

Environmental Report

Report for:

Holmer & Shelwick Neighbourhood Area

November 2019



Holmer and Shelwick NDP Environmental Report

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Non-technical summary

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

Holmer and Shelwick Parish Council has undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. Holmer and Shelwick parish is situated to the north of Hereford city adjacent to the city boundary. Primarily residential development exists within the parish, either as growth on the edge of Hereford or small hamlets. A railway line and the River Lugg are within the east of the parish and the proposed western relief road will pass through the area.

The submission Holmer and Shelwick NDP includes 7 objectives. It is intended that these objectives will be delivered by 10 criteria based planning policies; there are no site allocations but there are three designated settlement boundary.

The environmental appraisal of the Holmer and Shelwick 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 submission Plan itself.

The Holmer and Shelwick NDP has now been subject to an independent examination. Modifications were suggested to a small number of policies to aid clarity and implementation. A couple of policies have also been deleted from the plan. No further changes to the NDP are recommended as a result of the reassessment of the SEA. The NDP was concluded to be in general conformity with national planning policy and the strategic policies as set out within the adopted Herefordshire Core Strategy.

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening has been carried out on the NDP and has shown that a further HRA is not required.

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

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

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the final Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of Holmer and Shelwick Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 The Holmer and Shelwick NDP contains no site allocations but has three settlement boundary for the Holmer and the villages of Munstone and Shelwick. Policy RA2 of the Herefordshire Core Strategy indicated the growth requirements for the parish until 2031 and the housing policies of the NDP are seeking to achieve this. The NDP also provides general criteria based policies for guiding future development across the neighbourhood area 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 Holmer and Shelwick 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.

Holmer and Shelwick Neighbourhood Plan Context

- 1.6 Holmer and Shelwick is a parish two miles north of Hereford city centre. In 2001, Holmer and Shelwick had a population of 1427 people. The total number of households in 2001 was 523. The total population had decreased to 1386 in 2011 according to the 2011 census.
- 1.7 Policy HD4 of the Core Strategy makes provision for a strategic housing site within the parish. The strategic site is located broadly to the north of the A4103 and west of the A49 extending westwards to A4110 comprising predominately of agricultural land. This site has recently commenced.
- 1.8 There are 13 listed buildings and scheduled monuments in Holmer and Shelwick. 2 Local Wildlife Sites and 13 Sites of Importance in Nature Conservation, 3 mineral reserves. The River Lugg which is part of the River Wye SAC flows through the parish.
- 1.9 The vision for the Holmer and Shelwick is as follows:

‘By 2031 Holmer and Shelwick will have grown proportionally but will remain a rural parish. The diversity of the many separate communities will have a greater sense of one community with a strong sense of identity. Efforts will be made to establish a vibrant village centre for the parish. The smaller surrounding hamlets and the countryside will have been protected from over-development. We will have a mix of open market and affordable housing, of high quality, sustainable home satisfying all needs and age ranges. The nature and scale of housing development will be tempered so as maintained the rural appearance feel and identity of the parish and protect the open countryside. The plan aims to ensure the maintenance of the separate identity of the parish of Holmer and Shelwick from the Northern side of the City of Hereford. We will promote the retention of the single public house within the parish and look to identify a focal point for a village hall.’

- 1.10 The NDP objectives are as follows:

Objective 1 – to help to meet local housing needs up to 2031

Objective 2 – to conserve local heritage assets

Objective 3 – to conserve the landscape and natural environment

Objective 4 – to support appropriate growth in the local economy

Objective 5 – to protect and enhance existing community facilities and provide new community facilities

Objective 6 – to protect local green spaces

Objective 7 – to ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place

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 Holmer and Shelwick NDP must therefore conform to national planning policy set within the NPPF and strategic level local policy including the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 1.13 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) was adopted on the 16 October 2015.
- 1.14 Paragraph 46 of the NPPF and Planning Practice Guidance set out the weight that may be given to relevant policies in emerging plans, including NDPs, and indicated that weight may be given to relevant policies in emerging NDPs according to:
- The stage of preparation of the emerging plan (the more advanced the preparation, the greater the weight that may be given);
 - The extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies (the less significant the unresolved objections, the greater the weight that may be given); and
 - The degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the policies in this Framework (the closer the policies in the emerging plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).
- 1.15 This part of the NPPF is reinforced by Planning Practice Guidance published in March 2014, which is clear that an emerging NDP may be a material planning consideration once it has reached submission/local authorities publication stage (Regulation 16). This is reinforced by recent ministerial statements and case law (West Sussex), all of which have demonstrated that an emerging NDP may be a material consideration at the Regulation 16 stage.
- 1.16 Policy RA2 of the Herefordshire Core Strategy highlights that the villages of Shelwick and Munstone will accommodate a minimum of 18 new homes during the plan period.
- 1.17 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the Holmer and Shelwick NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the town, by setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined.

Structure of SEA

- 1.18 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 Holmer and Shelwick Neighbourhood Plan objectives and the SEA framework
- Section 4 - Appraises the objectives contained within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 5 - Appraises the options considered within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 6 – Appraises the policies contained within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 7 – Discusses the implementation and monitoring of the Neighbourhood Plan
- Section 8 - Concludes the SEA report by outlining next steps

2.0 Methodology

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

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

- *Task A1:* Identified and reviewed relevant policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives from European, National and Local sources.
- *Task A2:* Collected baseline information to provide a picture of past, present and likely future conditions within the area. This helped to establish indicators which will be used to monitor the effects and performance of the Holmer and Shelwick 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 Holmer and Shelwick SEA Scoping Report was available to four¹ statutory bodies for consultation from 13 September to 18 October 2017.

Consultation outcomes from Statutory Consultees

- 2.8 The consultation resulted in 2 responses, both of which are attached at Appendix 3.

- 2.9 Both responses were collated and incorporated within this document where relevant:

Natural England: consider that the methodology and baseline information used to inform the reports appears to meet the requirements of the SEA directive. Additional information could be added about BAP Priority Habitats.

Historic England: no substantive comments to make. The SEA Framework sections of the SEA are generally commendable in their approach of including reference to historic landscape and townscape quality. Particularly commend the treatment of ‘Heritage at Risk’

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 Holmer and Shelwick 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 Holmer and Shelwick NDP will deliver the Local Plan (Core Strategy) at local level by adding locally specific detail to strategic policies. As a consequence, the Scoping Report for the NDP was based on the context review Herefordshire Council undertook for its Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 3.4 The results of this assessment (context review) provide the source of the local baseline data and have been incorporated into the SEA framework. It should be noted that:
- No list of policies, plans and programmes can ever be exhaustive and that Herefordshire Council has selected those considered to be of particular relevance to the planning system;

- New or revised plans and policies can emerge during the SEA process

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

- *The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010)* - These regulations transpose the Habitats Directive in England, Wales and to a limited extent Scotland by ensuring that activities are carried out in accordance with the Habitats Directive, which is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna.
- *The EC Water Framework Directive (2000)* - Commits all EU member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water courses by 2015
- *The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)* - The major legal instrument for wildlife protection in Britain, although other significant acts have been passed since. It has numerous parts and supplementary lists and schedules many of which have been amended since publication.
- *Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)* - Forms part of the UK's Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework by setting out England's contribution towards the UK's commitments under the United Nations Convention on 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 (2014)* - 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 2014-2018 (2014)* - The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision for the area and the priorities for its management.
- *Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016* - Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to support business growth up to 2016.
- *Herefordshire Employment Land Study (2012)* - Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.
- *Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (2009)* - The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:
 - Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development
 - Assessing sites for their housing potential; and
 - Predicting when a site could be developed for housing.
- *Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) (2013)* - Builds on an earlier Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) developed for Herefordshire and Shropshire. Its purpose is to inform the Local Plan's policies regarding housing need and demand (for market and affordable housing) within each of the 7 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031.
- *Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study (2012)* - Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.
- *Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report (2013)* - Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy
- *Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment (2013)* - Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2007)* - Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.
- *Building Biodiversity into the LDF (2009)* - Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010)* - Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.
- *Renewable Energy Study (2010)* - Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.

- *Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment (2012)* - Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.
- *Open Spaces Study (2006)* - The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snap shot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.
- *Play Facilities Study (2012)* - The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.
- *Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study (2009)* - The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development. The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.

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

SEA Objectives and baseline characteristics

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

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

- 3.8 The SEA objectives detailed above conform to the SEA Directive, and are derived from the Sustainability Appraisal undertaken for the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy 2011-2031.
- 3.9 Baseline information gathered during Stage A of the SEA process provided details of the current environmental characteristics of the neighbourhood area and the status of its natural assets and features (refer to Appendix 2). This information was analysed as part of Task B2 of SEA, which looked at the extent to which the emerging NDP policies will help or obstruct these characteristics.
- 3.10 Following the completion of Task B2 of SEA it was apparent that the largest environmental issue within the neighbourhood area is landscape and the historic nature of the settlement of Longtown in particular
- 3.11 Baseline characteristics within the SEA detail the current environmental status of environmental characteristics in the neighbourhood plan area from different sources. The source of Baseline Information used in Table A2 in Appendix 2, and analysed in Table B2 can be found in Appendix 4 Baseline characteristics in relation to the Holmer and Shelwick NDP SEA objectives can be found in stage A SEA assessments.
- 3.12 There are three objectives for which there is no local baseline data available and therefore this provides a limitation on the baseline data and whether the NDP policies are able to move towards or away from this data, this also means that there are no future trends to link the SEA objective too.

4.0 Assessing the NDP Objectives

- 4.1 The following are primary objectives listed in the NDP that aim to realise the vision for Holmer and Shelwick in 2031:

Objective 1 – to help to meet local housing needs up to 2031

Objective 2 – to conserve local heritage assets

Objective 3 – to conserve the landscape and natural environment

Objective 4 – to support appropriate growth in the local economy

Objective 5 – to protect and enhance existing community facilities and provide new community facilities

Objective 6 – to protect local green spaces

Objective 7 – to ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place

- 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 the NDP objectives which have a relationship with the SEA framework are positively compatible with it or have a neutral or unknown effect or were not relevant.
- 4.4 Task B1 of the SEA didn't identify any major conflicts between the NDP objectives and the SEA framework, however some impacts are unknown due to the overarching nature of the policy and will have to be addressed on a case by case basis at planning stages:

Key:	
+	Compatible

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

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

5.0 Assessing the NDP Options

- 5.1 All options that were considered by Holmer and Shelwick Council during the development of their Plan have been assessed as part of the SEA, the summary matrix of the assessment can be found in Table B2 options these tables are in Appendix 4.
- 5.2 The options covered were are followed;
- Option 1 Do nothing
 - Option 2 To allocate sites for the villages with no settlement boundary for the village or Hereford
 - Option 3 To allocate sites and have a settlement boundary for the villages and Hereford
 - Option 4 To have no allocations and a criteria based policy for the villages to manage housing development
 - Option 5 To have a settlement boundary for the villages and Hereford
- 5.3 These options were formulated at public consultation events across the Parish. The results of which will feed into the identification of the preferred options and ultimately the draft policies.
- 5.4 Option 1 is essential a do nothing and not allocate any housing within the NDP. This was not seen as a variable alternative by the community who wished to take an active part in producing further planning policy.
- 5.5 The option of designating settlement boundary would also have seen a positive effect on the baseline. The designation of a settlement boundary would 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 will be adjudged by criteria based policy.
- 5.6 The option not to have a settlement boundary and rely on development management criteria policies was also assessed. Criteria based policy does not give the same level of certainty as the other options, as it will be more reactionary than proactive in terms of growth proposals. However, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline, provided that criteria are added to the policies to safeguard or mitigate against any harm

- 5.7 The other two options were seeking to allocate sites within the area to meet the proportional growth requirements. However as the proportional growth requirement for the RA2 settlements within the parish have been met, this option was not selected, instead opting for criteria based settlement boundary option.
- 5.8 No sites were submitted or considered during the drafting of the plan as the proportional growth for the RA2 settlements has been achieved through windfall development within the early part of the plan period.

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	++	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+				++
Option 4	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Option 5	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+

6.0 Appraisal of the policies

- 6.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Holmer and Shelwick NDP is developing a range of options and testing these, so that a preferred way forward can be selected.
- 6.2 The following, emerging set of draft policies can be appraised for the purposes of Stage B of the SEA:

HS1	New Housing Development in Munstone and Shelwick
HS2	New Housing Development in Holmer
HS3	Protecting Local Heritage assets
HS4	Landscape and natural environment
HS5	No policy
HS6	Community facilities
HS7	Protecting Local Green Spaces
HS8	Traffic and access
HS9	Hereford Western Relief Road
HS10	Community Infrastructure Levy and Planning Obligations

Stage B of SEA

- 6.3 In the context of Task B1 of SEA, the previous section of this report identified that three of the NDP objectives are compatible with the SEA framework, while others needed further information such as location of development. Additional policy safeguards within the NDP and Local Plan (Core Strategy) would help mitigate any possible conflicts.
- 6.4 With regard to Task B2 of SEA, the NDP policies were measured against both the SEA framework and the baseline characteristics identified during Stage A of the process; here, there was no baseline data available in respect of SEA Objectives 3 and 9. Full details of this appraisal are attached at Appendix 4.
- 6.5 The policies largely score as positive against the SEA objectives and will not have an adverse impact on the baseline characteristics or immediate environmental impacts. This is because they are criteria based policies which only consider schemes on their own merits, as and when planning applications are submitted to the local planning authority.

- 6.6 There are some unknown factors with regards to the location of employment provisions particularly as the location of specific development could have specific effects but these will be mitigated by other policies within the plan and judged at planning application stage.

NDP Policies	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
HS1 Housing in Munstone and Shelwick	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+				+
HS2 New housing in Holmer	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
HS3 Design	+	++	++	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
HS3 Protecting Local Heritage	+	++	++	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				+
HS4 Landscape and Natural Environment	++	++	++	++	+	X	+	+	X	+	+	++				++
HS5 No policy																
HS6 Community Facilities	?	+	+	?	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	+				+
HS7 Protecting Local Green Space	++	++	++	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	X	++				++
HS8 Traffic and Access	?	+	+	?	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
HS9 Hereford Western Relief Road	++	++	++	+	?	+	+	+	+	X	+	+				+
HS10 CIL and S106																

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

- 6.8 Task B4 of SEA brings together the results of earlier tasks and 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 Holmer and Shelwick NDP are by and large in general conformity with the Local Plan (Core Strategy), which means that the cumulative effect of the plan will contribute to the achievement of the SEA objectives.

- 6.9 The policies in the Holmer and Shelwick NDP are not 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.

Stage D of the SEA (Reg16)

- 6.10 The submission Holmer and Shelwick NDP has been revised following the draft plan consultation. 4 policies have been amended and one added and one deleted. This has included clarity of wording rather than any fundamental changes in direction or stance.

- 6.11 The following policies have been amended;
- Policy HS1 – reference added to protection of surrounding activity
 - Policy HS2 – reference added regarding traffic noise
 - Policy HS3 – added reference to agricultural and commercial activity
 - Policy HS5 – reference only to areas within the parish
 - Policy HS6 – new policy regarding local businesses
 - Policy HS8 – deleted ‘Traffic and access’

- 6.12 These minor amendments have not specifically changed the outcomes of the SEA.

Stage D – Assessment of the modifications post examination (November 2019)

- 6.13 Following the draft consultation at regulation 14 and the submission consultation at regulation 16, the plan has now been subject to an independent examination during the autumn 2019 by Rosemary Kidd. She has reported that the NDP has met the Basic Conditions subject to a number of modifications to the policies. These can be seen in Appendix 9.

- 6.14 The policies which have been modified during the examination and subsequently reassessed are listed below (policy numbers reflect the examiner’s report):

- Policy New – Housing Supply
- Policy HS1 – Housing in Munstone and Shelwick
- Policy HS2 – Housing in Holmer
- Policy HS3 – Design
- Policy HS4 – Local heritage assets
- Policy HS5 – Landscape and Natural environment
- Policy HS6 – local business
- Policy HS8- Local green spaces

- 6.15 It has been concluded that the modification made will not have a significant adverse impact on the SEA objectives and therefore the conclusions of the SEA remain the same as the previous report.

7.0 Implementation and monitoring

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

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

- 7.3 Accordingly, Herefordshire Council will monitor outcomes from the NDP policies and the results of these will be reported in the Council's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).
- 7.4 The AMR runs from 1 April to 31 March each year and the topics covered therein include the following:
- Housing delivery;
 - Previously developed land
 - Housing completions
 - Affordable housing conditions
 - Employment land delivery.

8.0 Next steps

- 8.1 This report will be accompany the post examination version of the Holmer and Shelwick NDP. The plan will move to referendum and subject to a successful outcome final adoption in February 2020.

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:	Holmer & Shelwick Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Holmer & Shelwick Parish Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	23 February 2017

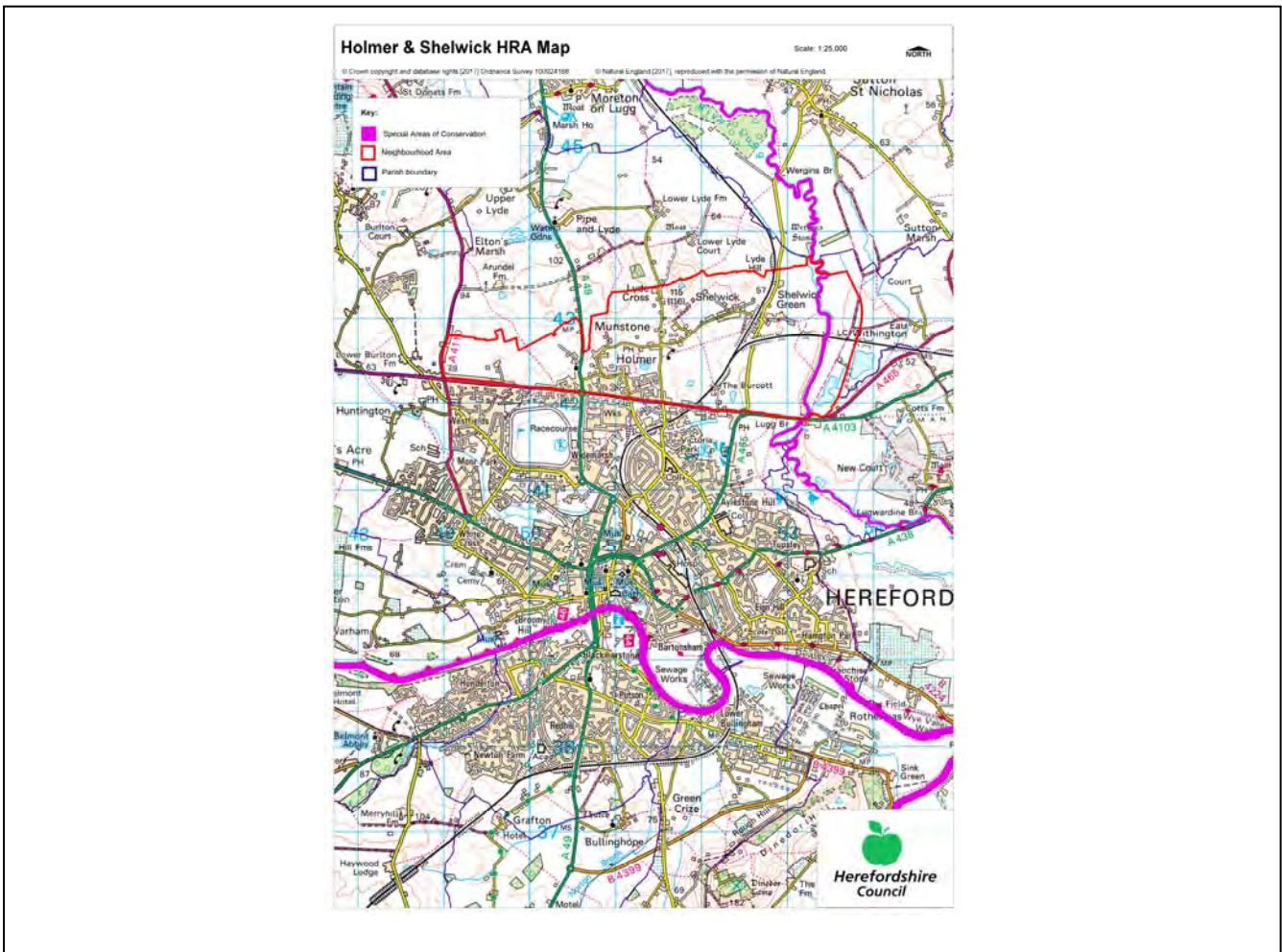
Introduction

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?	Y	The River Lugg flows through 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 catchments of both the River Wye and River Lugg
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	There is mains drainage at Hereford

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 30km away from parish
---	---	--

River Clun SAC:

Does the River Clun border the Neighbourhood Area	N	The 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	The Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites are 24km away from the parish
--	---	---

Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	The Wye Valley Woodlands are 25km away from the parish
--	---	--

HRA Conclusion:

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

European Site

(List only those which are relevant)

River Wye (including the River Lugg) Special Area of Conservation (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 Holmer & Shelwick 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	0	-	0	-
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	0	-	0	-
Conservation Areas	0	-	1	Aylestone Hill.
Flood Areas	Flood Zones 2 and 3 follow the River Lugg, and also a stream running to the west of Holmer settlement.			
Geoparks	0	-	0	-
Listed Buildings	There are numerous listed buildings within the parish.			
Local Geological Sites (LGS)	0	-	1	Upper Lyde Quarry.
Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)	2	Old Canal at Burcott; River Lugg.	3	Lugg Meadows; Fields south of Sutton Rhea; Pond at Huntington Court.
Mineral Reserves	3	Area around Wellington constrained by 200m zone and area north of Wellington outside 200m zone; Cot Barn; West and south of Portway, east of Burghill down Canon Pyon Road.	3	Lugg Bridge Farm on Roman Road to Upper Lodge; South east of Sutton St Nicholas; South of Roman Road to A438 and area between Wye and A438.
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	0	-	0	-
Nature Trails	0	-	0	-
Registered Parks and Gardens	0	-	0	-

Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)	2	Churchyard cross in St Bartholemews churchyard; Lugg Bridge.	0	-		
Sites of Importance in Nature Conservation (SINC)	0	-	13	Ayles Brook north; Ballinger Court Dew Pond; Site at Inco Alloys; Land west of Staniers Way; Active railway north of Wye; Orchard below Southview; Lugg Rhea; Yazor Brook; Orchard at Huntington; Pond at Huntington Court; Hereford and Gloucester Canal pond Hereford and Gloucester Canal overgrown; Disused railway.		
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	1	River Lugg.	0	-		
Unregistered parks and gardens	0	-	3	New Court, Lugwardine; Huntington Court, Hereford; Burghill Hospital.		
			SSSI Status			
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	1	River Lugg.	Unfavourable recovering.	1	Lugg and Hampton Meadows.	Favourable

Decision Notification:

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Holmer & Shelwick Neighbourhood Area:

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

Assessment date: 7 February 2017

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. 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

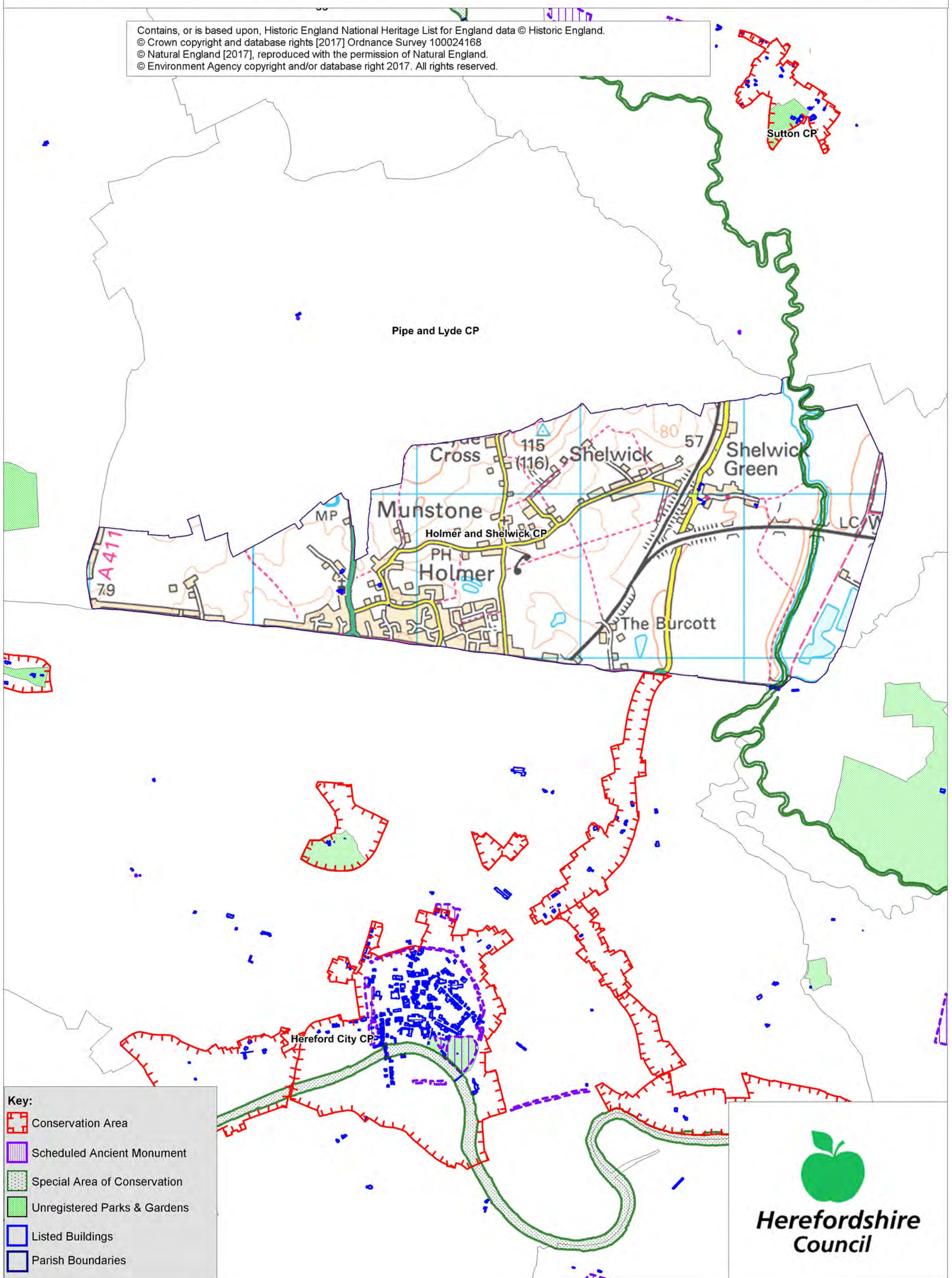
Vulnerability data: Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues. NDPs closest to the European Site will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

Holmer & Shelwick SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:20,000



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Key:

- Conservation Area
- Scheduled Ancient Monument
- Special Area of Conservation
- Unregistered Parks & Gardens
- Listed Buildings
- Parish Boundaries

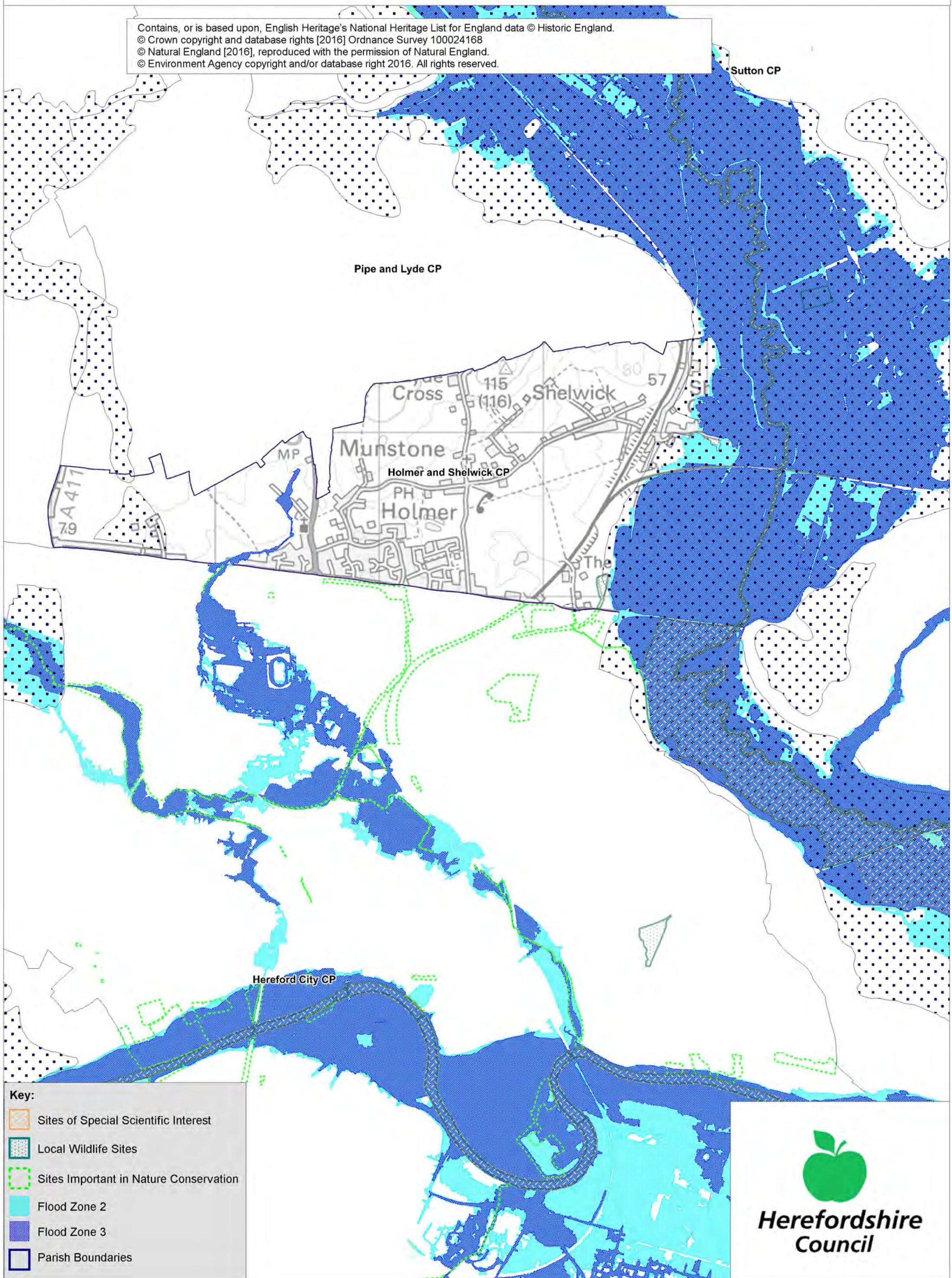
Herefordshire Council

Holmer & Shelwick SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:30,000



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Key:

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Local Wildlife Sites
- Sites Important in Nature Conservation
- Flood Zone 2
- Flood Zone 3
- Parish Boundaries



Appendix 2

Strategic Environmental Assessment

Scoping Report for:

Holmer & Shelwick Neighbourhood Area

August 2017



Consultation on the Scoping Report

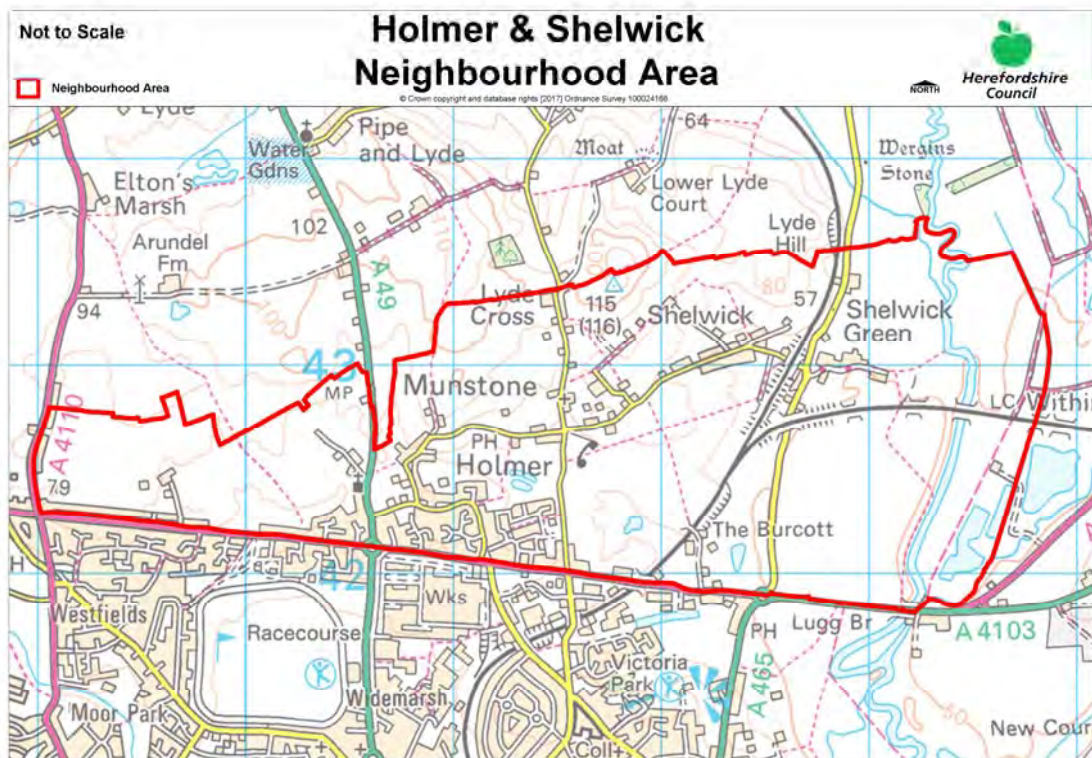
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

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

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

The three consultation bodies are as follows:

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



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

Parish Council Name: Holmer and Shelwick

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Holmer and Shelwick Neighbourhood Development Plan

Date completed: March 2017

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

¹ Derived from the LDF General Scoping Report (June 2007)

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

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

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	
Herefordshire Core Strategy, (adopted) 2011-2031	Development Plan Document (DPD)	2015	Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.	<p>Outlines the emerging suite of countywide planning policies relating to housing, economic development and the environment, which the NDP will need to be in conformity with where relevant.</p> <p>The Core Strategy includes a range of objectives, five of which directly relate to rural areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community • To improve access to services in rural areas • To strengthen the economic viability of the villages and their rural hinterlands • To achieve sustainable communities and protect the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	<p>The NDP should take account of relevant policies set within in the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Where necessary, the NDP should provide services, facilities and employment opportunities that are accessible to both local and neighbouring communities.</p> <p>Holmer and Shelwick Parish has two named areas for proportional growth as listed in the Core Strategy under the Hereford HMA are: Shelwick – Figure 4.15 Munstone – Figure 4.15</p> <p>Holmer is considered as an urban extension of Hereford City.</p> <p>The NDP should take into</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve, promote, utilise and enjoy our natural, built, historic and cultural assets for the fullest benefit of the whole community. <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>Holmer and Shelwick is within the Hereford Housing Market Area (HMA). The target for proportionate growth across identified areas is 18%.</p>		<p>consideration the criteria set within Policy RA1 and RA2.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 2016-2031	Corporate	2016	The Local Transport Plan outlines the significant role that transport will play to enable the delivery of the Core Strategy proposals. This sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period 2016 to 2031.	<p>The Transport Plan aims to increase highway capacity for new development sites as improve efficiency of existing transport network.</p> <p>The document includes five key objectives, one which plans to enable economic growth connecting new roads with developments. Intrinsic to this is to provide a good quality transport network. The other objectives aim to promote healthy lifestyles with pollution reduction and active travel schemes. Improvements will be made to make journeys easier and safer, ensuring access to services for living in rural areas maximising accessibility.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Climate factors • Population and human health 	The LTP highlights Holmer West as an area for development of which better road links, primarily the construction of the Western Relief Road by and after 2027. There are also proposed improvements to the cycle network in Holmer to 2018.

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

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	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"> • Sustaining business survival and growth • Increasing wage levels, range and quality of jobs • Having a skilled population to meet future work needs • Developing the county's built infrastructure so enterprise can flourish. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Material assets • Population and human health 	None of merit

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Employment Land Study	Evidence	2012	Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.	<p>This study covers existing employment sites in Hereford, the five market towns and their rural hinterlands.</p> <p>There are no direct additional employment land allocations at present in Holmer and Shelwick, 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"> Material assets Population and human health 	<p>It would be worth noting that 5 hectares of land at Holmer East was identified as proposed employment provision in the Employment Land Study 2012, however in the revised preferred options it was removed.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Evidence	2015	<p>The HELAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<p>In terms of Holmer and Shelwick the SCHLAA allocates a number of sites in the area allocated as the urban extension. These are outlined in the Hereford Housing and Economic Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) September 2015</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Biodiversity Climate factors Cultural heritage and the landscape Flora and fauna Population and human health Soil Water 	<p>The SHLAA assesses the potential availability of land for housing in the wider HMA.</p> <p>The Holmer and Shelwick NDP should be informed by the findings of the SHLAA.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	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>The LHMA uses 7 HMAs as the geography for presenting data.</p> <p>The LHMA uses 7 HMAs as the geography for presenting data. Holmer and Shelwick falls within the Hereford HMA. Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 58% of households are unable to afford market housing. • There is an annual requirement for 417 affordable dwellings between 2012 and 2017. • Higher proportion of the HMA population is of working age (62%) compared to the county average of (61%). • The proportion of the population above retirement age is slightly below average (19% compared to 22% across Herefordshire) • The study identifies that, in rural parts of the Hereford HMA, there is a need for: <p>1215 market houses 654 affordable houses</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Population • Soil • Water 	<p>The LHMA provides an indication of housing needs and affordability within the Hereford HMA.</p> <p>It provides evidence that could be used to inform policies or market and affordable housing requirements in the NDP.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study 2012 (updated in 2014)	Evidence	2014	Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.	<p>The delivery of 5,300 homes in the rural areas would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support growth in the rural population by 6% • Increase the number of households by 14.5% <p>Forecasts also predict that growth in the population of the rural areas is likely to be primarily through an increase in those aged over 75.</p> <p>Moderate growth is expected in the 30-44 and 60-74 age brackets.</p> <p>The Local Housing Requirements Study therefore anticipates continuing improvements in life expectancy; significant growth is expected of those in their 80s, with the existing population in their 40s and 50s moving into retirement.</p> <p>As a consequence, the rural areas will face an increasing urgency to provide more 3 bedroom homes, with more 1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	<p>This study provides an indication of housing requirements in the rural areas and the Hereford HMA.</p> <p>This evidence can be used to inform the content of the Holmer and Shelwick Parish, which could include policies to facilitate the provision of the right types of homes in the right places.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				and 2 bed homes required in the affordable sector.		
Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report	Evidence	2013	Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy	Holmer and Shelwick is expected to provide proportional growth of 18% within the Hereford HMA. Shelwick and Munstone are identified as 4.15 settlements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The Holmer and Shelwick NDP will need to be in conformity with the provisions of Core Strategy Policy RA1 and RA2.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment	Evidence	2016	Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.	<p>Key findings from the survey of Gypsy and Traveller households in 2012 found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 31% of households surveyed have some sort of accommodation need • Of the 17 households with an accommodation need, 7 had a requirement for at least one additional pitch • 10 households had a requirement for bricks and mortar housing • There is an additional requirement for 7 pitches and 9 units of Registered Social Landlord accommodation within Herefordshire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The Holmer and Shelwick 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"> • Biodiversity 	The NDP can help to achieve the LBAP priorities.

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	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"> • Electrical: 731 GWh/yr • Heat: 1,810 GWh/yr • Total: 2,541 GWh/yr <p>There is scope for all types of renewable energy production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Holmer and Shelwick NDP .

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment	Evidence	2012	Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.	<p>The study updates components of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework 2010 such as updating population forecasts, setting local standards for synthetic turf pitches and grass playing fields within Herefordshire. It identifies any current gaps in provision, and looks forward to 2031 to assess what facilities are likely to be required by that date.</p> <p>The study reveals that Holmer and Shelwick has a total of 3.28ha of community/non community use pitches. 2.31ha of area is secured and open for community use (PP161 – Holmer Sports Ground)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	<p>The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Holmer and Shelwick NDP.</p> <p>Additional local evidence may be required to identify if there is a need for any secured playing pitch facilities within the Group Parish.</p>
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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Open Spaces Study	Evidence	2006	The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snap shot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.	<p>The study reveals that within the Hereford HMA area, to which Holmer and Shelwick would fall under Hereford North:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive under provision of natural and semi natural greenspace and outdoor sport • Extensive over provision of parks and gardens • Average provision for children and young people • Over provision of amenity greenspace 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	The open space audit and assessment of does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in Holmer and Shelwick .

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Play Facilities Study	Evidence	2012	The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.	Holmer and Shelwick is within the Burghill Ward and had a population over 1000 (1518 2001 Census) which requires Local Neighbourhood. With new playground completed in 2011.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Holmer and Shelwick NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study 2009	Evidence	2009	<p>The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development.</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.</p>	<p>Holmer and Shelwick lies within the hydrological catchment of the River Wye SAC and sits in the hydrological catchment of the River Lugg, in the Lower Lugg sub-catchment.</p> <p>The SFRA study states that: It has a 30-35% standard run percentage run off by sub catchment. Potentially moderately unsuitable for infiltration source control</p> <p>UH Tp > 11 hours = Very slow response catchment.</p> <p>The River Lugg is currently designated as 'Poor' in its ecological status, and it has been established that there will be significant housing pressure particularly around Leominster that is likely to exacerbate this problem. The River Wye from the Lugg confluence (part of the SAC) is designated as a eutrophic sensitive waterbody, and hence mitigation measures will be required in conjunction with improved farming practice to provide mitigation measures.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Material assets • Population and human health • Water 	<p>New development proposed through the Holmer and Shelwick NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure. Where appropriate mitigation measures should be established within the NDP.</p> <p>Up-to-date flood risk information should be gathered from the Environment Agency, in order to ensure that any flood risks are considered when preparing the Holmer and Shelwick NDP.</p>

Appendix A2 – Baseline information for **Holmer and Shelwick**

*N.B. This is based on countywide baseline information with some additions relevant to **Holmer and Shelwick** (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 ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</i>							
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	<p>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is one SSSI (The River Lugg) Unfavourable Recovering • There is one bordering SSSI (Lugg and Hampton Meadows) Favourable 	<p>2006: 22% 2007: 22% 2008: 22% 2010: 24 %</p> <p>Proportion of SSSI land that was in unfavourable condition but recovering increased between 2010 and 2012 going from 41% to 65%.</p> <p>Proportion in unfavourable and declining condition had also decreased from 4% to 1%.</p>	<p>% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)</p>	<p>Herefordshire's SSSIs are in extremely poor condition relative to England as whole, where 96.1% of all SSSI land was in favourable condition in April 2014.</p> <p>The proportion of SSSI in unfavourable condition but recovering is greater than England as a whole, where the figure currently stands at 58.6%.</p>	<p>Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment</p> <p>NE & DEFRA Website</p>

¹ Derived from the Pre Submission Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Assessment (May 2014)

SA Objective ¹	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, this indicator would apply to this Neighbourhood Area, as the parish falls inside the hydrological catchment area for the River Wye and River Lugg SAC.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Nutrient Management Plan

SA Objective ¹	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.	The 2013 - 2014 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire. There are no formal records of any unacceptable adverse impacts on habitats or protected species. Originally 156 Priority Species were identified for inclusion in Herefordshire's LBAP. Similarly Herefordshire's LBAP covered 23 habitats with Action Plans.	To protect and where possible enhance the habitats of protected species identified. No net losses.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2013/14)

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SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.	<p>Holmer and Shelwick has:</p> <p>SSSI: 1 (The River Lugg) (Bordering SSSI's: 1)</p> <p>(Lugg and Hampton Meadows)</p> <p>LWS: 2 Old Canal at Burcott, River Lugg</p> <p>(Bordering LWS:3) Lugg Meadows, Fields south of Sutton Rhea, Pond at Huntington Court</p> <p>There is 1 SACs – River Lugg</p> <p>There are no NNRs, SINCs and LNRs within the parish.</p>	As of 2012, there had been no change in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of the planning permissions granted.	To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	<p>Herefordshire Council Initial Screening Report for the Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>Holmer and Shelwick 23 February 2017</p>

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

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
			of the register. There are 82 shown on HER database.				
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	<p>Historic Landscape Character assessments have only been undertaken for Hereford City.</p> <p>Rapid townscape Assessments (2010) were only undertaken for Hereford, Ledbury and Ross.</p> <p><i>Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis (2010) only considers sites on the urban fringe of Hereford and the five market towns.</i></p>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	<p>Historic Landscape Character Assessment for Hereford.</p> <p>Rapid townscape Assessments (2010)</p> <p><i>Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis (2010)</i></p>
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Population, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</i>							

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

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

SA Objective ¹	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 ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate	Total CO2 emissions per capita	<p>Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO²)</p> <p>Domestic emissions accounted for 35 per cent (438,237 tonnes) of Herefordshire's carbon footprint.</p> <p>There is no locally specific data available at present.</p>	<p>Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This trend hides an increase in emissions between 2009 and 2010 when total emissions in the county increased by 5% the same as across the UK (+5%).</p>	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.	CO ² emissions produced are decreasing.	<p>Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).</p> <p>Understanding Herefordshire: Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (July 2015).</p>

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

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

SA Objective ¹	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 ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (Historic England).	<p>Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR. However, this data would be too large to incorporate into this template.</p> <p>There are numerous listed buildings within the parish group.</p> <p>There are two SAM's within Holmer and Shelwick, these are: Churchyard cross in St Bartholemews churchyard; Lugg Bridge.</p> <p>There are no listed buildings on the HE Heritage at Risk Register.</p>	There were 71 heritage assets in Herefordshire that were considered to be at high risk and included in the Heritage at Risk Register January 2017.	<p>To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p> <p>Promote opportunities to improve condition</p> <p>Promote opportunities to achieve the removal of heritage assets from the at risk register.</p>	None of merit	Buildings at Risk Register (Historic England); (search March 2017)

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning aspects of local loss of heritage assets, locally important buildings within the parish and particularly within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets locally important buildings within Holmer and Shelwick.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings. The parish is not within a conservation area.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched March 2017)

Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from Holmer and Shelwick baseline

These environmental issues are the same as most of those identified for the Herefordshire Core Strategy¹

SEA Topic		Environmental issue	SA objectives
1	Air	High reliance upon the private car causing high levels of air pollution and in Hereford in particular	Objective 16
		Need to reduce carbon emissions by encouraging alternative modes of travel.	
2	Biodiversity	Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from the adaptation and diversification of farming and forestry employment.	Objectives 13 & 15
		Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from development	
		Minimise loss of biodiversity and expand opportunities for wildlife everywhere.	
3	Climatic factors	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through planning, design and build.	Objective 16
4	Cultural heritage	There are numerous listed buildings and scheduled monuments in Holmer and Shelwick according to the latest version of the register, 83 in total. All of which require ongoing protection and many in need of high levels of maintenance. There are two Scheduled Ancient Monuments in Holmer and Shelwick; Churchyard cross in St Bartholemews churchyard and Lugg Bridge.	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

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

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

Appendix A4: SEA Framework

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

Parish Council Name: Holmer and Shelwick

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Holmer and Shelwick Neighbourhood Plan

Date completed: March 2017

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
Nature Conservation (Biodiversity, flora and fauna)	Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity. Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance. Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species. Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces. Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value. Create new appropriate habitats. Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic 	<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.</p> <p>No net losses</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			<p>landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management • Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. • Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users. 		
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"> • Protect and enhance the landscape everywhere and particularly in designated areas • Value and protect diversity and local distinctiveness • Improve landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside • Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space 	<p>Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.</p> <p>Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.</p> <p>Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.</p> <p>Area resulting in a loss of open space as a result of planning</p>	<p>To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified</p>

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

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="936 264 1256 384">• Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.		

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

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

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

Appendix 3



Historic England

WEST MIDLANDS OFFICE

Mr James Latham
6887

Direct Dial: 0121 625

Herefordshire Council

Neighbourhood Planning & Strategic Planning
PL00175434

Our ref:

Planning Services, PO Box 230, Blueschool House

Blueschool Street

Hereford

HR1 2ZB
2017

16 October

Dear Mr Latham

CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR BROCKHAMPTON WITH MUCH FAWLEY; CLIFFORD; ST. WEONARDS AND HOLMER AND SHELWICK NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

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

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

However, we would point out an apparent inconsistency in SA Objective 20 for Brockhampton with Fawley that states under "Current status" that there are no BAR but lists under "Current issues" the II* Listed Brockhampton Chapel that is "At Risk".



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Historic England

WEST MIDLANDS OFFICE

Appendix A3 section 3 also notes one Scheduled Monument as being "At Risk".

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Boland
Historic Places Advisor
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cc:



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Historic England is subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 2000 (FOIA) and Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR). All information held by the organisation will be accessible in response to an information request, unless one of the exemptions in the FOIA or EIR applies.

Date: 18 October 2017
Our ref: 225956
Your ref: Holmer and Shelwick SEA Scoping Report



James Latham
Herefordshire Council

Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
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CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Latham,

Planning consultation: Holmer and Shelwick – SEA Scoping & HRA Screening Report

Thank you for your consultation which was received by Natural England on 13 September 2017.

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 generally welcomes the scoping report for the Holmer and Shelwick SEA Scoping report and considers that the methodology and baseline information used to inform the report appears to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive (2001/42/EC) and associated guidance.

Policies, Plans and Programmes

We are satisfied that the national and local plans and strategies identified within the report are relevant to the neighbourhood plan.

Baseline Information

- Natural England note that no reference is made BAP Priority Habitats within the Plan area.
- The Priority Habitat Inventory provides information of known parcels of Priority Habitats and should be included in the baseline data.

Identification of issues

- SA Objective 13, Natural Environment, provides no baseline information, this could include BAP Habitat Inventory, please see attached annex 1 below and attached Evidence Advice document for additional evidence sources that could be included.
- SA Objective 13 also recommends target of “no net losses” in biodiversity, however Natural England recommend that a commitment to net gains would be appropriate. (see NPPF for [reference](#)).

Sustainability Framework

Natural England generally supports the sustainability objectives contained within the framework as they satisfactorily cover our interests in the natural environment.

We refer you to the attached annex which covers the issues and opportunities relevant to neighbourhood plans which may be helpful to you.



HRA Screening

Natural England concur with the conclusion of the HRA initial screening report.

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 Caolan Gaffney on 02080 266680. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to 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

Caolan Gaffney
Planning Adviser
Sustainable Development

Annex 1 - Neighbourhood planning and the natural environment: information, issues and opportunities

Natural environment information sources

The [Magic](http://magic.defra.gov.uk/)¹ website will provide you with much of the nationally held natural environment data for your plan area. The most relevant layers for you to consider are: **Agricultural Land Classification, Ancient Woodland, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Local Nature Reserves, National Parks (England), National Trails, Priority Habitat Inventory, public rights of way (on the Ordnance Survey base map) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (including their impact risk zones)**. Local environmental record centres may hold a range of additional information on the natural environment. A list of local record centres is available [here](#)².

Priority habitats are those habitats of particular importance for nature conservation, and the list of them can be found [here](#)³. Most of these will be mapped either as **Sites of Special Scientific Interest**, on the Magic website or as **Local Wildlife Sites**. Your local planning authority should be able to supply you with the locations of Local Wildlife Sites.

National Character Areas (NCAs) divide England into 159 distinct natural areas. Each character area is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity. NCA profiles contain descriptions of the area and statements of environmental opportunity, which may be useful to inform proposals in your plan. NCA information can be found [here](#)⁴.

There may also be a local **landscape character assessment** covering your area. This is a tool to help understand the character and local distinctiveness of the landscape and identify the features that give it a sense of place. It can help to inform, plan and manage change in the area. Your local planning authority should be able to help you access these if you can't find them online.

If your neighbourhood planning area is within or adjacent to a **National Park** or **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty** (AONB), the relevant National Park/AONB Management Plan for the area will set out useful information about the protected landscape. You can access the plans on from the relevant National Park Authority or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty website.

General mapped information on **soil types** and **Agricultural Land Classification** is available (under 'landscape') on the [Magic](http://magic.defra.gov.uk/)⁵ website and also from the [LandIS website](http://www.landis.org.uk/index.cfm)⁶, which contains more information about obtaining soil data.

Natural environment issues to consider

The [National Planning Policy Framework](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2)⁷ sets out national planning policy on protecting and enhancing the natural environment. [Planning Practice Guidance](http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/natural-environment/)⁸ sets out supporting guidance.

Your local planning authority should be able to provide you with further advice on the potential impacts of your plan or order on the natural environment and the need for any environmental assessments.

¹ <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

² <http://www.nbn-nfbr.org.uk/nfbr.php>

³ <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140711133551/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making>

⁵ <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

⁶ <http://www.landis.org.uk/index.cfm>

⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

⁸ <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/natural-environment/>

Landscape

Your plans or orders may present opportunities to protect and enhance locally valued landscapes. You may want to consider identifying distinctive local landscape features or characteristics such as ponds, woodland or dry stone walls and think about how any new development proposals can respect and enhance local landscape character and distinctiveness.

If you are proposing development within or close to a protected landscape (National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) or other sensitive location, we recommend that you carry out a landscape assessment of the proposal. Landscape assessments can help you to choose the most appropriate sites for development and help to avoid or minimise impacts of development on the landscape through careful siting, design and landscaping.

Wildlife habitats

Some proposals can have adverse impacts on designated wildlife sites or other priority habitats (listed [here](#)⁹), such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest or [Ancient woodland](#)¹⁰. If there are likely to be any adverse impacts you'll need to think about how such impacts can be avoided, mitigated or, as a last resort, compensated for.

Priority and protected species

You'll also want to consider whether any proposals might affect priority species (listed [here](#)¹¹) or protected species. To help you do this, Natural England has produced advice [here](#)¹² to help understand the impact of particular developments on protected species.

Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land

Soil is a finite resource that fulfils many important functions and services for society. It is a growing medium for food, timber and other crops, a store for carbon and water, a reservoir of biodiversity and a buffer against pollution. If you are proposing development, you should seek to use areas of poorer quality agricultural land in preference to that of a higher quality in line with National Planning Policy Framework para 112. For more information, see our publication [Agricultural Land Classification: protecting the best and most versatile agricultural land](#)¹³.

Improving your natural environment

Your plan or order can offer exciting opportunities to enhance your local environment. If you are setting out policies on new development or proposing sites for development, you may wish to consider identifying what environmental features you want to be retained or enhanced or new features you would like to see created as part of any new development. Examples might include:

- Providing a new footpath through the new development to link into existing rights of way.
- Restoring a neglected hedgerow.
- Creating a new pond as an attractive feature on the site.
- Planting trees characteristic to the local area to make a positive contribution to the local landscape.
- Using native plants in landscaping schemes for better nectar and seed sources for bees and birds.
- Incorporating swift boxes or bat boxes into the design of new buildings.
- Think about how lighting can be best managed to encourage wildlife.
- Adding a green roof to new buildings.

⁹<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140711133551/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>

¹⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ancient-woodland-and-veteran-trees-protection-surveys-licences>

¹¹ <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140711133551/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>

¹² <https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals>

¹³ <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/35012>

You may also want to consider enhancing your local area in other ways, for example by:

- Setting out in your plan how you would like to implement elements of a wider Green Infrastructure Strategy (if one exists) in your community.
- Assessing needs for accessible greenspace and setting out proposals to address any deficiencies or enhance provision.
- Identifying green areas of particular importance for special protection through Local Green Space designation (see [Planning Practice Guidance on this](#) ¹⁴).
- Managing existing (and new) public spaces to be more wildlife friendly (e.g. by sowing wild flower strips in less used parts of parks, changing hedge cutting timings and frequency).
- Planting additional street trees.
- Identifying any improvements to the existing public right of way network, e.g. cutting back hedges, improving the surface, clearing litter or installing kissing gates) or extending the network to create missing links.
- Restoring neglected environmental features (e.g. coppicing a prominent hedge that is in poor condition, or clearing away an eyesore).

¹⁴ <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space/local-green-space-designation/>

Appendix 4

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)			
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:	
+ =/++	Compatible/ Very comp	S – Specific:	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	M – Measurable:	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	A – Attainable/achievable:	NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed
X =	No relationship between objectives	R – Realistic:	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	T – Time-Bound:	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 Holmer and Shelwick NDP Objectives in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives. These have been developed from Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.

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

NDP objectives	SEA Objectives																Conclusions	Recommendations	SMART Test of NDP objective	After SMART objectives
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
Objective 1 To help to meet local housing needs up to 2031	?	+	+	?	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+				+	This objective is compatible with the SEA objectives. It is seeking to ensure that the required growth for the parish can be accommodated in areas outside of those which would affect the baseline	None	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.	
Objective 2 To conserve local heritage assets	++	++	++	++	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives.	None	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.	
Objective 3 To conserve the landscape and natural environment	++	++	++	++	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives.	None	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. It is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) and it is attainable, achievable and realistic.	
Objective 4 To support appropriate growth in the local economy	?	+	+	?	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+				+	This objective is compatible with the SEA objectives.	None	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. It is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) and it is attainable, achievable and realistic.	
Objective 5 To protect and enhance existing community facilities and provide new community facilities	?	++	++	?	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	+				+	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. Protecting and improving local infrastructure and facilities will assist in maintaining the quality of the surrounding and the vitality of the area	None	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. It is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) and it is attainable, achievable and realistic	
Objective 6 To protect local green spaces	++	++	++	++	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+				+	This objective is compatible with the SEA objectives.	None	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. It is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) and it is attainable,	

																				achievable and realistic	
Objective 7 To ensure appropriate infrastructure is in place	?	+	++	?	+	x	x	x	x	+	+	+				+	This objective is compatible with the SEA objectives.	None		This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. It is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR) and it is attainable, achievable and realistic	

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:		
+ =/++	Compatible/very comp	S – Specific:	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	M – Measurable:	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	A – Attainable/achievable:	NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed	
X =	No relationship between objectives	R – Realistic:	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	T – Time-Bound:	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 Holmer and Shelwick Neighbourhood Plan options and alternatives 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.

NDP Options and alternatives	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy in terms of SEA
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA	NA	NA	16			
Option 1 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
Option 2 Allocation sites	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	++	+	++	+				++	The allocation of the dwellings sites would give certainty to the location of future growth. Additional criteria can be added to the policy criteria to ensure that the proposal has a positive effect on the baseline. The proportional growth within the rural villages has been met.	Any site would need to be assessed prior to allocation to ensure that it had a positive effect overall on the baseline.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Option 3 Sites and settlement boundary	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	++	+	++	+				++	The allocation of sites and the designation of settlement boundaries would give additional certainty to the location of growth.	Any site would be assessed prior to allocations to ensure that it had a positive effect on the overall baseline.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA

Option 4 Criteria based policy	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Criteria based policy does not give the same level of certainty as the other options as it will be more reactionary than proactive in terms of growth proposals. However, provided criteria is added to the policy to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline.	Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 5 To define a settlement boundary	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	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 will 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.

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy in terms of SEA
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Policy HS1 New housing development in Munstone and Shelwick	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to ensure that development is directed to those areas within or adjacent to the settlement boundaries. Criteria is included to protect the baseline.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS2 New housing development in Holmer	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to ensure that any further development of Holmer is retained within the designated settlement boundary. Other policies within the policy will ensure that the baseline is protected.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA

Policy HS3 Design	+	++	++	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to provide criteria to ensure that proposal are designed to take account of the surroundings. This will have a positive effect on much of the baseline.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS3 Protecting local heritage assests	+	++	++	++	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				+	This policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to protect heritage assets within the parish. This will have a positive effect on the surrounding and the cultural heritage of the area.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS4 Landscape and natural environment	++	++	++	++	+	x	+	+	x	+	+	++				++	This policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to protect a variety of landscape and natural features. This will have a positive effect on the surrounding and quality of the landscape.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS5 No policy																			The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS6 Community facilities	?	+	+	?	+	+	x	x	x	x	x	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeing to retain and provide community facilities. This will help to maintain the quality of the surrounding and reduce the need to travel to facilities outside of the area.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS7 Protecting Local green Spaces	++	++	++	+	+	x	++	++	+	+	x	++				++	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline.	The policy is seeking to protect a number of local green open spaces. These will help to maintain the surroundings of the area, conserve soils and the natural environment.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS8 Traffic and Access	?	+	+	?	+	+	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	The policy has a positive effect on a small number of policies in the baseline	The policy is seeking a number of traffic improvements which will have a positive benefit on the surroundings	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA

Policy HS9 Hereford western Relief Road	++	++	++	+	?	+	+	+	+	x	+	+				+	The policy has a number of positive benefits on the baseline	The policy is seeking to ensure that the development of the western relief road takes into account the natural environment and surrounding of the parish	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS10 Community infrastructure Levy and Planning Obligations																	This is not a land use policy	The policy is seeking to ensure the CIL and s106 monies are available and priorities are set.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA

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

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 numbering as reflected within the Draft NDP – January 2019

Policy HS1 – New housing development in Munstone and Shelwick

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that nature conservation issues are taken into account in any proposals	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that landscape and townscape issues are taken into account in any proposals	

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

To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that issues regarding the surroundings of the parish are taken into account in any proposals	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that historic and cultural issues are taken into account in any proposals	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy is seeking to direct development to the settlements highlighted within the Core Strategy thus reducing the need to travel	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy is seeking to direct development to the settlements highlighted within the Core Strategy thus reducing the need to travel	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	The policy refers to high quality sustainable design, this could include environmental measures to help reduce climate change.	
To reduce vulnerability	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Sustainable design will	

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

to climate change				assist in safeguarding against any vulnerability to climate change	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Water supply has been confirmed	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy, Settlement boundaries are avoiding areas of flooding	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Development is being targeted to the settlements highlighted within Policy RA2	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy	
Overall commentary and any cumulative	The policy has a positive impact on the baseline over the plan period.				

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

effects	
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Policy HS2 – New housing development in Holmer

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 target development to the settlement boundary for Holmer/Hereford and this will help to maintain areas of natural conservation outside of the settlement boundary	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To improve quality of	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within	

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

surroundings				Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer as this is on the edge of the city within will help to reduce the need to travel.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to located development in areas which are outside of the areas a flood risk	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to located development in areas which are outside of the areas a flood risk	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Assessment will ensure water quality	

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

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	Water supply has been confirmed to meet the Core Strategy growth	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to located development in areas which are outside of the areas a flood risk	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
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 target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

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

Policy HS3 - Design

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The policy contains criteria to safeguard the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy contains criteria to safeguard the quality of the landscape and surroundings	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	The policy contains criteria to safeguard the quality of the surroundings	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic	+	+	+	Although not specific, the criteria of the policy will help to conserve and enhance the historic environment	

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

environment and cultural heritage					
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The protection of many features will have a positive effect on the air quality of the area	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on contributing to climate change	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on contributing to climate change	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on water quality	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on contributing to water quality	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Although not specific, the criteria of the policy will help to reduce flooding by provide potential flood storage areas	
To conserve soil	+	+	+	The criteria will have a positive	

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

resources and quality				effect on conserving soil quality.	
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 conserve and enhance elements of the natural and manmade resources	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy will have a positive effect on the baseline				

Policy HS3 – Protecting Local Heritage Assets

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

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

	5 years)	(6 – 10 years)			
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets, which will have a positive effect on the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets which will have a positive effect on the quality of the landscape and townscape	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets which will have a positive effect on the quality of the surroundings	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets which will have a positive effect on the quality of the cultural environment	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	

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

To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
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 preserve the local historic environment	
Overall commentary	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

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

and any cumulative effects	
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Policy HS4 – Landscape and Natural Environment

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	

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

To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment, this will have a secondary effect on air quality	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment, this will have a secondary effect on water quality	

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

To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The protection of landscape and the natural environment will have a positive benefit on providing potential flooding areas	
To conserve soil resources and quality	++	++	++	The protection of landscape and the natural environment will have a positive benefit protecting soil resources	
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 protect the natural environment	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

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

Policy HS5 – no policy

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)					
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes					
To improve quality of surroundings					
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and					

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

cultural heritage					
To improve air quality					
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment					
To reduce contributions to climate change					
To reduce vulnerability to climate change					
To improve water quality					
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply					
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk					
To conserve soil resources and quality					
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					

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

To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources					
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects					

Policy HS6 – Community facilities

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

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

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	?	?	?	The protection of some community facilities will have a potential positive effect the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The protection of community facilities will have a positive effect on the townscape and provide a sense of place for local people	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The protection of community facilities will have a positive effect on the townscape and provide a sense of place for local people	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	?	?	?	The protection of some community facilities will have a potential positive effect the historic environment	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The provision of community facilities will help to reduce the needs to travel to facilities and have a secondary positive effect on air quality	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The provision of community facilities will help to reduce the needs to travel to facilities	

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

To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The retention of community facilities will assist the conserve soil resources elsewhere	
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 conserve community facilities locally	

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

Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy will have a positive effect on the baseline
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Policy HS7 – Protecting Local Green Spaces

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 protection of Local Green Space will help to enhance and conserve the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The protection of Local Green Space will help to enhance and conserve the landscape and townscape of the local area	

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

To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The protection of Local Green Spaces will help to enhance and protect local cultural heritage	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The protection of spaces will have an secondary positive effect on air quality	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	++	++	++	The protection of open space could provide potential flood storage areas	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	++	++	++	The protection of open space could provide potential flood storage areas	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	The protection of open space could provide a secondary positive effect on the water quality	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The protection of open space could provide a secondary positive effect on the water quality	

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

To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	++	++	++	The protection of Local Green Space will help to enhance and conserve the natural environment	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	The protection of Local Green Space will help to enhance and conserve the natural environment	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

Policy HS8 – Traffic and Access

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in	Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
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B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

	terms of the three time periods)				
	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 provision of passing bays and other traffic measure could have an effect on the highway verge and a secondary effect on the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	Improvements in traffic calming measures will have a positive effects on the townscape and landscape of the local area	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	Improvements in traffic calming measures will have a positive effects on the townscape and landscape of the local area	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	?	?	?	The provision of passing bays and other traffic measure could have an effect on the highway verge and a secondary effect on the historic environment	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Provision is increase for active travel and this could have a	

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

				secondary effect on improving air quality locally	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The policy is intended to improve traffic and access issues within the parish	
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	X	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	X	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and					

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

nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	x	x	x	No relationship	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Improvement in highways design and reduction in street lighting will have many positive benefits on the objectives				

Policy HS9 – Hereford Western Relief Road

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

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

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 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 and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve air quality	?	?	?	The details regarding air quality will be investigated as part of the HRA for the planning application for the road itself	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	

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

To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					

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

To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.				

Policy HS10 – Community Infrastructure Levy and Planning Obligations

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

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

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)					
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes					
To improve quality of surroundings					
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage					
To improve air quality					
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment					
To reduce contributions to climate change					
To reduce vulnerability to climate change					

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To improve water quality					
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply					
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk					
To conserve soil resources and quality					
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources					
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects					

Key:

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards marginally	-- Move away Significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	X No relationship
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SEA Objective / Policy	1. To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	2. To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	3. To improve quality of surroundings	4. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	5. To improve air quality	6. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	7. To reduce contributions to climate change	8. To reduce vulnerability to climate change	9. To improve water quality	10. To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	11. To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	12. To conserve soil resources and quality	13. To minimise the production	14. To improve health of the population	15. To reduce crime and nuisance	16. To conserve natural and manmade resources
Objective 1	?	+	+	?	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+				+
Objective 2	++	++	++	++	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Objective 3	++	++	++	++	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Objective 4	?	+	+	?	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+				+
Objective 5	?	++	++	?	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	+				+
Objective 6	++	++	++	++	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+				+
Objective 7	?	+	++	?	+	X	X	X	X	+	+	+				+
Numbering as reflected within the draft NDP January 2019																
HS1	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+				+
HS2	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
HS3	+	++	++	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
HS3	+	++	++	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				+
HS4	++	++	++	++	+	X	+	+	X	+	+	++				++
HS5																

HS6	?	+	+	?	+	+	x	x	x	x	x	+				+
HS7	++	++	++	+	+	x	++	++	+	+	x	++				++
HS8	?	+	+	?	+	+	x	x	x	x	x	x				x
HS9	++	++	++	+	?	+	+	+	+	x	+	+				+
HS10																
Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective	+	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...)	<i>Overall, the Holmer and Shelwick NDP policies positively address the majority of SEA objectives and if implemented correctly will cumulatively have a positive impact in the short and long term on environmental assets in the designated area.</i>															
Commentary for significant cumulative effects	<i>The plan overall is a positive answer to the objectives of the SEA.</i>															

Appendix 5

Options concerned by the parish council

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Option 1 | Do nothing |
| Option 2 | To allocate sites for the villages with no settlement boundary for the villages or Hereford |
| Option 3 | To allocate sites and have a settlement boundary for the villages and Hereford |
| Option 4 | To have no allocations and a criteria based policy for the villages to manage housing development |
| Option 5 | To have a settlement boundary for the villages and Hereford. |

Appendix 6

Consultation date: 28 January to 11 March 2019

Consultation title: Holmer and Shelwick Neighbourhood Plan Revised Regulation 14

*N.B. This consultation feedback is **only** for comments received on the SEA of the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan*

Consultee	Summary of Comments	Response to Comments
Natural England	Concur with the screening outcomes	
Heritage England	Comments received but nothing specific regarding the HRA	
Environment Agency	No comments received	
Natural Resources Wales	No comments received	

Appendix 7

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:		
+ =/++	Compatible/very comp	S – Specific:	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	M – Measurable:	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	A – Attainable/achievable:	NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed	
X =	No relationship between objectives	R – Realistic:	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	T – Time-Bound:	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 Holmer and Shelwick Neighbourhood Plan options and alternatives 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.

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy in terms of SEA
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Policy HS1 New housing development in Munstone and Shelwick	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy in seeking to ensure that development is directed to those areas within or adjacent to the settlement boundaries. Criteria is included to protect the baseline.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in term of the SEA
Policy HS2 New housing development in Holmer	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to ensure that any further development of Holmer is retained within the designated settlement boundary. Other policies within the policy will ensure that the baseline is protected.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS3 Design	+	++	++	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to provide criteria to ensure that proposal are designed to take account of the surroundings. This will have a positive effect on much of the baseline.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA

Policy HS3 Protecting local heritage assets	+	++	++	++	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				+	This policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to protect heritage assets within the parish. This will have a positive effect on the surrounding and the cultural heritage of the area.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS6 Landscape and natural environment	++	++	++	++	+	x	+	+	x	+	+	++				++	This policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to protect a variety of landscape and natural features. This will have a positive effect on the surrounding and quality of the landscape.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS6 Supporting local business	++	++	++	+	?	+	+	+	+	x	+	+				+	The policy has a number of positive benefits on the baseline	The policy is seeking to ensure that the local business opportunities are supported	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA

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

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 numbering as reflected within the Draft NDP – January 2019

Policy HS1 – New housing development in Munstone and Shelwick

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that nature conservation issues are taken into account in any proposals	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that landscape and townscape issues are taken into account in any proposals	

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

To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that issues regarding the surroundings of the parish are taken into account in any proposals	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that historic and cultural issues are taken into account in any proposals	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy is seeking to direct development to the settlements highlighted within the Core Strategy thus reducing the need to travel	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy is seeking to direct development to the settlements highlighted within the Core Strategy thus reducing the need to travel	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	The policy refers to high quality sustainable design, this could include environmental measures to help reduce climate change.	
To reduce vulnerability	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Sustainable design will	

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

to climate change				assist in safeguarding against any vulnerability to climate change	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Water supply has been confirmed	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy, Settlement boundaries are avoiding areas of flooding	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Development is being targeted to the settlements highlighted within Policy RA2	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy	
Overall commentary and any cumulative	The policy has a positive impact on the baseline over the plan period.				

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

effects	
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Policy HS2 – New housing development in Holmer

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 target development to the settlement boundary for Holmer/Hereford and this will help to maintain areas of natural conservation outside of the settlement boundary	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To improve quality of	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within	

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

surroundings				Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer as this is on the edge of the city within will help to reduce the need to travel.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to located development in areas which are outside of the areas a flood risk	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to located development in areas which are outside of the areas a flood risk	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Assessment will ensure water quality	

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

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	Water supply has been confirmed to meet the Core Strategy growth	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to located development in areas which are outside of the areas a flood risk	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
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 target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

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

Policy HS3 - Design

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The policy contains criteria to safeguard the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy contains criteria to safeguard the quality of the landscape and surroundings	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	The policy contains criteria to safeguard the quality of the surroundings	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic	+	+	+	Although not specific, the criteria of the policy will help to conserve and enhance the historic environment	

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

environment and cultural heritage					
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The protection of many features will have a positive effect on the air quality of the area	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on contributing to climate change	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on contributing to climate change	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on water quality	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on contributing to water quality	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Although not specific, the criteria of the policy will help to reduce flooding by provide potential flood storage areas	
To conserve soil	+	+	+	The criteria will have a positive	

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

resources and quality				effect on conserving soil quality.	
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 conserve and enhance elements of the natural and manmade resources	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy will have a positive effect on the baseline				

Policy HS3 – Protecting Local Heritage Assets

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

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

	5 years)	(6 – 10 years)			
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets, which will have a positive effect on the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets which will have a positive effect on the quality of the landscape and townscape	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets which will have a positive effect on the quality of the surroundings	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets which will have a positive effect on the quality of the cultural environment	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	

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

To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
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 preserve the local historic environment	
Overall commentary	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

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

and any cumulative effects	
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Policy HS6 – Supporting local businesses

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 protect the landscape and natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	

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

To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment, this will have a secondary effect on air quality	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment, this will have a secondary effect on water quality	

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

To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The protection of landscape and the natural environment will have a positive benefit on providing potential flooding areas	
To conserve soil resources and quality	++	++	++	The protection of landscape and the natural environment will have a positive benefit protecting soil resources	
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 protect the natural environment	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

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

Policy HS9 – Hereford Western Relief Road

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core	

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

				Strategy.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve air quality	?	?	?	The details regarding air quality will be investigated as part of the HRA for the planning application for the road itself	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment HD3 of the Core Strategy.	

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

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment the Core Strategy.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment 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 and is aiming to compliment the Core Strategy.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and is aiming to compliment the Core Strategy.				

Appendix 8

Consultation date: 30 July to 24 September 2019

Consultation title: Holmer and Shelwick Neighbourhood Plan Revised Regulation 16

*N.B. This consultation feedback is **only** for comments received on the SEA of the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan*

Consultee	Summary of Comments	Response to Comments
Natural England	Comments received but not regarding the SEA	
Heritage England	Comments received but not regarding the SEA	
Environment Agency	No comments received	
Natural Resources Wales	No comments received	

Appendix 9

Modifications

Policy	Modification recommended
Modification 1 Front cover	Show that plan period on the front cover of the HSNP with the start date from the date the plan is made.
Modification 2 New policy	<p>Include a new policy 'Housing Supply' as follows:</p> <p>The HSNP will provide for about 500 new homes in Holmer and 17 new homes in Munstone and Shelwick to meet the housing needs for the parish over the plan period 2011-2031</p> <p>New housing will be supported on sites that lie within the Settlement Boundaries of Holmer, Munstone and Shelwick in accordance with other relevant policies of the development plan.</p> <p>New housing will be delivered through;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dwellings which have planning consent at July 2019 • Windfall opportunities in accordance with policies HS1 and HS2 and Core Strategy policies RA2-RA5, H2 and the NPPF.
Modification 3 Policy HS1	<p>Delete 'or adjacent to' from the first paragraph</p> <p>Add the following after the first sentence; 'New housing development will be supported adjacent to and outside the settlement boundaries of Munstone and Shelwick where it delivers rural exceptions housing in accordance with Core Strategy Policy H2 and where it is evidenced through a local housing needs assessment'</p> <p>Delete criteria a) and f)</p> <p>Revise criteria i) to read: 'The proposed homes will not be adversely impacted by existing agricultural or commercial activity'</p> <p>Check the wording and grammar of the criteria. Place 'and' at the end of the penultimate criterion</p> <p>Add explanatory text at the end of paragraph 6.3 on the lines of: 'Small scale housing development outside and adjacent to the settlement boundary will be supported where it delivers a mix of affordable and market housing to meet local needs in accordance with Core Strategy Policy H2'</p>
Modification 4 Policy HS2	<p>Revised the last sentence of the first paragraph to read: 'The proposed homes will not be adversely impacted by existing agricultural or commercial activity'</p> <p>Place the first sentence of the second paragraph in the justification. 'Development sites ...A4103'</p> <p>Revise the last sentence of the policy to read: 'The design and layout of sites must take into account..'</p>

	<p>Add the following to the justification: 'The housing commitments included in the settlement boundary should deliver about 510 homes, sufficient to deliver the Northern urban Extension of Hereford. A site for the Park and Choose site has been agreed within the settlement boundary to the north of Holmer House Farm adjacent to the A49. Should additional sites be required to help achieve the strategic housing requirement for Hereford, these will be allocated in the Hereford Area Plan and the settlement boundary revised accordingly.</p> <p>Revise the settlement boundary on the policies map for Holmer to include the site at Holmer House Farm that has received planning permission for up to 100 homes.</p>
Modification 5 Policy HS3	<p>Add a comma after 'garages' in criteria b)</p> <p>Revise criterion d) to read: 'Scale and height of buildings should vary across the site up to a maximum of three storeys, with landmark buildings occupying key positions, such as corners, on the site'</p>
Modification 6 Policy HS4	<p>Delete Policy HS4</p> <p>Delete the sites from Figure 10</p>
Modification 7 Policy HS5	<p>Revise criterion c) to read: 'They safeguard the following views: (i), (ii) and (iii). Delete (iv)</p> <p>Delete criterion (d)</p> <p>Delete Figure 10. Show the three views on the policies map</p> <p>Revise paragraph 6.8 to delete 'local wildlife sites and sites of nature conservation' and add 'The Lugg Meadows (SSSI and SWS), Hereford and Gloucester Canal (Local Wildlife Site) and the disused railway line (Site of Nature Conservation) lie close to but outside the southern border of the plan area'</p> <p>Add a paragraph to state that 'any development proposals affecting heritage assets will be considered against Core Strategy Policy LD4'</p>
Modification 8 Policy HS6	<p>Revise the first line to read: 'Proposals for the development of businesses that are of an appropriate scale commensurate with their location and setting will be encouraged where...'</p>
Modification 9 Policy HS7	<p>Revise Policy HS7 as follows:</p> <p>Letter the community facilities in the policy in the same format as on Figure 11 and show the sites on the policies map so that the boundaries of the sites can be identified</p>
Modification 10 Policy HS8	<p>Revise Policy HS8 by deleting sites 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 9</p> <p>Show the boundary of site 10. The remaining sites should be renumbered in the policy and Figure 12 and the policies map should be revised</p> <p>Lost footpath 7 should be deleted from Figure 12,</p>

	<p>Figure 13 should be deleted</p> <p>Revise the final paragraph of Policy HS8 to read: 'Inappropriate development that would be harmful to the Local Green Space will not be supported except in very special circumstances.'</p>
Modification 11 Policy HS10	<p>Delete the heading of Policy HS100 and the policy wording.</p> <p>Replace with the heading of Community Aspirations</p> <p>Include a note to state that the following text does not form part of the policies of the Neighbourhood Development Plan</p>

Appendix 10

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:		
+ =/++	Compatible/very comp	S – Specific:	NDP objectives should specify what is intended to be done in detail and should not be open to a wide range of misinterpretations	
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X =	No relationship between objectives	R – Realistic:	NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.	
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The following matrix appraises the Holmer and Shelwick Neighbourhood Plan options and alternatives 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.

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy in terms of SEA
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
New Policy Housing Supply	?	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	Policy is seeking to indicate the strategic distribution of housing within the plan period	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in term of the SEA
Policy HS1 New housing development in Munstone and Shelwick	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy in seeking to ensure that development is directed to those areas within or adjacent to the settlement boundaries. Criteria is included to protect the baseline.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in term of the SEA
Policy HS2 New housing development in Holmer	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to ensure that any further development of Holmer is retained within the designated settlement boundary. Other policies within the policy will ensure that the baseline is protected.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA

Policy HS3 Design	+	++	++	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to provide criteria to ensure that proposal are designed to take account of the surroundings. This will have a positive effect on much of the baseline.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS4 Protecting local heritage assets	+	++	++	++	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				+	This policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to protect heritage assets within the parish. This will have a positive effect on the surrounding and the cultural heritage of the area.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS5 Landscape and Natural Environment	++	++	++	++	+	x	+	+	x	+	+	++				++	This policy has a positive effect on the baseline	The policy is seeking to protect a variety of landscape and natural features. This will have a positive effect on the surrounding and quality of the landscape.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS6 Supporting local business	++	++	++	+	?	+	+	+	+	x	+	+				+	The policy has a number of positive benefits on the baseline	The policy is seeking to ensure that the local business opportunities are supported	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
Policy HS8 Protecting Local Green Spaces	++	++	++	+	+	x	++	++	+	+	x	++				++	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline.	The policy is seeking to protect a number of local green open spaces. These will help to maintain the surroundings of the area, conserve soils and the natural environment.	The policy is in conformity with the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA

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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 HSnew – Housing Supply

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that nature conservation issues are taken into account in any proposals	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that landscape and townscape issues are taken into account in any proposals	
To improve quality of	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure	

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surroundings				that issues regarding the surroundings of the parish are taken into account in any proposals	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	?	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that historic and cultural issues are taken into account in any proposals	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy is seeking to direct development to the settlements highlighted within the Core Strategy thus reducing the need to travel	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy is seeking to direct development to the settlements highlighted within the Core Strategy thus reducing the need to travel	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	The policy refers to high quality sustainable design, this could include environmental measures to help reduce climate change.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Sustainable design will assist in safeguarding against any	

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				vulnerability to climate change	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Water supply has been confirmed	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy, Settlement boundaries are avoiding areas of flooding	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Development is being targeted to the settlements highlighted within Policy RA2	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy	
Overall commentary and any cumulative	The policy has a positive impact on the baseline over the plan period.				

B3: Evaluate the effects of the policies within the modified Neighbourhood Development Plan

effects	
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Policy HS1 – New housing development in Munstone and Shelwick

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 is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that nature conservation issues are taken into account in any proposals	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that landscape and townscape issues are taken into account in any proposals	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that issues regarding the surroundings of the parish are	

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				taken into account in any proposals	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and is seeking to ensure that historic and cultural issues are taken into account in any proposals	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy is seeking to direct development to the settlements highlighted within the Core Strategy thus reducing the need to travel	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy is seeking to direct development to the settlements highlighted within the Core Strategy thus reducing the need to travel	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	The policy refers to high quality sustainable design, this could include environmental measures to help reduce climate change.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Sustainable design will assist in safeguarding against any vulnerability to climate change	

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To improve water quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Water supply has been confirmed	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy, Settlement boundaries are avoiding areas of flooding	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy. Development is being targeted to the settlements highlighted within Policy RA2	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This is not over and above the Core Strategy	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy has a positive impact on the baseline over the plan period.				

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Policy HS2 – New housing development in Holmer

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 target development to the settlement boundary for Holmer/Hereford and this will help to maintain areas of natural conservation outside of the settlement boundary	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open	

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				countryside	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer as this is on the edge of the city within will help to reduce the need to travel.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to located development in areas which are outside of the areas a flood risk	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to located development in areas which are outside of the areas a flood risk	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Assessment will ensure water quality	
To provide for sustainable sources of	+	+	+	Water supply has been confirmed to meet the Core Strategy growth	

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water supply					
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to located development in areas which are outside of the areas a flood risk	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
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 target development to the boundary within Holmer that this will help to safeguard other areas as open countryside	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

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Policy HS3 - Design

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The policy contains criteria to safeguard the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy contains criteria to safeguard the quality of the landscape and surroundings	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	The policy contains criteria to safeguard the quality of the surroundings	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and	+	+	+	Although not specific, the criteria of the policy will help to conserve and enhance the historic environment	

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cultural heritage					
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The protection of many features will have a positive effect on the air quality of the area	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on contributing to climate change	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on contributing to climate change	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on water quality	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	Elements of design could have a positive effect on contributing to water quality	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Although not specific, the criteria of the policy will help to reduce flooding by provide potential flood storage areas	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The criteria will have a positive effect on conserving soil quality.	

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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 conserve and enhance elements of the natural and manmade resources	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy will have a positive effect on the baseline				

Policy HS4 – Protecting Local Heritage Assets

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

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To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets, which will have a positive effect on the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets which will have a positive effect on the quality of the landscape and townscape	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets which will have a positive effect on the quality of the surroundings	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect local heritage assets which will have a positive effect on the quality of the cultural environment	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	

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To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
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 preserve the local historic environment	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

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Policy HS5 – Landscape and natural environment

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	

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environment and cultural heritage					
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment, this will have a secondary effect on air quality	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment, this will have a secondary effect on water quality	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The protection of landscape and the natural environment will have a positive benefit on providing potential flooding areas	
To conserve soil	++	++	++	The protection of landscape and the natural environment will have a	

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resources and quality				positive benefit protecting soil resources	
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 protect the natural environment	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

Policy HS6 – Supporting local businesses

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)	Long term (11 years +)		

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		years)			
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment, this will have a secondary effect on air quality	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	

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To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect the landscape and natural environment, this will have a secondary effect on water quality	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The protection of landscape and the natural environment will have a positive benefit on providing potential flooding areas	
To conserve soil resources and quality	++	++	++	The protection of landscape and the natural environment will have a positive benefit protecting soil resources	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					

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To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the natural environment	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

Policy HS8 – Protecting Local Green Space

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

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To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	The protection of Local Green Space will help to enhance and conserve the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The protection of Local Green Space will help to enhance and conserve the landscape and townscape of the local area	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The protection of Local Green Spaces will help to enhance and protect local cultural heritage	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The protection of spaces will have an secondary positive effect on air quality	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	++	++	++	The protection of open space could provide potential flood storage areas	

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To reduce vulnerability to climate change	++	++	++	The protection of open space could provide potential flood storage areas	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	The protection of open space could provide a secondary positive effect on the water quality	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The protection of open space could provide a secondary positive effect on the water quality	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	++	++	++	The protection of Local Green Space will help to enhance and conserve the natural environment	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	The protection of Local Green Space will help to enhance and conserve the natural environment	
Overall commentary and any cumulative	The policy has a positive effect on the baseline				

B3: Evaluate the effects of the policies within the modified Neighbourhood Development Plan

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Appendix 11

Objectives and context	Where are the points covered in Neighbourhood Development Plan SEA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Neighbourhood Development Plan's purpose and objectives are made clear. • 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. • SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate. • 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. • Conflicts that exist between SEA objectives; between SEA and Neighbourhood Development Plan objectives; and between SEA objectives and other local plan objectives are identified and described. 	<p>Chapter 1.6 – 1.10</p> <p>Chapter 2 methodology, chapter 3 and tables A2 and A3</p> <p>Chapter 3 paragraph 3.5 and 3.7</p> <p>Chapter 3, paragraph 3.1</p> <p>Chapter 3</p>
<p>Scoping</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory Consultees are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report. • The assessment focuses on significant issues. • Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit. • Reasons are given for eliminating issues from further consideration. 	<p>Chapter 2, paragraphs 2.6-2.9</p> <p>Chapter 2 and chapter 4</p> <p>Chapter 2</p> <p>Chapter 2, chapter 4 and chapter 5</p>
<p>Alternatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic alternatives are considered for key issues, and the reasons for choosing them are documented. • Alternatives include 'do minimum' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios wherever relevant. • The environmental effects (both adverse and beneficial) of 	<p>Chapter 4 and chapter 5</p> <p>Paragraph 5.4</p>

<p>each alternative are identified and compared.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inconsistencies between the alternatives and other relevant local plans, programmes or policies are identified and explained. • Reasons are given for selection or elimination of alternatives. 	<p>Chapter 5</p> <p>Chapter 5, chapter 3,</p> <p>Chapter 5</p>
<p>Baseline information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • 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. • Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained. 	<p>Chapter 1, Chapter 3</p> <p>Initial screening report and Chapter 1</p> <p>Chapter 2</p>
<p>Prediction and evaluation of likely significant environmental effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • Both positive and negative effects are considered, and the duration of effects (short, medium or long-term) is addressed. • Likely secondary, cumulative (growing in quantity and strength) and synergistic (acting together) effects are identified, where practicable. • Inter-relationships between effects are considered, where practicable. • The prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of relevant accepted standards, regulations, and thresholds (i.e. data gathered for the evidence base). • Methods used to evaluate the effects are described. 	<p>Tables A2, A3 and A4</p> <p>Tables B2 and B3 and D2 and D3 and D2 and D3 post examination</p> <p>Table B4</p> <p>Chapter 5, chapter 6</p> <p>Chapter 5, chapter 6</p> <p>Chapter 2</p>

<p>Mitigation measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the Neighbourhood Development Plan are indicated. • Issues to be taken into account when determining planning applications or other projects, for example funding bids, are identified. 	<p>Chapter 6, paragraph 6.6 – 6.9</p> <p>Chapter 6</p>
<p>The Environmental Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation. • Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms. • Uses maps and other illustrations, where appropriate. • Explains the methodology used. • Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used. • Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion. • 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. 	<p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>Chapter 2</p> <p>Paragraph 2.6-2.9</p> <p>Paragraph 2.8-2.9</p> <p>Page 1 / Paragraph 1.8 / Chapter 6</p>
<p>Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SEA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. • 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. 	<p>Paragraph 2.6-2.9</p> <p>Chapter 8</p>
<p>Decision-making and information on the decision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The environmental report and the opinions of those consulted are taken into account in finalising and adopting the Neighbourhood Development Plan. • An explanation is given of how they have been taken into account. 	<p>Chapter 8</p> <p>Following draft consultation</p>

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