

# Environmental Report

Report for:

Almeley Neighbourhood Area

January 2018



# **Almeley 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.

Almeley Parish has undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. Almeley Parish covers a large rural area of some 1,400 hectares within north Herefordshire some 18 miles to the north-west of Hereford, 13 miles south-west of Leominster and 7 miles south-east of Kington. It is bounded by the A4111 Road that runs through Eardisley just to the west of the Parish, and the A4112 that runs just beyond its southern edge. The A480 runs through the east of the parish and the hamlet of Woonton. The Parish's principal settlement is Almeley village which sits approximately within its centre. Woonton is the next sizeable settlement around 1 mile to the south-east of Almeley. A number of small hamlets are located throughout the Parish.

The draft Almeley Parish NDP includes 5 main objectives and it is intended that these objectives will be delivered by 20 criteria based planning policies, including two site allocations within the 20 policies.

The environmental appraisal of the Almeley Parish 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.

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening has been carried out as the Parish falls within the catchment for the River Wye (including River Lugg), and is within the River Lugg catchment. The HRA assesses the potential effects of the NDP on the River Wye SAC.

On the whole, it is considered that the Almeley Parish 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). Parish Councillors will welcome the conclusion as to general conformity. It also does it propose any growth that would be over and above that prescribed by strategic policies.

Taking into consideration the cumulative effects of policies, options and sites, the plan will have an overall positive impact on environmental assets. The plan is in general conformity with the Core Strategy overall as all of the policies and objectives meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA. Other issues with a current uncertain outcome have the opportunity to be mitigated by further detail in policies or at planning stage.

Overall the plan is positive and would have a positive impact upon the SEA baseline data. Key recommendations would be to ensure that the environmental mitigation impacts are clear and robust, this may require some enhancement of existing policies in regard to air quality and water resources. However the plan as a whole is robust and meets key targets, 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.

Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the effects of the policies within the Almeley Parish 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 Almeley Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 The Almeley Parish NDP proposed 1 main site allocation which is located in Almeley, which is identified within table 4.14 which is targeted for proportional levels of growth in Policy RA1 of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). The other identified site for windfall and smaller development are in Woonton, which is identified within table 4.15 as other settlements where proportionate housing is appropriate. The NDP will provide general policies for guiding future development across the parish as a whole as well as allocating sites.

### 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 Almeley Parish 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 Almeley Parish covers a large rural area of some 1,400 hectares within north Herefordshire some 18 miles to the north-west of Hereford, 13 miles south-west of Leominster and 7 miles south-east of Kington. It is bounded by the A4111 Road that runs through Eardisley just to the west of the Parish, and the A4112 that runs just beyond its southern edge. The A480 runs through the east of the parish and the hamlet of Woonton. The Parish's principal settlement is Almeley village which sits approximately within its centre. Woonton is the next sizeable settlement around 1 mile to the south-east of Almeley. A number of small hamlets are located throughout the Parish.
- 1.7 The Parish area consists of 11 ancient woodlands, 8 Local Wildlife Sites, no sites of Special Scientific Interest, 2 registered park and gardens and 1 unregistered park and garden. Part of the parish falls within a conservation area.
- 1.8 The Draft Almeley Parish NDP includes 5 main objectives, which are designed to deliver the overarching vision on the ground, and it is intended that these objectives will be supported by 20 criteria based planning policies which include 2 sites allocated for housing. Alternative options were considered prior to reaching a decision over the format of the draft plan.
- 1.9 There are numerous built heritage assets including numerous listed buildings. There are 2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments. The parish falls within a conservation area.
- 1.10 The vision Almeley Parish in 2031 is as follows:

**" In 2031, Almeley Parish will remain an unspoilt, rural and scenic part of Herefordshire, providing homes for its families and elderly residents, supporting local businesses, such as small family farms, and an increase in home working through a fast-broadband network."**

The 5 NDP objectives are as follows:

**Objective 1: To maintain the rural character of the Parish, its village and hamlets. This means:**

- a) Landscape character, views and features of the Parish have been preserved, especially the views southwards across to the Brecon Beacons National Park.
- b) The historic aspect of the village, especially its Conservation Area, and hamlets have been preserved or enhanced.
- c) The Parish's commons and open spaces have been protected, conserved and maintained.
- d) The contribution made by agriculture to the community and local environment has been recognised and is supported.

**Objective 2: To minimise the effect of further developments on the countryside and landscapes. This means:**

- a) There has been no net-loss in biodiversity and the opportunities to enhance wildlife have been taken.
- b) The rural nature of the parish has been maintained.
- c) Any new development has been sensitively integrated to blend with existing buildings, settings and the landscape.
- d) Land has been used efficiently.
- e) High quality agricultural land has been protected.

**Objective 3: To support the rural economy within the Parish through:**

- a) Enabling diversification of businesses where this is in scale with the character of the area;
- b) Supporting home-working;
- c) Encouraging live-work units;
- d) Protecting high quality agricultural land.

**Objective 4: To provide housing opportunities for existing and future residents of the parish, including affordable, private and self-build homes. This means:**

- a) The amount of new housing meets the strategic requirements of Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy.
- b) A mix of housing, including housing for older people, has been provided;
- c) Affordable and self-build homes are available to meet local needs, particularly those with a local connection.
- d) New development is of a scale that fits sensitively into the relevant settlement.
- e) New housing has been designed to a high standard in terms of appearance and sustainability.

**Objective 5: To accommodate future development within the capacity of local infrastructure. This means:**

- a) Local services such as the village school, village hall, shop and church have been supported where possible through any new development.
- b) New development has not resulted in on-street parking or road congestion and road safety problems have been improved where possible.
- c) The capacity of utility services, local drainage and the highway network has not been exceeded.
- d) Residential and local amenity has not been adversely affected by new development.
- e) Alternative means of transport to cars, in particular local bus services and shared transport have been encouraged.

### 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 Almeley Parish 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 Practice Guidance set 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, which is clear that an emerging NDP may be a material planning consideration 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 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) lists Almeley as a settlement which it considers to be a sustainable location for growth, with a 12% proportional growth target as part of the Kington HMA. Woonton is listed as a 4.15 settlement, as other settlements where proportionate housing is appropriate.
- 1.17 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the Almeley Parish NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the Parish, by setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined.

### **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 Almeley 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.

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<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

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 Almeley 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 Almeley Parish SEA Scoping Report was available to four<sup>2</sup> statutory bodies for consultation from 30 October 2017 to 4 December 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:**

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

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

In addition to the plans, policies and programmes listed, we suggest that the following are relevant and should be added to the Almeley NDP: Natural Environment White Paper and Biodiversity 2020

### **Appendix A2 – Baseline information**

#### ***Biodiversity, flora and fauna***

Almeley

Under objective-13. “*Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity*”, proposed indicator- “*Net change to condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire*”, it is stated under Current Status that “there are no SSSIs within the Neighbourhood area”. Whilst this statement is correct, consideration should be made of impacts to SSSIs outside the Neighbourhood Area which could be impacted by Neighbourhood Area plan.

Under the proposed indicator “*Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan*”, we advise an additional or at least the following baseline information source -Maps of priority habitats and species are available on *Magic*, Defra’s GIS package for environmental assets ([www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk)). We note that some of the report refer to the Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11) as a baseline information source- could this be applied to all of them?

#### ***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.

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

All

Natural England welcomes the environmental issues identified.

### **Appendix A4 – SEA Framework**

All

Under topic “*Nature Conservation*”- “*Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity*”, we advise that any indicators chosen should allow for the monitoring of the effects of the plan on the objective concerned, and not the objective more generally. Thus, for example, condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest is not a useful thing to monitor, but impacts of the plan on Sites of Special Scientific Interest might be.

Under the SEA topic “*Landscape*” reference could be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Characterisation studies including Historic Landscape Characterisation if this has been carried out.

Under SEA topic “*material assets*”, there are no targets identified against the indicator “*monitoring changes to the historic landscape*”. We suggest that the LPA could utilise Historic Landscape Characterisation studies and monitor the number of applications permitted despite a significant impact on the landscape having been identified.

**Historic England:** Have no substantive concerns as to the contents of the document.

**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 Almeley Parish 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 Almeley Parish 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 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, learn 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 Almeley Parish 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 townscapes
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 there were no major issues identified against environmental impacts.
- 3.11 The NDP proposes that 1 main site is allocated for development and alongside this site and the small site identification and windfall identification, contains 20 criteria-based policies, including 2 sites within the policies.
- 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.
- 3.13 There are four objectives for which there is no 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 objectives listed in the NDP that aim to realise the vision for Almeley Parish in 2031:

**Objective 1: To maintain the rural character of the Parish, its village and hamlets. This means:**

- Landscape character, views and features of the Parish have been preserved, especially the views southwards across to the Brecon Beacons National Park.
- The historic aspect of the village, especially its Conservation Area, and hamlets have been preserved or enhanced.
- The Parish's commons and open spaces have been protected, conserved and maintained.

d) The contribution made by agriculture to the community and local environment has been recognised and is supported.

**Objective 2: To minimise the effect of further developments on the countryside and landscapes. This means:**

- a) There has been no net-loss in biodiversity and the opportunities to enhance wildlife have been taken.
- b) The rural nature of the parish has been maintained.
- c) Any new development has been sensitively integrated to blend with existing buildings, settings and the landscape.
- d) Land has been used efficiently.
- e) High quality agricultural land has been protected.

**Objective 3: To support the rural economy within the Parish through:**

- a) Enabling diversification of businesses where this is in scale with the character of the area;
- b) Supporting home-working;
- c) Encouraging live-work units;
- d) Protecting high quality agricultural land.

**Objective 4: To provide housing opportunities for existing and future residents of the parish, including affordable, private and self-build homes. This means:**

- a) The amount of new housing meets the strategic requirements of Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy.
- b) A mix of housing, including housing for older people, has been provided;
- c) Affordable and self-build homes are available to meet local needs, particularly those with a local connection.
- d) New development is of a scale that fits sensitively into the relevant settlement.
- e) New housing has been designed to a high standard in terms of appearance and sustainability.

**Objective 5: To accommodate future development within the capacity of local infrastructure. This means:**

- a) Local services such as the village school, village hall, shop and church have been supported where possible through any new development.
- b) New development has not resulted in on-street parking or road congestion and road safety problems have been improved where possible.
- c) The capacity of utility services, local drainage and the highway network has not been exceeded.
- d) Residential and local amenity has not been adversely affected by new development.
- e) Alternative means of transport to cars, in particular local bus services and shared transport have been encouraged.

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 an unknown effect, requiring more detail at planning application stage or in policy detail.

4.4 The objectives had an uncertain impact on some of the key SEA Objectives relating to the environment aspects of water and sustainability, mainly 7, 8, 9 and 10. This is because at this stage given the lack of detail over the exact specification and or 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 major potential conflicts between the NDP objectives and the SEA framework.

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

NDP Objectives	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Objective 1: To maintain the rural character of the Parish, its village and hamlets.	+	+	+	++	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+
Objective 2: To minimise the effect of further developments on the countryside and landscapes.	++	++	++	++	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+
Objective 3: To support the rural economy within the Parish	++	+	+	0	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+
Objective 4: To provide housing opportunities for existing and future residents of the parish, including affordable, private and self-build homes.	+	+	+	+	?	0	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+
Objective 5: To accommodate future development within the capacity of local infrastructure.	+	+	+	+	?	++	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	?	+

## 5 Assessing the NDP Options

5.1 All options that were considered by Almeley 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 were are followed;

Option 1 – small amount of new housing development in Almeley, with no more development in Woonton.

Option 2 – retain current settlement boundary for Almeley village, restrict development in Woonton and rely on Parish windfall.

Option 3 – extend Almeley settlement boundary to incorporate a site large enough for affordable housing, with no more development in Woonton.
Option 4 – extend Almeley settlement boundary to incorporate a site large enough for affordable housing and limited further development in Woonton.
Option 5 – retain current settlement boundary for Almeley village, while allowing limited development in Woonton.
Option 6 – small extension to Almeley village settlement boundary with limited further development in Woonton.
Option 7 – Do nothing

Although more residents expressed a preference for option 2 than for the other options, in order to meet the level of certainty required by Herefordshire Council that the growth required would be met, option 6 was considered the most practicable while respecting community wishes. Options 3 and 4 received the least community support.

- 5.3 These options were formulated from the responses to residents' surveys and community consultation. The results of which will feed into the identification of the preferred options and ultimately the draft policies.
- 5.4 A 'do nothing' option (option 7) was 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.
- 5.5 The options all had a generally positive or unknown impact upon the Baseline data and SEA objectives, each option, apart from 7 gave certainly as they all proposed delivery of housing but with different options for the 4.15 settlement. Option 6, a small extension to Almeley village settlement boundary with limited further development in Woonton, had a positive impact on the baseline objectives and help set out criteria for potential development.
- 5.6 Overall all of the options had mainly a positive effect on the SEA objectives and baseline. If the policies that are developed incorporated the elements of the options that are ensuring mitigation of new development and additional details are provided for the location and design of any proposed site then the assessment of the policies should result in a positive result. As these options were generally moving towards the SEA objectives any further alternatives would probably be moving away and therefore no further options are required to be assessed.
- 5.7 Overall all options had a mostly positive or unknown effect on the SEA objectives and baseline, if the policies that are developed incorporated the elements of the options that are ensuring mitigation of new development and additional details are provided for the location and design of any proposed site then the assessment of the policies should result in a positive result. As these options were generally moving towards the SEA objectives any further alternatives would probably be moving away and therefore no further options are required to be assessed. Option 7, to do nothing was not deemed to be relevant against the baseline as it was not directly contributing to any locally specific environmental issues.

NDP Options	SEA Objectives
-------------	----------------

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Option 1 – small amount of new housing development in Almeley, with no more development in Woonton.	+	++	+	++	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?				+
Option 2 – retain current settlement boundary for Almeley village, restrict development in Woonton and rely on Parish windfall.	+	+	++	++	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?				+
Option 3 – extend Almeley settlement boundary to incorporate a site large enough for affordable housing, with no more development in Woonton.	+	++	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	?	+	?				+
Option 4 – extend Almeley settlement boundary to incorporate a site large enough for affordable housing and limited further development in Woonton.	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?				+
Option 5 – retain current settlement boundary for Almeley village, while allowing	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?				+



limited development in Woonton.																
Option 6 – small extension to Almeley village settlement boundary with limited further development in Woonton.	+	++	++	++	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?				+
Option 7 – Do nothing	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x

## 6.0 Appraisal of the policies

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

6.2 The following, emerging set of draft policies can be appraised for the purposes of Stage B of the SEA:

ALM1: Promoting sustainable development

ALM2: Development Strategy

ALM3: Maintaining and protecting the landscape and its features

ALM4: Protecting heritage assets

ALM5: Protection of local green space

ALM6: Design Appearance

ALM7: Sustainable design

ALM8: Diversification through live/work units

ALM9: General purpose agricultural buildings and intensive livestock units

ALM10: Housing development in Almeley

ALM11: Land to north of West View

ALM12: Housing development in Woonton

ALM13: Redevelopment of land at Woonton Farm

ALM14: Residential use associated with historic farmsteads

ALM15: Providing for local housing need

ALM16: Highway requirements

ALM17: Sewage and sewerage infrastructure

ALM18: Protection from flood risk

ALM19: Protection and enhancement of community facilities and services

ALM20: Contributions to community services, youth provision and recreation 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. Full details of this appraisal are attached at Appendix 4.
- 6.5 The policies largely score as positive or are not relevant 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 and Policies	SEA objectives															
	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	X	X	X	16
ALM1: Promoting sustainable development	++	++	++	++	+	0	?	?	?	?	?	+				+
ALM2: Development Strategy	+	++	+	++	+	0	+	+	?	?	?	+				+
ALM3: Maintaining and protecting the landscape and its features	++	++	+	+	+	0	+	+	++	+	+	++				++
ALM4: Protecting heritage assets	+	++	+	++	+	0	?	?	?	?	?	?				+
ALM5: Protection of local green space	+	++	++	++	x	0	x	x	x	x	+	+				+
ALM6: Design Appearance	+	++	++	++	x	0	x	x	x	x	x	x				x
ALM7: Sustainable design	+	++	++	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+				+

ALM8: Diversificati on through live/work units	+	+	0	0	x	-	x	x	x	x	x	x				+
ALM9: General purpose agricultural buildings and intensive livestock units	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+				+
ALM10: Housing developmen t in Almeley	+	++	+	+	x	?	x	x	x	x	x	x				x
ALM12: Housing developmen t in Wootton	+	++	+	+	0	?	0	0	+	+	++	+				+
ALM14: Residential use associated with historic farmsteads	0	++	+	++	x	?	x	x	x	x	x	?				+
ALM15: Providing for local housing need	0	+	+	0	x	?	x	x	x	x	x	x				x
ALM16: Highway requirement s	0	+	+	+	?	++	0	0	x	x	x	x				x
ALM17: Sewage and sewerage infrastructur e	+	+	+	x	x	x	0	0	++	++	+	+				+
ALM18: Protection from flood risk	++	+	+	0	x	x	x	x	++	++	++	+				+
ALM19: Protection and enhanceme nt of community facilities and services	x	+	+	+	x	+	x	x	x	x	x	x				x
ALM20: Contributio ns to community services, youth provision and recreation facilities.	0	+	++	+	x	0	x	x	x	x	x	x				x
<b>Sites</b>																

ALM11: Land to north of West View	++	++	+	+	0	0	?	?	0	?	?	0				+
ALM13: Redevelopm ent of land at Woonton Farm	+	++	++	+	0	0	?	?	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 Almeley NDP are by and large 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 Almeley 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) Regulation 2012 (Reg. 32)**

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

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<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Almeley Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Almeley Parish Council
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	17/07/2012

### **Introduction**

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

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

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



**Initial HRA Screening**

**River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC:**

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	The River Wye is 2.75km away from the Parish
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	Y	The Parish is within the River Wye catchment area.
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	There is mains drainage in Almeley

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 21.3km away from the Parish
---	---	--



**River Clun SAC:**

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

**Usk Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 35.55km away from the Parish
--	---	--

**Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	The Parish is 43.02km away from Wye Valley and Forest of dean Bat Sites
--	---	---

**Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	The Parish is 40.22km away from the Wye Valley Woodlands
--	---	--

**HRA Conclusion:**

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

**European Site**

*(List only those which are relevant from above)*

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC

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

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

<b>SEA features</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>SEA required</b>
Air Quality Management Areas	0	There are no AQMA's within the Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	11	Highmoor Wood, Longclose Coppice, Pennsylvannia Wood, Buttington Wood, Rough Moors, Unlabelled plot of land by Holywell Dingle, Birches Coppice (border), Elsdon Wood (border), Coronation Wood (border), Highfield Wood (border), Bad Patch Wood (border)	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAI's within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	There are no AONB's within the Parish	N
Conservation Areas	1	There is a Conservation Area around Almeley village	Y
European Sites	0	There are No SAC's within the Parish	N
Flood Areas		Flood Zones 2 & 3 run in the south of the Parish, and also in Cokes Yeld Dingle and to the west of Almeley village	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous listed buildings throughout the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCS/RIGS)	8	Highmoor Wood, Holywell Dingle, Pool nr Old Castle, pool nr Upcott, Hopleys Green Common, Land at Rose Cottage, The Batch, pool nr Shawl Farm	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails (e.g. Herefordshire Trail)	1	Vaughans Way	Y
Mineral Reserves	0	There are no Minerals Reserves Sites within the Parish	N
National Nature Reserve	0	There are no NNR's within the Parish	N
Registered & unregistered parks and gardens	2 registered 1 Unregistered	Registered: Nieuport, Broxwood Court (border) Unregistered: Lemore	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	2	Oldcastle Twt, Almeley Castle	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	0	There are no SSSI's within the Parish	N

**Decision Notification:**

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

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

**Assessment date: 17/05/2013**

**Assessed by: James Latham**

## Appendix 1: European Sites

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

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

### Usk Bat Site

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

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

### Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites

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

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

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

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

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

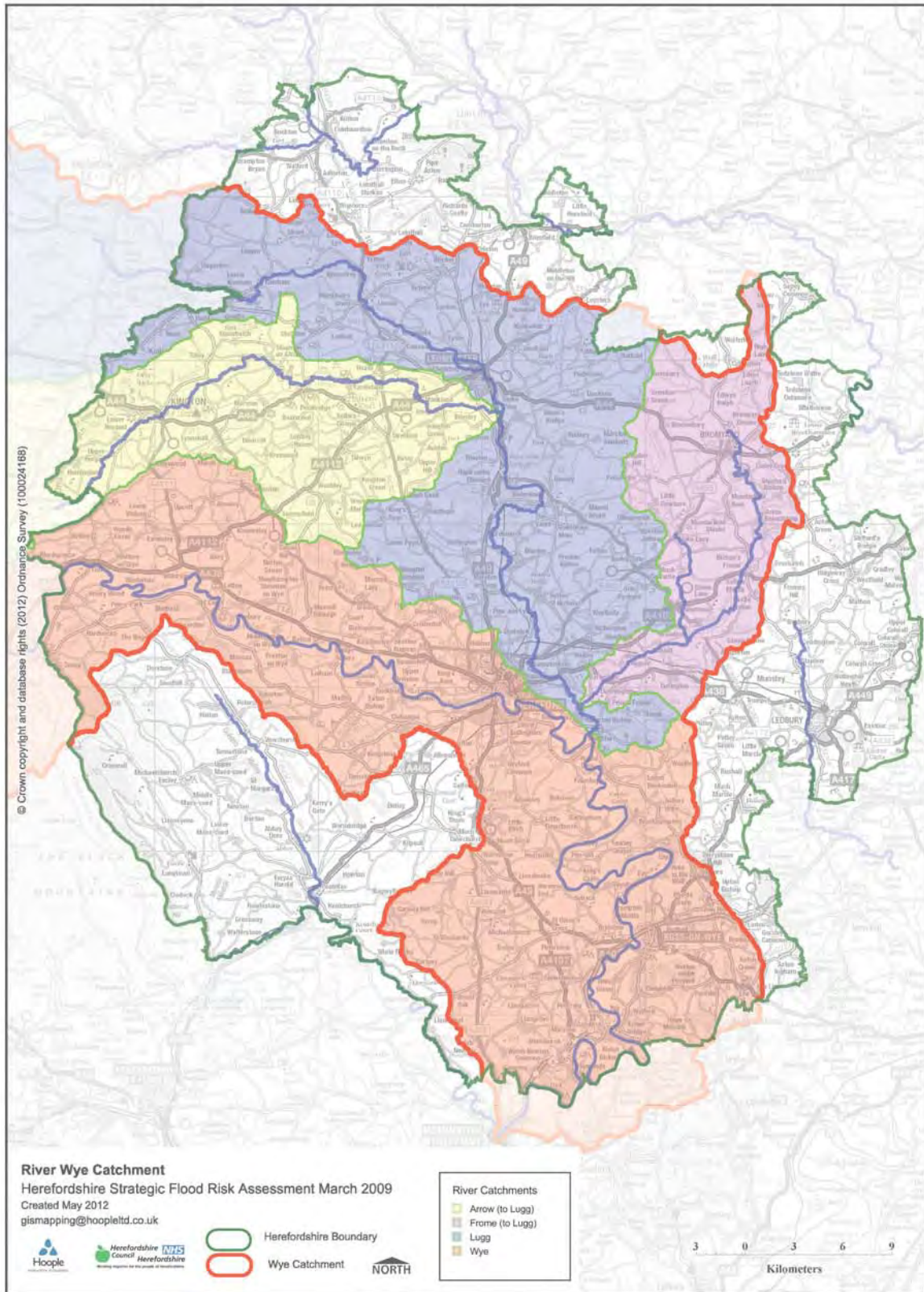
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation.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

### Wye Valley Woodlands

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

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

## Appendix 2: Wye Catchment Map



# Almeley SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:24,000



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**Key:**

- Conservation Areas
- Ancient Woodlands
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Vaughans Way
- Registered Parks and Gardens
- Unregistered Parks and Gardens
- Listed Buildings
- Parish Boundaries

**Herefordshire  
Council**

# Almeley SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:24,000



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**Key:**

- Special Wildlife Sites
- Flood Zone 2
- Flood Zone 3
- Parish Boundaries

**Herefordshire Council**



# Appendix 2

# Strategic Environmental Assessment



## Almeley Neighbourhood Area

Scoping Report

October 2014

## Consultation on the Scoping Report

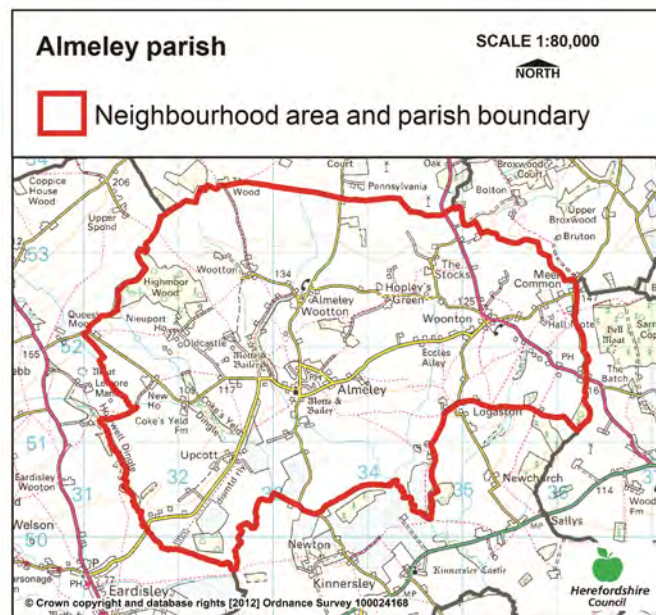
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

- 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.



Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
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 has numerous parts and supplementary lists and schedules many of which have been amended since publication.	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> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
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.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
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 Government policy.	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.
Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy	EU Strategy.	2009	Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will better 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>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The NDP should take account of the objectives of the strategy, making the aim of sustainable development an integral part of its proposals.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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.	Aims to make the planning system less complex, more accessible and able to promote growth within the ethos of sustainable development. The presumption is in favour of sustainable development.	<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>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The guidance contained within the section on Neighbourhood Planning should be borne in mind during the preparation of the NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Planning Practice Guidance	Government Guidance	2014	Provides guidance to local planning authorities and others on the operation of the planning system.	Offers up-to-date, electronic guidance on every aspect of planning from air quality and design to land stability and rural housing.	<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>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The NDP must be pro-growth and facilitate the provision of sustainable development.
Herefordshire Pre Submission Core Strategy 2011-2031	Development Plan Document (DPD)	2014	Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.	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.	<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>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>The NDP should take account of relevant policies set within the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Where necessary, the NDP should provide services, facilities and employment opportunities that are</p>



Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<p>The Pre Submission 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> <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>accessible to both local and neighbouring communities.</p> <p><sup>1</sup>Approximately 15 dwellings will need to be delivered within Almeley, though this target is indicative and provide a starting point for work on the NDP.</p>

<sup>1</sup> Figures do not include extant planning permissions from 2011 onwards.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<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>Seeks proportional growth of up to 12% in Almeley and Woonton (Kington HMA) over the plan period, subject to EiP outcome.</p>		

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2013-2015	Corporate	2013	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.	The document includes three key objectives, one of which seeks to maintain access for rural residents and people without access to a car. Intrinsic to this is the retention of a 'core network' of bus services which focus on journeys between Hereford and the market towns, along with main transport corridors close to larger rural settlements. To this end, the strategy aims to increase the number of bus users by 1.3% (4,700 journeys) by 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	The LTP does not explore current transport issues in the Almeley neighbourhood area.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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.	<p>The document outlines the path and direction to foster economic vitality within Herefordshire. Key objectives therefore include:</p> <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</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	None of merit.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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 employment land allocations within Almeley 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</li> </ul>	None of merit; however it would be appropriate for the NDP to examine employment need locally and determine whether there is any scope for providing employment land and premises.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Evidence	2009	<p>The SHLAA 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>	<p>In terms of Almeley, previous SHLAA identifies that 60 additional dwellings could be provided on 8 sites in and around the existing settlement, however it is unlikely that this number would materialise due to significant constraints.</p>	<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>If site allocations are pursued then the Almeley NDP should be informed either by SHLAA or a housing land assessment, undertaken in line with Guidance Note 21: Site assessment and allocation sites.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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.	<p>Almeley falls within the Kington HMA. Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 57% of households are unable to afford market housing.</li> <li>• There is an annual requirement for 17 affordable dwellings between 2012 and 2017.</li> </ul> <p>The study identifies that, in rural parts of the HMA, there is a need for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 336 market houses</li> <li>• 181 affordable houses.</li> </ul> <p>The study highlights that within the Kington HMA the overall estimated housing need by size 2012-2017 is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 Bed - 64.7%</li> <li>• 2 bed -23.1%</li> <li>• 3 bed – 12.2%</li> </ul>	<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 Hereford HMA.</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)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study	Evidence	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.	<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>	<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>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>This study provides an indication of housing requirements in the rural areas and the Kington HMA.</p> <p>This evidence can be used to inform the content of the Almeley NDP.</p>



Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report	Evidence	2013	Provides the background for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy	The villages within the neighbourhood area are listed among those settlements which are considered to be sustainable locations for growth of up to 12%, in accordance with the EiP outcome.	<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>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Almeley NDP will need to be in general conformity with the provisions of Local Plan policies concerning the rural areas.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment	Evidence	2013	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>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Almeley NDP should establish whether any of the need identified in this assessment falls within the neighbourhood area and seek appropriate pitches and provision.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
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 Almeley NDP can help to achieve the priorities set within the LBAP.
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.	The 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>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</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 Almeley NDP can overcome any existing constraints and capitalise on opportunities to enhance habitats and their networks.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis	Evidence	2010	Technical Paper which supports the SHLAA by classifying the landscape sensitivity of the urban fringe on the edges of Hereford and the five market towns.	The document provides useful information in respect of Hereford and the market towns only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> </ul>	None of merit.
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>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Almeley NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Almeley NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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>In terms of Almeley itself, the study reveals that there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1.7 hectares of playing pitch area</li> <li>• 1.4 (82%) hectares of playing pitch area with secured community access; Spearmarsh Common.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies the Almeley NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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 Kington Area, to which Castle Ward is a part, there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive under provision of parks and gardens</li> <li>• Extensive over provision of natural and semi-natural green space</li> <li>• Under provision of amenity green space and average provision for outdoor sport</li> <li>• Average provision for children and young people.</li> </ul> <p>In terms of Almeley itself, no specific sites are identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	The open space audit and assessment does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in the Almeley neighbourhood area. However, there may be a need to include a policy which encourages and facilitates the provision of outdoor recreational facilities.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Play Facilities Study	Evidence	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.	In terms of Almeley, no specific sites are identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	None of merit.



Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study	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 (WCS) examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.</p>	<p>The majority of the neighbourhood area is situated in the River Wye catchment, with the eastern part from Woonton onwards falling within the River Arrow catchment.</p> <p>The WCS identifies a significant number of water bodies in the Arrow river catchment that have poor ecological status. Equally, there are 30 sites in the River Wye catchment where current discharge consent licences cannot be shown to have no adverse effect.</p> <p>Sub-catchments within these zones record a standard percentage run off of 30-35%, which is potentially moderately unsuitable for infiltration source control.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>New development proposed through the Almeley NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure.</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 Almeley NDP.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				That part of the neighbourhood area within the Arrow catchment has a moderately slow flood response (Tp-time to peak) time at around 9-11 hours, whilst those parts within the Wye catchment have a very slow flood response (Tp-time to peak time at <11 hours).		

**Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Almeley**

*N.B. This is based on countywide baseline information with some additions relevant to Almeley (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 or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	There are no SSSIs within the Neighbourhood Area	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
13. Value, maintain, restore or 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 being taken.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-

<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 or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	The existing status of the Wye SAC between the Hay and Lugg confluence is currently meeting its phosphate and conservation targets.	The River Wye SAC was subject to a review of consents in 2010, as a number of sections of the river were found to have greater phosphate levels than those identified in Natural England's favourable condition tables.	The roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan will determine future targets.	New development within the area could lead to the water quality failing the phosphate levels and conservation objectives.	Nutrient Management Plan (2014)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire.  There are no formal records of any unacceptable adverse impacts on habitats or protected species.  Originally 156 Priority Species were identified for inclusion in Herefordshire's LBAP.  Similarly Herefordshire's LBAP covered 23 habitats with Action Plans.	To protect or enhance the habitats of species identified.  Zero net loss of habitats.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	-

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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 or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.	Almeley has:  SWS: 4 <sup>2</sup> SINCs: 4  There are no SSSIs, NNRs, and LNRs within the parish.	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 protect or enhance areas of value to nature conservation.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	NDP SEA/HRA Screening Notification Report (July 2012)
13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	The neighbourhood area comprises the following types of landscapes:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principal timbered farmlands</li> <li>• Wet pasture meadows</li> <li>• Wooded estate lands</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).

<sup>2</sup> View SEA/HRA Screening Notification Report for further details.

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
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.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.  <i>Whilst there is no locally specific data available at present, there are numerous archaeological and historic sites in Almeley according to the latest version of the register.</i>	-	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 (searched September 2014).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	<i>Rapid Townscape Assessments (2010) were only undertaken for Hereford, Ledbury and Ross.</i>  <i>Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis (2010) only considers sites on the urban fringe of Hereford and the five market towns.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	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
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Population, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</i>							
15. Value, protect, enhance or 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.	-



SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
15. Value, protect, enhance or 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 the aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.  There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Almeley village at present.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Almeley village.	To maintain or enhance current status.	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched September 2014)

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>Climatic Factors</i>							
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 less polluting forms 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><i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i></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.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).

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.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	2010/11: None  There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
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.	<i>There is no countywide data available at present.</i>  2011: The vast majority of land within the neighbourhood area was listed Grade 1 (Excellent) for its agricultural quality.	-	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 figure dates back to 2005: 84%  <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 Report (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.	2011/13: 57%  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	2010/11: 67%  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 (2011/13)
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.	-

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	Level of development in urban areas compared to rural.	<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.	-
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Cultural heritage</i>							
20. Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.  <b>There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 2 SAMs.</b>  <b>The Church of St Mary is currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.</b>	In 2011, there were 58 heritage assets in Herefordshire that were considered to be at high risk and included in the Heritage at Risk Register.	<b>To promote opportunities to achieve the removal of heritage assets from the At Risk Register.</b>	<b>Repair scheme currently in progress.</b>	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; searched September 2014)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of heritage assets, locally important buildings across 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 locally important buildings within Almeley.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Almeley village.	To maintain or enhance current status.	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched September 2014)



**Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the Almeley 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	Objective 16
		Need to reduce carbon emissions by encouraging less polluting forms of transport.	
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	Almeley has numerous Scheduled Ancient Monuments and listed buildings, all of which require ongoing protection and many in need of high levels of maintenance.	Objective 20
5	Flora and fauna	Conserve or 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
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

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

	Steady decline in the chemical quality of rivers over the last 10 years.	
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**Appendix A4 – SEA framework (objectives, indicators and targets)**

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve air quality.</li> <li>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</li> </ul>	<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> </ul>	Transport patronage by mode.	To encourage the take up of less polluting forms of transport.
Biodiversity, Flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maintain or enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.</li> <li>Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.</li> </ul>	<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> </ul>	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	N/A
				After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation.	Percentage of opportunities taken.
				Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	The roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan will determine future targets.
				Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	To protect or enhance the habitats of species identified.  Zero net loss of habitats.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
			<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 space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</li> </ul>	<p>Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.</p> <hr/> <p>Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.</p>	<p>To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation.</p> <hr/> <p>The number of local sites under positive conservation management (Increase).</p>

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Climatic factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To reduce contributions to climate change</li> <li>To reduce vulnerability to climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>	Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.	To contribute towards the national target.
				Total CO2 emissions per capita.	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.
Cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve or enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and cultural heritage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, historic environment and cultural heritage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserve, protect or enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</li> </ul>	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	To promote opportunities to achieve the removal of heritage assets from the At Risk Register.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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> <li>• Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</li> </ul>	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ Planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of heritage assets, locally important buildings across the Parish and particularly within a conservation area.	To maintain or enhance current status in Almeley.
Material assets Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To conserve natural and man-made resources.</li> <li>• To maintain or enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</li> <li>• To improve the quality of surroundings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.</li> <li>• Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</li> </ul>	<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> </ul>	Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.	No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.</p> <p>Agricultural land usage by quality.</p>	<p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.</p>

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the health and well-being of the population.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.</li> </ul>	<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 space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</li> </ul>	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design standards.	No specific targets identified.
				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.	To maintain or enhance current status in Almeley.



SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve soil resources and quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</li> <li>Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.</li> </ul>	<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 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.</li> </ul>	Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.	To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy.
				Housing densities in urban and rural areas.	No specific targets identified.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve water quality</li> <li>To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</li> <li>To reduce, avoid and manage flood risk</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.</li> <li>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</li> </ul>	<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>	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.
				Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality.	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.

# Appendix 3

Date: 16 December 2014  
Our ref: Various  
Your ref: Neighbourhood Area SEA Scoping



Mr J. Latham  
Technical Support Officer  
Neighbourhood Planning, Strategic Planning & Conservation teams  
Herefordshire Council  
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T 0300 060 3900

## BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Latham

### Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening for:

Almeley (136042)  
Bishops Frome (136965)  
Bishopstone Group (136967)  
Brampton Abbots & Foy (136970)  
Fownhope (136972)  
Orleton & Richards Castle (136975)  
Shobdon (136978)  
Welsh Newton & Llanrothal Group (136979)  
Weston under Penyard (136982)  
Wigmore Group (136984)

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 30 October 2014.

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.

We welcome the production of this SEA Scoping report. With respect to the natural environment Natural England wishes to make the following comments which are intended to further improve the SEA and its usefulness in assessing the Neighbourhood Plan.

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

In addition to the plans, policies and programmes listed, we suggest that the following are relevant and should be added:

Almeley  
Bishop's Frome  
Bishopstone Group

- [Natural Environment White Paper](#)
- [Biodiversity 2020](#)

#### Wigmore Group

- [Shropshire Hills Management Plan 2014-2019](#)

All that refer to:

Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2009- 2014, we advise referring to the more up to date [Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2014 to 2018](#).

Wye Valley AONB Management Plan 2009-2014, we advise also referring to [Draft Wye Valley Management Plan 2014 -19](#).

## **Appendix A2 – Baseline information**

### ***Biodiversity, flora and fauna***

#### Almeley

#### Bishop's Frome

#### Shobdon

Under objective-13. “*Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity*”, proposed indicator- “*Net change to condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire*”, it is stated under Current Status that “there are no SSSIs within the Neighbourhood area”. Whilst this statement is correct, consideration should be made of impacts to SSSIs outside the Neighbourhood Area which could be impacted by Neighbourhood Area plan.

#### Fownhope

Under objective-13. “*Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity*”, proposed indicator- “*Net change to condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire*” SSSI's within the parish boundaries are listed. Consideration should be made of impacts to SSSIs (Woodshuts Wood and SSSI Scutterdine Quarry SSSI) outside the Neighbourhood Area which could be impacted by Neighbourhood Area plan.

#### Welsh Newton & Llanrothal Group

In the section on the current status of 13: “Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth” there are no trends, targets, issues and constraints and baseline (information) source and would refer you to the other Neighbourhood Area Scoping Report we have been consulted on which do include these details.

#### All

Under the proposed indicator “*Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan*”, we advise an additional or at least the following baseline information source -Maps of priority habitats and species are available on *Magic*, Defra's GIS package for environmental assets ([www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk)). We note that some of the report refer to the Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11) as a baseline information source- could this be applied to all of them?

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

#### All

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.

Almeley  
Bishop's Frome  
Bishopstone Group  
Fownhope  
Shobdon  
Weston under Penyard

In topic "Water, air, soil, material assets"- 18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources, a distinction should be made between soil Grade 3a and 3b. The best and most versatile land is defined as Grades 1, 2 and 3a by policy guidance (see Annex 2 of NPPF).

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

All

Natural England welcomes the environmental issues identified.

### **Appendix A4 – SEA Framework**

All

Under topic "Nature Conservation"- "Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity", we advise that any indicators chosen should allow for the monitoring of the effects of the plan on the objective concerned, and not the objective more generally. Thus, for example, condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest is not a useful thing to monitor, but impacts of the plan on Sites of Special Scientific Interest might be.

Under the SEA topic "Landscape" reference could be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Characterisation studies including Historic Landscape Characterisation if this has been carried out.

Under SEA topic "material assets", there are no targets identified against the indicator "monitoring changes to the historic landscape". We suggest that the LPA could utilise Historic Landscape Characterisation studies and monitor the number of applications permitted despite a significant impact on the landscape having been identified.

Shobdon  
Weston under Penyard

We advise separating the topics Material assets and Landscape.

### **Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening**

We would remind you of one of the basic conditions that a draft neighbourhood plan or Order must meet, as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012, which states that 'The making of the neighbourhood development plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site'.

Almeley  
Bishop's Frome  
Bishopstone Group  
Fownhope

We welcome this initial assessment and agree that a full screening exercise will be required to assess the impacts on the River Wye (including the River Lugg) Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

Welsh Newton & Llanrothal

We welcome this initial assessment and agree that a full screening exercise will be required to assess the impacts on the River Wye SAC and Wye Valleys Woodlands SAC

Brampton Abbots and Foy  
Weston under Penyard)

We welcome this initial assessment and agree that a full screening exercise will be required to assess the impacts on the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC, Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC and Wye Valleys Woodlands SAC.

Orleton & Richards Castle  
Shobdon  
Wigmore Group

We welcome this initial assessment and agree that a full screening exercise will be required to assess the impacts on the River Wye (including the River Lugg) Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Downton Gorge SAC.

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 Gillian Driver on 0300 060 4335. 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

*Gillian Driver*

Miss Gillian Driver  
Planning Adviser  
South Mercia Team



ENGLISH HERITAGE

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

Neighbourhood Planning Team  
Herefordshire Council  
Planning Services  
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Our ref:  
Your ref:

Telephone 0121 625 6887  
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04 December 2014

Dear Sir or Madam

**CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS IN: Almeley; Bishops Frome; Bishopstone Group; Brampton Abbots & Foy; Fownhope; Orleton & Richards Castle; Shobdon; Welsh Newton & Llanrothal Group; Weston under Penyard; Wigmore Group.**

Thank you for your e-mail and 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 documents. However, having considered the above Neighbourhood Plans please note that overall our comments and recommendations to you in relation to these remain substantively the same as those which we communicated to you in our letter of the 15<sup>th</sup> August 2014 in response to the first tranche of SEA Scoping Reports. We urge you to refer back to and consider these representations before finalizing the reports in relation to the above Neighbourhood Plans also.

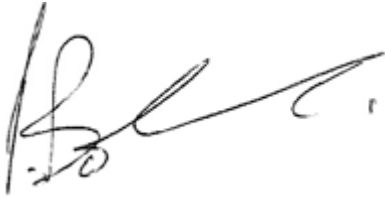
Specifically in relation to the sixth tranche of consultations we note that all of the SEA Scoping Reports appear to have anomalous references to SAM's, the Herefordshire SMR, monitoring changes to historic landscapes and historic landscape character assessments in relation to SA Objective 14 "Use natural resources and energy more effectively". Presumably this is unintentional? Is there some confusion as between the Herefordshire Sites and Monuments Register and the Herefordshire Environmental Records Register? Would these elements in fact be more relevant under SA Objectives 15 and 20?

Other than that we note the SEA Frameworks sections of the SEA's submitted 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.



I hope this is helpful.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pete Boland', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pete Boland

Historic Places Adviser

E-mail: [peter.boland@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:peter.boland@english-heritage.org.uk)

# Appendix 4

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 <b>Almeley NDP</b> 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				
<b>Objective 1: To maintain the rural character of the Parish, its village and hamlets.</b>	+	+	+	+	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+	Overall this objective has a positive outcome over the SEA objectives. The unknown factors are due to not knowing details of any climate related sustainability measures at this level.	Ensure that detail of the aims and of the objective are thoroughly explained in any emerging policy and that further details are given at each stage.	This objective is achievable and deliverable. It could be monitored against policy sustainability criteria and is in line with the overall vision for the plan and it is considered that this objective meets the SMART criteria.	No changes recommended
<b>Objective 2: To minimise the effect of further developments on the countryside and landscapes.</b>	+	+	+	+	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	Overall this objective has a positive outcome over the SEA objectives. The unknown factors are due to not knowing details of any climate related sustainability measures at this level.	Ensure that detail of the aims and of the objective are thoroughly explained in any emerging policy and that further details are given at each stage.	This objective is achievable and deliverable. It could be monitored against policy sustainability criteria and is in line with the overall vision for the plan and it is considered that this objective meets the SMART criteria.	No changes recommended
<b>Objective 3: To support the rural economy within the Parish</b>	+	+	+	0	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+	Overall this objective has a positive outcome over the SEA objectives. The unknown factors are due to not knowing possible details of the natural of the rural economy that will develop but, however promotion of home working and live work units will reduce traffic movements within the area.	Ensure that policies relating to this objective have details specifying how development of the rural economy will meet sustainability principles and have details regarding the design criteria and how it will reflect and enhance the environment within the parish.	This objective is achievable and deliverable. It could be monitored against policy sustainability criteria and in terms of any economic benefit and is in line with the overall vision for the plan and it is considered that this objective meets the SMART criteria.	No changes recommended
<b>Objective 4: To provide housing opportunities for existing and future residents of the parish, including affordable, private and self-build homes.</b>	+	+	+	+	?	0	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+	Overall this objective has a positive outcome over the SEA objectives. The unknown factors are due to not knowing details of any climate related sustainability measures at this level.	Ensure that detail of the development and the aims of the objective and relation to self-build principles are thoroughly explained in any emerging policy and that detailed are given at planning stage. There is an opportunity to encourage sustainability measures through self-build processes and policy support, as well as promoting the importance of creating communities, which could work towards possibly reducing negative social impact.	This objective is achievable and deliverable. It could be monitored against policy sustainability criteria and is in line with the overall vision for the plan and it is considered that this objective meets the SMART criteria.	No changes recommended

<p>Objective 5: To accommodate future development within the capacity of local infrastructure.</p>	+	+	+	+	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	?	+	<p>Overall this objective has a positive outcome over the SEA objectives. The unknown factors are due to not knowing details of any climate related sustainability measures at this level. The objective looks at the encouragement of alternative means of transport to cars.</p>	<p>Ensure that detail of the aims and of the objective are thoroughly explained in any emerging policy and that detailed are given at planning stage.</p>	<p>This objective is achievable and deliverable. It could be monitored against policy sustainability criteria and is in line with the overall vision for the plan and it is considered that this objective meets the SMART criteria.</p>	<p>No changes recommended</p>
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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 <b>Almeley NDP</b> 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.– August 2014 status of the SSSIs are: River Wye – unfavourable recovering. Moseley Common (Unfavourable but recovering). The existing status of the Wye SAC between Hay and the Lugg confluence is currently meeting its phosphate target and is meeting the conservation targets. 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. Almeley Parish has: 0 SSSI, 8 LWS. Almeley Parish lies within the hydrological catchment of the River Wye SAC and sits in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye with the north area in the catchment area of the River Arrow. There are 8 NNRs, SWS and SINCs within the parish.</p> <p>2-There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Almeley Parish at present. There is a conservation area to the west of Almeley.</p> <p>3- In terms of Almeley itself, there is 1.7 hectares of playing pitch area and 1.4 (82%) hectares of playing pitch area with secured community access; Spearmarsh Common.</p> <p>4-Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, Almeley has numerous Scheduled Ancient Monuments and listed buildings, all of which require ongoing protection and many in need of high levels of maintenance.</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 C02 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-Almeley 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 Almeley neighbourhood area was listed Grade 1 (Excellent) for its agricultural quality. Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.2010/11: 67%2011-13: 57%.</p> <p>16- There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 2 SAMs. The Church of St Mary is currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register. No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Almeley village. The neighbourhood area comprises the following types of landscapes: Principal timbered farmlands, Wet pasture meadows, Wooded estate lands</p>

NDP Options and Site 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			
<b>Baseline</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	X	X	X	16			
Option 1 – small amount of new housing development in Almeley, with no more development in Woonton.	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?				+	This option would lead to development of a small number of houses in Almeley with no more development in Woonton, this would work towards a positive impact on the baseline , the environmental impacts of any development is currently uncertain and there is limited certainty over if sites will be allocated through this option.	Any policy or site allocation developing from this options 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. However providing criteria is added to the policy to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have an overall positive effect on the baseline.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Option 2 – retain current settlement boundary for Almeley village, restrict development in Woonton and rely on Parish windfall.	+	+	+	+	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?				+	This option would lead to development in Almeley and some restricted development in Woonton. Overall this would work towards a positive impact on the baseline, the environmental impacts of any development is currently uncertain and there is limited certainty over if sites will be allocated through this option.	Any development or policy that would come forward based on this option would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives. Further determination of environmental impact if any windfall development took place would need to be assessed at planning application stage. However providing criteria is added to the policy to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have an overall positive effect on the baseline. This option is less likely to be able to implement larger scale sustainable water processes on windfalls. There is no site allocated for windfalls therefore it is difficult to determine the impacts as this stage. More detail should be provided at planning stage.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Option 3 – extend Almeley settlement boundary to incorporate a site large enough for affordable housing, with no more development in Woonton.	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	0	0	?	+	?				+	The extension of the settlement boundary and the allocation of a site to incorporate affordable housing would give certainty in terms of the baseline objects, in terms of being able to identify specific risks and therefore mitigation measures associated with a specific allocation. Not allowing any future development in Woonton would ensure there are no further impacts outside of the allocated settlement boundary. Specific environmental issues could be investigated further during the site search and allocation, therefore could be positively addressed within policy. This option would have an overall positive effect on the baseline.	This option would give greater certainty over future development within the parish area as a percentage of proportional growth is expected. Mitigation measures can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA

Option 4 – extend Almeley settlement boundary to incorporate a site large enough for affordable housing and limited further development in Woonton.	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?				+	The extension of the settlement boundary and the allocation of a site to incorporate affordable housing would give certainty in terms of the baseline objects, in terms of being able to identify specific risks and therefore mitigation measures associated with a specific allocation. Minimising any future development in Woonton will also help to reduce impacts outside of the allocated settlement boundary. Specific environmental issues could be investigated further during the site search and allocation, therefore could be positively addressed within policy. This option would have an overall positive effect on the baseline.	This option would give greater certainty over future development within the parish area as a percentage of proportional growth is expected. Mitigation measures can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Option 5 – retain current settlement boundary for Almeley village, while allowing limited development in Woonton.	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?				+	This option would lead to some development within the Almeley settlement boundary with limited development in Woonton. The environmental impacts of any development is currently uncertain and there is limited certainty over if sites will be allocated through this option.	Any development or policy that would come forward based on this option would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives. Further determination of environmental impact if any windfall development took place would need to be assessed at planning application stage.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Option 6 – small extension to Almeley village settlement boundary with limited further development in Woonton.	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?				+	This option would lead to development within an extended settlement boundary in Almeley with limited development in Woonton. The environmental impacts of any development is currently uncertain due to site not having been allocated at this stage however some outcomes regarding the area for development and that SEA baseline is positive.	This option would give greater certainty over future development within the parish area as a percentage of proportional growth is expected. Mitigation measures can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved and more detail can be given when sites are allocated or at planning permission stage.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Option 7 – Do nothing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	Do nothing option sees the parish choose 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	



Sites																			
ALM11: Land to north of West View	+	+	+	+	0	0	?	?	0	?	?	0				+	This site allocation is positive or will have a neutral impact when assessed against the SEA baseline criteria. Development will be permitted subject to the housing fitting with the criteria in the supporting policy in terms of housing type, effect of the landscape and biodiversity and importance of the conservation area.	Criteria in policies will support development on site and mitigate any issues that may arise from the unknown baseline outcomes. These have been noted at neutral in light of no specific environmental details regarding the future housing having been progressed at this stage. Further determination of this could be reviewed at planning application stage when more detail is available.	This site option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA where relevant.
ALM13: Redevelopment of land at Woonton Farm	+	+	+	+	0	0	?	?	0	?	?	?				+	This site allocation is positive or will have a neutral impact when assessed against the SEA baseline criteria. Development of previous agricultural buildings will be permitted if it adheres with supporting policy ALM12 and results in an enhancement to the setting.	Criteria in policies will support development of this site and mitigate any issues that may arise from the unknown baseline outcomes. Further determination of this could be reviewed at planning application stage when more detail is available.	This site option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA where relevant.

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 <b>Almeley NDP</b> 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.	
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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.	
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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.– August 2014 status of the SSSIs are: River Wye – unfavourable recovering. Moseley Common (Unfavourable but recovering). The existing status of the Wye SAC between Hay and the Lugg confluence is currently meeting its phosphate target and is meeting the conservation targets. 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. Almeley Parish has: 0 SSSI, 8 LWS. Almeley Parish lies within the hydrological catchment of the River Wye SAC and sits in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye with the north area in the catchment area of the River Arrow. There are 8 NNRs, SWS and SINCs within the parish.</p> <p>2-There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Almeley Parish at present. There is a conservation area to the west of Almeley.</p> <p>3- In terms of Almeley itself, there is 1.7 hectares of playing pitch area and 1.4 (82%) hectares of playing pitch area with secured community access; Spearmarsh Common.</p> <p>4-Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, Almeley has numerous Scheduled Ancient Monuments and listed buildings, all of which require ongoing protection and many in need of high levels of maintenance.</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 C02 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-Almeley 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 Almeley neighbourhood area was listed Grade 1 (Excellent) for its agricultural quality. Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.2010/11: 67%2011-13: 57%.</p> <p>16- There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 2 SAMs. The Church of St Mary is currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register. No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Almeley village. The neighbourhood area comprises the following types of landscapes: Principal timbered farmlands, Wet pasture meadows, Wooded estate lands</p>

NDP Options and Policies	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			
<b>Baseline</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	X	X	X	16			
ALM1: Promoting sustainable development	+	+	+	+	+	0	?	?	?	?	?	+				+	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data and successfully addresses some of the SEA and baseline objectives. Some of the environmental baseline statistics that have been assessed as unknown can be addressed through supporting policies and those that are neutral can be monitored, however it is inevitable that any development will produce a certain increase in traffic.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will help to guide sustainable development.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM2: Development Strategy	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	?	?	?	+				+	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data and successfully addresses some of the SEA and baseline objectives. Some of the environmental baseline statistics results are unclear as to how development will deliver and impact upon the baseline data, however these can be addressed through supporting policies.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will help to guide development and identifies the requirement for development across the area and highlights the importance of exceptional design in accordance with RA3.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM3: Maintaining and protecting the landscape and its features	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This policy is very compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will help to maintain and protect the landscape.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM4: Protecting heritage assets	+	+	+	+	+	0	?	?	?	?	?	?				+	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data and successfully addresses some of the SEA and baseline objectives. Some of the environmental baseline statistics that have been assessed as unknown can be addressed through supporting policies and those that are neutral can be monitored, however it is inevitable that any development will produce a certain increase in traffic.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will help to protect the heritage assets in Almeley and those environmental baseline statistics which are shown as unsure can be addressed through supporting policies, however needs to be more specific in terms of structure regarding environmental issues in line with the protection of heritage.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM5: Protection of local green space	+	+	+	+	X	0	X	X	X	X	+	+				+	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will help to protect local green space in the parish and guide appropriate in line with supporting policies, however needs to be more specific in terms of structure regarding environmental issues.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

ALM6: Design Appearance	+	+	+	+	x	0	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline where relevant in terms of design and it will help to guide the design of any new development in the parish.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM7: Sustainable design	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+			+	This policy is highly compatible with and will have a positive effect on the baseline SEA data. The policy addresses all aspects of the environmental objectives and also directly addresses minimisation of construction traffic and encourages the use of bicycles.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will help to encourage and deliver sustainable development in the parish.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM8: Diversificatio n through live/work units	+	+	0	0	x	-	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		+	This policy is not overly compatible, but, where relevant will have a positive or neutral effect on the baseline data. The development of business and subdivision of agricultural units is likely to cause an increase in traffic, not only through development but through the new use of units as employment.	Overall this policy meets some of the SEA baseline but may create more pollution through industry.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM9: General purpose agricultural buildings and intensive livestock units	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+		+	This policy is compatible with some SEA baseline objectives and where relevant have a positive effect. Aspects that are recorded as neutral are due to the policy not actively addressing the points but overall working towards mitigation of environmental impact.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it addresses environmental impacts of agricultural activities in the parish.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA, however some of the policy content should be queried and figures need to be reinforced with stronger evidence to enable acceptable statements in line with the Core Strategy. Some elements are also not land use issues and should be addressed by EA rather than the NDP policy.

ALM10: Housing development in Almeley	+	+	+	+	X	?	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant, the impact on the traffic once development is underway and complete is unknown at this stage.	Overall the policy is positive as it gives guidelines for new development in Almeley. Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address the issue of traffic and other sustainability issues.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM12: Housing development in Woonton	+	+	+	+	0	?	0	0	+	+	+	+				+	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant, the impact on the traffic once development is underway and complete is unknown at this stage.	Overall the policy is positive as it gives guidelines for infill development in Woonton. Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address the issue of traffic and other sustainability issues.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM14: Residential use associated with historic farmsteads	0	+	+	+	X	?	X	X	X	X	X	?				+	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant, the impact on the traffic once development is underway and complete is unknown at this stage.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline where relevant in terms of design and it will help to guide any development within the historic farmsteads of the parish.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM15: Providing for local housing need	0	+	+	0	X	?	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant, the impact on the traffic once development is underway and complete is unknown at this stage.	Where relevant, the policy is positive as it gives guidelines for new development in Almeley. Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address the issue of traffic and other sustainability issues.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM16: Highway requirements	0	+	+	+	?	+	0	0	X	X	X	X				X	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant.	Where relevant, the policy is positive as it gives guidelines for highway requirements for any new development in the parish. Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address any other issues arising.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM17: Sewage and sewerage infrastructure	+	+	+	X	X	X	0	0	+	+	+	+				+	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant.	Where relevant, the policy is positive as it gives guidelines and directly addresses mitigation measures regarding water courses.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM18: Protection from flood risk	+	+	+	0	X	X	X	X	+	+	+	+				+	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant.	Where relevant, the policy is positive as it gives guidelines and directly addresses mitigation measures regarding flood risk across the parish.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
ALM19: Protection and enhancement of community facilities and services	X	+	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline where relevant in terms of the protection and enhancement of community facilities and services in the parish and other additional facilities will also be supported when they comply with other policies within the plan.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

ALM20: Contributions to community services, youth provision and recreation facilities.	<b>0</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>++</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>x</b>	<b>x</b>			<b>x</b>	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data where relevant.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline where relevant in terms of the protection and enhancement of community facilities and services in the parish through developer contributions, however it must be noted that CIL is currently on hold.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
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## 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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towards

**ALM1: Promoting 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 is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development, especially regarding the conservation area and ecological networks. Policy safeguards are included within the policy.	N/A
To maintain and enhance the quality of	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards	N/A

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

landscapes and townscapes				ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development, especially regarding the enhancement of the area. Policy safeguards are included within the policy.	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development, regarding maintaining and improving the quality of surroundings. Policy safeguards are included within the policy.	N/A
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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development and maintain and restore the parish's historic farmsteads. Policy safeguards are included within the policy.	N/A
To improve air quality	0	0	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only see to enhance surroundings with sustainable development in line with the proportional growth within	N/A



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

				the Core Strategy. This could have a positive effect on air quality if implemented correctly over time but for the shorter term the impact would remain as neutral. Policy safeguards are included within the policy	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only see to enhance surroundings with sustainable development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. With development there will be some margin increase in traffic however this would be balanced by the implementation of sustainable development and measures to mitigate against impacts.	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only see to enhance surroundings with sustainable development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are included within the policy.	N/A

## 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>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only see to enhance surroundings with sustainable development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are included within the policy.	N/A
To improve water 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 see to enhance surroundings with sustainable development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are included within the policy.	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<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 see to enhance surroundings with sustainable development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are included within the policy.	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<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 see to	N/A

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

				enhance surroundings with sustainable development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are included within the policy.	
To conserve soil resources and 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 see to enhance surroundings with sustainable development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are included within the policy.	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	<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 see to enhance surroundings with sustainable development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy	N/A

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

				safeguards are included within the policy.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy compliments policy RA2 of the Core Strategy and would see aspects of sustainable development across Almeley. The polies work to enhance surroundings through these sustainable development measures in terms of dwellings, economic development, conservation area and ecological networks. Wider policy safeguards exist to ensure that environmental considerations are taking into account and open spaces and the character of the conservation area are protected.				

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

**ALM2: Development Strategy**

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 focuses on settlement boundary issues, the delivery of the required proportional growth and economic development in the NDP area. It is in line with the core strategy and is supported by policy RA3. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and additional policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure nature conservation is taken into consideration.	N/A
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 aims to protect and enhance the conservation area through housing development and	N/A

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

				economic development.	
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 aims to improve the quality of the surrounding through a development strategy in line with RA2 and RA3.	N/A
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 and additional policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that the historic environment, conservation area and overall heritage is taken into consideration, with particular regard to the enhancement of historic farms.	N/A
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 additional policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that environmental factors are taken into consideration regarding any development or increased economic activity.	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>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and additional policy safeguards are included within the	Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused

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

				policy to ensure that no increase in traffic should occur from economic development in the area, however this policy does not directly address this, but talks about delivery of required proportional growth which will in turn increase traffic, but impacts at this point are unknown.	from new development particularly policies LD1, LD2 and MT1.
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would not directly lead to development but guide development within the parish in line with the proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards ensure that development should not have a significant impact on environmental factors.	Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development. Policies LD1, LD2, SS6, SS7 and SD3 cover these and will help to mitigate any uncertain impacts.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would not directly lead to development but guide development within the parish in line with the proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards ensure that development should not have a significant impact on environmental factors.	Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development. Policies LD1, LD2, SS6, SS7 and SD3 cover these and will help to mitigate any uncertain impacts.

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

To improve water quality	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would not directly lead to development but guide development within the parish in line with the proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards ensure that development should not have a significant impact on environmental factors.	Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development. Policies LD1, LD2, SS6, SS7 and SD3 cover these and will help to mitigate any uncertain impacts.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would not directly lead to development but guide development within the parish in line with the proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards ensure that development should not have a significant impact on environmental factors.	Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused from new development. Policies LD1, LD2, SS6, SS7 and SD3 cover these and will help to mitigate any uncertain impacts.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would not directly lead to development but guide development within the parish in line with the proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards ensure that development should not have a	N/A



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

				significant impact on environmental factors.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to appropriate scale development in line with Policy RA2 and RA3 within the Core Strategy.	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	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 Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy compliments policy RA2 of the Core Strategy and helps to guide development in line with proportional growth through the strategy. Policy safeguards exist to ensure that environmental considerations are taking into account housing and economic development and the character of the conservation area are protected and ensure a positive cumulative impact on the baseline.				

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

**ALM3: Maintaining and protecting the landscape and its features**

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA baseline objectives and strongly supports the landscape and ecological network in the parish and mitigation measures to prevent negative impact from development.	N/A
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 have a positive impact on the SEA baseline objectives and strongly supports the landscape and ecological network in the parish and mitigation measures to prevent negative impact from development.	N/A

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

To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA baseline objectives and strongly supports the landscape and surrounding conservation area in the parish and mitigation measures to prevent negative impact from development.	N/A
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 have a positive impact on the SEA baseline objectives and strongly supports the historical landscape in the parish and mitigation measures to prevent negative impact from development.	N/A
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA through overall environmental impact mitigation through the policy and supporting policies.	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and has a neutral impact	Policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy will help to alleviate impact caused

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

				on the baseline at this stage.	from new development.
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA through overall environmental impact mitigation through the policy and supporting policies.	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA through overall environmental impact mitigation through the policy and supporting policies.	N/A
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA through overall environmental impact mitigation through the policy and supporting policies.	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA through overall environmental impact mitigation through the policy and supporting policies.	N/A

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

To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA through overall environmental impact mitigation through the policy and supporting policies.	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA through overall environmental impact mitigation through the policy and supporting policies.	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA through overall environmental impact mitigation through the policy and supporting policies.	N/A

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

<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA baseline objectives and strongly supports the landscape and surrounding conservation area in the parish. Mitigation measures to prevent negative impact from development overall environmental impact mitigation through the policy and supporting policies.
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## B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

**ALM4: Protecting heritage assets**

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA.	N/A
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 have a positive impact on the SEA.	N/A
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA.	N/A
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a	N/A

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

environment and cultural heritage				positive impact on the SEA. It will only lead to development in line with Core Strategy Policies. Policy safeguards and supporting policies are in place to avoid or mitigate effect on the historic environment or cultural heritage.	
To improve air quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A



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

To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA.	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would have a positive impact on the SEA where relevant in terms of the historic environment. Any development would also be in line with Core Strategy Policies. Policy safeguards and supporting policies are in place to avoid or mitigate effect on the historic environment or cultural heritage.				

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

**ALM5: Protection of local green space**

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 summarises the local green spaces to be protected and that development may be permitted if the residential amenity of any development does not have any adverse effects on the identified areas. Policy safeguards are in place in avoid or mitigate effects.	N/A
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy summarises the local green spaces to be protected and that development may be permitted if the residential amenity of any development does not have any adverse effects on the identified areas. Policy safeguards are in place in avoid or mitigate effects.	N/A
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy summarises the local green spaces to be protected and that development may be permitted if the residential amenity of any	N/A

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

				development does not have any adverse effects on the identified areas. Policy safeguards are in place in avoid or mitigate effects.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	<b>++</b>	<b>++</b>	<b>++</b>	This policy summarises the local green spaces to be protected and that development may be permitted if the residential amenity of any development does not have any adverse effects on the identified areas. Policy safeguards are in place in avoid or mitigate effects.	N/A
To improve air quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A

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

water supply					
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+		N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy summarises the local green spaces to be protected. Policy safeguards are in place in avoid or mitigate effects.	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy summarises the local green spaces to be protected. Policy safeguards are in place in avoid or mitigate effects.	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy summarises the local green spaces to be protected and that development may be permitted if the residential amenity of any development does not have any adverse effects on the identified areas. Policy safeguards are in place in avoid or mitigate effects. It will also only lead to development in line with Core Strategy Policies.				

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

**ALM6: Design Appearance**

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 summarises specification for design of development in Almeley parish. This policy won't lead to development directly but development in line with Core Strategy Policies. Policy safeguards are in place to avoid or mitigate effects on nature conservation.	N/A
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy summarises specification for design of development in Almeley parish. This policy won't lead to development directly but development in line with Core Strategy Policies.	N/A

## 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 summarises specification for deign of development in Almeley parish. This policy won't lead to development directly but development in line with Core Strategy Policies.	N/A
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	<b>+</b>	<b>++</b>	<b>++</b>	This policy summarises specification for deign of development in Almeley parish. This policy won't lead to development directly but development in line with Core Strategy Policies.	N/A
To improve air quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A

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

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy summarises specification for design of development in Almeley parish. This policy won't lead to development directly but development in line with Core Strategy Policies. Policy safeguards are in place to avoid or mitigate effects on nature conservation. More details would be likely to be addressed at a more detailed planning stage and be dependent on the type of development. Each tenure, size and type of housing will be supported by associated policies in regard to environmental and heritage factors.				

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

**ALM7: Sustainable design**

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.



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

To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be

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

					clarified when further details are known.
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To provide for sustainable sources of	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but

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

water supply				baseline data.	more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					

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

<p>To conserve natural and manmade resources</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>+</p>	<p>This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.</p>	<p>Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.</p>
<p><b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b></p>	<p>This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data. Strong regard is taken to the environmental factors in this policy but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known. Specific environmental and sustainable measures can be implemented in accordance with this policy.</p>				

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

**ALM8: Diversification through live/work units**

<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)	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	More detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known, other policies in the plan support environmental issues and will help to mitigate against environmental impact.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	N/A
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	N/A

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

To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	-	-	-	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy but would have a negative cumulative impact on the historic environment through the conversion of historic farm buildings, but other mitigation measures are in place to ensure the compliance with the SEA baseline data.	N/A
To improve air quality	X	X	X	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	N/A	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	N/A	N/A
To improve water quality	X	X	X	N/A	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	N/A	N/A

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

To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and overall will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data where relevant, however there is concern for loss of historic farm steads resulting from this policy which would need to be addressed in more detail at planning permission stage.				

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

**ALM9: General purpose agricultural buildings and intensive livestock units**

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data. Cumulative impacts on the environment will be mitigated directly by the policy.	N/A
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	N/A
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	N/A
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data. Cumulative impacts on the historic and cultural heritage will be mitigated directly by the	N/A



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

cultural heritage				policy itself.	
To improve air quality	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy but at this stage will have a neutral cumulative impact towards the SEA baseline data.	None identified but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
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 but at this stage will have a neutral cumulative impact towards the SEA baseline data.	None identified but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
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 but at this stage will have a neutral cumulative impact towards the SEA baseline data.	None identified but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
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 but at this stage will have a neutral cumulative impact towards the SEA baseline data.	None identified but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To improve water quality	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy but at this stage will have a neutral cumulative	None identified but more detail will be available at planning stage and can

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

water supply				impact towards the SEA baseline data.	be clarified when further details are known.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy but at this stage will have a neutral cumulative impact towards the SEA baseline data.	None identified but more detail will be available at planning stage and can be clarified when further details are known.
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data in terms of impact on the environment and that cumulative impacts on the environment will be mitigated directly by the policy.				

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

**ALM10: Housing development in Almeley**

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 lead to the protection and enhancement of sustainable infrastructure, landscapes and townscapes. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure landscape and townscape features are taken into consideration.	N/A

## 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 and would lead to the protection and enhancement of sustainable infrastructure, landscapes and townscapes. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure the improvement of the quality of surrounding features are taken into consideration.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.
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 and works towards the protection of historic farmsteads. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative impacts are taken into consideration.	N/A
To improve air quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Any development will see an increase in overall traffic movements in the area, however this is currently an uncertainty as to the amount of traffic.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.

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

To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative	N/A

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

				impacts are taken into consideration.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy is not above and beyond the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact on the SEA baseline data. Any development will see an impact on the baseline and development will also certainly see an increase in overall traffic movements in the area, however this is currently an uncertainty as to the amount of traffic but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies and more information will be available at planning stage. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and works towards the protection of historic farmsteads. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative impacts are taken into consideration.				

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

## ALM 11: Land to north of west view (SITE)

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 site is a 0.6ha site to the north of West View and is proposed for housing development in lines with the policies included within the site allocation policy. Maintaining the character and appearance of the area with additional tree planting and protection of the conservation area as well as enhancing the biodiversity all lead to a positive impact on the SEA baseline in the short term and over the longer term.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This site is a 0.6ha site to the north of West View and is proposed for housing development in lines with the policies included within the site allocation policy. Maintaining the character and appearance of the	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.

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

				area will lead to a positive impact on the SEA baseline in the short term and over the longer term.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+++	This site is a 0.6ha site to the north of West View and is proposed for housing development in lines with the policies included within the site allocation policy. Providing a mix of house types and guiding design will lead to a positive impact on the SEA baseline in the short term and over the longer term.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This site is a 0.6ha site to the north of West View and is proposed for housing development in lines with the policies included within the site allocation policy. Providing a mix of house types and guiding design will lead to a positive impact on the SEA baseline in the short term and over the longer term.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.
To improve air quality	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.



## 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	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development will also certainly see an increase in overall traffic movements in the area, however this is currently an uncertainty as to the amount of traffic but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.

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

To improve water quality	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.

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

				but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This site allocation and policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and an overall positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This site is a 0.6ha site to the north of West View and is proposed for housing development in lines with the policies included within the site allocation policy. Maintaining the character and appearance of the area with additional tree planting and protection of the conservation area as well as enhancing the biodiversity and providing a mix of house types and guiding design will lead to a positive all lead to a positive impact on the SEA baseline in the short term and over the longer term.				

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

**ALM12: Housing development in Woonton**

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy however has a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data	N/A
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data	N/A
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data	N/A
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has a positive impact	N/A

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

environment and cultural heritage				towards the SEA baseline data	
To improve air quality	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has at this point a neutral impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address the issue of other sustainability issues.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address the issue of traffic and more information will be available at planning permission stage .
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To avoid, reduce and	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	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>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall the policy is positive as it gives guidelines for infill development in Woonton. Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address the issue of traffic and other sustainability issues. There are no negative cumulative effects.				

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

**ALM13: Redevelopment of land at Woonton Farm (SITE)**

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 site is a 0.55 ha and is focused on redevelopment of land at Woonton Farm. Maintaining the character and appearance of the area with additional tree planting and protection of the conservation area as well as enhancing the biodiversity all lead to a positive impact on the SEA baseline in the short term and over the longer term.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This site is a 0.55 ha site to the north of West View and is proposed for housing development in lines with the policies included within the site allocation policy. Maintaining the character and appearance of the area will lead to a positive impact on the SEA baseline in the	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.

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

				short term and over the longer term.	
To improve quality of surroundings	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>++</b>	This site is a 0.55 ha and is focused on redevelopment of land at Woonton Farm. Providing a mix of house types and guiding design will lead to a positive impact on the SEA baseline in the short term and over the longer term.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This site is a 0.55 ha and is focused on redevelopment of land at Woonton Farm. Providing a mix of house types and guiding design will lead to a positive impact on the SEA baseline in the short term and over the longer term.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.
To improve air quality	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.



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

				on the baseline and development will also certainly see an increase in overall traffic movements in the area, however this is currently an uncertainty as to the amount of traffic but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.
To improve water quality	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.

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

				but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.
To minimise the production of waste					

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To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This site allocation and policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and an overall positive impact towards the SEA baseline data.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage and in line with Policy ALM12.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This site is a 0.55 ha and is focused on redevelopment of land at Woonton Farm in line with the policies included within the site allocation policy. Maintaining the character and appearance of the area with additional tree planting and protection of the conservation area as well as enhancing the biodiversity and providing a mix of house types and guiding design will lead to a positive all lead to a positive impact on the SEA baseline in the short term and over the longer term.				

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

**ALM14: Residential use associated with historic farmsteads**

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 lead to the protection and enhancement of sustainable infrastructure, landscapes and townscapes. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure landscape and townscape features are taken into consideration.	N/A

## 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 and would lead to the protection and enhancement of sustainable infrastructure, landscapes and townscapes. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure the improvement of the quality of surrounding features are taken into consideration.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.
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 and works towards the protection of historic farmsteads. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative impacts are taken into consideration.	N/A
To improve air quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	<b>?</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Any development will see an increase in overall traffic movements in the area, however this is currently an uncertainty as to the amount of traffic.	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage.

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To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>+</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative	N/A

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

				impacts are taken into consideration.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy is not above and beyond the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact on the SEA baseline data where relevant. Any development will see an impact on the baseline and development will also certainly see an increase in overall traffic movements in the area, however this is currently an uncertainty as to the amount of traffic but mitigation measures are in place through supporting policies and more information will be available at planning stage. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and works towards the protection of historic farmsteads. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative impacts are taken into consideration.				

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

**ALM15: Providing for local housing need**

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	N/A
	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 is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A



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To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To improve air quality	X	X	X	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy however has an unknown and uncertain impact towards the SEA baseline data as any development will see an impact on the baseline and development will also certainly see an increase in overall traffic movements in the area, however this is currently an uncertainty as to the amount of traffic but mitigation measures are in place through supporting	None identified. More information will be available at planning permission stage

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				policies.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					

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To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy is not above and beyond the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact on the SEA baseline data where relevant. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative impacts are taken into consideration				

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

**ALM16: Highway requirements**

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	N/A
	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 is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A

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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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To improve air quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>++</b>	<b>++</b>	<b>++</b>	The policy is not over and above policy is positive as it gives guidelines for highway requirements for any new development in the parish. Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address any other issues arising.	N/A
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 however has at this point a	Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address

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

				neutral impact towards the SEA baseline data.	the issue of other sustainability issues.
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 however has at this point a neutral impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address the issue of other sustainability issues.
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					

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To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy is not above and beyond the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact on the SEA baseline data where relevant. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative impacts are taken into consideration.				

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**ALM17: Sewage and sewerage infrastructure**

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	N/A
	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 is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A



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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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To improve air quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
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 however has at this point a neutral impact towards the SEA baseline data.	Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address the issue of other sustainability issues.
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 however has at this point a neutral impact towards the SEA	Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address the issue of other

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				baseline data.	sustainability issues.
To improve water quality	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability	N/A

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				measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy is not above and beyond the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact on the SEA baseline data where relevant and especially relating to water courses and sewage. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative impacts are taken into consideration.				

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## ALM18: Protection from flood risk

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	N/A
	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 is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A

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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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To improve air quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A

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To improve water quality	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards	N/A

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				are included within the supporting policy.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy is not above and beyond the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact on the SEA baseline data where relevant. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative impacts are taken into consideration.				

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**ALM19: Protection and enhancement of community facilities and services**

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	N/A
	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>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new	N/A



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				development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	
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 and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To improve air quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>++</b>	<b>++</b>	<b>++</b>	The policy is not over and above policy is positive as it gives guidelines for highway requirements for any new development in the parish. Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address any other issues arising.	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A

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To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy is not above and beyond the Core Strategy and will have a positive impact on the SEA baseline data where relevant. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that causes of possible cumulative impacts are taken into consideration.				

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**ALM20: Contributions to community services, youth provision and recreation 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	N/A
	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>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
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 work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new	N/A

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				development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	
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 and would work towards ensuring that sustainability measures are included in new development. Policy safeguards are included within the supporting policy.	N/A
To improve air quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	The policy is not over and above policy is but will at this stage has a neutral impact on the SEA baseline.	Mitigation measures in supporting policies will help to address any other issues arising,
To reduce contributions to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To improve water quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A

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water supply					
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	N/A	N/A
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline where relevant in terms of the protection and enhancement of community facilities and services in the parish through developer contributions, however it must be noted that CIL is currently on hold.				

**Key:**

++ Move significantly towards	+ Move towards marginally	-- Move away Significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	X No relationship
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SEA Objective / Objective / Policy	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
Objective 1: To maintain the rural character of the Parish, its village and hamlets.	+	+	+	++	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+
Objective 2: To minimise the effect of further developments on the countryside and landscapes.	++	++	++	++	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+
Objective 3: To support the rural economy within the Parish	++	+	+	0	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+
Objective 4: To provide housing opportunities for existing and future residents of the parish, including affordable, private and self-build homes.	+	+	+	+	?	0	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	+	+	+
Objective 5: To accommodate	+	+	+	+	?	++	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	?	+

future development within the capacity of local infrastructure.																
ALM1: Promoting sustainable development	++	++	++	++	+	0	?	?	?	?	?	+				+
ALM2: Development Strategy	+	++	+	++	+	0	+	+	?	?	?	+				+
ALM3: Maintaining and protecting the landscape and its features	++	++	+	+	+	0	+	+	++	+	+	++				++
ALM4: Protecting heritage assets	+	++	+	++	+	0	?	?	?	?	?	?				+
ALM5: Protection of local green space	+	++	++	++	X	0	X	X	X	X	+	+				+
ALM6: Design Appearance	+	++	++	++	X	0	X	X	X	X	X	X				
ALM7: Sustainable design	+	++	++	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+			X	+
ALM8: Diversification through live/work units	+	+	0	0	X	-	X	X	X	X	X	X				+
ALM9: General purpose agricultural buildings and intensive livestock units	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	+				+
ALM10: Housing development in Almeley	+	++	+	+	X	?	X	X	X	X	X	X				

**X**

ALM12: Housing development in Woonton	+	++	+	+	0	?	0	0	+	+	++	+				+
ALM14: Residential use associated with historic farmsteads	0	++	+	++	X	?	X	X	X	X	X	?				+
ALM15: Providing for local housing need	0	+	+	0	X	?	X	X	X	X	X	X				
ALM16: Highway requirements	0	+	+	+	?	++	0	0	X	X	X	X			X	
ALM17: Sewage and sewerage infrastructure	+	+	+	X	X	X	0	0	++	++	+	+			X	+
ALM18: Protection from flood risk	++	+	+	0	X	X	X	X	++	++	++	+				+
ALM19: Protection and enhancement of community facilities and services	X	+	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
ALM20: Contributions to community services, youth provision and recreation facilities.	0	+	++	+	X	0	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
ALM11: Land to north of West View	++	++	+	+	0	0	?	?	0	?	?	0				+
ALM13: Redevelopment of land at Woonton Farm	+	++	++	+	0	0	?	?	0	?	?	?				+



<p>Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective</p>	+	++	++	++	?	+	?	?	?	?	?	+				+
<p>Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...)</p>	<p>Taking into consideration the cumulative effects of policies, options and sites, the plan will have an overall positive impact on environmental assets. The plan is in general conformity with the Core Strategy overall an all of the policies and objectives meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA. Other issues with a currently uncertain outcome have the opportunity to be mitigated by further detail in polices or at planning stage.</p>															
<p>Commentary for significant cumulative effects</p>	<p>Overall the plan is positive and would have a positive impact upon the SEA baseline data. Key recommendations would be to ensure that the environmental mitigation impacts are clear and robust, this may require some enhancement of existing policies in regard to air quality and water resources. However the plan as a whole is robust and meets key targets, 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.</p>															

# Appendix 5

Appendix 5 – Almeley Parish (Reg 14)  
Options Considered  
December 2017

Option 1 – small amount of new housing development in Almeley, with no more development in Woonton.
Option 2 – retain current settlement boundary for Almeley village, restrict development in Woonton and rely on Parish windfall.
Option 3 – extend Almeley settlement boundary to incorporate a site large enough for affordable housing, with no more development in Woonton.
Option 4 – extend Almeley settlement boundary to incorporate a site large enough for affordable housing and limited further development in Woonton.
Option 5 – retain current settlement boundary for Almeley village, while allowing limited development in Woonton.
Option 6 – small extension to Almeley village settlement boundary with limited further development in Woonton.
Option 7 – Do nothing

# Appendix 6

## Template C2: SEA Quality Assurance Checklist

**Parish Council Name:** Almeley

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name:** Almeley Neighbourhood Plan

**Date completed:** December 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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