

Habitats Regulations Assessment

Report for:

Ashperton Neighbourhood Area

January 2019



Ashperton HRA

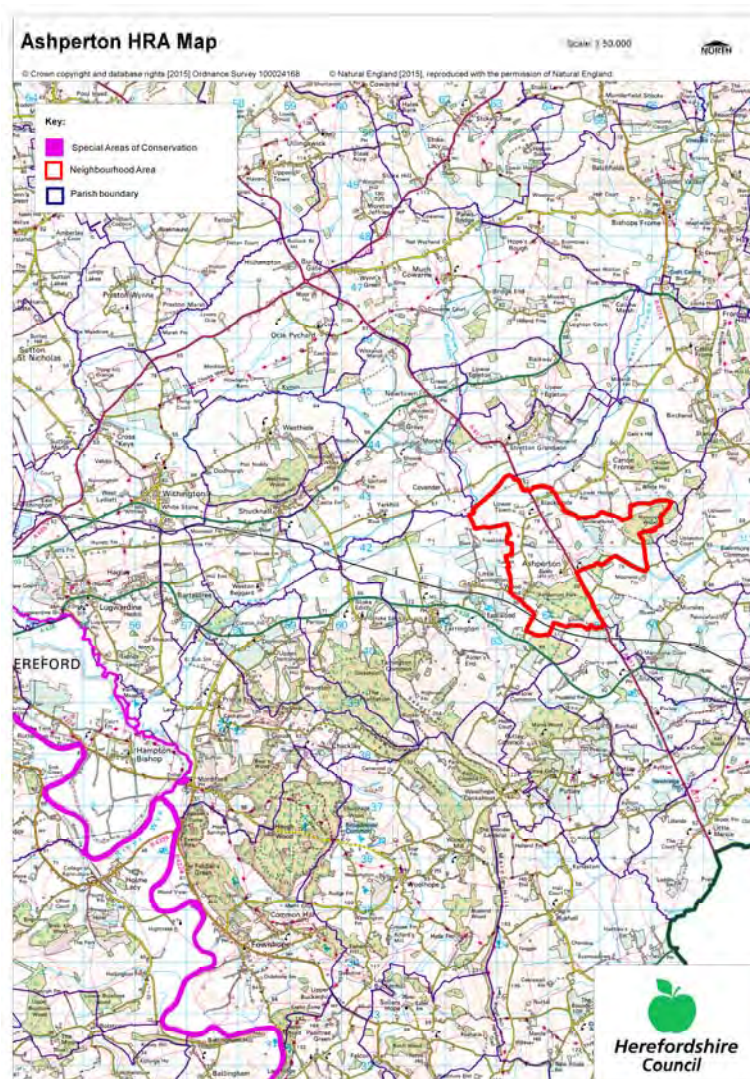
HRA Screening Assessment

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Screening Assessment relates to a Neighbourhood Development Plan that is considered to be in general conformity with higher level strategic plans, such as the Herefordshire Core Strategy and the National planning Policy Framework. The screening stage involves assessing broadly whether the Draft Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have a significant effect on any European site(s).
- 1.2 Ashperton Parish Council is producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Ashperton Parish, in order to set out the vision, objectives and policies for the development of the Parish up to 2031. This HRA reviews the Draft Ashperton Plan January 2019.
- 1.3 The NDP is a mix of criteria based policies and has allocated sites within the settlement of Ashperton. It provides general policies that clarify and provide detail to the policies within the Herefordshire Core Strategy therefore it requires a high level screening assessment to build upon the HRA Screening Assessment Report for the Herefordshire Core Strategy. This high level screening assessment should be read in combination with the Herefordshire publication of the Local Plan-Core Strategy Habitat Regulations Assessment Report (June 2015) and ensures that there will not be any significant impacts upon Natura 2000 sites.
- 1.4 The map below shows Ashperton Neighbourhood Area with the European Site highlighted.



2 The requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment of neighbourhood plans

- 2.1 The requirement to undertake HRA of development plans was confirmed by the amendments to the “Habitats Regulations” published for England and Wales in July 2007 and updated in 2013. Therefore, when preparing its NDP, Ashperton Parish Council is required by law to carry out an assessment known as “Habitats Regulations Assessment”. It is also a requirement in Regulation 32 schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.
- 2.2 Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive provides that:
Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [European] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.
- 2.3 HRA is an impact-led assessment and refers to the assessment of the potential effects of a neighbourhood plan on one or more European sites, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs):
- **SPAs** are classified under the European Council Directive ‘on the conservation of wild birds’ (79/409/EEC; ‘Birds Directive’) for the protection of **wild birds and their habitats** (including particularly rare and vulnerable species listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive, and migratory species).
 - **SACs** are designated under the Habitats Directive and target **particular habitats** (Annex 1) and/or species (Annex II) identified as being of European importance.
- 2.4 For ease of reference during HRA, general practice has been that these three designations are collectively referred to as either **Natura 2000** or **European sites**. This means that a Screening Assessment is carried out with regard to the Conservation Objectives of the European Sites and with reference to other plans or projects to identify if any significant effect is likely for any European Site.
- 2.5 Herefordshire Council is aware of the recent judgement (People over Wind, Peter Sweetman vs Coillte). The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) ruled that Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive must be interpreted as meaning that mitigation measures should be assessed within the framework of an appropriate assessment and that it is not permissible to take account of measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the plan on a European site at the screening stage. The initial screening undertaken in October 2013 and concluded that a full HRA would be required. Mitigation was not taken into account at this stage.
- 2.6 The purpose of this final HRA Report is to detail the findings of the screening of proposed changes to policies and consider if they significantly affect the conclusions of the earlier HRA Report (May 2018) and reviewed in terms of the implications of *Sweetman*.

3 Methodology

- 3.1 As the Ashperton Plan is not directly connected with the management of any European sites, and includes proposals for development which may affect European sites, it is necessary under Regulation 102(1)(a) of the Habitats Regulations 2010 to undertake screening for likely significant effects on European sites.

- 3.2 The HRA of neighbourhood plans is undertaken in stages and should conclude whether or not a proposal or policy in a neighbourhood plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site in question. This is judged in terms of the implications of the plan for a site's 'qualifying features' (i.e. those Annex I habitats, Annex II species, and Annex I bird populations for which it has been designated) and are measured with reference to the conservation objectives for those qualifying features as defined by Natural England.
- 3.3 The first process is to undertake an initial screening report to determine the need to undertake the requirement for a HRA, this initial screening identifies whether the Plan could impact upon any European site that could be within the Neighbourhood Area or nearby.
- 3.4 If a European Site is within the Neighbourhood Area or the Neighbourhood Area could impact upon a European site then this will need to be taken into account and a full screening assessment will need to be undertaken.
- 3.5 The full screening stage consists of a description of the plan, identification of potential effects on European Sites, assessing the effects on European Sites. For Neighbourhood Plans the outcome should demonstrate there are no likely effects upon the European sites. If any likely effects occur then there will need to be amendments to the NDP made and be re-screened until all likely effects have been addressed.

4 Results of the Initial Screening Report and options

- 4.1 The initial Screening report (June 2015) found that the Ashperton Parish is 7.8 km from the River Wye. Therefore Ashperton NDP area falls within the 10km hydrological catchment area of the River Wye (including the Lugg) SAC. The SAC is located south west of the Neighbourhood Area and therefore a full screening assessment is required.
- 4.2 For full details of the Wye Valley Woodlands, Wye Valley Forest of Dean Bat sites and the River Wye (including the Lugg) SAC attributes which contribute to and define their integrity and vulnerable data see Appendix 1 of the Ashperton Plan Initial Screening Report. The Initial Screening Report, June 2015, can be found in Appendix 1 of this HRA report. This information made it possible to identify the features of each site which determine site integrity, as well as the specific sensitivities of each site, therefore enabling later analysis of how the potential impacts of the Ashperton Plan Neighbourhood Plan may affect site integrity.
- 4.3 The initial options for the NDP were assessed to determine their environmental impact that could affect the River Wye SAC. Overall the majority of the options proposing any growth appear to depend on location and scale in relation to environmental impact.
- 4.4 As Ashperton Plan progresses from options onto their NDP policies, the Plan will need to identify ways in which the least effect on the River Wye (including the Lugg) SAC could be achieved, alongside taking forward the preferred options from the consultation from the community. If a majority of these options are taken forward either as standalone policies or in combination with other policies will help to counter balance the effect of all new development within the Parish. A list of the options and site options assessed can be found in Appendix 1, and the Assessment matrix for the options can be found Appendix 2.

- 4.5 In relation to water quality, Policy SD4 of the Herefordshire Core Strategy indicates that any development should not undermine the achievement of water quality targets within the county's rivers. This should ensure that developments within the area can be accommodated within existing water discharge permits would not be likely to have a significant effect upon the River Wye SAC. This position is confirmed within the HRA of the Core Strategy in April 2015.
- 4.6 The addition of the Nutrient Management Plan for the River Wye SAC will support this policy. There is no mains drainage within in the neighbourhood area. Therefore new development will need to adhere to the provisions of Policy SD4 of the Core Strategy. Severn Trent have not commented at regulation 14 regarding potential works required. Future flow should be assessed to confirm if headroom available. It is recommended that liaison with the Water Company is needed before significant growth.
- 4.7 For full details of the River Wye's attributes which contribute to and define their integrity and vulnerable data see Appendix 1 of the Ashperton Initial Screening Report. The Initial Screening Report, June 2015, can be found in Appendix 1 of this HRA report.
- 4.8 This information made it possible to identify the features of each site which determine site integrity, as well as the specific sensitivities of each site, therefore enabling later analysis of how the potential impacts of the Ashperton Neighbourhood Plan may affect site integrity.
- 4.9 The initial screening assessment indicated that a full screening assessment is required to assessment the likelihood of significant effects on the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC of the policies within the Ashperton NDP.

5 Description of the Ashperton Plan Neighbourhood Plan

- 5.1 The Draft Ashperton Plan presents detailed policies for development in the Neighbourhood Area, which is equivalent to the parish boundary, up to 2031. The first part of the Plan introduces the Plan and its preparation and discusses the background to each of the villages.
- 5.2 The NDP then details the vision for the Parish over the Plan period and four objectives of how this will be achieved. The 4 objectives cover the following topics:
- Housing**
 - Environment**
 - Roads and Traffic**
 - Community facilities**
- 5.3 The NDP also sets out 20 policies on various topics based on the objective headings above and also for the village, these include:

H1: Number of New Houses
H2: Settlement Boundary
H3: Housing Mix and Tenancy
H4: Type of Housing
H5: Rural Exception Sites
D1: Design Appearance
D2: Scale and Phasing of Development
D3: Technical Design
E1: Landscape
E2: Tranquillity
E3: Cultural Heritage
E4: Wildlife and the Natural Environment
E5: Flooding and Water Management
RE1: Small Scale Renewable Energy
RE2: Commercial Renewable Energy
ST1: Accommodating Traffic Within the Parish
SB1: Supporting Local Business
SB2: Work Space Development
SB3: Change of Use
SB4: Provision of Broadband and Mobile Telephone Services

- 5.4 The NDP proposes that the following sites in Ashperton to be allocated for housing, in order to facilitate the proportional growth envisaged by Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy):

Sites

S1 Land between Pearscroft and Hopton House
 S2 Land opposite Peasecroft
 S3 Land behind Milestone Cottage and Peasecroft
 S4 Land adjacent to 'The Farm'
 N1 Land to the south of 'The Old Police House'
 N2 Land to the rear of Holmlea
 N3 and N4 Sites in Heywood lane
 N5 and N6 site
 N7 Church Lane

- 5.5 Overall all of the site options considered were found unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye SAC. This is due to scale and location of the sites. Four of these sites were brought forward for housing sites, none of these are expected to have an impact on the River Wye SAC. Sites 3 and 4 were granted planning permission in 2018.

6 Assessments undertaken to date of the emerging Ashperton NDP policies

- 6.1 Regulation 102 of the Habitats Regulations 2010 requires that a Screening Assessment be undertaken, in order to identify the 'likely significant effects' of an NDP. Accordingly, a screening matrix was prepared and this determined the extent to which any of the policies within the Ashperton NDP would be likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye SAC. This has been repeated at each statutory stage of the NDP consultation process.

Screening of the draft plan (Reg14)

- 6.3 The screening matrix took the approach of screening each policy and objective individually, which is consistent with current guidance. The results from the HRA reports for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) were also taken into consideration.
- 6.4 None of the Ashperton NDP objectives and policies (January 2019) were concluded to be likely to have a significant effect on the European sites. The parish itself does not have the River Wye SAC in the parish, however it is in the hydrological catchment and the river runs along its southern boundary. The settlement of Ashperton and site allocations are not in close proximity to the river and unlikely to have a direct significant impact on the SAC. Core Strategy policy SD3 and SD4 together with the Nutrient Management Plan will ensure that development can only occur if these policy requirements are met.
- 6.5 In many cases this is because the policies themselves would not result in development, i.e. they related instead to criteria for development and the SAC itself is not within the parish. In several cases the policies also included measures to help support the natural environment including biodiversity.
- 6.6 It is unlikely that the Ashperton Neighbourhood Plan will have any in-combination effects with any Plans from neighbouring parish council due to the level of growth proposed is of the same that is proposed for the Ledbury Housing Market Area in the Herefordshire Core Strategy.
- 6.7 Therefore it was concluded that the **Submission Ashperton NDP would not have a likely significant effect on the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC.**

Screening of modifications to NDP (Reg16)

- 6.8 The Submission NDP (January 2019) incorporates additional policy criteria or wording to add clarity and emphasis throughout the document. Policy reference to the sewerage network capacity within the village and the potential to phase development. This will give criteria for future applications to meet to support policy SD4 and ensure that the delivery of the Nutrient Management Plan is not compromised.
- 6.9 Policy D1 which was amended to ensure neighbouring amenity is protected from adverse effects of new development. This has been rescreened along with all of the policies in appendix 5. Modifications made to several other policies of the plan are considered to be minor and would not have a significant effect on the results previously assessed. These were points of clarity and minor word changes.
- 6.10 The revised NDP policies are therefore unlikely to result in significant effects on the European site. Conservation status of the SAC in respect of phosphate levels as soon as possible and at the latest by 2027, have both been considered as part of the in-combination assessment.

7 Assessment of the 'likely significant effects' of the submission Ashperton NDP following regulation 14 (2018) and implications of *Sweetman* case

- 7.1 In light of the *Sweetman* case all policies have been reviewed to ensure compliance with the ruling. The finding can be found in appendix 5.
- 7.2 The findings of the screening matrix can be found in the Screening Matrix in the appendix 5. Colour coding was used to record the likely impacts of the policies on the European site and its qualifying habitats and species as shown in the table 1 below.

Red	There are likely to be significant effects
Green	Significant effects are unlikely

- 7.3 Following the recent *Sweetman* judgement, it is not permissible to take account of measure intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the plan on the River Wye SAC at this final screening stage. Any likely significant effects would require an Appropriate Assessment to be required.

8 Conclusions from the Screening Matrix

- 8.1 None of the submission Ashperton Plan (January 2019) policies and sites were concluded to be likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye (including the Lugg) SAC.
- 8.2 This is partly down to scale and extent of plan also the Ashperton Plan small scale site allocations. For the policies contained in the plan there is sufficient policy criteria in Core Strategy policies LD2, SD3 and SD4 to ensure that development can only occur if these criteria are met.
- 8.3 The plan allocates settlement boundaries for Ashperton and 4 sites for development within the settlement of Ashperton to accommodate 10 dwellings. Within the settlement area there appears to be enough capacity within the identified settlement along with the completions and commitments to meet the target housing growth.
- 8.4 The initial Call for Sites has 11 proposals were considered, these were eventually whittled down to 4 sites. These options have been screened in the HRA options screening and have found none of the sites are likely to have an effect on the River Wye SAC. This is because of the small scale development and location of the proposed sites.
- 8.5 The four sites for development will accommodate to 10 dwellings, along with development from 14 commitments, this nearly meets the housing target of 15 from 2011 to 2031. Commitments and completions from April 2011-April 2018, leaving a residual figure of 1 to find within the parish of Ashperton.
- 8.5 There is no waste water treatment works within in the neighbourhood area. Therefore new development will need to adhere to the provisions of Policy SD4 of the Core Strategy, potential development can be reviewed further at planning application stage on a case by case basis. It is recommended that liaison with the Water Company is needed before significant growth takes place.
- 8.6 In addition, the Nutrient Management Plan for the River Wye SAC should ensure that development within Herefordshire which can be accommodated within existing water discharge permits would not be likely to have a significant effect upon the River Wye SAC.
- 8.7 No mitigation measures have been included within the screening of the policies of the NDP. Policies of the Core Strategy and the NDP will form part of the development plans. A key requirement of the Core Strategy is to meet the Water Framework Directive.
- 8.8 Policy SD4 of the Core Strategy of the NDP indicate that development would not permitted if wastewater treatment and water quality cannot be assured.

- 8.9 This review and rescreening in addition to the revisions to the policies from the examination, have been found to be unlikely to result in significant effects on the River Wye SAC. ***It is therefore concluded that the Ashperton Neighbourhood Plan will not have a likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC.***

9 Identification of other plans and projects which may have 'in-combination' effects

- 9.1 There are a number of potentially relevant plans and projects which may result in in-combination effects with the Core Strategy across Herefordshire, these plans have been reviewed and can be found in Appendix 2 of the publication of the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment (Oct 2015).
- 9.2 It is seen that as this NDP does not go over and beyond the requirements set out in the Core Strategy.
- 9.3 Adjacent neighbourhood plans include Yarkhill has been made, Pixley and District is at examination. Stretton Grandison and Tarrington are in the process of producing a neighbourhood plan. These plans have not gone over and beyond the requirements set out within the Core Strategy for their area.
- 9.4 The HRA for the Core Strategy also identifies that both the Water Cycle Study for Herefordshire, which indicates the potential for planned water abstraction requirements combined with pressures on European Sites from the Core Strategy policies, and the work on the Nutrient Management Plan, to ensure the favourable conservation status of the SAC in respect of phosphate levels as soon as possible and at the latest by 2027, have both been considered as part of the in-combination assessment.
- 9.5 It is unlikely that the Ashperton Neighbourhood Plan will have any in-combination effects with any plans from neighbouring parish councils as the level of growth proposed is the same as that proposed for the Ledbury Housing Market Area in the Herefordshire Core Strategy.

10.0 Conclusion

- 10.1 With reference to sections 6 to 9 above, the modifications to the NDP are not considered to affect the findings of the previous HRA report. Equally the review in light of the *Sweetman* case is also not considered to affect the previous findings.
- 10.2 Therefore the earlier conclusions that the **Ashperton NDP will not have a likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC** remains valid.

11.0 Next steps

- 11.1 This submission Report will be published alongside the final Ashperton NDP and the earlier HRA Report and its addendum. This will be subject to undergo a six week consultation with the statutory bodies prior to being sent to examination.

Appendix 1

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

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

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d)

Neighbourhood Area:	Ashperton Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Ashperton Parish Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	03/06/2015

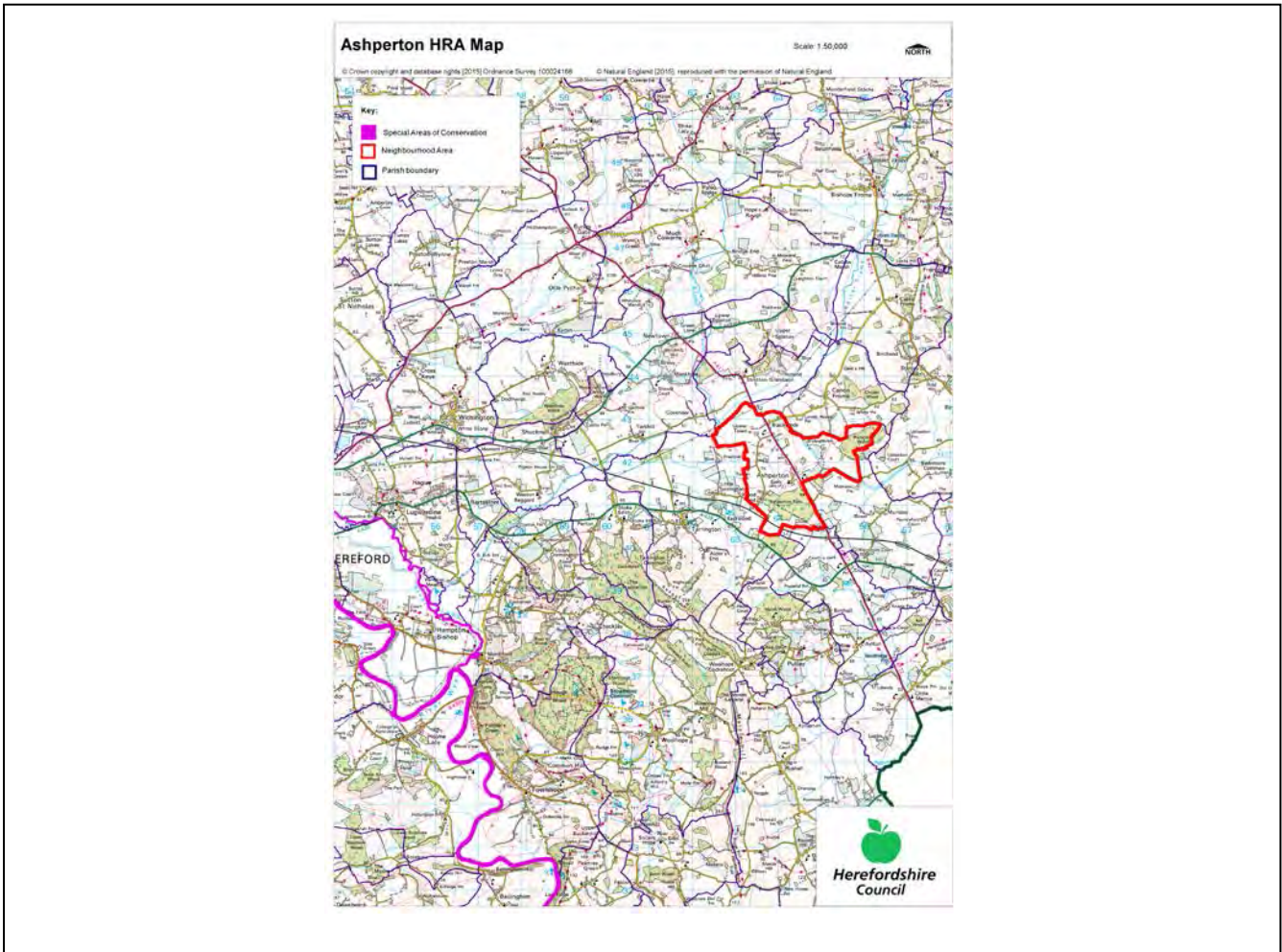
Introduction

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

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

HRA Initial Screening

Map showing relationship of Neighbourhood Area with European Sites (not to scale)



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

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	The River Wye/Lugg is 7.8km away from the Parish
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	Y	The Parish is within the hydrological catchment of the River Frome.
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	N	There is no mains drainage at Ashperton.

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 35.8km away from the Parish.
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River Clun SAC:

Does the River Clun border the Neighbourhood Area	N	River Clun does not border the parish.
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Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites are 20.4km away from the Parish.
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Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	Wye Valley Woodlands are 26.2km away from the Parish.
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HRA Conclusion:

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

European Site

(List only those which are relevant from above)

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC

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

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

SEA features	Within Neighbourhood Area		Bordering Neighbourhood Area	
	Total number	Name(s)	Total number	Name(s)
Ancient Woodland	2	Hansnett Wood; Ashperton Park.	3	Eastwood; Meephill Coppice; Whitfield Coppice.
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	0	-	0	-
Conservation Areas	0	-	0	-
Flood Areas	Flood Zones 2 & 3 in the very north of the Parish.			
Geoparks	0	-	0	-
Listed Buildings	There are numerous Listed Buildings within the Parish.			
Mineral Reserves	0	-	2	River Lodon, Monkhide to Yarkhill to Bartestee; Stretton Grandsion to Canon Frome to Bishops Frome
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	0	-	0	-
Nature Trails	0	-	0	-
Regionally Important Geological Sites (RIGS)	0	-	0	-
Registered Parks and Gardens	0	-	0	-
Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)	1	Ashperton Court.	2	Roman Settlement; Roman Fort and outworks 550yds (500m) south west of Canon Frome Court.

Sites of Importance in Nature Conservation (SINCs)	0	-	0	-
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	0	-	0	-
Special Wildlife Sites (SWS)	4	Ashperton Park; Old canal at Ashperton; Hansnett Wood; River Frome.	5	Eastwood; Highlea Wood; Meephill Coppice & Childer Wood; Pond at Canon Frome Court; Woodland near Millend Cottage
Unregistered parks and gardens	1	Canon Frome Court.	3	Homend; Upleadon Court; Mainstone Court.
		SSSI Status		SSSI Status
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	0	-	1	Mains Wood Unfavourable Declining.

Decision Notification:

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

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

Assessment date: 05/05/2015

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.

Downton Gorge
Site Features: <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines
Vulnerability data: 10km for air quality associated with poultry units or other intensive agricultural practices.
River Clun
Site Features: Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>
Vulnerability data: Water quality is important to maintain the site feature. Parishes either side of the River Clun will be affected.
River Wye
Site Features: 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>
Vulnerability data: Proximity: Developments should not be within 100m of the designated bank. Some developments beyond 100m may also have impacts based on proximity and these issues should be addressed where possible when developing NDP policy and choosing site allocations. Water Quality: Within the whole catchment of the River Wye, which includes the River Lugg, mains drainage issues with regards to water quality are being resolved through the Core Strategy / Local Plan and development of a Nutrient Management Plan. Welsh Water should be consulted to ensure that the proposed growth will be within the limit of their consents. Otters: "An otter will occupy a 'home range', which on fresh waters usually includes a stretch of river as well as associated tributary streams, ditches, ponds, lakes and woodland. The size of a home range depends largely on the availability of food and shelter, and the presence of neighbouring otters. On rivers, a male's home range may be up to 40km or more of watercourse and associated areas; females have smaller ranges (roughly half the size) and favour quieter locations for breeding, such as tributary streams. Otters without an established home range are known as 'transients'. They are mostly juveniles looking for a territory of their own, or adults that have been pushed out of their territories. Transient otters may use an area for a short while, but they will move on if conditions are not suitable or if they are driven away by resident otters. Transients will have been important in extending the range of otters, but they are very difficult to identify from field signs. Within a home range an otter may use many resting sites. These include above-ground shelters, such as stands of scrub or areas of rank grass, and underground 'holts' – for example, cavities under tree roots and dry drainage pipes."

Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites

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

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

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

NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider:

Woodland habitat buffer.

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

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

Wye Valley Woodlands

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

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

Appendix 2

Table 1: HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Options and Site Options

Parish Council Name: **Ashperton**

NDP Title: **Ashperton Neighbourhood Plan**

Date undertaken: **November 2017**

NDP objectives, Site options policies	HRA Screening of Emerging NDP objectives, options and policies				
	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence of the objective/option/policy	Likely effect if option implemented. Could they have Likely Significant Effects (LSE) on European Sites? (Yes/No, with reasons)	European Sites potentially affected	Mitigation measures to be considered, as necessary, through redraft of objective/option/policy and to be considered as part of Appropriate Assessment	If recommendations are implemented, would it be possible that it would result in no LSE? (Yes/No with reasons)
Option 1- to do nothing	Not producing a neighbourhood plan would result in any future growth decisions within the parish being made based on the strategic policies within the Core Strategy. Proportional housing and employment growth would be in accordance with the Core Strategy.	Core Strategy HRA has examined the likely significant effects of the Core Strategy rural policies in May 2014 and April 2015 and concluded that there are no LSE but acknowledges the role of neighbourhood plans to provide additional certainty.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC.	N/A	N/A
Option 2- To do a criteria based policy.	Small scale proportionate growth where the location would be determined by a	Uncertain as to the impact on the European sites as dependant on the location	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Criteria based housing policy would require to include reference to mitigation measures to	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy

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	criteria based policy.	of the development.		<p>avoid any non-disturbance effects on the River Wye via its catchment.</p> <p>Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.</p>	<p>safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.</p>
Option 3 - To allocate sites in the plan.	Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within the River Wye catchment. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies to ensure no likely significant effect would occur	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	n/a	No; policy criteria can be added to any allocation policy.
Option 4- Criteria policy and 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	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.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	n/a	No; policy criteria can be added to any settlement boundary criteria policy.

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	<p>growth to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. There is less certainty as any growth will be adjudged by criteria based policy.</p>	<p>Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against any likely effects. However the majority of the village is outside of the catchment for the River Wye</p>			
<p>Option 5-Criteria policy/settlement boundary/allocate sites.</p>	<p>Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside</p>	<p>Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within the River Wye catchment. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies. However the majority of the village where proportional growth and the settlement boundary are likely to be located are outside of the River Wye catchment area.</p>	<p>River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>No; policy criteria can be added to any allocation policy.</p>

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Sites to be included in NDP					
S1 Land between Pearscroft and Hopton House	<p>Increase in water usage, abstraction and sewage treatment</p> <p>Loss of greenfield land</p> <p>Small increase in traffic and parking demands</p> <p>Development of 4 dwellings located within settlement boundary with direct access to A417.</p> <p>Demand in broadband and communication services.</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Increase in non-physical disturbances during construction</p> <p>Removal of hedgerows</p>	No: the location and scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects, but note that development may result in the loss of a grazing field.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	There are sufficient safeguards within the Core Strategy policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the NDP.	No. The scale and extent of development on this site is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC and any development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) policy RA2 and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy.
S2 Land opposite Peasecroft	<p>Increase in water usage, abstraction and sewage treatment</p> <p>Loss of greenfield land</p> <p>Small increase in traffic and parking demands</p> <p>Development of 3</p>	No: the location and scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects, but note that development would occur outside of built environment and this needs to be addressed at	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	There are sufficient safeguards within the Core Strategy policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the NDP.	No. The scale and extent of development on this site is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC and any development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) policy RA2 and the policy safeguards which exist within the

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	<p>dwelling located outside of built up area.</p> <p>Demand in broadband and communication services.</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Increase in non-physical disturbances during construction</p> <p>Removal of hedgerows</p>	planning stage.			Core Strategy..
S3 Land behind Milestone Cottage and Peasecroft	<p>Increase in water usage, abstraction and sewage treatment</p> <p>Loss of greenfield land</p> <p>Small increase in traffic and parking demands</p> <p>Development of 2 with existing access.</p> <p>Demand in broadband and communication services.</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Increase in non-physical disturbances during construction</p>	No: the location and scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	There are sufficient safeguards within the Core Strategy policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the NDP.	No. The scale and extent of development on this site is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC and any development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) policy RA2 and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy.

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	Removal of hedgerows				
S4 Land adjacent to 'The Farm'	<p>Increase in water usage, abstraction and sewage treatment</p> <p>New single dwelling with agricultural and equestrian buildings.</p> <p>Demand in broadband and communication services.</p> <p>Small increase in traffic and parking demands</p> <p>Light pollution</p> <p>Loss of greenfield land</p> <p>Increase in non-physical disturbances during construction</p> <p>Increase in long term agricultural works and equestrian movements</p>	No: the location and scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	There are sufficient safeguards within the Core Strategy policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the NDP.	No. The scale and extent of development on this site is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC and any development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) policy RA2 and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy.
Sites put forward but not included in the NDP					
N1 Land to the south of 'The Old Police House'	No: development is unlikely to come forward	No: development is unlikely to come forward	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	N/A	N/A
N2 Land to the rear of Holmlea		No: the scale of development proposed would not give	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	N/A	N/A

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		rise to likely significant effects, but note that development may result in the loss of foraging space in the form of an open agricultural field in Ashperton.			
N3 and N4 Sites in Heywood lane	No: development is unlikely to come forward	No: development is unlikely to come forward	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	N/A	N/A
N5 and N6	No: development is unlikely to come forward	No: the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects, but note that development may result in the loss of foraging space in the form of an open agricultural field in Ashperton.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	N/A	N/A
N7 Church Lane	No: development is unlikely to come forward	No: development is unlikely to come forward	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	N/A	N/A

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Appendix 3

Appendix 3

Table 1: HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Objectives and Policies

Parish Council Name: **Ashperton Group Parish**

NDP Title: **Ashperton Draft Plan reg 14**

Date undertaken: **November 2017**

Core Strategy HRA version: **Adopted Core Strategy 2011-2031**

NDP objectives, policies	HRA Screening of Emerging NDP objectives, options and policies				
	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence of the objective/option/policy	Likely effect if objective/option/policy implemented. Could they have Likely Significant Effects (LSE) on European Sites? (Yes/No, with reasons)	European Sites potentially affected	Mitigation measures to be considered, as necessary, through redraft of objective/policy and to be considered as part of Appropriate Assessment	Could the policy have likely significant effects on European sites (taking mitigation into account?)
Objective 1- Housing	Objective to support sustainable and appropriate development in line with policies SS1 and RA1.	None identified.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None identified.	No. This objective will not lead to development but sets sustainable development criteria.
Objective 2- Environmental Sustainability	This objective will protect and help conserve landscape identified within Ashperton.	None identified.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None. This objective is a mitigation measure in itself.	No, this objective aims to protect the visual character and setting of Ashperton whilst supporting tourism.
Objective 3-Roads and Traffic	Promotion of safer roads. Improvements to public transport.	None identified.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None identified.	No, this objective promotes safer and more sustainable travel through new development.

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	Increase of sustainable transport usage.				
Appendix 3 Objective 4- Community services and facilities	Protect And enhance the existing natural environment, landscape and views.	Protection of community assets including the village hall.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None. This objective is a mitigation measure in itself.	No. This will not have an impact on the River Wye sac. This objective seeks to safeguard public open space and protect the village hall for the community.
Policies					
H1-Number of new houses	New housing allocated in selected sites Increase in water consumption. Non-physical disturbance during construction phase. Physical damage of disturbance on a localised scale.	Small scale housing development. Housing, infrastructure development Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment. Physical damage of disturbance on a localised scale. Non-physical disturbance such as noise.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	This policy helps contain development and control growth in a sustainable way. Adverse effects will be mitigated by NDP policies	No. The scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant, as the development is contained in a sustainable approach. Allocations help give greater certainty.
H2-Settlement boundaries	New housing development within the designation settlement boundaries of Newton and Monkhide. Increase in vehicle traffic. Increased demand for water abstraction and	Depending on type, location of infrastructure. Physical damage of disturbance. Non-physical disturbance such as noise.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	Measures included within policy SD2 of the Core Strategy should help to mitigate potential impacts relating to non-physical disturbances. Good practice construction techniques include noise suppression measures;	No. The scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant, as the development is contained in a sustainable approach in accordance with policies SS1 and RA2 of the Core Strategy.

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	sewage treatment.			hours of operation may help to mitigate potential adverse effects during construction.	
H3- Housing mix and tenancy	<p>Housing sites identified.</p> <p>Promotion of achieving housing target.</p> <p>Increased vehicle traffic</p> <p>Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment</p> <p>Sustainable housing growth</p>	<p>Small scale housing development.</p> <p>Housing, infrastructure development</p> <p>Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Physical damage of disturbance on a localised scale.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance such as noise.</p>	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	<p>Improved water efficiency measures, metering and addressing leakages in supply may help to mitigate any additional pressure placed on the water supply as a result of new developments.</p> <p>The implementation of the Core Strategy policies SD3 and SD4 should help to avoid adverse impacts in relation to hydrological regimes at the River Wye. Water quality in the River Wye SAC is also specifically addressed through the Nutrient Management Plan produced by Natural England and the Environment Agency.</p>	<p>No: this policy would allow for small to medium scale housing schemes and supports the Core Strategy Policy RA1 and RA2. Further assessment of the sites considered can be tested at planning application stage when further details are known.</p> <p>There are additional policy criteria in place in both the Core Strategy and the Ashperton Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects towards the SAC.</p>
H4-Type of Housing	Varied types of houses developed within the plan period		River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	Mitigation measures c	<p>No: this policy would allow for small to medium scale housing schemes and supports the Core Strategy Policy RA1 and RA2. Further assessment of the sites considered can be tested at planning application stage when further details are known.</p>

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H5-Rural exception sites	<p>Sustainable re use of agricultural buildings.</p> <p>Sustainable development encouraged within the identified settlements.</p> <p>Minimal increase demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment</p> <p>Sustainable housing growth</p>	<p>Minimal increase of vehicular movement and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Physical damage of disturbance on a localised scale.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance such as noise.</p> <p>Depending on location could be physical disturbance.</p>	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	<p>Good practice construction techniques include noise suppression measures; hours of operation may help to mitigate potential adverse effects during construction.</p> <p>Measures within Core Strategy policy SD1 should help to mitigate potential impacts relating to non-physical disturbances.</p>	<p>No. The scale and extent of conversion of agricultural building is likely to be minimal, therefore is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC .</p> <p>There are sufficient policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and Ashperton NDP to safeguard and where necessary mitigate detrimental impact caused from development towards the SAC.</p>
D1- Design Appearance	Ensuring that any new housing development is fitting with its context and has suitable design and materials to be in keeping with the neighbourhood area existing context.	No Likely Significant effect on the River Wye SAC	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No this policy is a mitigation measure within itself.	No. This policy will not lead to new development; but rather it will ensure that any new development is in keeping with the surrounding design and context of Ashperton.
D2- Scale and phasing of development	Ensuring that any new housing development is phased over the plan period.	No Likely Significant effect on the River Wye SAC	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No this policy is a mitigation measure within itself.	No. This policy will not lead to new development; but rather it will ensure that any new development is in keeping with the surrounding design and context of Ashperton.
D3-Technical Design	Ensuring that any new housing development is fitting with its context and has suitable design and materials to be in keeping with the neighbourhood area existing context.	No Likely Significant effect on the River Wye SAC	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No this policy is a mitigation measure within itself.	No. This policy will not lead to new development; but rather it will ensure that any new development is in keeping with the surrounding design and

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					context of Ashperton.
E1-Landscape	<p>Safeguard existing landscape against inappropriate development.</p> <p>Encouragement of sustainable development which preserves and protects the landscape, environment and habitats.</p>	<p>Physical damage of disturbance on a localised scale.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance such as noise.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of any development.</p> <p>Potential increase in visitor numbers to the parish could have an effect on the River Wye Employment and infrastructure development.</p> <p>Possible vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p>	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None. This policy acts as a mitigation measure to ensure developments to be fitting for its context and ensures protection to the exiting landscape.	<p>No. This policy ensures existing landscape is protected against inappropriate development.</p> <p>There are sufficient policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy to help avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects on the River Wye SAC.</p>
E2- Tranquillity	<p>Increase in recreation activities.</p> <p>Views protected</p> <p>Important trees and hedgerows retained</p> <p>Safeguard woodlands and orchards</p>	None identified.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	None. This policy acts as a mitigation measure to ensure developments to be fitting for its context and ensures protection to the exiting landscape.	No. It is unlikely that this policy will have a detrimental impact on the SACs. There are policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.
E3-Cultural Heritage	Safeguard historic assets	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect	River Wye (including the	This policy helps Dinedor maintain	No this policy safeguards against

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	Local heritage assets protected.	on the European Site.	Lugg SAC).	historic character and helps safeguard against inappropriate development.	inappropriate development in order to preserve the historic character of Ashperton.
E4-Wildlife and the Natural Environment	Protection of biodiversity Safeguard local landscape character	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	This policy helps to safeguard greenspace in line with policy LD2, and help mitigate adverse effects caused from development.	No: Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant. This objective is likely to have a beneficial effect on environment and biodiversity of Ashperton.
E5- Flooding and Water management	Strive to reduce impact of flooding within Ashperton. New development designed to appropriately reduce flood risk. Sustainable design promoted. Infrastructure development phased in line with infrastructure works within the plan period.	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None. This policy acts as a mitigation measures to ensure new developments avoid and alleviate flooding impacts in Ashperton.	No. This policy ensures new development in Ashperton is safeguarded against flooding. Also that the infrastructure will have enough capacity for any planned development. There are sufficient policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy to help avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects on the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean bat sites SAC.
RE1-Small scale Renewable Energy	Renewable energy schemes developed. Construction traffic.	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site. Depending on type, location of infrastructure. Physical damage of disturbance. Non-physical	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	Measures included within policy SD2 of the Core Strategy should help to mitigate potential impacts relating to non-physical disturbances. Good practice construction techniques include noise suppression measures; hours of operation may help to mitigate potential adverse	No. This policy may result in varied renewable energy schemes. Depending on scale, nature and location of the development it may have a possibility of having a detrimental effect on the River Wye SAC. There are sufficient policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy to help avoid or

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		disturbance such as noise.		effects during construction.	mitigate any likely significant effects on the SAC.
RE2-Commercial Renewable Energy	Community energy schemes promoted Renewable energy schemes developed. Construction traffic.	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site. Depending on type, location of infrastructure. Physical damage of disturbance. Non-physical disturbance such as noise.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	Measures included within policy SD2 of the Core Strategy should help to mitigate potential impacts relating to non-physical disturbances. Good practice construction techniques include noise suppression measures; hours of operation may help to mitigate potential adverse effects during construction.	No. This policy may result in varied renewable energy schemes. Depending on scale, nature and location of the development it may have a possibility of having a detrimental effect on the River Wye SAC. There are sufficient policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy to help avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects on the SAC.
ST1-Accommodating Traffic Within the Parish	Promotion of safer roads. Improved sustainable modes of transport such as cycling, walking, and public transport links. Increase in walking and cycling. Decrease in traffic accidents. Development of transport infrastructure Traffic Calming measures Improvement of road safety	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Any effects of additional transport will be mitigated with providing additional highway and transport measures.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	None. This policy acts as a mitigation measure to ensure new development will alleviate traffic speeds and promote sustainable and public transport means.	No; this policy would only lead to some small scale sustainable transport links and predominately within areas outside of the hydrological catchment of the River Wye. Additional policy safeguards exist within the Core Strategy to mitigate any potential likely significant effects.

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<p>SB1- Supporting Local Business</p>	<p>Encourage development of small scale employment facilities.</p> <p>Promotion of business development</p> <p>Job creation in local area</p> <p>Small reduction in vehicular usage.</p>	<p>Employment growth and infrastructure development</p> <p>Physical damage of disturbance on a localised scale.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance such as noise.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of any development.</p> <p>Potential increase in visitor numbers to the parish could have an effect on the River Wye Employment and infrastructure development.</p> <p>Possible vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).</p>	<p>The implementation of Core Strategy policies SD3 and SD4 should also help to avoid any adverse impacts in relation to the hydrological regimes at the River Wye.</p> <p>The implementation of the Nutrient Management Plan will specifically address issues relating to water quality in the River Wye.</p> <p>The Core Strategy policy LD2 will aim to help avoid any adverse impacts on the River Wye for new employment or businesses uses.</p> <p>Measures within Core Strategy policy SD1 should help to mitigate potential impacts relating to non-physical disturbances.</p> <p>Although the River Wye does not pass through the parish, additional policy criteria could be added to strengthen the avoidance locations which could have an adverse impact on the natural environment especially River Wye catchment.</p>	<p>No. The scale and extent of potential employment development is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC. There are sufficient policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy to help avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects on the River Wye SAC.</p> <p>Mitigation measures are covered in policy LD2 and LD3 of the Core Strategy and policies within the Ashperton NDP.</p>
<p>SB2- Work Space Development</p>	<p>Encourage development of small scale employment facilities.</p> <p>Promotion of business development</p>	<p>Employment growth and infrastructure development</p> <p>Physical damage of disturbance on a</p>	<p>River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).</p>	<p>The implementation of Core Strategy policies SD3 and SD4 should also help to avoid any adverse impacts in relation to the hydrological regimes at the River Wye.</p>	<p>No. The scale and extent of potential employment development is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC. There are sufficient policy safeguards within the NDP and Core</p>

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	<p>Job creation in local area</p> <p>Small reduction in vehicular usage.</p>	<p>localised scale.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance such as noise.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of any development.</p> <p>Potential increase in visitor numbers to the parish could have an effect on the River Wye Employment and infrastructure development.</p> <p>Possible vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p>		<p>The implementation of the Nutrient Management Plan will specifically address issues relating to water quality in the River Wye.</p> <p>The Core Strategy policy LD2 will aim to help avoid any adverse impacts on the River Wye for new employment or businesses uses.</p> <p>Measures within Core Strategy policy SD1 should help to mitigate potential impacts relating to non-physical disturbances.</p> <p>Although the River Wye does not pass through the parish, additional policy criteria could be added to strengthen the avoidance locations which could have an adverse impact on the natural environment especially River Wye catchment.</p>	<p>Strategy to help avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects on the River Wye SAC.</p> <p>Mitigation measures are covered in policy LD2 and LD3 of the Core Strategy and policies within the Ashperton NDP.</p>
SB3- Change of Use	Supports change of use	<p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of any development.</p> <p>Potential increase in visitor numbers to the parish could have an effect on the River Wye Employment and infrastructure development.</p>	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	<p>None, mitigation measures are included within the Core Strategy and ndp.</p>	<p>No. The scale and extent of potential change of use is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC. There are sufficient policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy to help avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects on the River Wye SAC.</p> <p>Mitigation measures are covered in policy LD2 and LD3 of the Core Strategy</p>

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		Possible vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.			and policies within the Ashperton NDP.
SB4- Provision of Broadband and Mobile Telephone services	<p>Support and strengthen existing broadband and mobile reception provision.</p> <p>Potential development of masts and electrical units.</p> <p>Strengthen Broadband infrastructure</p> <p>Reduction in car usage</p> <p>Potential for a small reduction in air pollution</p>	None identified.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	<p>None, mitigation measures are included within the Core Strategy and ndp.</p> <p>Faster broadband speeds may provide work from home opportunities, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p>	No. This policy will also ensure communications infrastructure is strengthened for community use. Faster broadband speeds and better mobile reception may provide work from home opportunities, thereby reducing the need to travel.

Appendix 4

HRA Consultation Feedback

This consultation feedback is **only** for comments received on the HRA of your Neighbourhood Development Plan

Parish Council Name: Ashperton Parish Council

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Ashperton Neighbourhood Plan

Details of consultation: Regulation 14

Consultation date: 1 May 2018 until 26 June 2018.

Consultation title: Regulation 14

Response Date	Consultee	Summary of Comments	Response to Comments
03/05/19	Natural England	<p>Natural England notes the screening process applied to this Neighbourhood plan. We agree with the Council's conclusion of no likely significant effect upon the named European designated sites:</p> <p>River Wye SAC</p> <p>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.</p>	Duly noted.

Appendix 5

Table 1: HRA rescreening of amended Neighbourhood Development Plan Policies post regulation 14

Parish Council Name: **Ashperton Parish Council**

NDP Title: **Ashperton Draft Plan reg 16**

Date undertaken: **January 2019**

Core Strategy HRA version: **Adopted Core Strategy 2011-2031**

NDP objectives, policies	HRA Screening of Emerging NDP objectives, options and policies	Likely effect if option implemented. Could they have Likely Significant Effects (LSE) on European Sites?	European Sites potentially affected	Would it be possible that it would result in any LSE?	Requirement for an Appropriate Assessment
	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence of the objective/option/policy				
H1-Number of new houses	<p>New housing allocated in selected sites</p> <p>Increase in water consumption.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance during construction phase.</p> <p>Physical damage of disturbance on a localised scale.</p>	<p>Small scale housing development.</p> <p>Housing, infrastructure development</p> <p>Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Physical damage of disturbance on a localised scale.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance such as noise.</p>	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	<p>Not required. The scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant, as the development is contained in a sustainable approach. Allocations help give greater certainty.</p> <p>Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.</p>

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H2-Settlement boundaries	<p>New housing development within the designation settlement boundaries of Ashperton.</p> <p>Increase in vehicle traffic.</p> <p>Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.</p>	<p>Depending on type, location of infrastructure.</p> <p>Physical damage of disturbance.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance such as noise.</p>	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	Not required. The scale and location of potential housing development as indicated in a settlement boundary is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC. Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.
H3- Housing mix and tenancy	<p>Housing sites identified.</p> <p>Promotion of achieving housing target.</p> <p>Increased vehicle traffic</p> <p>Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment</p> <p>Sustainable housing growth</p>	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	Not required. The scale, mix and extent of potential housing development is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC. Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.
H4-Type of Housing	Varied types of houses developed within the plan period	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	Not required. The scale, type and extent of potential housing development is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC. Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.
H5-Rural exception sites	Sustainable re use of agricultural buildings.	Minimal increase of vehicular movement and demand for water	River Wye (including the	No	Not required. The scale and extent of conversion of agricultural building is likely to be minimal, therefore is

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	<p>Sustainable development encouraged within the identified settlements.</p> <p>Minimal increase demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment</p> <p>Sustainable housing growth</p>	<p>abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Physical damage of disturbance on a localised scale.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance such as noise.</p> <p>Depending on location could be physical disturbance.</p>	Lugg SAC).		<p>unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC.</p> <p>Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.</p>
D1- Design Appearance	Ensuring that any new housing development is fitting with its context and has suitable design and materials to be in keeping with the neighbourhood area existing context.	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	<p>Not required. This policy will not lead to new development; but rather it will ensure that any new development is in keeping with the surrounding design and context of Ashperton.</p> <p>Changes to this policy post regulation 14 add in further criteria to clarify types of activities and building relating to design impact. This is unlikely to have an impact on the River Wye SAC.</p>
D2- Scale and phasing of development	Ensuring that any new housing development is phased over the plan period.	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	<p>Not required. This policy will not lead to new development; but rather it will ensure that any new development is in keeping with the surrounding design and context of Ashperton.</p> <p>Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.</p>

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D3-Technical Design	Ensuring that any new housing development is fitting with its context and has suitable design and materials to be in keeping with the neighbourhood area existing context.	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	Not required. This policy will not lead to new development; but rather it will ensure that any new development is in keeping with the surrounding design and context of Ashperton. Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.
E1-Landscape	Safeguard existing landscape against inappropriate development. Encouragement of sustainable development which preserves and protects the landscape, environment and habitats.	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	Not required. This policy ensures existing landscape is protected against inappropriate development. Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.
E2-Tranquillity	Increase in recreation activities. Views protected Important trees and hedgerows retained Safeguard woodlands and orchards	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	No	Not required. It is unlikely that this policy will have a detrimental impact on the SACs. Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.
E3-Cultural Heritage	Safeguard historic assets Local heritage assets protected.	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	Not required. This policy ensures historic assets are protected against inappropriate development. Implementation of Core Strategy policy

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		catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.			SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.
E4-Wildlife and the Natural Environment	Protection of biodiversity Safeguard local landscape character	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	Not required. This policy ensures wildlife and natural environment is protected against inappropriate development. Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.
E5- Flooding and Water management	Strive to reduce impact of flooding within Ashperton. New development designed to appropriately reduce flood risk. Sustainable design promoted. Infrastructure development phased in line with infrastructure works within the plan period.	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	Not required. This policy ensures new development in Ashperton is safeguarded against flooding. Also that the infrastructure will have enough capacity for any planned development. Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.
RE1-Small scale Renewable Energy	Renewable energy schemes developed. Construction traffic.	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	Not required. This policy may result in varied renewable energy schemes. Depending on scale, nature and location of the development it may have a possibility of having a detrimental effect on the River Wye SAC. Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.

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RE2- Commercial Renewable Energy	<p>Community energy schemes promoted</p> <p>Renewable energy schemes developed.</p> <p>Construction traffic.</p>	<p>Depending on type, location of infrastructure.</p> <p>Physical damage of disturbance.</p> <p>Non-physical disturbance such as noise.</p>	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	<p>Not required. This policy may result in varied renewable energy schemes. Depending on scale, nature and location of the development it may have a possibility of having a detrimental effect on the River Wye SAC. This can be assessed further at planning application stage, when location and scale of the development is known.</p> <p>Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.</p>
ST1- Accommodati ng Traffic Within the Parish	<p>Promotion of safer roads.</p> <p>Improved sustainable modes of transport such as cycling, walking, and public transport links.</p> <p>Increase in walking and cycling.</p> <p>Decrease in traffic accidents.</p> <p>Development of transport infrastructure</p> <p>Traffic Calming measures</p> <p>Improvement of road safety</p>	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).	No	<p>Not required. This policy would only lead to some small scale sustainable transport links and predominately within areas outside of the hydrological catchment of the River Wye.</p> <p>Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.</p>
SB1- Supporting Local	Encourage development of small scale employment	The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood	River Wye (including the	No	Not required. The scale and extent of potential employment development is unlikely to have a significant impact on

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Business	<p>facilities.</p> <p>Promotion of business development</p> <p>Job creation in local area</p> <p>Small reduction in vehicular usage.</p>	<p>area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.</p>	<p>Lugg SAC).</p>		<p>the SAC.</p> <p>Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.</p>
SB2- Work Space Development	<p>Encourage development of small scale employment facilities.</p> <p>Promotion of business development</p> <p>Job creation in local area</p> <p>Small reduction in vehicular usage.</p>	<p>The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Not required. The scale and extent of potential employment development is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC.</p> <p>Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.</p>
SB3- Change of Use	<p>Supports change of use</p>	<p>The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the Lugg SAC).</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Not required. The scale and extent of potential change of use is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC.</p> <p>Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.</p>
SB4- Provision of Broadband	<p>Support and strengthen existing broadband and mobile</p>	<p>The River Wye does not flow through the parish but the neighbourhood</p>	<p>River Wye (including the</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Not required. This policy will also ensure communications infrastructure is strengthened for community use.</p>

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<p>and Mobile Telephone services</p>	<p>reception provision.</p> <p>Potential development of masts and electrical units.</p> <p>Strengthen Broadband infrastructure</p> <p>Reduction in car usage</p> <p>Potential for a small reduction in air pollution</p>	<p>area falls within the catchment area. Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.</p>	<p>Lugg SAC).</p>		<p>Faster broadband speeds and better mobile reception may provide work from home opportunities, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>Implementation of Core Strategy policy SD4, LD2, SD1 to grant planning permission will ensure water quality issues are addressed.</p>
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