

# Environmental Report



## Border Group Neighbourhood Area

December 2015

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Appendix 1: Initial SEA Screening Report

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## Non-technical summary

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

The Group parish lies to the north west of Herefordshire on the Welsh border between Leintwardine and Presteigne. The landscape comprises of rolling wooded hills at the foot of the Welsh mountains to the Teme Valley. Border Group of Parishes comprises the parishes of Adforton, Brampton Bryan, Buckton and Coxall, Lingen, Walford, Letton and Newton and Willey.

The Group is sparsely populated with just over 673 people, there are limited services and facilities.

The Draft Border Group NDP includes 5 objectives, which are designed to deliver the overarching vision on the ground, and it is intended that these objectives will be supported by 17 criteria based planning policies and one site allocation policy in Lingen. Alternative options were considered prior to reaching a decision over the format of the draft plan.

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

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening has been carried out as parts of the group parish falls within the hydrological catchments for the River Wye and River Clun, which are both European site (Special Area of Conservation). Downton Gorge is also within proximity and included within the screening. The HRA assesses the potential effects of the NDP on the River Wye SAC, River Clun SAC and Downton Gorge SAC.

**On the whole, it is considered that the Border Group NDP is in general conformity with both national planning policy contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and strategic policies set within the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). Nor does it propose any growth that would be over and above that prescribed by strategic policies. Therefore no changes to the NDP are recommended as a result of the SEA, however suggestions have been made where additional strengthen could be added to the existing safeguards**

Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the effects of the policies within the Border Group NDP will be monitored annually via the Council's Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Border Group Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 Adforton, Lingen and Brampton Bryan, and Walford have been highlighted for proportional levels of growth in Policy RA2 of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). The Border Group NDP proposes one site allocation within the settlement of Lingen and settlement boundary and/or criteria policy for growth within these four settlements. The NDP will also provide general policies for guiding future development across the parish as a whole.

### Purpose of the SEA

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

### Parish Neighbourhood Plan Context

- 1.6 The Group parish lies to the north west of Herefordshire on the Welsh border between Leintwardine and Presteigne. The landscape comprises of rolling wooded hills at the foot of the Welsh mountains to the Teme Valley. Border Group of Parishes comprises the parishes of Adforton, Brampton Bryan, Buckton and Coxall, Lingen, Walford, Letton and Newton and Willey.
- 1.7 The Group is sparsely populated with just over 673 people, there are limited services and facilities.
- 1.8 The Group parishes have a large number of historic assets. This includes Lingen Conservation Area, 16 Scheduled Ancient Monuments, 22 Special Wildlife Sites, 14 Ancient woodlands and 1 Registered Park and Garden.
- 1.9 The vision for the Border Group in 2031 is set out in a detailed Vision Statement.' The sparsely populated and peripheral area forming Border Group of Parishes comprises communities within a strong sense of seeking to work together for mutual support; maintaining its social fabric; and promoting a resilient local economy; but recognising and respecting each has its own distinct character formed by its heritage, environment and sense of community'
- 1.10 The 5 NDP objectives which underpin this vision are:
- 1) To increase the supply of homes for local people, especially for young families, ensuring the resultant development in accommodated in ways that retain the rural character of the villages concerned.
  - 2) To encourage diversification within the rural economy of the group parish through supporting tourism, broadening the base of agricultural businesses and creating a balance between providing homes and jobs. Measures to make the best use of the area's heritage and landscape, providing broadband and improved telecommunications,

supporting home working and producing local energy through alternative crops should be given high priority.

- 3) To increase road safety, particularly on main roads, reduce the harmful effects of heavy traffic on country lanes and address surface water flooding on the local highway.
- 4) To improve access to local health and educational service
- 5) To maintain the character of the landscape and individual settlement within the Group of Parishes, and in particular to reduce pressure on Lingen Conservation Area by directing development, where appropriate, to the edges of the village. In addition to utilise any suitable brownfield sites especially where they enhance neutral or negative features within the village, and ensuring potentially harmful forms of development, for example locating workshops where they will not affect the character, appearance and tranquilly of the villages and particularly in Lingen Conservation Area.

### **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 Border Group NDP must therefore conform to national planning policy set within the NPPF and strategic level local policy including the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 1.13 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) is anticipated to be adopted on 16 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 completed 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.
- 1.16 Tables 4.14 / 4.15 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) lists Adforton, Brampton Bryan, Lingen and Walford among the settlements which it considers to be sustainable locations for proportional growth in line with the provisions of Policy RA2. This policy is expected to facilitate the delivery of 5,300 homes across the areas outside Hereford and the Market Towns in accordance with Policy RA1 and it anticipates that NDPs will be the principle mechanism for delivering growth in the rural areas.
- 1.18 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the Border Group NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the parish, by setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined.

## **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 Border Group NDP objectives and the SEA framework
- Section 4 - Appraises the objectives set within the NDP against the SEA framework
- Section 5 - Appraises the options set within the NDP against the SEA framework
- Section 6 – Appraises the policies set within the NDP against the SEA framework
- Section 7 – Discusses the implementation and monitoring of the NDP
- Section 8 - Concludes the SEA report by outlining next steps

## 2.0 Methodology

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Scoping Report Consultation

2.6 With regard to the SEA scoping assessments, documents A1 to A4 were completed by a Herefordshire Council Planning Officer and sent to the Parish Council for comment, in readiness for a 5 week consultation with statutory bodies, pursuant to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

2.7 After the document was approved by the Parish Council, the Border Group SEA Scoping Report was available to four<sup>1</sup> statutory bodies for consultation from 08 September to 13 October 2014.

### 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.

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<sup>1</sup> Statutory consultation bodies: Natural England; English Heritage; Environment Agency Natural Resources Wales

**Natural England:** List six further documents which should be reviewed as part of SEA Task A1. Also recommend that additional baseline data be sourced in respect of SSSIs, wildlife habitats, landscape character and the quality of agricultural land. The response is clear that a full HRA screen should be carried out due to proximity of the River Wye Special Area of Conservation.

*Response: The six documents referred to have been added to A1 and further baseline data has been incorporated at A2.*

**English Heritage: No substantive objections to the content but referred to previous comments made** in relation to a range of Scoping Reports which were consulted on earlier. Suggested that 'heritage assets' be defined and given greater coverage, as opposed to focusing solely on designated assets. Several changes to the wording of certain targets and indicators are suggested, too.

*Response: Changes to the wording of relevant indicators and targets have been incorporated into A2 and A4.*

**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 Border Group NDP).

3.2 The requirement to undertake this 'context review' is contained in Annexes 1(a) and (e) of the SEA Directive which states that an Environmental Report should include:

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

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

#### Policy context

3.3 The Border Group NDP will deliver the Local Plan (Core Strategy) at parish level by adding locally specific detail to strategic policies. As a consequence, the Scoping Report for 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 plans, policies and programmes have been reviewed and, where appropriate, incorporated within the SEA 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 the required levels and growth should be supported by sustainable transport measures.
- *Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-2018 (20014)* - 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 2014-2017 (20014)* - 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 snapshot 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) and their Addendums (March 2015)* - The 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 Border Group Plan 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. There are four objectives for which there is no local information available, which provides a limitation on the baseline data and whether the NDP policies are likely to improve or exacerbate existing problems and issues relating to these themes.
- 3.10 Despite have three European sites which could potential be effected, following the completion of Task B2 of SEA it was apparent that the largest environmental issue within the parish, and which has an impact on the County as a whole, is water quality. The River Wye, though currently meeting all its conservation objectives, will require effective management, in order to ensure that the quality of water does not deteriorate to the point that nutrient targets are missed further downstream.
- 3.11 The River Wye does not pass through the parish, although a small area to the south of the around Lingen is within the hydrological catchment of the River Lugg. This watercourse forms part of the European Site south of Leominster. The River Clun also passes through the northern part of the neighbourhood area but only for 1km.

## 4.0 Assessing the NDP Objectives

- 4.1 The following objectives, as set out in the NDP, aim to realise the vision for Border Group in 2031:
- 1) To increase the supply of homes for local people, especially for young families, ensuring the resultant development is accommodated in ways that retain the rural character of the villages concerned.
  - 2) To encourage diversification within the rural economy of the group parish through supporting tourism, broadening the base of agricultural businesses and creating a balance between providing homes and jobs. Measures to make the best use of the area's heritage and landscape, providing broadband and improved telecommunications, supporting home working and producing local energy through alternative crops should be given high priority.
  - 3) To increase road safety, particularly on main roads, reduce the harmful effects of heavy traffic on country lanes and address surface water flooding on the local highway.
  - 4) To improve access to local health and educational service
  - 5) To maintain the character of the landscape and individual settlement within the Group of Parishes, and in particular to reduce pressure on Lingen Conservation Area by directing development, where appropriate, to the edges of the village. In addition to utilise any suitable brownfield sites especially where they enhance neutral or negative features within the village, and ensuring potentially harmful forms of development, for example locating workshops where they will not affect the character, appearance and tranquility of the villages and particularly in Lingen Conservation Area.
- 4.2 The table below tests these NDP objectives against the SEA objectives, providing a summary of the results of Task B1 of SEA. The full results are available at Appendix 4 of this report.
- 4.3 The majority of those NDP objectives which have a relationship with the SEA framework are positively compatible with it or have a neutral effect.
- 4.4 It is impossible to appraise the full implications of NDP objective 1, 2 and 4 at this stage given the lack of detail over the exact locations of development 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.

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

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

## 5.0 Assessing the NDP Options

5.1 All options that were considered by the NDP steering group during the development of their plan have been assessed as part of the SEA and the summary matrix of the assessment can be found in Table B2 at Appendix 4.

5.2 The options covered were as follows;

- Do nothing
- Rely upon the Rural Areas Plan
- Neighbourhood Plan with allocated sites and settlement boundaries

5.3 A 'do nothing' option was also considered, i.e. not undertaking an NDP, however this was disregarded at an early stage by the Parish Council as it was considered this would provide no opportunity for the local community to be involved in determining where development might take place.

5.4 Regarding the option to rely on the Rural Areas Plan, the Parish Council considered that this relies on Herefordshire Council producing this quickly which could not be guaranteed. The level of community involvement would be led than could be undertaken locally. However this option would have provided positive effects on the SEA baseline.

5.5 The final option of producing a neighbourhood plan was chosen as the preferred option by the parish council. This will have equal benefits within regards to the SEA objectives and have policies and proposals produced locally.

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Option 1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
Option 2	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	++	+	++	+				++
Option 3	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	++	+	++	+				++

## 6.0 Appraisal of the policies

- 6.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Border Group NDP is developing a range of options and testing these, so that a preferred way forward can be selected.
- 6.2 The plan has been organised with a set of general overarching policies for the whole neighbourhood area and these emerging set of draft policies have been appraised for the purposes of Stage B of the SEA:
- Policy BG1 Promoting a sustainable community
  - Policy BG2 Development Strategy
  - Policy BG3 New homes in Adforton
  - Policy BG4 New homes in Brampton Bryan
  - Policy BG5 New homes in Lingen
  - Policy BG6 Land at the Nursery, Lingen
  - Policy BG7 New homes in Walford
  - Policy BG8 Provision of affordable housing
  - Policy BG9 Design criteria for residential development
  - Policy BG10 Supporting local business
  - Policy BG11 Broadband and mobile telephone infrastructure
  - Policy BG12 Renewable energy
  - Policy BG13 Highways and Transport infrastructure
  - Policy BG14 Flooding and surface and foul water drainage
  - Policy BG15 Accessibility to service and facilities
  - Policy BG16 Retaining the natural environment and landscape
  - Policy BG17 Protecting local heritage
  - Policy BG18 Lingen Conservation Area

### 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, although policy safeguards within the NDP and Local Plan (Core Strategy) would help mitigate any possible conflicts.
- 6.4 With regard to Task B2 of SEA, the NDP policies were measured against both the SEA framework and the baseline characteristics identified during Stage A of the process; here, there was no baseline data available in respect of SEA Objectives 13, 14 and 15. Full details of this appraisal are attached at Appendix 4.
- 6.5 The policies largely score as positive against the SEA objectives and will not, therefore, have an adverse impact on the baseline characteristics or immediate environmental impacts. This is because they are criteria based policies which only consider schemes on their own merits, as and when planning applications are submitted to the local planning authority.

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
BG1	?	+	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	X				+
BG2	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+				+
BG3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
BG4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
BG5	+	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
BG6	?	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	+	++				+
BG7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++				+
BG8	X	X	+	X	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
BG9	++	++	++	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	+	+				+
BG9	o	o	+	+	?	o	?	?	+	+	?	?				+
BG10	X	X	X	X	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
BG11	+	+	+	+	X	?	++	+	?	X	?	+				+
BG12	+	X	+	X	+	++	+	X	X	X	X	X				X
BG13	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	+	+	X	++	+				+
BG14	X	+	+	+	+	o	X	X	X	X	+	+				+
BG15	++	++	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	X	+	+				+
BG16	++	++	++	++	+	X	X	X	+	X	X	+				+
BG17	+	++	++	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				+
BG18	?	+	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	X				+

- 6.6 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.
- 6.7 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 Border Group 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.
- 6.8 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.

## Conclusions

- 6.9 On the whole, it is considered that the Border Group NDP is in general conformity with both national planning policy contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and strategic policies set within the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). Nor does it propose any growth that would be over and above that prescribed by strategic policies. Therefore no changes to the NDP are recommended as a result of the SEA, however suggestions have been made where additional strengthen could be added to the existing safeguards



## **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 Authority 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 Border Group NDP.
- 8.2 Responses on the Draft NDP will be reviewed and the plan amended where appropriate.
- 8.3 Any changes made to the NDP as a consequence of the Regulation 14 consultation with those who live, work or carry out business in the neighbourhood area, as well as statutory consultation bodies, will trigger a review of the SEA, unless they do not materially affect the outcomes of Stage B of the SEA process.

# Appendix 1

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

**The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulation 2012 (Reg. 32)**

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

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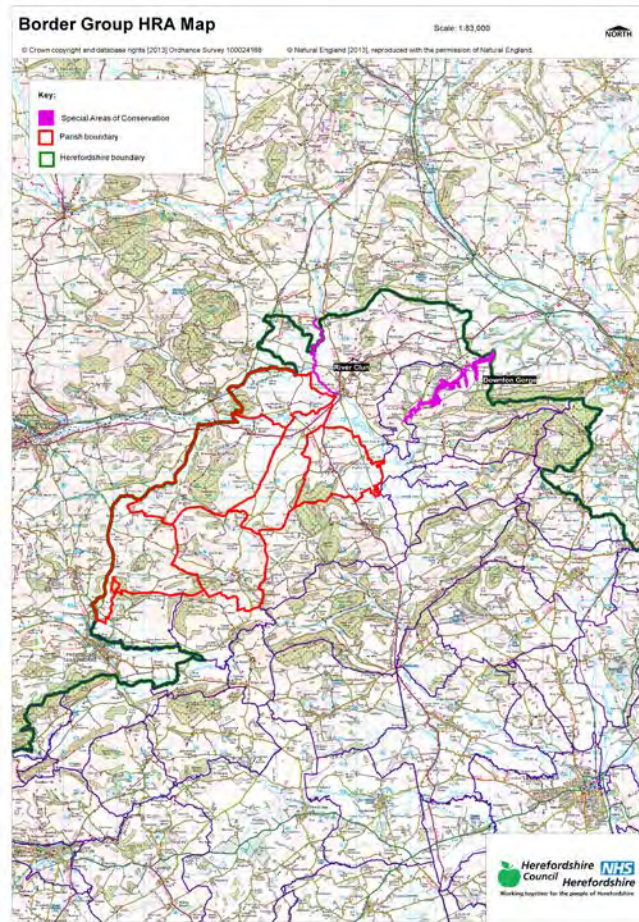
<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Border Group Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Border Group Parish Council
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	18/07/2013

### **Introduction**

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

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

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



**Initial HRA Screening**

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

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	The River Lugg is 19.25km away from the Group Parish
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	Y	Willey, Lingen, Brampton Bryan and Walford, Letton & Newton are within the River Lugg hydrological catchment area.
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	There is mains drainage at Adforton

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	Y	Downton Gorge is 1.84km away from the Parishes
---	---	--

**River Clun SAC:**

Does the Neighbourhood Area include: Border Group Parish Council or Leintwardine Group Parish Council?	Y	River Clun borders the Group Parish at Buckton & Coxall
--	---	---

**Usk Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 50.8km away from the Parishes
--	---	---

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

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	The Group Parish is 54km 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 54.6km away from the Wye Valley Woodlands
--	---	---

**HRA Conclusion:**

The assessment above highlights that the following European Sites will need to be taken into account in the future Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Border Group 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

Downton Gorge SAC

River Clun 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 Border Group Neighbourhood Area and would need to be taken into account within a Strategic Environmental Assessment. In addition, the NDP will also need to consider the other SEA topics set out in Guidance Note 9a to ensure that the plan does not cause adverse impacts.

<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 Group Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	14	Coxall Knoll; Pedwardine Wood; Barnett Wood; Newton Wood; Birtley Knoll Wood; Clay Vallets Wood; Globe Wood; Willey Hall Farm; Birchen Coppice; Willey Lane Wood; Oldcastle Wood (2); Wern Gay, Hackley Wood; Frith Wood (border); Prichards Hill Wood	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAI's within the Group Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	There are no AONB's within the Group Parish	N
Conservation Areas	1	There is a Conservation Area at Lingen village	Y
European Sites	1	The River Clun borders Buckton & Coxall Parish	Y
Flood Areas		There are Flood Zones at the River Teme and Clun and also tributaries running off them. There is also flood Zones along brooks/streams within Lingen and Willey Parishes	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous listed buildings throughout the Group Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCs/RIGS)	22 (SWS)	Adley Moor Common; Buckton Bog; The Marl Pit, Buckton; Land adjacent to Coxall Knoll; Coxall Knoll; Shelder Meadow; Land near Green Farm; Brampton Bryan Park & Pedwardine Wood; Land near Mill Cottage; Land at Wordalls Farm, Birtley; Land at Deerfold x 2 sites; Land at Old Farm x 3 sites; Clay Vallets and adjoining site; Woodland at Coles Hill; Land at Lime Brook (border); Firth Wood (border); Land at Stapleton (border); Stapleton Castle (border); The Orles, Newton; Wigmore Rolls	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	1	Herefordshire Trail	Y
Mineral Reserves	1	Woodhampton to Lower Lyde to north of Sned Wood, Aymestrey (border)	Y
National Nature Reserve	0	There are no NNR's within the Group Parish	N
Registered & Unregistered parks and gardens	1 Registered	Brampton Bryan	Y

Scheduled Ancient Monuments	16	Roman Station at Bravinium (border); Jay Lane Roman Fort (border); Roman Fort north east of Buckton; Roman Fort; Motte Castle at Upper Buckton; Multiple enclosure Hill Fort on Coxall Knoll; Brampton Bryan Castle; Brandon Camp large univallate Hill Fort and Ring Ditch 350m north east of Warwick House; Roman temporary camp south of Walford Bridge; Roman Site north west of Brandon Villa; Wigmore Abbey; Mound 1200yds (1100m) NNE of The Church; Lingen Castle; Lime Brook Priory; Post-Medieval house and gardens at Willey Court; Post-Medieval house and gardens at Willey Court 450m south east of Willey House	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	2	Brampton Bryan Park (Unfavourable Recovering); River Teme (Unfavourable No Change)	Y

**Decision Notification:**

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

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

**Assessment date: 11/06/2013**

**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.

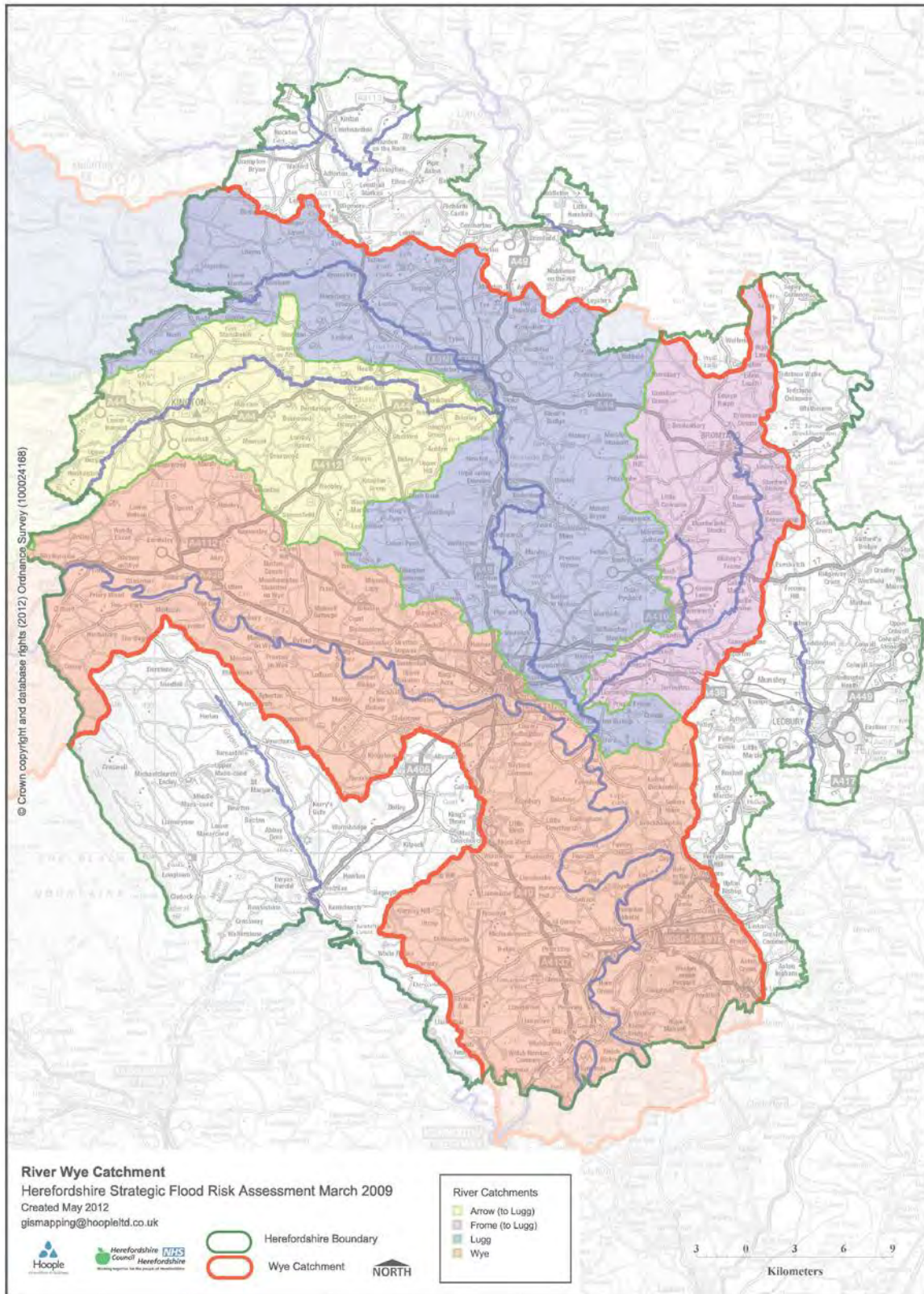
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation.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

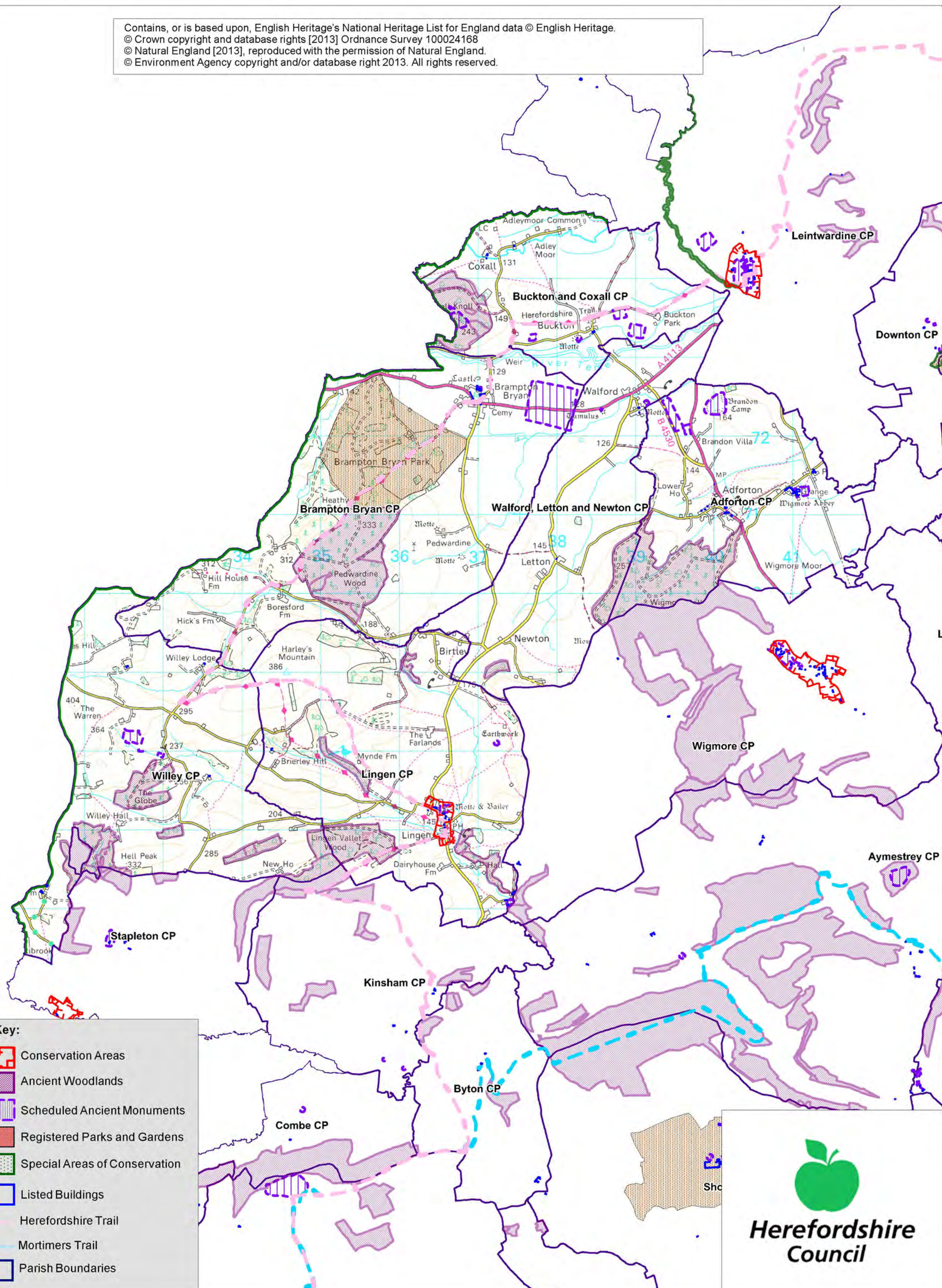


# Border Group SEA Map 1










Scale: 1:42,000



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**Key:**

-  Conservation Areas
-  Ancient Woodlands
-  Scheduled Ancient Monuments
-  Registered Parks and Gardens
-  Special Areas of Conservation
-  Listed Buildings
-  Herefordshire Trail
-  Mortimers Trail
-  Parish Boundaries



**Herefordshire Council**

# Border Group SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:30,000



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**Key:**

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

**Herefordshire Council**

# Appendix 2

# Strategic Environmental Assessment



## Border Group Neighbourhood Area

Scoping Report

October 2014

## Consultation on the Scoping Report

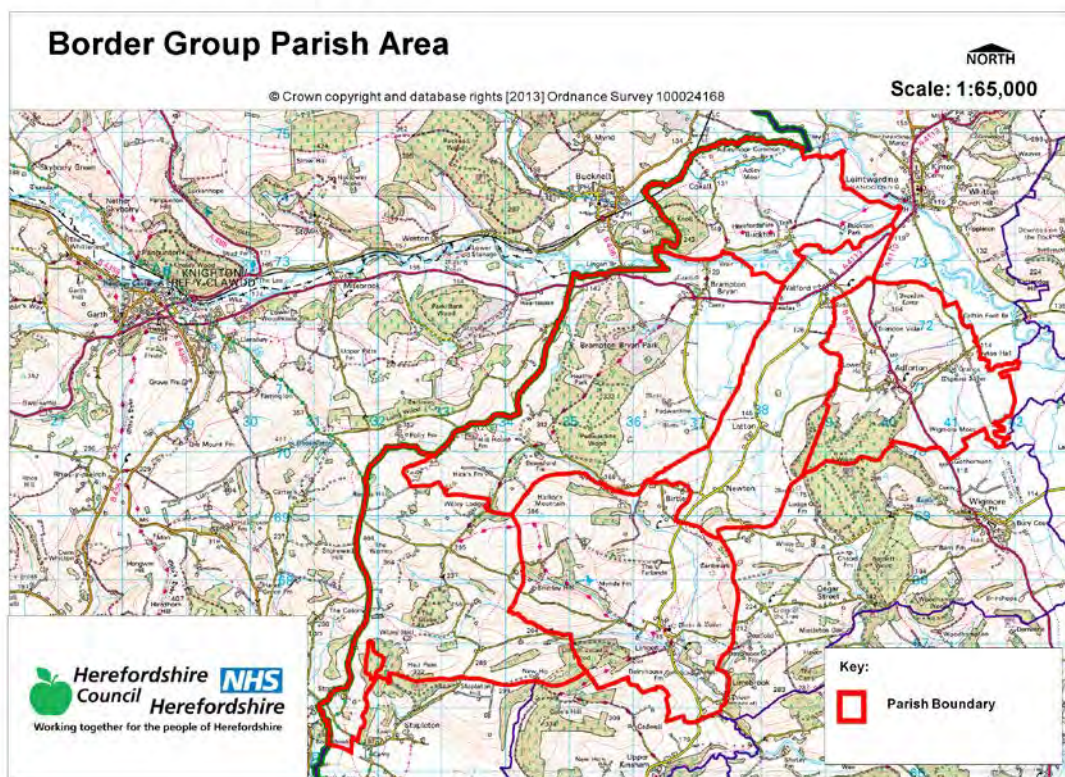
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

- 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 the Natural Resources Wales.

The three consultation bodies are as follows:

1. Natural England;
2. English Heritage;
3. Environment Agency.





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

Parish Council Name: Border Group

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Border Group Neighbourhood Plan

Date completed: June 2014

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations	European Union Legislation	2010	These regulations transpose the Habitats Directive in England, Wales and to a limited extent Scotland by ensuring that activities are carried out in accordance with the Habitats Directive, which is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna.	The Regulations make it an offence (subject to exceptions) to deliberately capture, kill, disturb, or trade in the animals listed in Schedule 2, or pick, collect, cut, uproot, destroy, or trade in the plants listed in Schedule 4. However, these actions can be made lawful through the granting of licenses by the appropriate authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.

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

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The EC Water Framework Directive	European Union	2000	Commits all EU member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water courses by 2015	Aims for 'good status' for all ground and surface waters (rivers, lakes, transitional waters, and coastal waters) in the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)	Domestic Legislation	1981	The major legal instrument for wildlife protection in Britain, although other significant acts have been passed since. It 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</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.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				the future to coastal land, but not woodland despite some early publicity suggesting this.		
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	European Union Strategy	2009	Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will more effectively meet its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.	Recognises the need to gradually change current unsustainable consumption and production patterns and move towards a better integrated approach to policy making. The Strategy sets overall objectives, targets and concrete actions for seven key priority challenges, predominantly environmental: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change and clean energy;</li> <li>• Sustainable transport</li> <li>• Sustainable production and consumption;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plans should take into account the objectives of the strategy. The aim of sustainable development should be implicit in its approach.

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

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	
Planning Practice Guidance	Government Guidance	2014	Provides guidance to local planning authorities and others on the operation of the planning system.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The NDP should take into account the planning guidance provided within these documents.
Herefordshire Core Strategy, Pre-submission document 2011-2031	Development Plan Document (DPD)	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.	<p>Outlines the emerging suite of countywide planning policies relating to housing, economic development and the environment, which the NDP will need to be in conformity with where relevant.</p> <p>The Core Strategy includes a range of objectives, five of which directly relate to rural areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community</li> <li>• To improve access to</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>The NDP should take account of relevant policies set within in the Core Strategy. Where necessary, the NDP should provide services, facilities and employment opportunities that are accessible to both local and neighbouring communities.</p> <p>The Core Strategy highlights that Border Group should accommodate 14 %</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<p>services in rural areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>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 14% in Adforton, Brampton Bryan and Lingen over the plan period. Falls within the Leominster HMA.</p>		<p>growth by 2031. This is approximately 6 dwellings to be delivered within the village of Lingen, approx. 7 dwellings in Brampton Bryan and approx. 7 dwellings in Adforton in accordance with the Rural Housing Background Paper March 2013, unless there is robust and sound evidence to demonstrate a more accurate existing built form figure or the existence of unavoidable constraints on site delivery.</p> <p>Walford is classified as an RA2 settlement, and should adhere to the RA2 policy; accepting affordable housing needs only.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 3 (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 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>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The LTP does not explore current transport issues in the Border Group Plan neighbourhood area, but any new development proposed through the NDP should seek to reduce the environmental impacts of transport.

<b>Plans and Programmes</b>	<b>Type of document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Overview</b>	<b>Key message, target/objective/indicator</b>	<b>SEA topic(s)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Implications for the NDP and SEA</b>
Understanding Herefordshire Report	Built and natural environment	2014	<p>Important to understand the place such as the local economy natural and built environment in which people live, learn and work as part of understanding their quality of life</p> <p>Enable development for economy and housing to required levels.</p> <p>Growth should be supported by sustainable transport measures.</p>	An air quality management plan is in place to tackle this. Destination Hereford project is in place to give locals more sustainable transport options.	<p>Improve air quality.</p> <p>Have a more diverse range of transport options.</p>	None identified.



Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2009-2014	Corporate	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.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Border Group Neighbourhood Area is not within or adjacent to the Malvern Hills AONB.

<b>Plans and Programmes</b>	<b>Type of document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Overview</b>	<b>Key message, target/objective/indicator</b>	<b>SEA topic(s)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Implications for the NDP and SEA</b>
Wye Valley AONB management Plan 2009-2014	Corporate	2009	The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision for the area and the priorities for its management.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Border Group Plan Neighbourhood Area is not within or adjacent to the Wye Valley AONB.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016	Corporate	2011	Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to support business growth up to 2016.	<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 and the landscape</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	None of merit.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Employment Land Study	Evidence	2012	Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.	<p>This study covers existing employment sites in Hereford, the five market towns and their rural hinterlands.</p> <p>There are no employment land allocations within Border Group at present and so the study does not identify sites which are worthy of continued protection from alternative uses. Nor does it make any recommendations in respect of employment need within the neighbourhood area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	None of merit; however the NDP process may have to explore whether there is any employment need locally and if so 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) <sup>1</sup>	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>Either the 2009 and 2012 SHLAA contained any of the villages with the Border Group area.</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>Adfordton, Brampton Bryan, Lingen are identified as RA1 settlements. But these settlements were not mentioned in the SHLAA assessments. Therefore a local site assessment exercise should be undertaken for these settlements (also an update) to the SHLAA for Border Group.</p> <p>Walford is classified as an RA2 settlement.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing 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>Border group villages of Adforton, Brompton Bryan Lingen fall within the Leominster Housing Market Area. Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 55% of households are unable to afford market housing.</li> <li>• Total need of 1035 (2012-17) in the Leominster area.</li> <li>• There is an annual requirement for 22 affordable dwellings between 2012 and 2017.</li> </ul> <p>The study identifies that, in rural parts of the Leominster HMA between 2011-2031, need :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 548 affordable houses</li> <li>• 183 market houses.</li> </ul> <p>The study highlights that within the Leominster HMA the overall estimated housing need by size 2012-2017 is as follows: 1 Bed - 77.1%, 2 bed -21.6%, 3 bed – -10.4%, 4 bed- 11.7%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>The LHMA provides an indication of housing needs and affordability within the Leominster HMA.</p> <p>It provides evidence that could be used to inform policies or market and affordable housing requirements in the NDP.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study	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> <p>As a consequence, the rural areas will face an increasing urgency to provide more 3 bedroom homes, with more 1 and 2 bed homes required in the affordable sector.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>This study provides an indication of housing requirements in the rural areas and the Leominster HMA.</p> <p>This evidence can be used to inform the content of the Border Group NDP, which could include policies to facilitate the provision of the right types of homes in the right places.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report	Evidence	2013	Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy	<p>The villages of Adforton, Brampton Bryan and Lingen are listed as RA1 settlements, which means they are considered a sustainable location for proportional growth of up to 14%.</p> <p>The village of Walford is listed as an RA2 settlement</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Border Group NDP will need to be in conformity with the provisions of Policy RA1 (Adforton, Brampton Bryan and Lingen) and RA2 (Walford).



Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment	Evidence	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>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Border Group NDP must establish whether any of the need identified in this assessment falls within the neighbourhood area and make appropriate provisions for it.
Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Evidence	2007	Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.	Integrating biodiversity objectives with other environmental, social and economic needs can provide a sustainable living and working environment that benefits both people and nature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>	The NDP can help to achieve the LBAP priorities.

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<b>Plans and Programmes</b>	<b>Type of document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Overview</b>	<b>Key message, target/objective/indicator</b>	<b>SEA topic(s)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Implications for the NDP and SEA</b>
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.	Identifies a range of semi-natural habitats and sites which are subject to local designations for their importance to nature conservation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	There is a lack of information about rural areas which means it will be necessary to gather and assess existing biodiversity and geo diversity data, in order to ensure that the Border Group NDP can overcome any existing constraints and capitalise on opportunities to enhance habitats and their networks.

<b>Plans and Programmes</b>	<b>Type of document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Overview</b>	<b>Key message, target/objective/indicator</b>	<b>SEA topic(s)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Implications for the NDP and SEA</b>
Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy	Evidence	2010	Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.	Establishes policies and principles for the protection and enhancement of those features and functions that contributes to the environment of Herefordshire across a range of scales.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Border Group NDP.

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

<b>Plans and Programmes</b>	<b>Type of document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Overview</b>	<b>Key message, target/objective/indicator</b>	<b>SEA topic(s)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Implications for the NDP and SEA</b>
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.	With the Border Group NDP area there are no Playing pitches.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	Local evidence may be required to identify if there is a need for any secured playing pitch facilities within the Group Parish.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Open Spaces Study	Evidence	2006	The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snapshot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.	<p>This study allocated Border Group within the Kington Area, which has the least provision of green space, Parks and Gardens per person (0.14 per ha per 1000p) in proportion to its population in Herefordshire. This figure falls below the county's target of 0.46 ha per 1000 people.</p> <p>The study reveals that within the Kington Area, 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 greenspace.</li> <li>• Under provision of amenity greenspace and outdoor sport.</li> <li>• Average provision for children and young people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The open space audit and assessment of does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in the Border Group Parish.

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<b>Plans and Programmes</b>	<b>Type of document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Overview</b>	<b>Key message, target/objective/indicator</b>	<b>SEA topic(s)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Implications for the NDP and SEA</b>
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 Border Group, no specific sites are identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	None of merit.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study	Evidence	2009	<p>The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development.</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.</p>	<p>Border Group falls within the Upper Lugg river catchment, which is one of the principle tributary of the Wye.</p> <p>Within the Upper Lugg river catchment has the greatest proportionate of flood risk, being that properties have a 17% of flooding.</p> <p>Upper Lugg has a 33.4% standard run percentage run off by sub catchment. This is potentially unsuitable for infiltration source control.</p> <p>Upper Lugg catchment has a moderately rapid peak response time of 6-7 hours.</p> <p>The WCS identifies that the River Lugg has a poor ecological status. Trickle irrigation believed to impact significantly on Ecological River Flow Objectives in the River Lugg.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>New development proposed through the Border Group 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 Border Group NDP.</p>



**Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Border Group**

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

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</i>							
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	<p>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition.</p> <p><i>There are two SSSI's within Border Group. 05/08/14 – Brampton Bryan Park– unfavourable recovering condition;</i></p> <p><i>River Teme- unfavourable recovering.</i></p>	<p>2006: 22%</p> <p>2007: 22%</p> <p>2008: 22%</p> <p>2010: 24 %</p> <p>Proportion of SSSI land that was in unfavourable condition but recovering increased between 2010 and 2012 going from 41% to 65%.</p> <p>Proportion in unfavourable and declining condition had also decreased from 4% to 1%.</p>	<p>% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)</p>	<p>Herefordshire's SSSIs are in extremely poor condition relative to England as whole, where 96.1% of all SSSI land was in favourable condition in April 2014.</p> <p>The proportion of SSSI in unfavourable condition but recovering is greater than England as a whole, where the figure currently stands at 58.6%.</p>	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).

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

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	Percentage of opportunities taken.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	Countywide data is available.  Part of Border Group's Neighbourhood area falls inside the River Wye (including Lugg) SAC. This area is classed as the River Lugg sub Catchment for the purposes of the Nutrient Management Plan.  The River Lugg section of the SAC is currently exceeding phosphate 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 and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	<p>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire.</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i></p>	<p>There are no formal records of any unacceptable adverse impacts on habitats or protected species.</p> <p>Originally 156 Priority Species were identified for inclusion in Herefordshire's LBAP.</p> <p>Similarly Herefordshire's LBAP covered 23 habitats with Action Plans.</p>	<p>To protect and where possible enhance the habitats of protected species identified.</p> <p>No net losses.</p>	<p>Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some Individual sites.</p>	<p>Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11)</p>

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.	Border Group has: SSSI: 3 SWS: 22  There are SACs: 3 NNRs: 0 SINCs:0 LNRs:1  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 enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some Individual sites.	Herefordshire Council Initial Screening Report for the Neighbourhood Plan 2013

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	<p>The Parish Area has the following landscape types:</p> <p>Principle Wooded hills.</p> <p>Wooded forest.</p> <p>Enclosed moors and commons.</p> <p>Settled farmlands on river terrace.</p> <p>Ancient Border Farmlands.</p> <p>Wet pasture meadows</p> <p>Enclosed settled commons</p>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Herefordshire Landscape Character Assessment (2004 updated 2009)
SEA Topic covered by objectives: <i>Material assets</i>							
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.	<p>Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.</p> <p>Whilst there is no qualitative, locally</p>	-	No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA	Herefordshire Environmental Records Register (search June 2014).

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
			specific data available at present, there are numerous scheduled monuments in Border Group according to the latest version of the register.		up to date.	recommendations.	
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	<p>Historic Landscape Character assessments have only been undertaken for Hereford City.</p> <p>Rapid townscape Assessments (2010) were only undertaken for Hereford, Ledbury and Ross.</p>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	<p>Historic Landscape Character Assessment for Hereford.</p> <p>Rapid townscape Assessments (2010)</p>
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Population, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</i>							

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design standards.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings particularly within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.  There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Adfordton, Buckton & Coxall Lingen and Brampton Bryan at present.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the one conservation area.	To maintain current status.	Current status must be verified by Development Management and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Development Management records (searched June 2014)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Climatic Factors</i>							

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate change.	Transport patronage by mode	<p>% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by:</p> <p>Car: 70.1%  Foot: 14.7%  Bicycle: 4.3%  Bus: 2%  Train: 0.8%  Motorbike: 0.8%  Taxi: 0.3%  Other: 7%</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present</i></p>	The number of people cycling or travelling by bus as the main form transport to get to work declined between 2001 and 2011 – across England and Wales there was little change in either. Walking or driving a car or van on the other hand increased.	To increase the take up of alternative modes to the private car.	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	Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO <sup>2</sup> )  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	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%).	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.  2010/11: None  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.	None identified.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water, air, soil, material assets</i>							
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	Natural environment	Agricultural land usage by quality. LA to monitor the number of hectares of the best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 3a and higher) lost to development.	<b>The agricultural land classification around Border Group is mainly Grades 3 and 4 rated good to moderate. In the north of this group area there are pockets of Grade 2 (very good) land.</b>	-	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.	DEFRA 'Magic' website for land classification

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.	2010/11: 67% 2011-13: 57%  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Completions on PDL had risen to 71% by 2005.	To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy.	The number of brownfield completions has fallen slightly in recent years, though this is probably the offshoot of tough market conditions.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11) and (2011-2013)

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

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	<p>Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR and which is due to be published in 2014. However, this data would be too large to incorporate into this template.</p> <p>There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and two SAMs. Several are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.</p>	There were 70 heritage assets in Herefordshire that were considered to be at high risk and included in the Heritage at Risk Register 2014.	Promote opportunities to achieve the removal of heritage assets from the at risk register.	<p>There are several listed buildings and SAMs are considered to currently be at risk:</p> <p>Adfordton: Church of St Andrew, Gatehouse buildings at Wigmore Abbey.</p> <p>Remains of lime brook in Lingen.</p> <p>However, St Andrews Church has been extensively repaired recently and the issues have been addressed.</p>	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; search June 2014)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of heritage assets locally important buildings within the parish and particularly within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.  There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Border Group's villages at present.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the one conservation area.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.	Current status must be verified by Development Management and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Development Management records (searched June 2014)

**Appendix A3** – Environmental issues identified from the Border Group baseline

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

SEA Topic		Environmental issue	SA objectives
1	Air	High reliance upon the private car causing high levels of air pollution and in Hereford in particular	Objective 16
		Need to reduce carbon emissions by encouraging alternative modes of travel.	
2	Biodiversity	Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from the adaptation and diversification of farming and forestry employment.	Objectives 13 &15
		Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from development.	
		Minimise loss of biodiversity and expand opportunities for wildlife everywhere.	
3	Climatic factors	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through planning, design and build.	Objective 16
4	Cultural heritage	Border Group 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 and enhance the character and quality of historic landscapes, including all types of natural flora and fauna.	Objective 15
6	Material assets	How the countryside can continue to be managed in an economically, socially and environmentally beneficial way in the face of continuing pressures on traditional farming.	Objectives 14 & 18
7	Population	Minimise energy waste through good designs, which help to reduce energy consumption and maximise efficiency.	Objective 15
		Need to avoid enforcement investigations/action concerning locally important buildings and those within conservation areas in particular.	
8	Soil	Promoting development of previously developed land and buildings as opposed to greenfield sites or agricultural land of the highest quality.	Objectives 18 & 19

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



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

## Border Group A4: SEA Framework

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

Parish Council Name: Border Group Parish Council

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Border Group Neighbourhood Plan

Date completed: June 2014

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

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

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

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

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

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SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
	Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>		
Population and Human Health	Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>To improve health of the population</p> <p>To reduce crime and nuisance</p>	<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</li> </ul>	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design	No specific targets identified.

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



# Appendix 3

Date: 25 September 2014  
Our ref: 131804  
Your ref: None



James Latham  
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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear Mr Latham

**Border Group Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 08 September 2014 which was received by Natural England on the same date.

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.

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

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

Further guidance on deciding whether the proposals are likely to have significant environmental effects and the requirements for consulting Natural England on SEA are set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance at:  
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal/does-a-neighbourhood-plan-require-a-sustainability-appraisal/>

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

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

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

**Appendix A2 – Baseline information**

***Biodiversity, flora and fauna***

Under the proposed indicator “*Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan*”, no baseline information source has been identified.



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)).

Baseline information on the landscape and open spaces needs to be included under SA objective 15: *"Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces"*. We welcome the reference to the Historic Landscape Characterisation for Hereford. Reference could also be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment.

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

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

### **Soil**

We note that the best and most versatile agricultural land has not been considered. We suggest including an indicator to monitor the hectares of the best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development.

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

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

### **Appendix A4 – SEA Framework**

Under the SEA topic *"Nature Conservation (Biodiversity, flora and fauna)"*, we would welcome the inclusion of an indicator/target around the impact/benefit to ecological networks (NPPF paragraph 109, 113 and 117). We note that no targets have been identified against the indicator *"After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation"*; we suggest that perhaps the percentage of opportunities taken could be monitored. Against *"Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan"*, we suggest that as a minimum there should be no net losses. The NPPF sets out a requirement to move to net gains for nature (paragraph 9), drawing on the Natural Environment White Paper.

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

### **Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening**

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

In relation to the Habitats Regulations, a Neighbourhood Plan cannot progress if the likelihood of significant effects on any European Site, either alone (or in combination with other plans and projects) cannot be ruled out) (see Schedule 2, The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations

2012). Therefore measures may need to be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan to ensure that any likely significant effects are avoided in order to secure compliance with the Regulations. A screening exercise should be undertaken if there is any doubt about the possible effects of the Plan on European protected sites. This will be particularly important if a Neighbourhood Plan is to progress before a Local Plan has been adopted and/or the Neighbourhood Plan proposes development which has not be assessed and/or included in the Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Local Plan.

We note the recommendation that a full Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening is undertaken due to proximity to the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Downton Gorge SAC and the River Clun 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 Hayley Fleming on 0300 060 1594. 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

Hayley Fleming  
Lead adviser – Planning  
South Mercia Area Team  
(Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull)



ENGLISH HERITAGE

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

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01 October 2014

Dear Sir or Madam

**CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS IN: Belmont Rural; Border Group; Bosbury & Catley; Cradley; Hampton Bishop; Hatfield & District Group; Kingsland: Kingstone and Thruxton Group; Pembridge.**

Thank you for your e-mails 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 fourth tranche of consultations we are pleased to note that some of the SEA's now appear to reflect aspects our earlier advice, perhaps particularly Belmont Rural, Hampton Bishop and Border Group.

However, Hatfield and District and Kingstone and Thruxton Group have proposed indicators for locally important buildings in conservation areas but in fact neither Parish has a conservation area so the indicator should more properly refer to locally important buildings "in the Parish". The Kingsland SEA identifies Kingslands Castle and St Michaels Church as BAR but only proposes to address the improvement of the condition of the Castle, which appears to be anomalous.

Both Kingsland and Pembridge and other of the SEA's 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 and they would in fact be more relevant under SA Objectives 15 and 20?

I hope this is helpful.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Boland', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

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# Appendix 4

NDP Objectives versus SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)			
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:	
+	Compatible	<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.
-	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.

The following matrix appraises the emerging Border Group NDP Objectives in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives.

These objectives have been developed from both Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.

### SEA Objectives

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 quality of surroundings
4. To conserve or where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural 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



NDP objectives	SEA objectives																Conclusions	Recommendations	SMART Test of NDP objective	After SMART objective
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
<p>Objective 1</p> <p>To increase the supply of homes for local people, especially for young families, ensuring the resultant development is accommodated in ways that retain the rural character of the villages concerned</p>	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	+	+	?	?				?	At this stage more information is required to assess the compatibility with the SEA objectives. This will emerge as the policies are assessed. However, this has the ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy	SEA objectives should be taken into account during the formulation of the policies for growth.	The objective is measureable by monitoring housing growth. It is also achievable as it is in line with the Core Strategy objectives. Although the timeframe is not specified to NDP is produced to cover the period 2011-2031	No changes recommended
<p>Objective 2</p> <p>To encourage diversification within the rural economy of the group parish through supporting tourism, broadening the base of agricultural businesses and creating a balance between providing homes and jobs. Measures to make the best use of the area's heritage and landscape, providing broadband and improve telecommunications, supporting home working and producing local energy through alternative crops should be given a high priority.</p>	?	+	+	+	+	0	+	?	?	+	?	+				+	At this stage more information is required to assess the compatibility with some of the SEA objectives. However, heritage and landscape are specifically mentioned within the objective. More information will emerge as the policies are assessed. However, this has the ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy	SEA objectives should be taken into account during the formulation of the policies for business and tourism growth.	The policy is achievable and realistic. The timescales are measured in turns of the plan period 2011- 2031.	No changes recommended
<p>Objective 3</p> <p>To increase road safety, particularly on main roads, reduce the harmful effects of heavy traffic on county lanes and address surface water flooding on the local highway.</p>	X	X	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X				+	This objective is generally positive against the baseline as it aims to reduce the impacts of traffic and highway surface water flooding within the parish	No recommendations	The policy is achievable and realistic. The timescales are measured in terms of the plan period 2011-2031.	No changes recommended

<p>Objective 4</p> <p>To improve access to local health and education services</p>	?	?	+	?	+	+	+	?	?	+	X	X				+	<p>At this stage more information is required to assess the compatibility with the SEA objectives. This will emerge as the policies are assessed. However, this has the ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy</p>	<p>SEA objectives should be taken into account during the formulation of the policies for growth.</p>	<p>The policy is achievable and realistic. The timescales are measured in terms of the plan period 2011-2031.</p>	<p>No changes recommended</p>
<p>Objective 5</p> <p>To maintain the character of the landscape and individual settlements within the group of parishes, and in particular to reduce pressure on Lingen Conservation Area by directing development, where appropriate, to the edge of the village. In addition to utilise any suitable brownfield sites, especially where they enhance neutral or negative features within the villages and ensuring potentially harmful forms of development will not affect the character and tranquillity of the villages and particularly ion Lingen Conservation Area</p>	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	X	+	+	X	+				+	<p>This objective is generally positive against the baseline as it aims to safeguard Lingen Conservation Area and the landscape of the group parish</p>	<p>No recommendations</p>	<p>The policy is achievable and realistic. The timescales are measured in terms of the plan period 2011-2031.</p>	<p>No changes recommended</p>

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
<b>SEA Stage B1</b>	<b>Key:</b>	<b>SMART criteria:</b>		
+ =	Compatible	<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 Border Group Neighbourhood Plan policies 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-Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR and which is due to be published in 2015. The 2010/11 data indicates that 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. At August 2014, there are two SSSI's within Border Group – Brampton Bryan Park (unfavourable recovering) and River Teme (unfavourable –no change). In 2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire, however no locally specific data is available. Border Group has: SSSI: 2, SWS: 16, Ancient woodlands14. The hydrological catchment of the River Wye SAC forms part of the south of the group parish and the catchment of the River Clun SAC is in the north. Downton Gorge SAC is 1.84km for the boundary. There are no NNRs and SINC's within the parish. There is no locally specific data available at present.</p> <p>2-There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Lingen conservation area at present</p> <p>3-In terms of Border Group, the study did not contain any locally specific information.</p> <p>4-Lingen is a conservation area and there are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 16 Schedule Ancient Monuments. There are 2 SAMs are considered to currently be at risk: Adfordton: Gatehouse buildings at Wigmore Abbey. Remains of lime brook in Lingen.</p> <p>5-Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This suggests that air quality is improving.</p> <p>6-% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1%, Foot: 14.7%,Bicycle: 4.3%,Bus: 2%, Train: 0.8%,Motorbike: 0.8%,Taxi: 0.3%,Other: 7%.</p> <p>7-Herefordshire latest figure of CO2 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO<sub>2</sub>)</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- The number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds. However the 2001-13 AMR does not contain updated data. Border Group falls within the hydrological catchment of the River Lugg and the River Clun.</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- The agricultural land classification around Border Group is mainly Grades 3 and 4 rated good to moderate. In the north of this group area there are pockets of Grade 2 (very good) land. Percentage of all new developments completed on previously developed land; 67% (2010) and 57% (2011-13)</p> <p>16- Lingen is a conservation area and there are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 16 Schedule Ancient Monuments. There is 2 buildings at risk on the register</p>

NDP 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	N/A	N/A	N/A	16			
<b>Policy BG1</b> Promoting a sustainable community	?	+	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	X				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	Where relevant the policy has a positive effect on the baseline. It will not lead directly to development but indicates criteria proposals need to meet. Criteria highlights the character of rural villages and landscape.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG2</b> Development Strategy	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+				+	This policy is compatible and will have a positive effect on the baseline data.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will only lead to small scale development focussed in settlement boundary, brownfield land, conversions and infills.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG3</b> New homes in Adforton	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will only lead to small scale development focussed in settlement boundary. Criteria has been included to safeguard residential amenity and landscape.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG4</b> New homes in Brampton Bryan	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will only lead to small scale development focussed on conversions and infill opportunities. Criteria has been included to safeguard village character, residential amenity and landscape.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG5</b> New homes in Lingen	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will only lead to small scale development focussed in settlement boundary. Criteria has been included to safeguard the character and appearance of the Conservation Area, residential amenity and landscape.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG6</b> Land at the Nursery, Lingen	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	Within this site allocation policy criteria has been included with regards to flood risk, character of the conservation area, landscape. A development brief is also part of the plan which provides more detail design and issues criteria.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG7</b> New homes in Walford	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Overall the policy is compatible with the baseline data.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline as it will only lead to small scale development focussed in settlement boundary. Criteria has been included to safeguard residential amenity, biodiversity, flooding issues and	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.

																		landscape.		
<b>Policy BG8</b> <b>Provision of affordable housing</b>	X	X	+	X	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy provides criteria for the provision of affordable housing in line with policy H2 of the Core Strategy. Other development criteria exists within the NDP which will safeguard SEA objectives	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG9</b> <b>Design criteria for residential development</b>	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+					+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy provides a range of criteria to adjudge future residential development. These cover a range of SEA objectives.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG10</b> <b>Supporting local business</b>	O	O	+	+	?	O	?	?	+	+	?	?					+	Overall the current drafting of the policy has a possible conflict with the SEA objective	This policy is seeking to support local business in the area. The impacts will be locational and type dependant. However adequate safeguards existing within other policies of the Core Strategy and the NDP to ensure a positive effect on the SEA objectives.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purpose of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG11</b> <b>Broadband and mobile telephone infrastructure</b>	X	X	X	X	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X					X	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	The policy will only lead to small scale installations for improve internet and mobile coverage. Other policies of the Core Strategy and the NDP will provide adequate safeguard to provide a positive effect on the SEA objectives.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG12</b> <b>Renewable energy</b>	+	+	+	+	X	?	+	+	?	X	?	+					+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy is looking to encourage opportunities for solar, biomass and hydro. Other policies within the NDP will seek to safeguard those areas of uncertainty within the policy.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG13</b> <b>Highways and transport infrastructure</b>	+	X	+	X	+	+	+	X	X	X	X	X					X	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	The policy is seeking to reduce the impacts of traffic on the local environmental. The knock on effect will also see a reduction in street lighting can assist nocturnal animals particularly bats.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG14</b> <b>Flooding and Surface water</b>	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	+	+	X	+	+					+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	The principle of this policy is to manage flooding risk from local watercourse and surface water. This will reduce the risk of pollution to the river catchments and improve the surroundings.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG15</b> <b>Accessibility to services and facilities</b>	X	+	+	+	+	O	X	X	X	X	+	+					+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy is seeking to encourage the expanded and reuse of existing community facilities and services. This will help reduce the need to travel of other areas for services and enhance the surroundings and vitality of the settlements.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy BG16</b> <b>Retaining the</b>	++	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	X	+	+					+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy is concerned within the safeguarding of features of the natural environment. Additional safeguards	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.

natural environment and landscape		+																existing both within the Core Strategy and the NDP to address other SEA objectives		
Policy BG17 Protecting local heritage	++	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	X	X	+					+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy is concerned within the safeguarding of features of the local heritage. Additional safeguards existing both within the Core Strategy and the NDP to address other SEA objectives	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy BG18 Lingen Conservation Area	+	+	+	+		X	X	X	X	X	X	X					+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy is primarily seeking to protect and enhance the character and appearance of the Lingen Conservation Area. Other policies of the plan exist which address the other SEA objectives	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.

NDP 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	N/A	N/A	N/A	16			
<b>Option 1</b> Do nothing.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	Do nothing option is essential not to produce a neighbourhood plan and rely on the criteria policies within the Core Strategy to guide further development. Specific policies and proposals for the parishes would not exist.	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
<b>Option 2</b> Rely upon the Rural Areas Plan	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	+	+	++	+				++	The Rural Areas DPD will designate a settlement boundary and potentially housing sites to meet proportional growth.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
<b>Option 3 (Preferred option)</b> Neighbourhood plan with allocated sites and identify a settlement boundary.	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	+	+	++	+				++	The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside. This can aid the direction of further growth to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. There is less certainty over the positive effects on the baseline as any growth with be adjudged by criteria based policy.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

**Key:**

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- - Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	N/A No relationship
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*Policy BG1 – Promoting a sustainable community*

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. It outlines criteria to encourage sustainable communities. Policy safeguards exist within the plan to ensure nature conservation is taken into consideration.	-
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. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure the character of the area is taken into consideration.	-
To improve quality of	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above	-



surroundings				the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure the character of the area is taken into consideration.	
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. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure the character of the area is taken into consideration.	-
To improve air quality	x	x	x	n/a	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure the character of the area is taken into consideration.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	n/a	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	n/a	
To avoid, reduce and	x	x	x	n/a	

manage flood risk					
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	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. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure that natural resources and features of the area are taken into consideration.	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Policy safeguards are in place both within the Core Strategy and the NDP to ensure that all elements of the SEA objectives are taken into account.				

## Policy BG2 – 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)	Medium term	Long term		

	years)	(6 – 10 years)	(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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	The criteria relating to Lingen could be further strengthened by additional reference to water quality.
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Specific reference is made to the landscape	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Specific reference is made to the landscape and conservation issues	-
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Settlement boundaries and conversion, brownfield and infill criteria exist which together with	-

				other policies of the NDP will safeguard the SEA objectives.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. The provision of housing within existing settlements will help to reduce the need to travel.	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. The provision of housing within existing settlements will help to reduce the need to travel	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. The provision of housing within existing settlements will help to reduce the need to travel	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA	-

				objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. The water company has not raised any issues with water supply.	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Flood risk is specifically mentioned within criteria for Walford	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Settlement boundaries and conversion, brownfield and infill criteria exist which together with other policies of the NDP will safeguard the SEA objectives.	-

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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Settlement boundaries and conversion, brownfield and infill criteria exist which together with other policies of the NDP will safeguard the SEA objectives.	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy provides the details to support Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy with regards to proportional growth throughout the Group Parish. Policy safeguards exist within the NDP and Core Strategy.				

## Policy BG3 – New homes in Adforton

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)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		

	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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy via conversions and brownfield sites.	-
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line	-

				with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line	-



				with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale				

<b>effects</b>	proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.
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## Policy BG4 – New homes in Brampton Bryan

<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 in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core	-

				Strategy.	
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core	-

				Strategy.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.				

## Policy BG5 – New homes in Lingen

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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core	The criteria relating to Lingen could be further strengthened by additional reference to water quality.

				Strategy.	
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line	-

				with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line	-

				with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.				



## Policy BG6 – Land at the Nursery, Lingen

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 small scale allocation within Lingen was a former plant nursery. Although there is no specific mention of biodiversity within the policy criteria. The policy and development brief refer to landscape and SuD which can have a positive effect on biodiversity	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The site has been disused for a number of years and policy criteria are in place regarding rural character and landscape	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The site has been disused for a number of years and policy criteria are in place regarding rural character and landscape	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The site has been disused for a number of years and policy criteria are in place regarding rural character and the conversation area. The development brief also	-

				contains design criteria to safeguard the character of the conservation area.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This is a small scale site within Lingen which is highlighted within Policy RA2.	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This is a small scale site within Lingen which is highlighted within Policy RA2. Some increased traffic movements may raise from the development given the rural nature and location of the parish	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	++	++	++		
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	++	++	++	A small area of the site falls within flood zone 2 but areas relatively close fall within flood zone 3. The policy criteria specific highlights the requirement for a flood risk assessment. The development brief also highlights issues regarding surface water flooding	-
To improve water quality	++	++	++	The Limebrook stream is adjacent to the site which forms part of the hydrological catchment of the River Lugg. Policy safeguards are in place within the NDP with regards to water quality.	

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The water company has not highlighted any issues with regards to water supply.	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	A small area of the site falls within flood zone 2 but areas relatively close fall within flood zone 3. The policy criteria specific highlights the requirement for a flood risk assessment. The development brief also highlights issues regarding surface water flooding	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	++	++	++	This site is a former plan nursery and has been disused for some time.	-
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This proposal is seeking to redevelop a former plan nursery within a settlement highlighted within Policy RA2	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This is a small scale site within Lingen which is highlighted within Policy RA2. There are a number of policy criteria and a development brief which contains a number of policy safeguards.				

## Policy BG7 – New homes in Walford

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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	--
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line	-

				with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line	-

				with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
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. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. It will encourage small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.				

## Policy BG8 – Provision of affordable housing

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	x	x	x	n/a	

To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	x	x	x	n/a	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to provide affordable housing schemes close to existing build areas. This will reduce development in open countryside areas and assist in improving the surrounding across the wider area.	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	x	x	x	n/a	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Siting additional affordable homes close to existing services and facilities will help to reduce the need to travel for local services.	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	Siting additional affordable homes close to existing services and facilities will help to reduce the need to travel for local services.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	n/a	



To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	n/a	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	n/a	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	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	x	x	x	n/a	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is in accordance with Policy H2 of the Core Strategy and other policies exist to safeguard the SEA objectives				

## Policy BG9 – Design criteria for residential 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)	Medium term	Long term (11 years +)		

	years)	(6 – 10 years)			
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This policy contains a range of criteria to which residential development proposal should met. Criteria are include to safeguard biodiversity and nature conservation.	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy contains a range of criteria to which residential development proposal should met. Criteria are include to safeguard landscape features and the character and appearance of villages. The policy also seeks to reduce external lighting which will have a positive effect on nocturnal species	-
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy contains a range of criteria to which residential development proposal should met. Criteria are include to safeguard landscape features and the character and appearance of villages.	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy contains a range of criteria to which residential development proposal should met. Criteria are include to safeguard historic aspects. There are also a number of other policies within the	-

				plan which will also provide policy safeguards	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The criteria also includes elements which regards to safeguarding a range of natural features which will contribute to improving air quality	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	Criteria is include to minimise construction traffic and additional policies are included within the plan which seek to reduce traffic levels and speed.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	++	++	++	Policy criteria is include to support energy conservation and other policies exist to encourage renewable energy	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	++	++	++	Policy criteria is include to support energy conservation and other policies exist to encourage renewable energy	-
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Criteria is included to encourage Sustainable urban drainage and other design elements to reduce the risk of flooding where they exist. This will have a positive effect on water quality	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The water companies have indicated that there are no issues within regards to water supply.	-

To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Criteria is included to encourage Sustainable urban drainage and other design elements to reduce the risk of flooding where they exist.	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy contains a range of criteria to which residential development proposal should met. Criteria are include to safeguard landscape features and the character and appearance of villages	-
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 contains a range of criteria to which residential development proposal should met. Criteria are include to safeguard landscape features and the character and appearance of villages	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy contains a number of criteria which any new residential development will need to meet. This will have a positive effect on the baseline as many aspects are included within the policy.				

## Policy BG10 – Supporting local business

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	0	0	There is an emphasis on conversion of rural buildings and brownfield land. Many species and habitats can occur in these locations. Policy safeguards existing in other policies within the plan.	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	0	0	0	This maybe locational and type dependant. There is an emphasis on small scale, conversions and brownfield sites. The policy contains criteria which seek to ensure that no detrimental effects occur.	-

To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	Policy criteria exists to ensure that safeguards are in place. This policy is in line with Policy RA6 of the Core Strategy.	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	There is a strong emphasis on conservation of rural buildings. There are also criteria with regards to the conservation area.	-
To improve air quality	?	?	?	This is locational and type dependant. Some increase in traffic may occur in relation to new businesses, equally the opportunities to work locally with increase and could reduce commuting.	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	This is locational and type dependant. Some increase in traffic may occur in relation to new businesses, equally the opportunities to work locally with increase and could reduce commuting.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	This maybe locational and type dependant. There is an emphasis on small scale, conversions and brownfield sites. The policy contains criteria which seek to ensure that no detrimental effects occur.	-

To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	?	?	This maybe locational and type dependant. There is an emphasis on small scale, conversions and brownfield sites. The policy contains criteria which seek to ensure that no detrimental effects occur.	-
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Pollution criteria is include within the Policy	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The water company has not raised any issues within regards to water supply during the plan period.	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	?	?	?	This will be locational and business type dependant. However, adequate safeguards exist within the NDP to ensure that flood risk is managed.	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	This will be locational and business type dependant. However, there is an emphasis on conversions and brownfield land which will help to safeguard greenfield sites.	-
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					

To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+		
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is not over and above policy RA6 of the Core Strategy. Many impacts are locational and business type dependant. However, there is an emphasis on small scale, conversions and brownfield sites. The policy contains criteria which seek to ensure that no detrimental effects occur.				

## Policy BG11 – Broadband and mobile telephone 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	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)	x	x	x	n/a	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	x	x	x	n/a	
To improve quality of surroundings	x	x	x	n/a	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the	x	x	x	n/a	



historic environment and cultural heritage					
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The increase the broadband and mobile technology will assist home working and business expansion. This will also have a positive effect on reducing the need to travel.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The increase the broadband and mobile technology will assist home working and business expansion. This will also have a positive effect on reducing the need to travel.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	n/a	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	n/a	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	n/a	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	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	x	x	x	n/a	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	The increase the broadband and mobile technology will assist home working and business expansion. This will also have a positive effect on reducing the need to travel. Where relevant this will have a positive effect on the baseline.				

## Policy BG12 – Renewable energy

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	A criteria is included within the policy to indicate that no adverse impacts should occurs to biodiversity particularly designated sites and habitat networks	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes	+	+	+	A criteria is included within the policy to indicate that no adverse impacts should occurs to landscape	-

and townscapes				character and important features	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	Both natural and heritage features are included within safeguarding criteria within the policy	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	A criteria is include to safeguard important heritage assets particularly archaeological sites and historic buildings.	-
To improve air quality	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	?	?	?	A criteria is include to refer to the generation of traffic being safely accommodated within the network. Depending on the installation concerned some additional traffic movements will be generated.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	++	++	++	This policy is concerning the provision of renewable energy which will have a positive effect on climate change contributions	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is concerning the provision of renewable energy which will have a positive effect on climate change contributions	-
To improve water quality	?	?	?	Hydro power is indicated as a possible consideration. The effects on the hydrological catchment of the River Wye and River Clun would need further investigation at	-

				the project stage.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	n/a	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	?	?	?	Hydro power is indicated as a possible consideration. The effects on the hydrological catchment of the River Wye and River Clun would need further investigation at the project stage.	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	Both natural and heritage features are included within safeguarding criteria within the policy	-
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	Both natural and heritage features are included within safeguarding criteria within the policy	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy generally have a positive effect on the SEA objectives. Any specific projects will need to be minded to the hydrological catchment of the two European sites.				

## Policy BG13 – Highways and transport 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	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)	+	+	+	Criteria is included within the policy to reduce street lighting where possible. This will have a positive effect on a number of nocturnal species	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	As the policy is seeking to improve traffic safety and speeds, this will have a positive effect on the character and appearance of the settlements and villages within the group parish	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	As the policy is seeking to improve traffic safety and speeds, this will have a positive effect on the character and appearance of the settlements and villages within the group parish	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	x	x	x	n/a	-

To improve air quality	+	+	+	Reductions in the use of the private car and increase in public transport will help to improve air quality issues.	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	++	++	++	The policy is concerning regarding the impact of traffic and private cars on the road and villages of the group parish	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	As the policy is seeking to improve traffic safety and speeds, this will have a positive effect on contributions to greenhouse gases which have an implication on climate change.	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	-
To improve water quality	x	x	x	n/a	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	n/a	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	n/a	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	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	x	x	x	n/a	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	The policy is looking to reduce the impact on traffic on the group parish. This will have a positive effect on many of the SEA objectives.				

## Policy BG14 – Flooding and surface and foul water drainage

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)	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to improve the resistant to all forms of flooding. This will have an additional positive effect on areas of biodiversity especially if pollution measures are in place to reduce the impact on water quality and phosphate run off into watercourse.	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes	+	+	+	A policy to reduce all forms of flooding will have a positive effects	-

and townscapes				on the surrounding villages.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	Reducing flooding impacts will have a positive effect on the surrounding	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	x	x	x	n/a	-
To improve air quality	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to improve the resistant to all forms of flooding. This will have an additional positive effect on areas of biodiversity especially if pollution measures are in place to reduce the impact on water quality and phosphate run off into watercourse.	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to improve the resistant to all forms of flooding. This will have an additional positive effect on areas of biodiversity especially if pollution measures are in place to reduce the impact on water quality and phosphate run off into watercourse.	-
To improve water quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to improve the resistant to all forms of flooding.	-



				This will have an additional positive effect on areas of biodiversity especially if pollution measures are in place to reduce the impact on water quality and phosphate run off into watercourse.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	n/a	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to improve the resistant to all forms of flooding. This will have an additional positive effect on areas of biodiversity especially if pollution measures are in place to reduce the impact on water quality and phosphate run off into watercourse.	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to improve the resistant to all forms of flooding. This will have an additional positive effect on areas of biodiversity especially if pollution measures are in place to reduce the impact on water quality and phosphate run off into watercourse.	-
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and					

nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to improve the resistant to all forms of flooding. This will have an additional positive effect on areas of biodiversity especially if pollution measures are in place to reduce the impact on water quality and phosphate run off into watercourse.	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	The policy is seeking to improve the resistant to all forms of flooding. This will have - positive effect on many of the SEA objectives				

## Policy BG15 – Accessibility to services and facilities

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	x	x	x	n/a	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to retain and support the expansion of existing	-

and townscapes				services and facilities within the area. This will help to maintain the vitality of the villages within the group parish	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to retain and support the expansion of existing services and facilities within the area. This will help to maintain the vitality of the villages within the group parish	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to retain and support the expansion of existing services and facilities within the area. This will help to maintain the vitality of the villages within the group parish	-
To improve air quality	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	Safeguarding existing services and facilities however limited will help to reduce the need to travel of other areas. However the nature of the parishes mean that the reliance on private transport is inevitable.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	-

To improve water quality	x	x	x	n/a	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	n/a	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	n/a	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The safeguarding and expansion of existing facilities and services will reduce the need for new build locations.	-
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 seeking to retain and support the expansion of existing services and facilities within the area. This will help to maintain the vitality of the villages within the group parish	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is seeking to retain and support the expansion of existing services and facilities within the area. This will help to maintain the vitality of the villages within the group parish				

## Policy BG16 – Retaining the natural environment and landscape

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 seeks to preserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the area. Specific criteria is included regarding the ecological network and biodiversity	Specific reference to the hydrological catchment of the River Lugg and Clun would add additional strength to the policy. However, safeguards do exist within both the NDP and Core Strategy.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the area. Specific criteria is included regarding landscape character and tree cover.	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the area. Specific criteria is included regarding a number of landscape and historical	-

				features	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the area. Specific criteria is included regarding Lingen Conservation Area and other views and vista.	-
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the area. This will have a positive effect on air quality	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the area	-
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the area. Specific criteria is included natural assets. This together with other policies within the plan will assist the protection of water quality within the River Clun and River Lugg catchments.	-

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x		
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the area. Sections of the ecological and biodiversity network are included within the criteria. The retention of area with ensure any functional flood plan exists.	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the area	-
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 seeks to preserve and enhance the natural environment and landscape of the area	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy seeks to retain natural environment and landscape features within the group parishes. Other policies within the NDP will seek to safeguard other SEA objectives.				

## Policy BG17 – Protecting local heritage

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 seeks to preserve and enhance the local distinctiveness of the Border Group parishes.	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the local distinctiveness of the Border Group parishes. Specific criteria is included with reference to historic landscapes and settings of buildings.	-
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the local distinctiveness of the Border Group parishes. Specific criteria is included with reference to historic landscapes and settings of buildings.	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the local distinctiveness of the Border Group parishes. Specific criteria is included with reference to historic landscapes and	-



				archaeological sites	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	-
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the local distinctiveness of the Border Group parishes. Specific criteria is included with reference to historic landscapes and settings of buildings.	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	n/a	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	n/a	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the local distinctiveness of the Border Group parishes. Specific criteria is included with reference to historic landscapes and settings of buildings.	-
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 seeks to preserve and enhance the local distinctiveness of the Border Group parishes. Specific criteria is included with reference to historic landscapes and settings of buildings.	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the local heritage of the group parishes. Other policies within the NDP will seek to safeguard other SEA objectives.				

## Policy BG18 – Lingen Conservation Area

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	++	++	++	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Lingen Conservation	-

fauna)				Area. The protection of some of the open areas within the conservation area will have a positive effect on nature conservation.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Lingen Conservation Area	-
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Lingen Conservation Area	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Lingen Conservation Area	-
To improve air quality	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	n/a	-
To improve water quality	x	x	x	n/a	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	n/a	-

To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	n/a	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	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 seeks to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Lingen Conservation Area	-
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy seeks to preserve and enhance the character and appearance of Lingen Conservation Area. Other policies within the NDP will seek to safeguard other SEA objectives.				

**Key:**

<b>++</b> Move towards significantly	<b>+</b> Move towards marginally	<b>--</b> Move away Significantly	<b>-</b> Move away marginally	<b>0</b> Neutral	<b>?</b> Uncertain	<b>X</b> No relationship
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<b>SEA Objective / Policy</b>	1. To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	2. To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	3. To improve quality of surroundings	4. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	5. To improve air quality	6. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	7. To reduce contributions to climate change	8. To reduce vulnerability to climate change	9. To improve water quality	10. To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	11. To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	12. To conserve soil resources and quality	13. To minimise the production	14. To improve health of the population	15. To reduce crime and nuisance	16. To conserve natural and manmade resources
Objective 1	?	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	+	+	?	?				?
Objective 2	?	+	+	+	+	0	+	?	?	+	?	+				+
Objective 3	X	X	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X				+
Objective 4	?	?	+	?	+	+	+	?	?	+	X	X				+
Objective 5	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	X	+	+	X	+				+
Policy BG1	?	+	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	X				+
Policy BG2	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+				+
Policy BG3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy BG4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy BG5	+	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy BG6	?	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	++	+	+	++				+
Policy BG7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++				+
Policy BG8	X	X	+	X	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X				X

Policy BG9	++	++	++	+	+	+	++	++	+	+	+	+					+
Policy BG10	O	O	+	+	?	O	?	?	+	+	?	?					+
Policy BG11	X	X	X	X	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X					X
Policy BG12	+	+	+	+	X	?	++	+	?	X	?	+					+
Policy BG13	+	X	+	X	+	++	+	X	X	X	X	X					X
Policy BG14	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	+	+	X	++	+					+
Policy BG15	X	+	+	+	+	O	X	X	X	X	+	+					+
Policy BG16	++	++	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	X	+	+					+
Policy BG17	++	++	++	++	+	X	X	X	+	X	X	+					+
Policy BG18	+	++	++	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					+
	?	+	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	X					+
<b>Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective</b>	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+					+
<b>Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...)</b>	<i>Overall the Border Group Neighbourhood Plan will contribution to meeting the SEA objectives and having a positive impact on the baseline. Policies have been drafted in general conformity with the Core Strategy objectives and contain many policy safeguards to ensure that the effects on environmental assets can be avoided or mitigated against. None of the policies are over and above those already assessed for the Core Strategy.</i>																
<b>Commentary for significant cumulative effects</b>	<i>The Border Group neighbourhood plan is unlikely to have any significant cumulative effects on the SEA objectives.</i>																

# Appendix 5

## **Border Group Neighbourhood Development Plan**

### **Options considered**

Option 1 Do nothing
Option 2 Rely on the Rural Areas DPD
Option 3 Neighbourhood Plan with allocations and designation of settlement boundary



# Appendix 6

Objectives and context	Where referenced in NDP/SEA
<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 and Neighbourhood Development Plan objectives; and between SEA objectives and other local plan objectives are identified and described.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 1 (paras 1.06 – 1.10).</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 3; and Tables A2 and A3</li> <li>• Section 3 (para 3.7).</li> <li>• Section 3 (para 3.1).</li> <li>• Section 4 (paras 4.1 – 4.4)</li> </ul>
Scoping	
<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 difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 2 (paras 2.6 – 2.9) &amp; Appendix 3</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 6</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 6</li> </ul>

<b>Alternatives</b>	
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5.</li> <li>Section 5 (paras 5.2 – 5.5).</li> <li>Section 5 &amp; Appendix 5</li> <li>N/A</li> <li>Section 5 (paras 5.2 – 5.5).</li> </ul>
<b>Baseline information</b>	
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1 and 6.</li> <li>Initial screening report and Section 1.</li> <li>Section 2.</li> </ul>

<b>Prediction and evaluation of likely significant environmental effects</b>	
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tables A2, A3 and A4 (Appendix 2)</li> <li>• Tables B2 and B3 (Appendix 4)</li> <li>• Table B4 (Appendix 4)</li> <li>• Section 6</li> <li>• Section 6</li> <li>• Section 2</li> </ul>
<b>Mitigation measures</b>	
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 6 (paras 6.6. – 6.8)</li> <li>• Section 6.</li> </ul>

<b>The Environmental Report</b>	
<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, where appropriate.</li> <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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• Section 2</li> <li>• Section 2</li> <li>• Section 2</li> <li>• Included at page 1</li> </ul>
<b>Consultation</b>	
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 2 (paras 2.4 – 2.5).</li> <li>• Section 8.</li> </ul>

<b>Decision-making and information on the decision</b>	
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sections 2 and 8.</li> <li>Following draft consultation</li> <li>Following draft consultation</li> </ul>
<b>Monitoring measures</b>	
<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.)</li> <li>Proposals are made for action in response to significant adverse effects arising from the monitoring of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 7.</li> <li>Section 7.</li> <li>Section 7.</li> <li>Section 7.</li> </ul>