

Appropriate Assessment

Report for:

Tarrington Neighbourhood Area

January 2022



Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan

Appropriate Assessment

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Executive summary

This report addresses the Appropriate Assessment (AA) stage of the HRA and considers the likely significant effects on the integrity of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC. This NDP has been identified as requiring AA due to the neighbourhood area being within the hydrological catchment of the River Lugg.

A previous Habitat Regulation Assessment has been undertaken on the Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan dated July 2020, however recent advice and responses from Natural England is indicating that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required.

This report addresses the Appropriate Assessment stage; outlines the task undertaken, the findings and recommendations to support the Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan through to adoption.

The initial Screening report July 2015 found that the Neighbourhood Area is within the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC. The parish is 4.2km away from the River Wye but is within the River Frome catchment which is part of the hydrological catchment of the River Wye SAC. Therefore a full screening assessment is required.

The majority of the policies within the Tarrington NDP are not site allocations but have criteria to support development. They would all require a further planning application.

The Land at School Road site allocation has also been assessed. It should be borne in mind that site allocations do not grant planning permission and all site allocations will be subject to a more detailed assessment at planning application stage.

The most significant issue with the Lugg catchment is regarding water quality and these issues form the majority of the assessment of these policies. The distance from the River Frome, River Lugg and River Wye results in no direct disturbance on the qualifying feature of the SAC from the policies within the development plan.

At this stage the appropriate mitigation measures can also be considered against each of the policies. The table with appendix 3 indicates where this has been the case. Herefordshire Council are investigating a wide range of mitigation measures and working with partners to resolve the current water quality issues within the Lugg catchment. The mitigation measures references within the document could be expanded and refined prior to any planning permissions in association with the policies of this development plan are approved.

The results of this Appropriate Assessment indicate that there will not be a significant effect on the integrity of the River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC or the (include any other) when the mitigation and avoidance measures have been taken into account.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report address the Appropriate Assessment (AA) stage of the HRA and considers the likely significant effects on the integrity of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC. This NDP has been identified as requiring AA due to the neighbourhood area being within the hydrological catchment of the River Lugg.
- 1.2 A previous Appropriate Assessment has been undertaken on the Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan dated October 2021, this report has now been updated to take into account the post examination modifications.
- 1.3 This report addresses the Appropriate Assessment stage; outlines the task undertaken, the findings and recommendations to support the Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan through to adoption.
- 1.4 Tarrington Parish Council has produced Neighbourhood Plan for Tarrington parish in order to set out the vision, objective and policies for development within the area up to 2031. This Neighbourhood Plan will support the policies within the adopted Herefordshire Core Strategy and if adopted form part of the Herefordshire Development Plan. The Neighbourhood Plan was recent subject to an independent examination and some modifications have been made. The plan now needs to be subject to a referendum and if positive adoption.
- 1.5 Below shows a map of the neighbourhood plan



2 Requirement for the HRA

- 2.1 The requirement to undertake HRA of development plans was confirmed by the amendments to the “Habitats Regulations” published for England and Wales in July 2007 and updated in 2013 and now included within the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulation 2019 ‘the Habitats Regulations’. Therefore, when preparing its neighbourhood plan, Tarrington Parish Council is required by law to carry out an assessment known as “Habitats Regulations Assessment”. It is also a requirement in Regulation 32 schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.
- 2.2 Herefordshire Council is aware of the recent judgment (People over Wind, Peter Sweetman vs Coillte). The Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) ruled that the

Habitats Directive must be interpreted as meaning that mitigation measures should be assessed within the framework of an Appropriate Assessment and that it is not permissible to take account of measures intended to avoid or reduce the harmful effects of the plan on a National Network site at the screening stage. The initial screening undertaken in June 2015 and concluded that a full HRA would be required

- 2.3 The Co-operation Mobilisation (The Dutch case) ruling will also have an impact on Herefordshire in the areas within the catchment of the River Lugg. As this Neighbourhood Area is within the River Lugg catchment area and therefore there is a requirement for a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment to be undertaken.

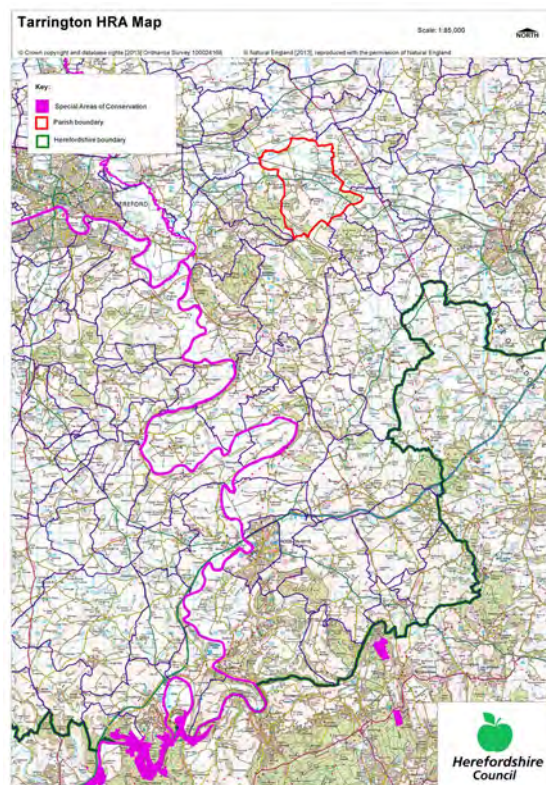
3 Stage 2 – Appropriate Assessment

- 3.1 As highlighted above the Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan is required to be subject to a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment as it falls within the River Lugg catchment area.

- 3.2 The initial screening and scoping under on June 2015 has identified that the plan may have potential impacts and effects on the following National Network sites:

- River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC

- 3.3 The map below shows the Tarrington Neighbourhood Area in relation to the River Wye SAC.



- 3.4 Previous Habitat Regulation Assessment have been undertake February 2019 and July 2020 whilst the neighbourhood plan has been in production and again in April 2021 and October 2021 as part of the examination. Consultation has taken place on each iteration of the reports and these can be seen in Appendix 2.

- 3.5 The requirements of the Appropriate Assessment can be broken down into 5 areas;

- 1 Scoping
 - Collect information regarding the National Network Site
 - Any additional Environment Condition information
- 2 Assessing the impacts
 - Assess the impacts of the neighbourhood plan policies and proposals
 - Consider the in-combination effects
 - Consider the cumulative effects
- 3 Mitigation measures
 - Consider the potential mitigation measures
- 4 Summary and recommendations
- 5 Consultation

4 Scoping

- 4.1 The initial Screening report July 2015 found that the Neighbourhood Area is within the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC. The parish is 4.2km away from the River Wye but is within the River Frome catchment which is part of the hydrological catchment of the River Wye SAC. Therefore a full screening assessment is required.
- 4.2 There is also a duty under the Water Framework Directive to ensure that proposals for growth do not adversely affect the river water quality and this included the associated watercourses flowing into the rivers.

Site integrity of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC

- 4.3 The River Wye forms one of the longest near natural rivers in England and Wales. It is 25km in length and within Herefordshire runs from Hay-on-Wye to Monmouth passing through Hereford and Ross-on-Wye. This section of the river is a rare example of eutrophic river and has not been subject to straightening.
- 4.4 There are a number of qualifying site features within the English section of the River Wye SAC:
 - Water crowfoot vegetation
 - White-clawed crayfish
 - Sea Lamprey
 - Brook lamprey
 - River Lamprey
 - Twaite shad / Allis shad
 - Atlantic salmon
 - Bullhead
 - Otter

- 4.5 The issues associated with maintaining the sites integrity include water levels and flow, water quality, eutrophication (nitrogen enrichment), sedimentation, disturbance and species maintenance.
- 4.6 The vulnerability data is indicating that any site allocations and policies should avoid developments within 100m of the designated banks to avoid proximity impacts.
- 4.7 The River Wye SAC can be sensitive to changes in water quantity and quality. There are some sections of the River Wye SAC, mainly the River Lugg catchment area, where the water quality targets are already exceeding set levels and therefore the river is failing its 'favourable condition' status. This area is subject to measure to reduce nutrients particularly phosphates in line with the targets. In light of the interpretation of the Dutch Case where a Site is failing its water quality objectives and is classified as unfavourable condition, there is limited scope for the approval of additional damaging effects and measures that can't be relied upon or are uncertain. The neighbourhood plan being assessed here is within the Lugg catchment area.
- 4.8 However, the River Wye SAC as a whole is not currently failing its conservation status water quality levels but there are growth concerns that other stretches of the river could deteriorate in water quality following future Environment Agency testing.

Environmental condition data for the River Wye SAC

- 4.9 The River Lugg is considered to be 'failing' its water quality targets because it has exceeded the phosphate limit over 3 years testing period. Testing is undertaken between March and September by the Environment Agency.
- 4.10 Phosphorous enter the river via two distinct avenues: point source pollution (waste water treatment works 'WWTW') and diffuse source pollution (run off from roads and agricultural).
- 4.11 Discharges from WWTW are monitored and controlled by the issuing of Permitted Discharge Consents but diffuse pollution depends upon a number of different factors including land management, stock near to rivers and run off.
- 4.12 The Wye and Lugg Monitoring Dashboard indicates that as at 2019 (the latest figures published), the phosphate levels within the River Lugg at the testing point at Mordiford Bridge were recorded as 0.12mg/l with the target set at 0.05mg/l.
- 4.13 In 2019, the sewerage treatment works within the Lugg catchment area were reporting 100% compliance with phosphate limits.
- 4.14 For the Upper Wye (at Carrots Pool, Hereford) it is within target at 0.01mg/l against the target of 0.03mg/l and within the Lower Wye (at Holme Lacy) it is 0.03mg/l against the target of 0.03mg/l. The sewerage treatment works within the Upper and Lower Wye are also reporting 100% compliance with their phosphate limits.

5 Description of the Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan

- 5.1 The Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan presents detailed policies for development in the Neighbourhood Area up to 2031. All neighbourhood plans are required to be in general conformity with the adopted Herefordshire Core Strategy. Proportional growth for

development is contained within the Core Strategy Policy RA1 and RA2 and neighbourhood plans will seek to allocate this proportional of development to be in conformity with the Core Strategy.

- 5.2 The Plan begins by introducing its preparation and highlighting its issues. It then details the vision for the parish over the plan period until 2031 together with a number of objectives to realise that visions:
1. Environment
 2. Housing
 3. Employment
 4. Community
- 5.3 The initial options for the neighbourhood plan were assessed to determine their environmental impact that could affect the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC. All of which indicated towards growth however all the options would be seeking to provide proportional growth in line with the Core Strategy. Five options were considered in total and these have been assessed in previous stages of the process.
- 5.3 The neighbourhood plan also sets out 14 general policies on a variety of topic bases areas and 1 site allocations or specific site related policies. These include:
- | | |
|--------------|-------------------------------|
| Policy TAR1 | Sustainable Tarrington |
| Policy TAR2 | Natural Environment |
| Policy TAR3 | Historic Environment |
| Policy TAR4 | Building design |
| Policy TAR5 | Housing delivery |
| Policy TAR6 | Settlement boundaries |
| Policy TAR7 | Housing size, type and tenure |
| Policy TAR8 | Land at School Road |
| Policy TAR9 | Employment development |
| Policy TAR10 | Communications infrastructure |
| Policy TAR11 | Renewable Energy |
| Policy TAR12 | Transport |
| Policy TAR13 | Local Green Space |
| Policy TAR14 | Green Infrastructure |
| Policy TAR15 | Community facilities |
- 5.4 The plan has reached examination stage in January 2021 and two reports have been produced during the examination to assess the policies as at April 2021 and October 2021.
- 5.5 An initial Appropriate Assessment was subject to consultation between 22 April and 27 May 2021. Natural England and Environment Agency made representations which are detailed in Appendix 2. As a result, further work was required to demonstrate that 'no likely significant effects' on the integrity of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC would result from the Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan. The NDP examination was suspended whilst additional work was carry out.
- 5.6 The examination reopened on the 13 September 2021 to consider the rewording of Policy TAR2 and instruct that a further Appropriate Assessment was undertaken. This wording had been produced in conjunction with Natural England. The consultation took place from the 6 October or 10 November.
- 5.7 Following the examination wording changes have been made to policies including the amendments to Policy TAR2 and TAR8 to take into account the nutrient neutrality policy wording and a number of paragraphs to indicate signposting to potential mitigation measures to ensure that all

developments are nutrient neutral and will not have an adverse effect on the water quality of the River Frome (a tributary of the River Lugg and Wye).

5.9 The following policies have been modified since the last assessment in October 2021:

Policy TAR2	Natural Environment
Policy TAR7	Housing size, type and tenure
Policy TAR8	Land at School Road
Policy TAR13	Local Green Space
Policy TAR15	Community facilities

6 Assessing the impacts of in-combination effects of the Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan

6.1 Each of the policies and proposals of the neighbourhood plan have been considered in more detail to ascertain whether the impacts are likely to have a significant effect on the site integrity and in combination with other neighbourhood plans and policies.

6.2 There are a number of potentially relevant plans and projects which may result in in-combination effects with the Core Strategy across Herefordshire, these plans have been reviewed and can be found in Appendix 2 of the HRA of the Core Strategy and specifically for this neighbourhood plan in the Stage A report dated June 2015

6.3 In terms of growth, the neighbourhood plan does not contribute above and beyond the growth targets for the housing market area requirements as set out within the Core Strategy.

6.4 The adjoining area neighbourhood plan are:

- Putley NDP – adopted
- Pixley and District NDP – adopted
- Ashperton NDP – referendum
- Yarkhill NDP – adopted
- Woolhope NDP – no significant progress
- Stoke Edith – not commencing an NDP

6.5 The combination of the growth proposed within these plans does not exceed that set out within the Core Strategy.

6.6 The HRA for the Core Strategy also identifies that both the Water Cycle Study for Herefordshire, which indicates the potential for planned water abstraction requirements combined with pressures on European Sites from the Core Strategy policies, and the review work on the Nutrient Management Plan, have both been considered as part of the in-combination assessment.

6.7 It is unlikely that the Tarrington Plan will have any in-combination effects with any plans from neighbouring parish councils as the level of growth proposed is the same as that proposed for the Hereford Housing Market Area in the Herefordshire Core Strategy.

6.8 A matrix has been used to assess all the policies and proposals within the neighbourhood plan and full details can be seen in appendix 3.

Policy wording changes and work with Natural England April to November 2021

- 6.9 As highlighted in para 5.5 above an Appropriate Assessment was undertaken as part of the examination of the Tarrington NDP in April 2021. Two responses were received to the consultation; one from Natural England and the other from Environment Agency.
- 6.10 The Environment Agency indicated that it was not clear if the allocations were supported by robust evidence on deliverability as specific mitigation solutions have not been identified and emerging mitigation were only options at this stage. They also raised the issue that Policy SD4 of the Core Strategy did not provide certainty. The Environment Agency considered that it was not clear whether measures put forward could be relied upon or provide sufficient certainty.
- 6.11 The Environment Agency suggested that locally options or planning contributions could be sought to assist nutrient neutrality or betterment within the neighbourhood area.
- 6.12 Natural England indicated that they considered that the assessment was not sufficiently rigorous or robust enough to justify no adverse effects on the integrity of the SAC. They considered that a further explanation is required of the specific mitigation being provided for each allocation.
- 6.13 They welcomed approach to achieve nutrient neutral and commented that this should be considered further. Like the Environment Agency, they considered that the appropriate assessment relied upon the strategic mitigation within Policy SD4 which does not provide certainty.
- 6.14 As a result on the consultation responses, work was undertaken with Natural England and Herefordshire Council's legal team to review the comments made to the April 2021 Appropriate Assessment. The aim has been to find mutually agreed policy wording for Policy TAR2 and expand on the requirements of a local nutrient neutrality policy within the neighbourhood plan.
- 6.15 This revised policy requires all development proposals to meet its criteria before planning permission will be granted. Similarly, to Policy SD4 of the Core Strategy, this policy is not seen as a mitigation measure as the development plan should be read as a whole. However, compliance with the policy is required for any planning application to indicate how the development proposal will provide clear and robust evidence that there would be not increase in nutrient inputs. Without this robust evidence, the application for the site allocation will not be permitted.
- 6.16 The agreed wording was placed before the examiner for consideration at part of the examination process and a further Appropriate Assessment was undertaken in October 2021 and consulted upon between 6 October and 10 November 2021.

Response to the representations received

- 6.17 Environment Agency and Natural England continued to raise concerns following this consultation which can be seen within Appendix 2 of this report.
- 6.18 The examiner requested a response from the Local Planning Authority indicating their consideration regarding the Appropriate Assessment undertaken
- 6.19 **Providing certainty with a development plan** - The Appropriate Assessment undertaken did not rely on the Nutrient Management Plan or the Policy SD4 alone and it is clearly stated within the text of the Tarrington NDP Appropriate Assessment dated October 2021.

- 6.20 The addition of a local policy within the Tarrington NDP Policy TAR2 required all developments to provide clear and robust evidence so that they can demonstrate a nutrient neutral development. Without this, planning permission will not be granted. In terms of development plan policy, this is certain, a site allocation does not grant permission.
- 6.21 The inclusion of the policy is aiming to achieve that all developments will be nutrient neutral but some of the solutions are likely to be provided outside of the neighbourhood plan area. Therefore it is not practical to include the requirement that the NDP should be nutrient neutral within their own area when some solution will include wetland provision upstream.
- 6.22 **Council actions with regarding the constructed wetlands** - The Council are currently engaged with partners in securing a number of constructed wetlands across the catchment area. Due to commercial sensitivity, it is not possible to outline the locations of all these wetlands however, a planning application has recently been made for the first one in Luston (P21357/F). The Council has made a commitment to assist in providing a solution to the phosphate challenge where it can.
- 6.23 It is not possible, or appropriate, at this stage to provide all the details to parish councils to include within their Neighbourhood Development Plans as the technical and scientific work is still progressing. Any specific additions to the reasoned justification or the policy could quickly become dated, then requiring developers or applications to meet solutions or options which were no longer preferred.
- 6.24 It is also not feasible for every NDP area or site allocation within NDP to have their own wetland solution. The integrated wetlands are a mitigation measure across the catchment area which will provide a solution via a phosphate credit scheme to sites downstream of the wetlands. The Luston wetland is higher up in the catchment than the Tarrington neighbourhood area and this specific site allocation.
- 6.25 Additional mitigation measures may be appropriate and those options are outlined in below. It is not appropriate or possible to prescribe this level of detail to a site allocation at this stage and the wording of Policy TAR2 requires applications to clearly and robustly demonstrate that an option for nutrient neutrality is available in order to secure planning permission. This requirement would be the same for a windfall site as site allocation.
- 6.26 **Certainty with regards to TAR8 – Land at School Road** - The allocation in question is subject to a current valid outline planning application (P181843) for nine dwellings. This application has yet to be determined as it is within the Lugg catchment and awaiting the implementation of the phosphate credit scheme. Negotiations regarding all other planning and site matters have been ongoing. Removal of the site allocation from the plan and a reliance of windfall development would bring less certainty and without the additional policy criteria and benefits Policy TAR8 brings
- 6.27 Windfall development would be adjudged against the general criteria of the Core Strategy and the Tarrington NDP but site allocations have the added benefit of specific site criteria to be met by the development on a wider range of issues.
- 6.28 As indicated above NDPs should be positively prepared and Herefordshire encourages the inclusion of site allocations to meet proportional growth requirements and give local residents certainty about where and how development will take place.

- 6.29 Given the work to resolve the constraints to new housing development in the Lugg catchment already undertaken and the ongoing work to develop a programme of integrated wetlands, the Council consider that in accordance with NPPG 'there is a reasonable prospect of this site being delivered'. This prospect is more certain that any potential unknown windfall sites to meet the Core Strategy proportional growth requirements if the site was to be removed.
- 6.30 **Providing options to developers and applicants** - Additional guidance is provided to developers seeking to provide nutrient neutral developments. The ***Interim Phosphate Delivery Plan Stage 2*** – Mitigation options for phosphate removed provides a range of potential mitigation solutions that could be used and a set of recommendations are included to provide a robust solution to achieve nutrient neutral residential developments. This document has been available on the Council's website since March 2021.
- 6.31 The ***interim Phosphate Delivery Plan Stage 1*** provides guidance to calculating the phosphate budget for new developers with a phosphate calculate tool. Regular position statements are placed on the Council's website to update developers and applicants for the requirements to demonstrate nutrient neutrality and the options for this.
- 6.32 As the work is ongoing and moving at a pace, it is considered that the best and most accurate guidance for developers on the options to achieve nutrient neutrality is within these guidance documents on the website and not specifically within the NDP policy or text. This is because during the plan period, methods could be refined and solutions that are more appropriate found. The guidance notes and website can easily respond to this update unlike the supporting text of the neighbourhood plan.
- 6.33 **Other nature based solution and biodiversity net gain** - The interim Phosphate Plan does refer to a range of solutions and options including nature based solutions. The Tarrington NDP does have a number of Local Green Spaces protected (TAR13) and criteria within Policy TAR 2 and TAR14 encourages the provision of additional the ecological networks within the parish. Criteria 7 of TAR8 requires the provision of a buffer zone on the site allocation to serve as a habitat and enable a sustainable drainage solution.
- 6.34 **Neighbourhood Plan production** – The plan was at examination since January 2021 and the submission document was written in July 2020. A significant amount of progress has been made on the phosphate challenge since the parish council submitted their plan in July 2020. Therefore it is to be expected that they will have not had to opportunity to include the details suggested above into their plan.
- 6.35 Three Appropriate Assessments have been undertaken since the submission of the plan to examination and the Council have requested support and guidance from Natural England throughout the drafting of a potential nutrient neutrality policy and the resulting HRA assessment.
- 6.36 On this basis the revised wording TAR2 (October 2021) and the further suggested signposting of updated guidance was submitted to the examiner for consideration as a modification on 22 November 2021.

7 Mitigation measures

- 7.1 An Appropriate Assessment is being undertaken as the Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan is located within the River Lugg catchment area. Water quality within the SAC is the predominate issue here and this is reflected within the assessment undertaken.
- 7.2 It is therefore the ability to consider any potential mitigation measures which could be applied which would reduce the likely significant effects on the integrity of the site. The following potential mitigation measures are indicated below.

Policy SD4

- 7.3 Policy SD4 is contained within the adopted Herefordshire Core Strategy. This is not seen as a mitigation measure as the development plan should be read as a whole. However compliance with the policy is required for any planning application within the River Lugg catchment area. Therefore no site allocations proposed within the neighbourhood plan will receive planning permission unless they can also meet the criteria of Policy SD4.
- 7.4 It should be borne in mind that site allocations do not grant permission for a site and do not directly lead to development. All site allocations will still require planning permission to be granted before any development can take place. This means that all site allocation will be subject to a further environmental assessment/Habitat Regulation Assessment /Appropriate Assessment prior to development taking place or any potential impact to the SAC directly.

Waste Water Sewage Treatment works

- 7.5 Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) are making improvements to its Waste Water Treatment Works to reduce phosphate levels from the treatment discharge. DCWW are on target to deliver requirements within the AMP7 assessment management planning. The following treatment works within the River Wye catchment have or proposed to have phosphate limits:
- Eign, Hereford
 - Rotherwas, Hereford
 - Ross Lower Cleeve
 - Bromyard
 - Pontrilas
 - Kingstone and Madley
 - Leominster)
 - Moreton on Lugg
 - Kington
 - Weobley

Nutrient Management Plan review

- 7.6 The Dutch judgment means that the current Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) can no longer be relied upon as mitigation as there is not enough certainty that the measures set out within the current plan can be delivered. Therefore the current NMP does not provide reasonable scientific certainty as a mitigation measure.
- 7.7 The Nutrient Management Board comprises of a number of partners including Natural England, Environment Agency, National Farmers Union, local planning authorities and Welsh Water.

- 7.8 The Board is working on reviewing and revising the NMP so that the measures contained within it can be relied upon as mitigation once more. An updated NMP has been produced and published.

Proposed wetlands

- 7.9 As highlighted in paragraph 6.22 to 6.35 above, Herefordshire Council are currently investigating the potential for integrated wetlands to assist in the reduction of phosphate levels within the catchment. Wetlands can remove phosphorous from surface water runoff or stream flow or remove the final effluent from waste water treatments plants or package treatment plants. They are designed to filter, use sedimentation and plant take up. If the management of wetlands can be secured then they will provide a significant reduction in phosphorous within the catchment.

Interim Development Plan

- 7.10 As highlighted in paragraph 6.30 to 6.32 above, the emerging Interim Phosphate Development Plan Stage 1 and Stage 2 includes the proposed wetlands and a range of other measures and robust solutions which will provide a reduction in phosphorous in the catchment.

Nutrient Neutral / betterment

- 7.11 Nutrient Neutral is where mitigation measures or avoidance included within the neighbourhood plan can counterbalance any phosphate increase attributed to the plan's policies and proposals or would lead to betterment. Neutrality will need to be demonstrated with certainty. The development will need to show that it avoids harm to the protected site or provided the level of mitigation required to ensure that there is no adverse effects.

Interim approach to planning applications

- 7.12 There remains potential for a positive appropriate assessment to enable development to proceed, on Natural England's advice, where it can be demonstrated that development is nutrient neutral as outlined above. Five criteria have been established where phosphates would be unlikely to reach the river as there is no pathway for impacts, these would be adjudged during the planning application stage.

- 7.13 These are:
- Drainage fields is more that 50m from the designated site boundary and;
 - Drainage field is more than 50m from any surface water feature (ditch, drain, watercourse and;
 - Drainage field is in an area with a slope no greater than 15% and;
 - Drainage field is in an area where the high water table groundwater depth is at least 2m below the surface at all times and;
 - There are no other hydrological pathways which would expedite the transport of phosphorous (fissured geology, shallow soil, flooding)

8 Summary of findings

- 8.1 This assessment has considered the likely significant effects of the Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan on the following National Network Sites
- River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC
- 8.2 As the neighbourhood area falls within the River Lugg catchment area these have been specifically reviewed in light of recent advice from Natural England.

- 8.3 The table within Appendix 3 show the detail of each policy and proposals assessed.
- 8.4 After an initial screening, 7 policies were considered to have potential likely significant effects and these were assessed within the previous Appropriate Assessment. Policy TAR2 of the Tarrington NDP was revised, with the assistance of Natural England, to provide a local nutrient neutrality policy by which all developments will be assessed against. This policy will ensure that developments will not receive planning permission if they cannot demonstrate nutrient neutrality. The seven policies were then re-assessed in combination with the rewording of Policy TAR2 in the April 2021 report.
- 8.5 Following the further negotiations and examiner's assessment at the examination, those policies will have been modified following the examination have been reassessed as part of this report.
- 8.6 The majority of these policy not site allocations but have criteria to support development. They would all require a further planning application.
- 8.7 The Land at School Road site allocation has also been assessed. It should be borne in mind that site allocations do not grant planning permission and all site allocations will be subject to a more detailed assessment at planning application stage.
- 8.8 The most significant issue with the Lugg catchment is regarding water quality and these is the forms the majority of the assessment of these policies. The distance from the River Frome, River Lugg and River Wye results in no direct disturbance on the qualifying feature of the SAC from the policies within the development plan.
- 8.9 Significant negotiation and work was undertaken during the examination as highlighted in section 6 above to ensure that any developments within the Tarrington NDP would be nutrient neutral. Additional wording has been added to Policy TAR2 and TAR8 and additional signposting within the reasoned justification.
- 8.10 Following the examination modifications, the appropriate mitigation measures have been considered against each of the policies. The table with appendix 3 indicates where this has been the case.
- 8.11 Herefordshire Council are continuing to investigate a wide range of mitigation measures and working with partners to resolve the current water quality issues within the Lugg catchment. The mitigation measures references within this document are likely to become more refined and developed during the plan period. Any planning permissions in association with the policies of this development plan would be adjudged against the policies of the plan and the latest guidance within the Phosphate Delivery Plan – Stage 2.
- 8.12 The results of this Appropriate Assessment indicate that there **will not be a significant effect on the integrity of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC** when the mitigation and avoidance measures outlined in section 6 and 7 of this assessment have been taken into account.

9 Consultation

- 9.1 This report will accompany the final version of the Neighbourhood Plan which is current awaiting referendum and, if successful, final adopted.

Appendix 1

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

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

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d)

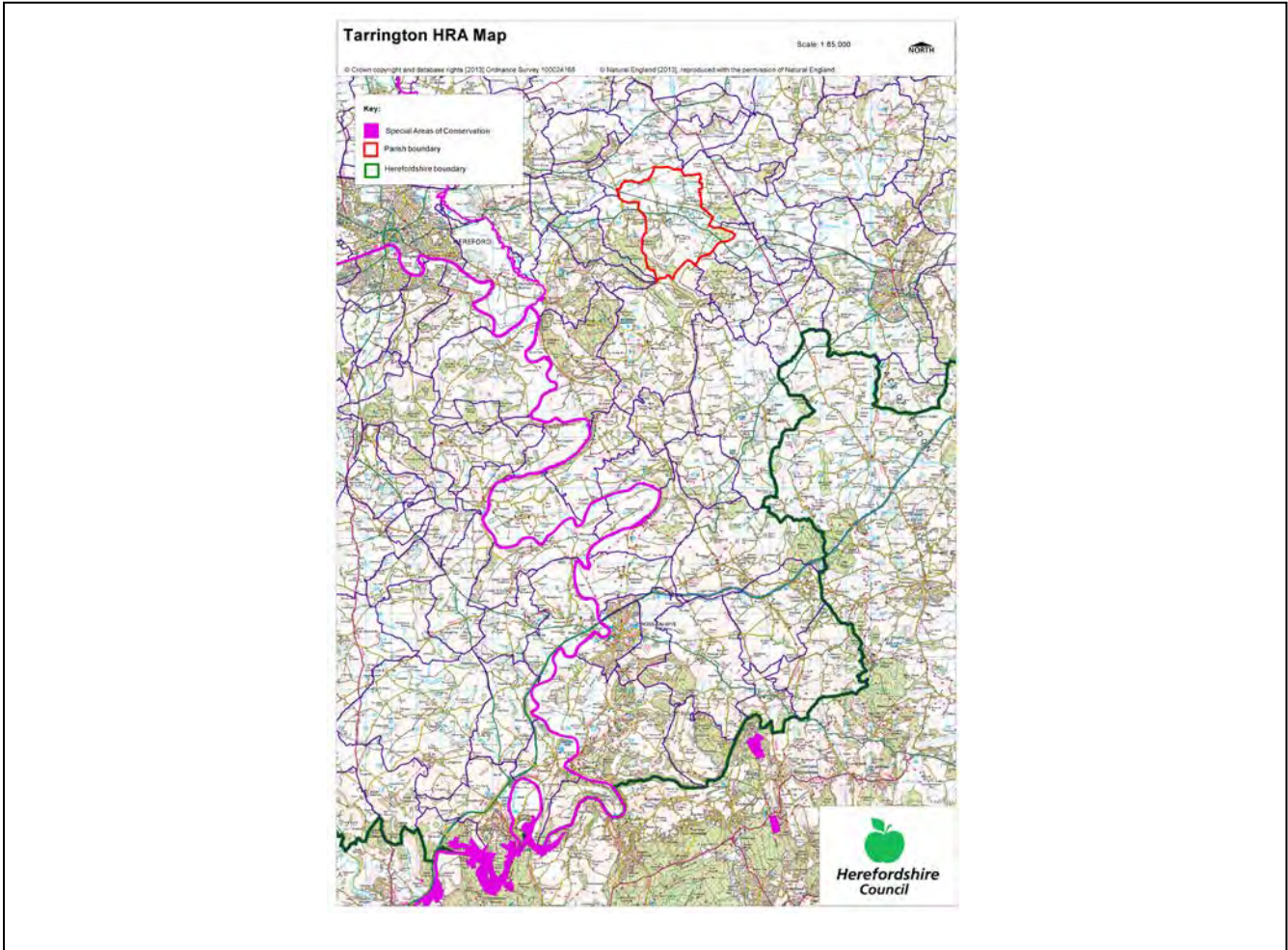
Neighbourhood Area:	Tarrington Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Tarrington Parish Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	10/01/2014

Introduction

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

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

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



Initial HRA Screening

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC:

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	The River Wye SAC is 4.2km away from the Parish
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	Y	The Parish is within the hydrological catchment of the River Frome
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	There is mains drainage in Tarrington

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 35.5km away from the Parish
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River Clun SAC:

Does the Neighbourhood Area include: Border Group Parish Council or Leintwardine Group Parish Council?	N	River Clun does not border the Parish
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Usk Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 46.3km away from the Parish
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Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites are 18.3km away from the Parish
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Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	Wye Valley Woodlands are 23.1km away from the Parish
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HRA Conclusion:

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

European Site

(List only those which are relevant from above)

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC

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

The following environmental features are within or in general proximity to the Tarrington 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	Total	Explanation	SEA required
Air Quality Management Areas	0	There are no AQMAs within the Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	15	Dormington Wood; Swillow Wood; Ashperton Park (border); Eastwood; Whitfield Coppice (border); Mains Wood (border); Priggles Wood (border); Park Coppice (border); Nurdens Wood/Canwood Knoll (border); Green Hill Coppice (border); Sharpnage Wood (border); The Pendleholes (border); Fernhope Wood (border); Priors Court Wood (border); Westhide Wood (border)	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAls within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	1	Wye Valley AONB (border)	Y
Conservation Areas	0	There are no Conservation Areas within the Parish	N
European Sites	0	There are no SACs within the Parish	N
Flood Areas		There are Flood Zones along the River Frome in the north of the Parish and also along a brook/stream that flows from the Frome south towards the A438 east of Tarrington village	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous Listed Buildings throughout the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCs/RIGS)	1 (RIGS) 12 (SWS)	RIGS: Dormington Slip (border) SWS: River Frome (border); Old canal at Ashperton (border); Woodland on Shucknall Hill (border); Old canal at Monkhide (border); Ashperton Park (border); East Wood; Whitfield & Slade Coppices (border); Putley Common & surrounding woodlands (border); Woodland at Seager Hill (border); Woodland at Woolhope Cockshoot (border); Woodlands alongside Canwood Knoll (border); Perton roadside section and quarry (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	0	There are no long distance footpaths/trails within the Parish	N
Mineral Reserves	3	River Lodon, Monkhide to Yarkhill to Bartestree; Perton Quarry to Sheepcote Hill to Woolhope Cockshoot; The Plantation to Devereux Park to Winslow Hill to Busland Wood to Sapsness House (border)	Y

National Nature Reserve	0	There are no NNRs within the Parish	N
Registered & Unregistered parks and gardens	1 Registered 4 Unregistered	Registered: Stoke Edith Unregistered: Devereux Park; Putley Court (border); Canon Frome Court (border); Mainstone Court (border)	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	7	Churchyard cross in St Phillip's and St James' Churchyard; Ashperton Castle (border); Ethelberts Camp (border); Moated site 360m north of Joanshill Farm (border); Moated Site (border); Roman Settlement (border); Roman fort and outworks 550yds (500m) south west of Canon Frome Church (border)	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	4	Mains Wood (Unfavourable Declining) (border); Little Hill (Unfavourable No Change) (border); Perton roadside section and Quarry (Favourable) (border)	Y

Decision Notification:

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

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

Assessment date: 09/12/2013

Assessed by: James Latham

Appendix 1: European Sites

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

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." (Source: EA website: http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf accessed 09/04/2013)

Usk Bat Site

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

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

Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites

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

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

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

NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider:

Woodland habitat buffer.

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

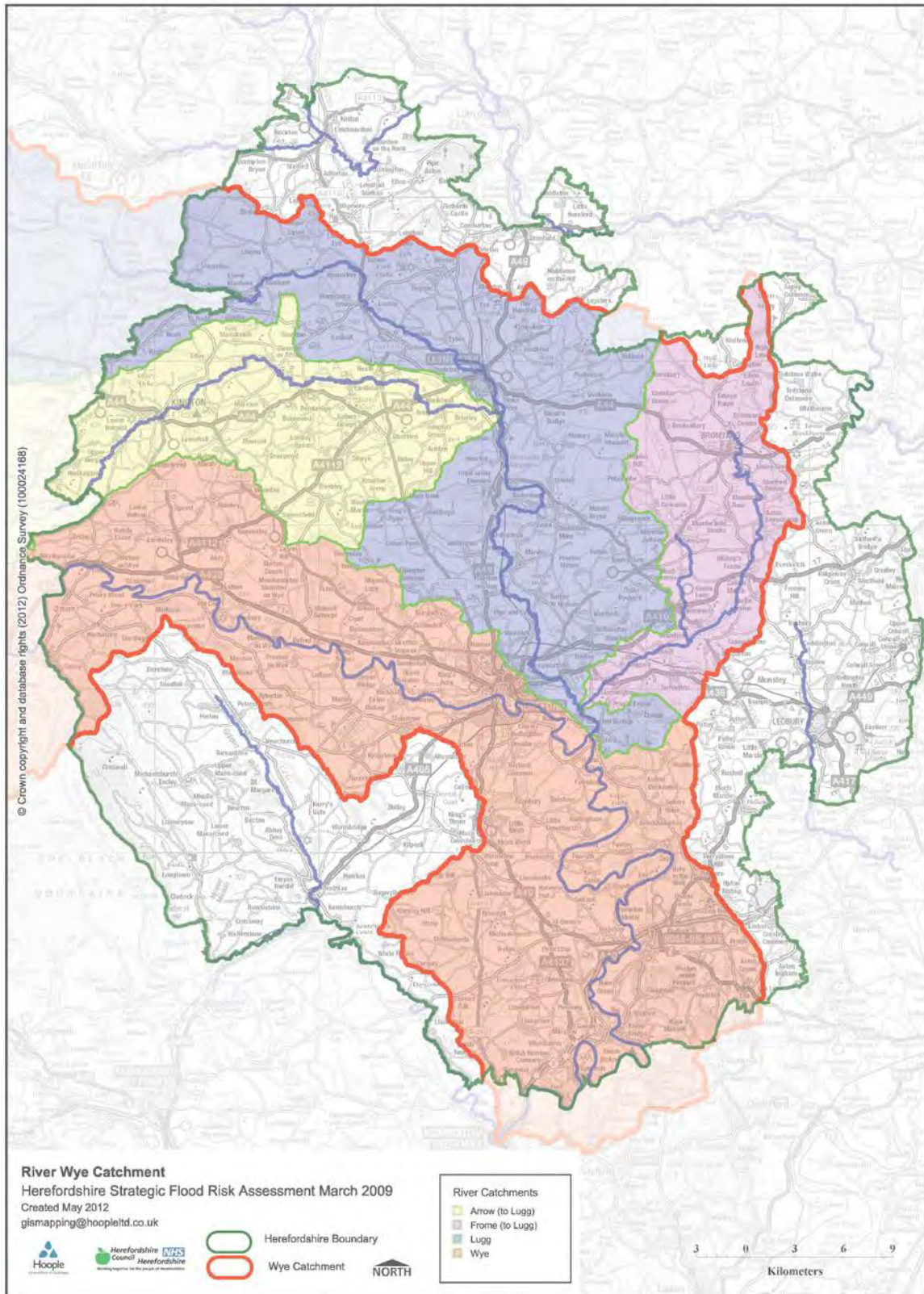
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation.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

Wye Valley Woodlands

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

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

Appendix 2: Wye Catchment Map



Appendix 2

Consultation date: **14 October to 25 November 2019 (Reg14)**

N.B. This consultation feedback is **only** for comments received on the HRA draft report

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

Consultation date: **28 September to 9 November 2020 (Reg16)**

Consultee	Summary of Comments	Response to Comments
Natural England	The site allocation distance from the River Frome may mean that the risk of impact on the River Lugg is lower but does not rule out impacts, If the Nutrient Management Plan is being relied for mitigation then this must proceed to an appropriate assessment.	Noted and AA will be undertaken.
Heritage England	No comments received	
Environment Agency	No comments received	
Natural Resources Wales	No comments received	

Consultation date: **22 April to 27 May 2021 (Examination)**

Consultee	Summary of Comments	Response to Comments
Natural England	Further explanation is required on the specific mitigation being provided for each allocation. Proposal for nutrient neutral as a mitigation is welcomed approach and should be considered further	Inclusion of a nutrient neutrality policy criteria recommends to the examiner
Heritage England	No comments received	
Environment Agency	Not clear of NDP is supported by effective and robust evidence on deliverability. The allocation does not have a specific solution identified. There is no certainty allocation can meet the requirements of SD4. Are aware that the Council is investigating potential wetlands. Should be satisfied that the mitigation is viable and deliverable and a reasonable certainty of the allocation being delivered	Inclusion of a nutrient neutrality policy criteria recommends to the examiner
Natural Resources Wales	No comments received	

Consultation date: **6 October to 10 November 2021 Examination)**

Consultee	Summary of Comments	Response to Comments
Natural England	Not sufficiently rigorous or robust to conclude no likely significant effects. Further information is needed around nutrient neutrality. Policy TAR2 sets out the requirement for nutrient neutrality and this is accepted but clarity is needed on other nutrient neutrality options available in order to show that the allocation is deliverable. Further details should be provided.	Additional text recommended to the examiner
Heritage England	No comments received	
Environment Agency	Recognise the work undertaken to date on the plan and the AA. Reiterate that there is not currently the required degree of certainty around available nutrient neutrality options, it has not been demonstrated that the proposed growth could not result in a significant impact on the integrity of the River Wye SAC. Question the approach of allocating sites, if the planning permission is refused it will lead to stalled development. Not clear if the NDP is supported by evidence of delivery. Acknowledge that Herefordshire Council are investigating wetlands.	Additional text recommend to the examiner
Natural Resources Wales	No comments received	

Appendix 3

Neighbourhood Plan Policy Screening – Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan

Policy Number	Potential effect	In-combination effects	Likely Significant effect (Yes/ No and state how)
Policy TAR1 Sustainable Transport	Policy itself will not lead to development	Criteria 1 is seeking to protect and enhance the natural environment	No the policy does not lead to development
Policy TAR2 Natural Environment	<p>Policy is seeking to conserve, enhance or protect the built, natural and/or historic environment</p> <p>Policy is specifically seeking to protect sensitive sites</p> <p>Policy is guiding development away from the sensitive sites</p>	<p>Policy is specifically worded to support Policy SD4 of the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Criteria 1 specifically refers to the SAC and the requirement to be nutrient neutral</p> <p>Together with policy SD4 this provided criteria regarding the SAC to be meet by any site allocation or planning application prior to any permission being approved</p>	No the policy is seeking to avoid adverse effects on the River Wye SAC
Policy TAR3 Historic Environment	Policy is seeking to conserve, enhance or protect the built, natural and/or historic environment		No the policy is seeking to protect the historic environment and will not lead to development itself
Policy TAR4 Building Design	Policy is seeking to conserve, enhance or protect the built, natural and/or historic environment		No the policy is seeking to enhance the efficient of buildings in their design
Policy TAR5 Housing Delivery	The location of the development is currently unknown, its implementation will be subject to a planning application	<p>Seeking the delivery of 16 dwellings during the plan period</p> <p>Increased traffic</p>	<p>LSE</p> <p>The policy is seeking to delivery 16 dwellings within the plan period</p>

Policy Number	Potential effect	In-combination effects	Likely Significant effect (Yes/ No and state how)
		Increased demand on water abstraction Increased demand on sewage treatment	
Policy TAR6 Settlement boundaries	The location of the development is currently unknown, its implementation will be subject to a planning application	Defining the area for potential housing growth Increased traffic Increased demand on water abstraction Increased demand on sewage treatment	LSE The policy is seeking to delivery 16 dwellings within the plan period
Policy TAR7 Housing size, type and tenure	Policy itself will not lead to development		No the policy does not lead to development itself
Policy TAR9 Employment development	The location of the development is currently unknown, its implementation will be subject to a planning application	Policy to support employment development. Increase in vehicle traffic. Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment. Policy criteria 3 included reference to biodiversity	LSE The locations of any development is yet to be known
Policy TAR10 Communications infrastructure	The location of the development is currently unknown, its implementation will be subject to a planning application	Reduced movement	LSE The locations of any development is yet to be known
Policy TAR11 Renewable Energy	The location of the development is currently unknown, its	Criteria 3 includes reference to biodiversity	LSE

Policy Number	Potential effect	In-combination effects	Likely Significant effect (Yes/ No and state how)
	implementation will be subject to a planning application		The locations of any development is yet to be known
Policy TAR12 Transport	The location of the development is currently unknown, its implementation will be subject to a planning application	Increased movement	LSE The locations of any development is yet to be known
Policy TAR13 Local Green Space	Policy is seeking to conserve, enhance or protect the built, natural and/or historic environment		No policy is seeking to conserve local green spaces
Policy TAR14 Green Infrastructure	Policy is seeking to conserve, enhance or protect the built, natural and/or historic environment	Identifies priority habitats for protection including water features	No policy is seeking to enhance the natural environment
Policy TAR15 Community facilities	The location of the development is currently unknown, its implementation will be subject to a planning application	Increase in vehicle traffic. Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.	LSE Support for enhanced facilities within the village

Site Allocation	Potential effect	In-combination effects	Likely Significant effect
TAR 8 - Land at School Road	The policy could have a likely to have an impact on water quality	Policy for housing development in line with Core Strategy targets. Increase in vehicle traffic. Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.	LSE Site allocation

Appropriate Assessment policy assessment – Tarrington Neighbourhood Plan - Post examination

Policy TAR5 Housing delivery

Likely signification effect – foul water, surface water, water quality in the river.

Possible Mitigation measures

Mitigation	Description
Policy SD4	The policy does not grant permission or lead to development in itself. It is seeking to comply with the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy Policy RA2. A planning application will be required and any application will need to meet the requirements of Policy SD4
Policy TAR2	This policy does not grant permission or lead to development in itself. It ensures that all development proposals can demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that development will not increase the nutrient input into the SAC.
Main sewerage system	There is main drainage within the village and ability to connect to the mains. This covers the areas within the Tarrington settlement boundary The Little Tarrington settlement boundary is not covered by the main sewerage area. The majority of the proportional growth will be targeted to these areas.
WWTW	The majority of any future development is within the Welsh Water Treatment Works catchment area for Tarrington. Welsh Water are reporting sufficient capacity within the works for development. The proportional growth requirement is within the expected for the Hereford Market area within the Core Strategy and agreed by Welsh Water. The treatment works is not listed as having phosphate stripping and there are no additional upgrades within the current AMP programme
Integrated Wetlands	A programme of delivering integrated wetland is planned to create a number of wetlands to aid the reduction of phosphate within the catchment. The delivery of a number of these wetlands will be within the plan period.
Revised Nutrient Management Plan	A revised Nutrient Management Plan is underway which will contain a variety of measures by partners including the Environment Agency, Welsh Water, Farm Herefordshire and National Farmers Union to reduce phosphate levels within the catchment. This will be finalised within the plan period.
Other considerations	The main settlement boundary is not located adjacent to the River Frome and is some distance away
In-combination policies	The policy criteria within Policy TAR8 (the site allocations policy) includes the requirement for suitable sustainable drainage. Policy TAR2 requires all developments should demonstrate developments will not increase nutrients within the River Wye SAC Policy SD4 required all developments to meet criteria to not undermine the water quality objectives of the SAC.

Residual effects – Having taken the above mitigation measures into account, it is considered that there is sufficient policy requirements and mitigation measures that require to be met by any resulting planning application in relation to the designation of the settlement boundaries within the Tarrington NDP. These mitigation measures ensure that the likely significant effects of the development plan have been removed. There are not residual outstanding effects.

Conclusion – the delineation of a settlement boundary within the plan does not directly lead to development. All infill sites within the boundary and housing within the ‘open countryside’ require a planning application which demonstrates that the Policy SD4 and Policy TAR2 have been met and taking into account the mitigation measures highlighted above it is concluded that no likely significant effects would result with regards to the Tarrington NDP Policy TAR6

Policy TAR6 Settlement Boundary

Likely signification effect – foul water, surface water, water quality in the river.

Possible Mitigation measures

Mitigation	Description
Policy SD4	The delineation of a settlement boundary does not grant permission or lead to development in itself. A planning application will be required and any application will need to meet the requirements of Policy SD4
Policy TAR2	This policy does not grant permission or lead to development in itself. It ensures that all development proposals can demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that development will not increase the nutrient input into the SAC.
Main sewerage system	There is main drainage within the village and ability to connect to the mains. The settlement boundary covers the areas within the Tarrington settlement boundary The Little Tarrington settlement boundary is not covered by the main sewerage area.
WWTW	The site is within the Welsh Water Treatment Works catchment area for Tarrington. Welsh Water are reporting sufficient capacity within the works for development. The proportional growth requirement is within the expected for the Hereford Market area within the Core Strategy and agreed by Welsh Water. The treatment works is not listed as having phosphate stripping and there are no additional upgrades within the current AMP programme
Integrated Wetlands	A programme of delivering integrated wetland is planned to create a number of wetlands to aid the reduction of phosphate within the catchment. The delivery of a number of these wetlands will be within the plan period.
Revised Nutrient Management Plan	A revised Nutrient Management Plan is underway which will contain a variety of measures by partners including the Environment Agency, Welsh Water, Farm Herefordshire and National Farmers Union to reduce phosphate levels within the catchment. This will be finalised within the plan period.
Other considerations	The main settlement boundary is not located adjacent to the River Frome and is some distance away
In-combination policies	The policy criteria within Policy TAR8 (the site allocations policy) includes the requirement for suitable sustainable drainage. Policy TAR2 requires all developments should demonstrate developments will not increase nutrients within the River Wye SAC Policy SD4 required all developments to meet criteria to not undermine the water quality objectives of the SAC.

Residual effects – Having taken the above mitigation measures into account, it is considered that there is sufficient policy requirements and mitigation measures that require to be met by any resulting planning application in relation to the designation of the settlement boundaries within the Tarrington NDP. These mitigation measures ensure that the likely significant effects of the development plan have been removed. There are not residual outstanding effects.

Conclusion – the delineation of a settlement boundary within the plan does not directly lead to development. All infill sites within the boundary and housing within the ‘open countryside’ require a planning application which demonstrates that the Policy SD4 and Policy TAR2 have been met and taking into account the mitigation measures highlighted above it is concluded that no likely significant effects would result with regards to the Tarrington NDP Policy TAR6

Policy TAR8

Site allocation – Land at School Road – 16 dwellings

Likely signification effect – foul water, surface water, water quality in the river.

Possible Mitigation measures:

Mitigation	Description
Policy SD4	Site allocation does not grant permission or lead to development. A planning application will be required and any application will need to meet the requirements of Policy SD4
Policy TAR2	This policy does not grant permission or lead to development in itself. It ensures that all development proposals can demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that development will not increase the nutrient input into the SAC.
Main sewerage system	There is main drainage within the village and ability to connect to the mains
WWTW	The site is within the Welsh Water Treatment Works catchment area for Tarrington. Welsh Water are reporting sufficient capacity within the works for development. The proportional growth requirement is within the expected for the Hereford Market area within the Core Strategy and agreed by Welsh Water. The treatment works is not listed as having phosphate stripping and there are no additional upgrades within the current AMP programme
Integrated Wetlands	A programme of delivering integrated wetland is planned to create a number of wetlands to aid the reduction of phosphate within the catchment. The delivery of a number of these wetlands will be within the plan period.
Revised Nutrient Management Plan	A revised Nutrient Management Plan is underway which will contain a variety of measures by partners including the Environment Agency, Welsh Water, Farm Herefordshire and National Farmers Union to reduce phosphate levels within the catchment. This will be finalised within the plan period.
Other considerations	The site is not located adjacent to the River Frome and is some distance away Site is not located within an area at risk of surface water flooding, flows are contained within the Tarrington Brook. Site is not within a source protection zone or aquifer
In-combination policies	The policy criteria within Policy TAR8 includes the requirement for suitable sustainable drainage. Policy TAR2 requires all developments should demonstrate developments will not increase nutrients within the River Wye SAC Policy SD4 required all developments to meet criteria to not undermine the water quality objectives of the SAC.

Residual effects – Having taken the above mitigation measures into account, it is considered that there is sufficient policy requirements and mitigation measures that require to be met by any resulting planning application in relation to this site allocations. These mitigation measures ensure that the likely significant effects of the allocation within the development plan have been removed. There are not residual outstanding effects.

Conclusion – the allocation of this site within the plan does not directly lead to development. All site allocations require a planning application which demonstrates that the Policy SD4 and Policy TAR2 have been met and taking into account the mitigation measures highlighted above it is concluded that no likely significant effects would result with regards to the Tarrington NDP Policy TAR8.

Policy TAR9 Employment development

Likely signification effect – foul water, surface water, water quality in the river.

Possible Mitigation measures:

Mitigation	Description
Policy SD4	Policy criteria does not grant permission or lead to development. A planning application will be required and any application will need to meet the requirements of Policy SD4
Policy TAR2	This policy does not grant permission or lead to development in itself. It ensures that all development proposals can demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that development will not increase the nutrient input into the SAC.
Main sewerage system	There is main drainage within the village and ability to connect to the mains. Any proposal outside the village would need to make arrangements to comply with Policy SD4
WWTW	Any site within the settlement boundary would be within the Welsh Water Treatment Works catchment area for Tarrington. Welsh Water are reporting sufficient capacity within the works for development. The treatment works is not listed as having phosphate stripping and there are no additional upgrades within the current AMP programme
Integrated Wetlands	A programme of delivering integrated wetland is planned to create a number of wetlands to aid the reduction of phosphate within the catchment. The delivery of a number of these wetlands will be within the plan period.
Revised Nutrient Management Plan	A revised Nutrient Management Plan is underway which will contain a variety of measures by partners including the Environment Agency, Welsh Water, Farm Herefordshire and National Farmers Union to reduce phosphate levels within the catchment. This will be finalised within the plan period.
Other considerations	The parish is not located adjacent to the River Frome and is some distance away
In-combination policies	Policy TAR2 requires all developments should demonstrate developments will not increase nutrients within the River Wye SAC Policy SD4 required all developments to meet criteria to not undermine the water quality objectives of the SAC.

Residual effects – Having taken the above mitigation measures into account, it is considered that there is sufficient policy requirements and mitigation measures that require to be met by any resulting planning application in relation to this policy to support employment development. These mitigation measures ensure that the likely significant effects of the allocation within the development plan have been removed. There are not residual outstanding effects.

Conclusion – the inclusion of this policy within the plan does not directly lead to development. Future employment development require a planning application which demonstrates that the Policy SD4 and Policy TAR2 have been met and taking into account the mitigation measures highlighted above it is concluded that no likely significant effects would result with regards to the Tarrington NDP Policy TAR9.

Policy TAR10 Communication Infrastructure

Likely signification effect – foul water, surface water, water quality in the river.

Possible Mitigation measures:

Mitigation	Description
Policy SD4	Policy criteria does not grant permission or lead to development. A planning application will be required and any application will need to meet the requirements of Policy SD4
Policy TAR2	This policy does not grant permission or lead to development in itself. It ensures that all development proposals can demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that development will not increase the nutrient input into the SAC.
Main sewerage system	Communication equipment would not be required to connect to the mains
WWTW	Communication equipment would not be required to connect to the treatment works
Integrated Wetlands	A programme of delivering integrated wetland is planned to create a number of wetlands to aid the reduction of phosphate within the catchment. The delivery of a number of these wetlands will be within the plan period.
Revised Nutrient Management Plan	A revised Nutrient Management Plan is underway which will contain a variety of measures by partners including the Environment Agency, Welsh Water, Farm Herefordshire and National Farmers Union to reduce phosphate levels within the catchment. This will be finalised within the plan period.
Other considerations	The parish is not located adjacent to the River Frome and is some distance away
In-combination policies	Policy TAR2 requires all developments should demonstrate developments will not increase nutrients within the River Wye SAC Policy SD4 required all developments to meet criteria to not undermine the water quality objectives of the SAC.

Residual effects – Communication equipment, although development will not need to connect to the mains or have any phosphorous output. Having taken the above mitigation measures into account, it is considered that there is sufficient policy requirements and mitigation measures that require to be met by any resulting planning application in relation to this policy to support employment development. These mitigation measures ensure that the likely significant effects of the allocation within the development plan have been removed. There are not residual outstanding effects.

Conclusion – the inclusion of this policy within the plan does not directly lead to development. Future communication development requires a planning application which demonstrates that the Policy SD4 and Policy TAR2 have been met and taking into account the mitigation measures highlighted above it is concluded that no likely significant effects would result with regards to the Tarrington NDP Policy TAR10.

Policy TAR11 Renewable Energy

Likely signification effect – foul water, surface water, water quality in the river.

Possible Mitigation measures:

Mitigation	Description
Policy SD4	The policy does not grant permission or lead to development. A planning application will be required and any application will need to meet the requirements of Policy SD4
Policy TAR2	This policy does not grant permission or lead to development in itself. It ensures that all development proposals can demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that development will not increase the nutrient input into the SAC.
Main sewerage system	There is main drainage within the village and ability to connect to the mains, it is not expected that any renewable energy system will connect to the mains
WWTW	it is not expected that any renewable energy system will connect to the mains
Integrated Wetlands	A programme of delivering integrated wetland is planned to create a number of wetlands to aid the reduction of phosphate within the catchment. The delivery of a number of these wetlands will be within the plan period.
Revised Nutrient Management Plan	A revised Nutrient Management Plan is underway which will contain a variety of measures by partners including the Environment Agency, Welsh Water, Farm Herefordshire and National Farmers Union to reduce phosphate levels within the catchment. This will be finalised within the plan period.
Other considerations	
In-combination policies	Policy TAR2 requires all developments should demonstrate developments will not increase nutrients within the River Wye SAC Policy SD4 required all developments to meet criteria to not undermine the water quality objectives of the SAC.

Residual effects – Having taken the above mitigation measures into account, it is considered that there is sufficient policy requirements and mitigation measures that require to be met by any resulting planning application in relation to this supportive policy. These mitigation measures ensure that the likely significant effects of the development plan have been removed. There are not residual outstanding effects.

Conclusion – the policy within the plan does not directly lead to development. All schemes require a planning application which demonstrates that the Policy SD4 and Policy TAR2 have been met and taking into account the mitigation measures highlighted above it is concluded that no likely significant effects would result with regards to the Tarrington NDP Policy TAR11.

Policy TAR12 Transport

Likely signification effect – foul water, surface water, water quality in the river.

Possible Mitigation measures:

Mitigation	Description
Policy SD4	The policy does not grant permission or lead to development. A planning application will be required and any application will need to meet the requirements of Policy SD4
Policy TAR2	This policy does not grant permission or lead to development in itself. It ensures that all development proposals can demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that development will not increase the nutrient input into the SAC.
Main sewerage system	No requirement for connection
WWTW	No requirement for connection
Integrated Wetlands	A programme of delivering integrated wetland is planned to create a number of wetlands to aid the reduction of phosphate within the catchment. The delivery of a number of these wetlands will be within the plan period.
Revised Nutrient Management Plan	A revised Nutrient Management Plan is underway which will contain a variety of measures by partners including the Environment Agency, Welsh Water, Farm Herefordshire and National Farmers Union to reduce phosphate levels within the catchment. This will be finalised within the plan period.
Other considerations	
In-combination policies	<p>Policy TAR2 requires all developments should demonstrate developments will not increase nutrients within the River Wye SAC</p> <p>Policy SD4 required all developments to meet criteria to not undermine the water quality objectives of the SAC.</p>

Residual effects – Having taken the above mitigation measures into account, it is considered that there is sufficient policy requirements and mitigation measures that require to be met by any resulting planning application in relation to this supportive transportation policy. These mitigation measures ensure that the likely significant effects of the development plan have been removed. There are not residual outstanding effects.

Conclusion – the policy within the plan does not directly lead to development. All schemes require a planning application which demonstrates that the Policy SD4 and Policy TAR2 have been met and taking into account the mitigation measures highlighted above it is concluded that no likely significant effects would result with regards to the Tarrington NDP Policy TAR12

Policy TAR15 Community facilities

Likely signification effect – foul water, surface water, water quality in the river.

Possible Mitigation measures:

Mitigation	Description
Policy SD4	The policy does not grant permission or lead to development. A planning application will be required and any application will need to meet the requirements of Policy SD4
Policy TAR2	This policy does not grant permission or lead to development in itself. It ensures that all development proposals can demonstrate with clear and convincing evidence that development will not increase the nutrient input into the SAC.
Main sewerage system	There is main drainage within the village and ability to connect to the mains
WWTW	There is main drainage within the village and ability to connect to the mains
Integrated Wetlands	A programme of delivering integrated wetland is planned to create a number of wetlands to aid the reduction of phosphate within the catchment. The delivery of a number of these wetlands will be within the plan period.
Revised Nutrient Management Plan	A revised Nutrient Management Plan is underway which will contain a variety of measures by partners including the Environment Agency, Welsh Water, Farm Herefordshire and National Farmers Union to reduce phosphate levels within the catchment. This will be finalised within the plan period.
Other considerations	
In-combination policies	Policy TAR2 requires all developments should demonstrate developments will not increase nutrients within the River Wye SAC Policy SD4 required all developments to meet criteria to not undermine the water quality objectives of the SAC.

Residual effects – Having taken the above mitigation measures into account, it is considered that there is sufficient policy requirements and mitigation measures that require to be met by any resulting planning application in relation to this supportive policy. These mitigation measures ensure that the likely significant effects of the development plan have been removed. There are not residual outstanding effects.

Conclusion – the policy within the plan does not directly lead to development. All schemes require a planning application which demonstrates that the Policy SD4 and Policy TAR2 have been met and taking into account the mitigation measures highlighted above it is concluded that no likely significant effects would result with regards to the Tarrington NDP Policy TAR15