2 emissions per capita</p>	<p>To increase the take up of alternative modes to the private car.</p> <p>To contribute towards the national target.</p> <p>To reduce the overall carbon emissions.</p>



SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
Water	<p>Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.</p> <p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p>	<p>To improve water quality</p> <p>To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</li> <li>Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</li> <li>Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</li> <li>Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</li> <li>Protect or enhance the quality of watercourses.</li> </ul>	<p>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.</p> <p>Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality</p> <p>Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.</p>	<p>To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.</p> <p>To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality as set out in the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>To meet the targets set out in the Nutrient Management Plan (2014)</p>
Soil	<p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p> <p>Ensure integrated, efficient and</p>	<p>To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</li> <li>Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</li> <li>Ensure new developments</li> </ul>	<p>Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.</p> <p>Amount of land identified as best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development.</p>	<p>To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy.</p> <p>Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
	balanced land use.		are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.		
Population and Human Health	Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	To improve health of the population  To reduce crime and nuisance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</li> <li>Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</li> <li>Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</li> <li>Promote the use of rural areas and open</li> </ul>	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design	No specific targets identified.

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.		
Material Assets	<p>Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.</p> <p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p>	To conserve natural and manmade resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</li> <li>• Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</li> <li>• Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</li> <li>• Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</li> </ul>	<p>The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.</p> <p>Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.</p> <p>Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.</p> <p>Agricultural land usage by quality</p>	<p>Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development. No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.</p>

# Appendix 3



Historic England

WEST MIDLANDS OFFICE

Mr James Latham  
Herefordshire Council  
Neighbourhood Planning & Strategic Planning  
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HR1 2ZB

Direct Dial: 0121 625 6887

Our ref: PL00079682

4 May 2017

Dear Mr Latham

**CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR KILPECK GROUP; LITTLE BIRCH AND ACONBURY; MUCH BIRCH; PIXLEY AND DISTRICT GROUP AND PUTLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS**

Thank you for the invitation to comment on the SEA Scoping Reports for the Neighbourhood Plans listed above. We have no substantive objection to the contents of the document.

The SEA Frameworks sections of the SEA are generally commendable in their approach of including references to historic landscape and townscape quality, the maintenance of the Herefordshire SMR and conservation and wherever possible enhancement of locally significant heritage assets. We particularly commend the treatment where relevant of "Heritage at Risk" and the commitment to put measures in place to assist in the removal of heritage assets from the register.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Boland  
Historic Places Advisor  
peter.boland@HistoricEngland.org.uk

cc:



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Date: 03 May 2017  
Our ref: 213119, 213120, 213123, 213124



James Latham,  
Neighbourhood Planning and Strategic Planning Teams

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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear Mr Latham,

**SEA Scoping Reports – Various.**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 12 April 2017 which was received by Natural England on 12 April 2017.

Please accept this general response with notes covering the SEA Scoping Reports for Little Birch & Aconbury, Much Birch, Pixley & District Group, and Putley.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Where Neighbourhood Plans could have significant environmental effects, they may require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the Environment Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Further guidance on deciding whether the proposals are likely to have significant environmental effects and the requirements for consulting Natural England on SEA are set out in the [National Planning Practice Guidance](#).

We welcome the production of this SEA Scoping report. The following comments are intended to further improve the SEA and its usefulness in assessing the Neighbourhood Plan.

**Appendix A1 – Plans, policies and programmes**

Natural England approves of the plans, policies and programmes listed.

**Appendix A2 – Baseline information**

***Water, air, soil and material assets***

This section (or suitable alternative) should include information on geodiversity. The baseline and assessment should make reference to geological conservation and the need to conserve, interpret and manage geological sites and features, both in the wider environment and in relation to designated features. The Herefordshire & Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust may be of assistance.

**Soil**

Natural England notes and supports the consideration of best and most versatile agricultural land at objective 18.

### **Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the baseline**

We welcome the recognition that development can be a pressure on biodiversity and the inclusion of landscape and soils as environmental issues, as per our previous recommendations in response to other neighbourhood plan SEA Scoping reports

### **Appendix A4**

Under the SEA topic “Nature Conservation (Biodiversity, flora and fauna)” we note and support the inclusion of the target of “no net losses” of biodiversity.

Under the SEA topic “*Landscape*” we suggest that reference could be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Characterisation studies including Historic Landscape Characterisation if this has been carried out. Applications resulting in the loss of open space could be monitored.

### **Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening**

Where a Neighbourhood Plan could potentially lead to significant environmental effects it will be necessary to screen the Plan in relation to the Habitats and Species Regulations (2010), as amended (the ‘Habitats Regulations’). One of the basic conditions that will be tested at Examination is whether the making of the plan is compatible with European obligations and this includes requirements relating to the Habitats Directive.

In relation to the Habitats Regulations, a Neighbourhood Plan cannot progress if the likelihood of significant effects on any European Site, either alone (or in combination with other plans and projects) cannot be ruled out) (see Schedule 2, The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012). Therefore measures may need to be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan to ensure that any likely significant effects are avoided in order to secure compliance with the Regulations. A screening exercise should be undertaken if there is any doubt about the possible effects of the Plan on European protected sites. This will be particularly important if a Neighbourhood Plan is to progress before a Local Plan has been adopted and/or the Neighbourhood Plan proposes development which has not been assessed and/or included in the Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Local Plan.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Tom Amos on 02080 260961. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely

Tom Amos  
Adviser  
Sustainable Development  
South Mercia Team

# Appendix 4



Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:		
+ =/++	Compatible/ Very comp	<b>S – Specific:</b>	NDP objectives should specify what is intended to be done in detail and should not be open to a wide range of misinterpretations	The following matrix appraises the emerging Pixley and District NDP Objectives in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives. These have been developed from Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.
- =	Possible conflict	<b>M – Measurable:</b>	It should be possible to monitor NDP objectives in a quantifiable way, by the use of indicators. Indicators should be measurable with limited resource implications.	
0 =	Neutral	<b>A – Attainable/achievable</b>	NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed	
X =	No relationship between objectives	<b>R – Realistic:</b>	NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.	
? =	Unclear, more information needed	<b>T – Time-Bound:</b>	Objectives should be specific to the NDP period or another specified time-frame. Objectives should be associated with a target and indicators should specify when the target should be achieved.	

SEA Objectives
1- To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)
2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes
3- To improve quality of surroundings
4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage
5- To improve air quality
6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
7- To reduce contributions to climate change
8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change
9- To improve water quality
10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply
11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk
12- To conserve soil resources and quality
13- To minimise the production of waste
14- To improve health of the population
15- To reduce crime and nuisance
16- To conserve natural and manmade resources

NDP objectives	SEA Objectives																Conclusions	Recommendations	SMART Test of NDP objective	After SMART objectives
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
1.Objectives for housing	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	?	?	?	0	0	+	+	0	This objective seeks viable and balanced housing to meet the criteria as set out in the Core Strategy for rural housing. This objective promotes a single rural exception site. Overall this objective has a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data .There are a few SEA objectives such as water quality, flood risk and traffic impact can be assessed when more details are known regarding the rural exception site.	Ensure proposed development has some sustainable design elements to reduce environmental impact of new development.	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria except specifying a time frame in which the objective will be achieved; a time frame will strengthen the objective. This is assumed this objective will follow the plan period up to 2031.	No change.
2.Objectives for the local economy	0	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	0	This objective strives to support and provide opportunities for economic and social development in Pixley and District. This will include improvement of communication technologies and poly tunnel schemes along with supporting rural diversification, tourism and businesses providing employment opportunities. Overall this objective has a positive impact on the baseline data. There are a few SEA objectives such as water quality, water supply, flood risk can be assessed when more details are known at planning application stage.	Ensure proposed development considers environmental impact that development causes, ensure it is in line with the SEA Objectives.	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria except specifying a time frame in which the objective will be achieved; a time frame will strengthen the objective. This is assumed this objective will follow the plan period up to 2031.	No change.
3. Objectives for the environment	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	This objective seeks to protect and enhance the local environment., including wildlife, natural and built landscape. Overall the objective has generally a positive effect towards the relevant baseline objectives. This objective will help to mitigate detrimental impact on the built and natural environment caused from development.	None	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria except specifying a time frame in which the objective will be achieved; a time frame will strengthen the objective. This is assumed this objective will follow the plan period up to 2031.	No change.
4.Objectives for the community	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	This objective seeks to protect and enhance the community facilities. Overall the objective has generally a positive effect towards the relevant baseline objectives. This objective will help to protect and enhance community development.	None	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria except specifying a time frame in which the objective will be achieved; a time frame will strengthen the objective. This is assumed this objective will follow the plan period up to 2031.	No change.

October 2017

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
<b>SEA Stage B1</b>	<b>Key:</b>	<b>SMART criteria:</b>		
+ =/++	Compatible/very comp	<b>S – Specific:</b>	NDP objectives should specify what is intended to be done in detail and should not be open to a wide range of misinterpretations	The following matrix appraises the emerging Pixley and District NDP Objectives in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives. These have been developed from Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.
- =	Possible conflict	<b>M – Measurable:</b>	It should be possible to monitor NDP objectives in a quantifiable way, by the use of indicators. Indicators should be measurable with limited resource implications.	
0 =	Neutral	<b>A – Attainable/achievable:</b>	NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed	
X =	No relationship between objectives	<b>R – Realistic:</b>	NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.	
? =	Unclear, more information needed	<b>T – Time-Bound:</b>	Objectives should be specific to the NDP period or another specified time-frame. Objectives should be associated with a target and indicators should specify when the target should be achieved.	

SEA Objectives	Baseline carried over from Stage A
<p>1- To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)</p> <p>2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p> <p>3- To improve quality of surroundings</p> <p>4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage</p> <p>5- To improve air quality</p> <p>6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>7- To reduce contributions to climate change</p> <p>8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change</p> <p>9- To improve water quality</p> <p>10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p> <p>12- To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>13- To minimise the production of waste</p> <p>14- To improve health of the population</p> <p>15- To reduce crime and nuisance</p> <p>16- To conserve natural and manmade resources</p>	<p>1-The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. There are no SSSI's in Pixley and District parish, but there is one bordering SSSI (mains wood – Unfavourable Declining). The group parish is outside the hydrological catchment area for the River Wye SAC.</p> <p>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire. Pixley and District Group have: 0 SSSI, 6 LWS and 6 Bordering LWS. There are no SACs, NNRs, SINC's and LNRs within the parish.</p> <p>2-There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Pixley and District at present.</p> <p>3-In terms of Pixley and District itself, the study reveals that there is no formal play provision.</p> <p>4-Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there are no scheduled monuments in Pixley and District, three SAMs borderthe Parish, according to the latest version of the register</p> <p>5-Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This suggests that air quality is improving.</p> <p>6-% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1%, Foot: 14.7%;Bicycle: 4.3%,Bus: 2%, Train: 0.8%,Motorbike: 0.8%,Taxi: 0.3%,Other: 7%.</p> <p>7-Herefordshire latest figure of CO2 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO<sup>2</sup>)</p> <p>8-Reduce the risk of flooding-There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>9-Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive. Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84%.</p> <p>10-Pixley and District Group parish falls into the Herefordshire Conjunctive Use Water Resource Zones (WRZs), one of 6 zones covering Herefordshire. 39% of demand is from non-household use.</p> <p>11-Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds. The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>12- Majority of land within the neighbourhood area was listed Grade 2 (Very Good) mainly to the north and south with a linear area running east to west around the middle of the Parish Group graded as and 3 (Good to moderate) with a small area noted Grade 1 (Excellent) to the south of Little Marcle. Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.2010/11: 67%2011-13: 57%.</p> <p>13, 14, 15, 16-There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and no SAMs. The Church of St Andrew (1098989) is on the Heritage at Risk register, it is in a poor condition, Priority Category: C - Slow decay; no solution agreed. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Pixley and District Group. The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Small area of principal settled farmlands to the west, Plateau Estate Farmlands to the north and Principle wooded hills to the south.</p>

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects October 2017 Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Policy PIX1: Sustainable Development	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	This policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. This policy will promote sustainable development in Pixley and District. This policy ensures development is in keeping with the natural and built environment and will help safeguard the environment against unsuitable development.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. There are mitigation measures within the Core Strategy and Pixley and District Neighbourhood Plan to alleviate effects from development and is in keeping with policy SD1.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy PIX2: Housing in Pixley and District	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	x	x	x	+	+	+	+	+	This policy defines the extent of Pixley and District mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. This policy promotes rural development in line with policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. There are mitigation measures within the Core Strategy and Pixley and District Neighbourhood Plan to alleviate effects from development.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy PIX3: Rural exception housing	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	This policy defines the extent of Pixley and District mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. This policy promotes sustainable development in the settlement of Pixley and District. This policy supports rural exception housing on an individual site to meet a proven local need for affordable housing.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline objectives as it will only lead to small scale development for affordable housing in Pixley and District. This includes design criteria for development to adhere to, to ensure that future development is in keeping with the existing built landscape.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy PIX4: Economic development in Pixley and District	0	+	+	x	+	+	0	0	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	0	This policy aims to generate and diversify rural employment encouraging new development has an overall positive impact on the baseline data. Criteria within the NDP, has been included which would aim to safeguard environmental character and quality. Impact on water quality, water sources and flood risk can be further assessed at planning application stage.	Overall this policy is compatible with the sea baseline data. This policy supports new small scale employment development, in particular supports new rural development in line with Core Strategy polices E2, E3, E4 and RA5 and RA6.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy PIX5: Poly tunnels	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	x	x	x	+	0	0	0	+	This policy Poly tunnels is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. This sets out a criteria for poly tunnel development, criteria been included which would aim to safeguard landscape character and quality from inappropriate poly tunnel development.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy. This policy will help mitigate impact caused from potential development on natural and built environment. This policy is conformity with Core Strategy policies LD1 and SD1.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy PIX6: Communications and broadband	0	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	+	+	+	+	0	Overall this policy communications and broadband delivery of local infrastructure has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. Criteria within the NDP, has been included which would aim to safeguard environmental character and quality.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. There are mitigation measures within the Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Plan to alleviate effects from communications and broadband development.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy PIX7: Natural environment	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	This policy protecting the local environment is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. Criteria within the NDP, has been included which would aim to safeguard environmental character and quality.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy. This policy will help mitigate impact caused from potential development on natural and built environment. This policy is conformity with Core Strategy policies LD1, LD2 and LD3.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Policy PIX8: Historic Environment	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	This policy protecting the historic environment is compatible with the Core Strategy and has a positive impact on the baseline data. Criteria within the NDP, has been included which would aim to safeguard environmental character and quality.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy. This policy will help mitigate impact caused from potential development on natural and built environment. This policy is conformity with Core Strategy policies LD1 and LD4.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy PIX9: Design and Access	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	Overall the policy is compatible with the baseline data. Criteria within this policy ensure new development will be in keeping to Pixley and District character in terms of scale design and materials.	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria for development to be in keeping with the existing built and natural environment and is in conformity to policies LD1 and SD1 of the Core Strategy.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy PIX10: Renewable energy	0	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	0	Overall this policy renewable energy has mainly a positive and neutral impact towards the relevant SEA objectives. This policy supports renewable energy within the parish. Criteria within the NDP, has been included which would aim to safeguard environmental character and quality.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. There are mitigation measures within the Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Plan to alleviate effects from renewable energy development in Pixley and District.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy PUT11: Community facilities	0	+	+	X	0	0	X	X	X	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	0	This policy is positive as it will encourage the continuing use of existing facilities thus contributing to the village character and heritage environment. It will also reduce the need to travel to other area for facilities reducing the impact of climate change.	Overall this policy is compatible with the SEA baseline. This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard existing community facilities within Pixley and District.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

**Pixley and District Parish Options**

NDP Options	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13				
Option 1- Do nothing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Do nothing option is essential not to produce a neighbourhood plan and rely on the criteria policies within the Core Strategy to guide further development. Specific policies and proposals for the parishes would not exist until a Rural Areas Development Plan Document is drafted.	All developments would need to be in conformity with the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy has been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal and policies met the SEA objectives.	n/a
Option 2- Criteria based policies	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	Pixley and District are limited to a criteria based policy due to RA3 options. Criteria based policy will be more reactionary than site allocations than proactive in terms of growth proposals. However provide criteria is added to the policy to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline.	Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives. Further determination of environmental impact can be assessed at planning application stage. No settlements in Pixley and District have been identified for proportionate growth, therefore housing development will be limited in line with Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

**Key:**

++ Move significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- - Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	N/A No relationship
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**Policy B3: Sustainable development**

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over	None identified.

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To improve air quality	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To improve water quality	0	0	0	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	0	0	0	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	0	0	0	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To conserve soil resources and quality	0	0	0	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To minimise the production of waste	0	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.



B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				objectives.	
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would only promote sustainable development in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy sustainable development has a positive effect on the baseline objectives and is in conformity with the Core Strategy. Short, medium and long term will have a positive impact on the baseline as this policy promotes sustainable development in design and development in Pixley and District.				

**Policy PIX2: Housing in Pixley and District**

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10years)	Long term (11 years +)		

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To improve air quality	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1,

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	LD2 and SD3.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and MT1.
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2, SS6, SS7 and SD3.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2, SS6, SS7 and SD3.
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	N/A
To avoid, reduce and	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	N/A

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

manage flood risk					
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To minimise the production of waste	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To improve health of the population	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To reduce crime and nuisance	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To conserve natural and manmade	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

resources				small scale development in line with the proportional growth within Policy RA3 of the Core Strategy.	development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact towards the relevant SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term for Pixley and District.				

**Policy PIX3: Rural exception housing**

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1,

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				Strategy policy H2.	LD2 and SD3.
To improve quality of surroundings	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To improve air quality	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1,

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	LD2 and SD3.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To improve water quality	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To reduce crime and	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to



B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

nuisance				objectives. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to single small site development in line with the rural exception Core Strategy policy H2.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact towards the relevant SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The policy supports rural exception housing on a single small site to meet a proven need for affordable housing in perpetuity.				

**Policy PIX4: Economic Development in Pixley and District**

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	0	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and has a positive impact on the baseline data.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and has a positive impact on the baseline data.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and has a positive impact on the baseline data.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	X	X	X	No relationship	N/A
To improve air quality	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and has a positive impact on the baseline data.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

environment				objectives.	development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and MT1.
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2, SS6, SS7 and SD3.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2, SS6, SS7 and SD3.
To improve water quality	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	Impact of water quality is uncertain at this stage and could be defined later in the planning application stage, on a case by case basis.	Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2, SD3 and SD4.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	Impact of water supply is uncertain at this stage and could be defined later in the planning application process, on a case by case basis.	Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2, SD3 and SD4.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	Impact of flood risk is uncertain at this stage and could be defined later in the planning application process, on a case by case basis.	Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2, SD3 and SD4.

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To conserve soil resources and quality	0	0	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Mitigation measures within the NDP and Core Strategy can help alleviate impact on soil quality.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To minimise the production of waste	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Mitigation measures within the NDP and Core Strategy can help alleviate impact on waste.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Mitigation measures within the NDP and Core Strategy can help alleviate impact on natural and manmade resources.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact towards the relevant SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term in Pixley and District. Water quality, sustainable sources of water supply and flood risk are uncertain at this stage as further details are needed to make a full assessment of the impact towards the SEA baseline.
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**Policy PUT5: Polytunnels**

<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Assessment of effect</b> (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			<b>Summary Explanation</b>	<b>Enhancement and mitigation opportunities</b>
	<b>Short term</b> (1 – 5 years)	<b>Medium term</b> (6 – 10 years)	<b>Long term</b> (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Poly tunnel Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This policy includes criteria within the policy to safeguard existing biodiversity, flora and fauna from Poly tunnel development.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This policy includes criteria within the policy to safeguard existing landscape from Poly tunnel development.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To improve quality of surroundings	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This policy includes criteria within the policy to improve quality of surroundings.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. This policy includes criteria within the policy to safeguard historic environment against inappropriate poly tunnel design.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To improve air quality	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and has a neutral impact on the baseline data.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and has a neutral impact on the baseline data.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and MT1.
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and has a positive impact on the baseline data.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2, SS6, SS7 and SD3.

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and has a neutral impact on the baseline data.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2, SS6, SS7 and SD3.
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To minimise the production of waste	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Criteria within this policy can help mitigate impact caused from Poly tunnel development.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To improve health of the population	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Criteria within this policy can help mitigate impact caused	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1,

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				from Poly tunnel development.	LD2 and SD3.
To reduce crime and nuisance	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Criteria within this policy can help mitigate impact caused from Poly tunnel development.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Criteria within this policy can help mitigate impact caused from Poly tunnel development.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact towards the relevant SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. Criteria within this Poly tunnel policy will help alleviate potential environmental effects from poly tunnel development.				

**Policy PIX6: Communications and broadband**

<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Assessment of effect</b> (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			<b>Summary Explanation</b>	<b>Enhancement and mitigation opportunities</b>
	<b>Short term</b> (1 – 5 years)	<b>Medium term</b> (6 – 10 years)	<b>Long term</b> (11 years +)		



## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	0	+	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	X	X	X	No relationship	None identified.
To improve air quality	0	+	+	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the	0	+	+	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

environment				objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To minimise the production of waste	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	0	0	+	Communications and Broadband policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	None identified. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and SD3.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall the Communications and Broadband policy has mainly a positive impact towards the relevant SEA objectives. There is mitigation criteria within this policy along with the Pixley and District NDP and in the Core Strategy.				

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

**Policy PIX7: Natural environment**

<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Assessment of effect</b> (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			<b>Summary Explanation</b>	<b>Enhancement and mitigation opportunities</b>
	<b>Short term</b> (1 – 5 years)	<b>Medium term</b> (6 – 10 years)	<b>Long term</b> (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	++	++	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	++	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To improve quality of surroundings	+	++	++	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	++	++	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				Pixley and District.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To improve water quality	+	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>+</b>	<b>++</b>	<b>++</b>	The Natural Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	None identified. This policy safeguards the natural and historic environment against inappropriate development acting as an additional mitigation measure.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy has a positive impact towards the relevant SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term in Pixley and District. This policy Natural Environment will help mitigate impact on the natural environment caused from new development.				

**Policy PIX8: Historic Environment**

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	<b>+</b>	<b>++</b>	<b>++</b>	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This policy will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.



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To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	++	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To improve quality of surroundings	+	++	++	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To improve water quality	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.

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To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	0	+	+	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	0	+	+	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.

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To improve health of the population	+	+	+	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	++	++	The Historic Environment Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline. This will help enhance and preserve natural features of Pixley and District.	In addition to Core Strategy policy LD4, this policy PIX8 will act as a mitigation measure, which will help safeguard the historic environment against inappropriate development.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact towards the relevant SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term in Pixley and District. This policy will help safeguard the historic environment, criteria within this policy ensures impact caused from development to the historic environment will be mitigated.				

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

Policy PIX9: Design and Access

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	++	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To improve quality of surroundings	+	++	++	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				and moves towards the SEA baseline.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To improve water quality	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To provide for sustainable sources of	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

water supply				with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	fitting to the group parish's context.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To minimise the production of waste	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.



B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	0	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but sets out design and access criteria in line with Core Strategy. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and moves towards the SEA baseline.	This policy sets out design criteria for development to adhere to. Criteria within this policy warrant new development to be fitting to the group parish's context.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact towards the relevant SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term in Pixley and District. This policy sets out design criteria specific for Pixley and District, this will ensure development has a suitable design for its surrounding context.				

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

**Policy PIX10: Renewable Energy**

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	0	0	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To improve quality of surroundings	0	+	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic	X	X	X	No relationship	NA

## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

environment and cultural heritage					
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship	NA
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	NA
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship	NA

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	0	0	+	This Criteria based Renewable Energy Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	This policy will help support renewable energy schemes in the neighbourhood area, this will over time help mitigate energy consumption in the area.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this renewable energy policy has mainly a positive impact towards the relevant SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The policy contains criteria to support renewable energy schemes within Pixley and District.				

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

**Policy PIX11: Community facilities**

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	0	+	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

					particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To improve air quality	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	NA
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	NA
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

					impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	No relationship	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To minimise the production of waste	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To improve health of the population	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP

B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

				and District Neighbourhood Area.	and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	0	0	+	This is a criteria based policy which seeks to preserve and enhance the community facilities in the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Area.	This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact towards the relevant SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term in Pixley and District. This policy helps to safeguard community facilities for the people of Pixley and District. Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and LD4.				



**Key:**

<b>++</b> Move significantly towards	<b>+</b> Move towards marginally	<b>--</b> Move away Significantly	<b>-</b> Move away marginally	<b>0</b> Neutral	<b>?</b> Uncertain	<b>X</b> No relationship
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<b>SEA Objective / Policy</b>	1. To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	2. To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	3. To improve quality of surroundings	4. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	5. To improve air quality	6. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	7. To reduce contributions to climate change	8. To reduce vulnerability to climate change	9. To improve water quality	10. To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	11. To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	12. To conserve soil resources and quality	13. To minimise the production	14. To improve health of the population	15. To reduce crime and nuisance	16. To conserve natural and manmade resources
Objective 1	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>
Objective 2	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>
Objective 3	<b>++</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>++</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>++</b>
Objective 4	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>
Policy PIX1	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>
Policy PIX2	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>
Policy PIX3	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>

Policy PIX4	0	+	+	x	+	+	0	0	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	0
Policy PIX5	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	x	x	x	+	0	0	0	+
Policy PIX6	0	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	+	+	+	+	0
Policy PIX7	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++
Policy PIX8	++	+	+	++		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++
Policy PIX9	+	+	++	+	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+
Policy PIX10	0	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	+	+	+	+	0
Policy PIX11	0	+	+	x	0	0	x	x	x	x	x	+	+	+	+	0
<b>Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>
<b>Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...)</b>	Overall the Pixley and District Neighbourhood Plan policies and objectives have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data. And are in general conformity with the Core Strategy Overall all of the policies and objectives meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA. Policies and objectives strive to preserve and maintain natural and built historic environment that can help mitigate impact from the housing policies.															
<b>Commentary for significant cumulative effects</b>	Overall the Pixley and District Plan policies have had a positive effect on the SEA baseline data. Overall the unknown areas require further detail such as location, scale and size of development, therefore are likely to be determined at planning application/ proposal stage. No significant cumulative effects have been identified.															

# Appendix 5

## Pixley and District Options

Option 1- Do nothing and NDP and let HC use the Core Strategy and Allocations Plan.
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Option 2- Use a criteria based plan only.
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# Appendix 6

## Template C2: SEA Quality Assurance Checklist

**Parish Council Name:** Pixley and District

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name:** Pixley and District Neighbourhood Plan

**Date completed:** October 2017

<b>Objectives and context</b>	<b>Where are the points covered in Neighbourhood Development Plan SEA (insert chapter, section, page references, as necessary)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Neighbourhood Development Plan's purpose and objectives are made clear.</li> <li>• The Neighbourhood Area's environmental issues and constraints, including acknowledgement of those in the Local Plan (Core Strategy) SA, where relevant, and local environmental protection objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets.</li> <li>• SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate.</li> <li>• Links with other locally related plans, programmes and policies are identified, explained and acknowledgement for those set out in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant.</li> <li>• Conflicts that exist between SEA objectives; between SEA and Neighbourhood Development Plan objectives; and between SEA objectives and other local plan objectives are identified and described.</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 1.6 – 1.10</p> <p>Chapter 2 methodology, chapter 3 and tables A2 and A3</p> <p>Chapter 3 paragraph 3.5 and 3.7</p> <p>Chapter 3, paragraph 3.1</p> <p>Chapter 3</p>
<p><b>Scoping</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory Consultees are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report.</li> <li>• The assessment focuses on significant issues.</li> <li>• Technical, procedural and other</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 2, paragraphs 2.6-2.9</p> <p>Chapter 2 and chapter 4</p>

<p>difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reasons are given for eliminating issues from further consideration.</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 2</p> <p>Chapter 2, chapter 4 and chapter 5</p>
<p><b>Alternatives</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Realistic alternatives are considered for key issues, and the reasons for choosing them are documented.</li> <li>• Alternatives include 'do minimum' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios wherever relevant.</li> <li>• The environmental effects (both adverse and beneficial) of each alternative are identified and compared.</li> <li>• Inconsistencies between the alternatives and other relevant local plans, programmes or policies are identified and explained.</li> <li>• Reasons are given for selection or elimination of alternatives.</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 4 and chapter 5</p> <p>Paragraph 5.4</p> <p>Chapter 5</p> <p>Chapter 5</p> <p>Chapter 5</p>
<p><b>Baseline information</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant aspects of the current state of the local, neighbourhood area environment and their likely evolution without the Neighbourhood Development Plan are described. Acknowledgement to the information in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant.</li> <li>• Environmental characteristics of the local, neighbourhood area, likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the designated neighbourhood area, where it is likely to be affected by the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> <li>• Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained.</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 1, Chapter 3</p> <p>Initial screening report and Chapter 1</p> <p>Chapter 2</p>

<p><b>Prediction and evaluation of likely significant environmental effects</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effects identified include the types listed in the Directive (biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climate factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape), as relevant; and other local likely environmental effects are also covered, as appropriate.</li> <li>• Both positive and negative effects are considered, and the duration of effects (short, medium or long-term) is addressed.</li> <li>• Likely secondary, cumulative (growing in quantity and strength) and synergistic (acting together) effects are identified, where practicable.</li> <li>• Inter-relationships between effects are considered, where practicable.</li> <li>• The prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of relevant accepted standards, regulations, and thresholds (i.e. data gathered for the evidence base).</li> <li>• Methods used to evaluate the effects are described.</li> </ul>	<p>Tables A2, A3 and A4</p> <p>Tables B2 and B3</p> <p>Table B4</p> <p>Chapter 5, chapter 6</p> <p>Chapter 5, chapter 6</p> <p>Chapter 2</p>
<p><b>Mitigation measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the Neighbourhood Development Plan are indicated.</li> <li>• Issues to be taken into account when determining planning applications or other projects, for example funding bids, are identified.</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 6, paragraph 6.6 – 6.9</p> <p>Chapter 6</p>
<p><b>The Environmental Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation.</li> <li>• Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms.</li> <li>• Uses maps and other illustrations,</li> </ul>	<p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p>



<p>where appropriate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explains the methodology used.</li> <li>• Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used.</li> <li>• Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion.</li> <li>• Contains a non-technical summary covering the overall approach to the SEA, the objectives of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, the main options considered, and any changes to the Neighbourhood Development Plan resulting from the SEA.</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 2</p> <p>Paragraph 2.6-2.9</p> <p>Paragraph 2.8-2.9</p> <p>Page 1 / Paragraph 1.8 / Chapter 6</p>
<p><b>Consultation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SEA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> <li>• Consultation Bodies and the public likely to be affected by, or having an interest in, the Neighbourhood Development Plan are consulted in ways and at times, which give them an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions on the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan and Environmental Report.</li> </ul>	<p>Paragraph 2.6-2.9</p> <p>Chapter 8</p>
<p><b>Decision-making and information on the decision</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The environmental report and the opinions of those consulted are taken into account in finalising and adopting the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> <li>• An explanation is given of how they have been taken into account.</li> <li>• Reasons are given for choosing the Neighbourhood Development Plan as adopted, in the light of other reasonable alternatives considered.</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 8</p> <p>Following draft consultation</p> <p>Following draft consultation</p>

<p><b>Monitoring measures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measures proposed for monitoring the Neighbourhood Development Plan are clear, practicable and linked to the indicators and objectives used in the SEA.</li> <li>• Monitoring is used, where appropriate, during implementation of the Neighbourhood Development Plan to make good deficiencies in baseline information in the SEA.</li> <li>• Acknowledgement that monitoring enables unforeseen adverse effects to be identified at an early stage. (These effects may include predictions which prove to be incorrect.) And that</li> <li>• Proposals are made for action in response to significant adverse effects arising from the monitoring of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 7</p> <p>Chapter 7</p> <p>Chapter 7</p> <p>Chapter 7</p>
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