

Environmental Report

Report for:

Sutton St Nicholas Neighbourhood Area

April 2022



Sutton St Nicholas Neighbourhood Plan – (April 2022)

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.

Sutton St Nicholas Parish Council have undertaken to modify their made NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive.

The draft modified Sutton St Nicholas NDP includes 3 objective which are intended to address a number of issues highlighted and it is intended that these objectives will be delivered by 17 planning policies including site allocations and criteria based policies. The Sutton St Nicholas NDP was made on 9 March 2017 and the parish council have decided to modify a number of policies to ensure that the plan is up to date. This has resulted in the revision of a number of objectives and 11 policies.

The environmental appraisal of the Sutton St Nicholas 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 provides a review and analysis of the NDP. Stage C involved preparing an Environmental Report and Stage D comprises a formal consultation on both this and the Draft Plan itself.

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening showed that a full HRA assessment is required. A separate report has been produced outlining this to accompany the modified draft Sutton St Nicholas NDP.

On the whole, it is considered that the modified Sutton St Nicholas 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). The plan proposes a level of growth which reflects the proportionate growth that is prescribed by strategic policies.

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

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Sutton St Nicholas Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.2 The Sutton St Nicholas NDP provides general policies for guiding future development across the parish as a whole. Settlement boundary have been defined for the village of Sutton St Nicholas. Within the village of Sutton St Nicholas, these are supported by a proposed site allocations to meet proportional levels of growth in Policy RA2 of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).

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 which applies to plans with significant environmental effects.
- 1.5 The main objective of a SEA is *“to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development”*. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004). The assessment is looking at the positive and negative environmental issues that your plan might have on your local environmental assets.
- 1.6 A screening opinion was carried out on the Sutton St Nicholas 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 and HRA would be required.

Modified draft Sutton St Nicholas Neighbourhood Plan Context

- 1.7 Sutton St Nicholas is a rural parish which lies approximately 5 miles to the north east of Hereford. The village of Sutton St Nicholas lies towards the centre of the parish on the edge of the floodplain. The settlement has been developed around a crossroads.
- 1.8 The neighbourhood area includes a conservation area, a number of historic churches and several ancient monuments. The River Lugg (part of the River Wye SAC) runs to the south west of the parish.
- 1.9 The overall vision is contained within the draft neighbourhood plan has been changed from that within the made plan;

“In 2031, Sutton St Nicholas will be a sustainable and thriving local community, with the distinctive local environment of the village and surrounding countryside robustly and successfully safeguarded with new development in place to meet requirements for housing, jobs and local services”
- 1.10 The Sutton St Nicholas NDP has 3 main theme objectives which underpin this vision and these have also been to make them clearer in the revised NDP;

Housing

- To define a settlement boundary to establish the planned extent of the built form of Sutton St Nicholas village over the plan period
- To provide for a proportionate amount of new housing to meet Local Plan requirements
- To ensure the new housing is of a size, type and tenure to address community housing needs

Jobs, local services and infrastructure

- To enable new employment proposals of suitable scale and uses, consistent with the rural character of the parish and residential amenity
- To manage larger scale agricultural and forestry development
- To support the provision of new and improved communications infrastructure
- To protect local community facilities and support additional provision
- To identify community needs and infrastructure to be met through Community Actions
- To support appropriate proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generation

Open spaces and the environment

- To ensure that new development does not have an adverse effect on the River Wye Special Area of Conservation
- To protect and enhance landscape character and key views, particularly in terms of setting of the village
- To safeguard local green spaces
- To protect existing green infrastructure and encourage new provision
- To ensure that new housing and other development is well-designed, sustainable and makes a positive contribution to townscape and landscape
- To conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance

Context of Neighbourhood Plans

- 1.12 NDPs are a 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.
- 1.13 The Sutton St Nicholas NDP must therefore conform to national planning policy set within the NPPF and strategic level local policy including the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). The made plan has been through an independent examination which has demonstrated that the plan did meet the basic conditions. Any modifications to the made plan will also need to be examined and are required to meet the basic conditions.
- 1.14 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) was adopted on 16 October 2015.
- 1.15 Paragraph 48 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).
- 1.16 Table 4.14 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) lists Sutton St Nicholas among the settlements which it considers to be sustainable locations for growth, which is the main focus of proportionate growth, in line with the Policy RA1 and RA2.

- 1.17 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council the modified NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the parish, by setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined and will replace the current made Sutton St Nicholas NDP.

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 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 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 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 policies and reasonable alternatives
- *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 modified NDP. It accompanies the Draft Modified 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 Sutton St Nicholas SEA Scoping Report was available to four¹ statutory bodies for consultation from 25 February to 1 April 2022.

Consultation outcomes from Statutory Consultees

- 2.9 The consultation resulted in 3 responses, which are attached at Appendix 3.
- 2.10 This has been collated and incorporated within this document where relevant.
- **Natural England:**
Response: No response received
 - **Historic England:**
Response: No substantial comments to make. SEA is well thought out and fit for purpose
 - **Environment Agency:**
Response: No substantial comments to make. Welcome inclusion of phosphate issues. Additional advice include for the NDP.
 - **Natural Resources Wales:**
Response: No comments to make

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 Sutton St Nicholas 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"*

¹ Statutory consultation bodies: Natural England; English Heritage; Environment Agency, Natural Resources Wales

Policy context

- 3.3 The modified Sutton st Nicholas NDP will deliver the Local Plan (Core Strategy) at parish level by adding locally specific detail to strategic policies. As a consequence, the Scoping Report for the NDP was based on the context review Herefordshire Council undertook for its Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 3.4 The results of this assessment (context review) provide the source of the local baseline data and have been incorporated into the SEA framework. It should be noted that no list of policies, plans and programmes can ever be exhaustive and that Herefordshire Council has selected those considered to be of particular relevance to the planning system. New or revised plans and policies can emerge during the SEA process
- 3.5 The strategies and plans have been reviewed and, where appropriate, incorporated within the SA Framework objectives. These can be seen in Appendix 1 of the Sutton St Nicholas Plan Scoping Report together with the implications for the SEA and NDP highlighted.

SEA Objectives and baseline characteristics

- 3.6 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

- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 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 modified NDP policies will help or obstruct these characteristics.
- 3.9 Following the completion of Task B2 of SEA it was apparent that the largest environmental issue within the parish and which has an impact on the County as a whole, is water quality;

the River Wye, though currently meeting all its conservation objectives, will require effective management, in order to ensure that the quality of water does not deteriorate to the point that nutrient targets are missed further downstream. The River Lugg, which does flow through the parish, is currently not meeting its water quality targets and the Nutrient Management Plan is being revised to address this issue. This will be addressed further in the Habitat Regulation Assessment which is produced separate to this report.

- 3.10 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 Sutton St Nicholas Plan SEA objectives are listed below.
- 3.11 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 objectives listed in the NDP seek to achieve the vision of the Sutton St Nicholas NDP. There are a total of 3 objectives; these are listed in paragraph 1.13 above. These have been subject to modifications since the adoption of the Sutton St Nicholas NDP in 2017.
- 4.2 The table in appendix 4 tests these NDP objectives against the SEA objectives, providing a summary of the results of Task B1 of SEA.
- 4.3 The majority of those NDP objectives which have a relationship with the SEA framework are positively compatible with it or further clarification is required to fully assess the effects.
- 4.4 Task B1 of the SEA identifies that the four NDP objectives were compatible with the SEA framework. Task B1 also requires objectives to be SMART assessed. These too were seen as compatible.
- 4.5 Overall within Stage B1 the majority of the NDP objectives have met SEA objectives, and the rest had no relationship with the SEA objective or needed further information such as location of development.

5.0 Assessing the NDP Neighbourhood Plan Options

- 5.1 As this is a modification to an existing made NDP, the parish were not starting from scratch and therefore the reasonable alternative options on the plan development were considered during the preparation of the previous NDP.

6.0 Appraisal of the policies

- 6.1 The modifications to the NDP are being proposed to ensure that the plan remains up to date and responds positively to the monitoring that the parish council have been undertaken since the NDP was made.
- 6.2 All the policies of the plan have been subject to some modifications, some have only had minor amendments made whilst others have been rewritten or reformed into improved policies. Eleven policies modified, replaced or added from previous policies to respond to comments provided to both the Herefordshire Council Planning team and the local community

regarding the implementation of the plan since its adoption. The following policies have been assessed;

- Policy SUT1 Sutton St Nicholas settlement boundary (renewed)
- Policy SUT2 Land at The Lanes (new policy)
- Policy SUT3 Land adjacent to The Linnings (new policy)
- Policy SUT4 Housing mix (new policy)
- Policy SUT5 Householder development (new policy)
- Policy SUT6 Small scale employment (original policy)
- Policy SUT7 Agricultural and forestry development (new policy)
- Policy SUT8 Communications infrastructure (new policy)
- Policy SUT9 Community facilities (original policy)
- Policy SUT10 Renewable and low carbon energy (new policy)
- Policy SUT11 Water quality in the River Lugg (new policy)
- Policy SUT12 Landscape character (original policy)
- Policy SUT13 Key views (new policy)
- Policy SUT14 Local Green Spaces and public open space (original policy)
- Policy SUT15 Green infrastructure (original policy)
- Policy SUT16 Building design (new policy)
- Policy SUT17 Heritage (new policy)

Stage B assessment of the modified polices

- 6.3 In the context of Task B1 of SEA, the previous section of this report identified that many of the NDP objectives are compatible with the SEA framework, while others had either a neutral impact, no relationship with the SEA objectives or 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 regards to Task B2 of the 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, therefore, have an adverse impact on the baseline characteristics or immediate environmental impacts. This can be largely attributed to the fact that many are criteria based policies which only consider schemes on their own merits, as and when planning applications are submitted to the local planning authority. Many of the original policies have been rewritten and additional criteria included to make them more response to the environment.
- 6.6 The two site allocation policies (SUT2 and SUT3) has been add to the plan but these are continuations of existing allocations within the current adopted NDP. An additional policy (SUT11) has been added with regards to all developments needing to be nutrient neutral to address the phosphate issues within the River Lugg catchment area.
- 6.7 The results of Task B3, as shown at Appendix 4, demonstrate that the cumulative impact over the time scale is generally positive. Although the development policies indicate that in the short term there may be a neutral or uncertain impact due to the development works that would be undergoing, but within the middle and long term the effects often turn positive due to

the criteria in additional NDP policies that provide mitigation methods against the development. Therefore the majority of the policies will be balanced with sustainable policies to minimise environmental impact.

- 6.8 Task B4 of SEA brings together the results of earlier tasks and thus identifies the cumulative impact of the entire of the NDP. This task, which is also attached at Appendix 6, reveals that the objectives and policies contained in the Sutton St Nicholas NDP are by and large in general conformity with the Local Plan (Core Strategy), which means that the cumulative effect of the plan will contribute to the achievement of the SEA objectives
- 6.9 None of the NDP policies are considered to be in direct conflict with or propose greater levels of growth and development than strategic policies contained in the Local Plan (Core Strategy), which themselves have undergone a full Sustainability Appraisal

7.0 Implementation and monitoring

- 7.1 Herefordshire Council as the Local Planning Authority should make arrangements to monitor the significant effects of implementing a neighbourhood plan.
- 7.2 Indeed, Regulation 17 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 requires the Local Planning Authority to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of any NDP that was subject to SEA, in order to identify unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and to enable appropriate remedial actions.
- 7.3 Accordingly, Herefordshire Council will monitor outcomes from the NDP policies and the results of these will be reported in the Council's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).
- 7.4 The AMR runs from 1 April to 31 March each year and the topics covered therein include the following:
- Housing delivery
 - Previously developed land
 - Housing completions
 - Affordable housing conditions
 - Employment land delivery

8.0 Next steps

- 8.1 This report will be subject to a formal public consultation of 6 weeks duration alongside the modified draft Sutton St Nicholas NDP.
- 8.2 Any changes made to the NDP as a consequence of the Regulation 14 consultation will trigger a review of the SEA, unless they do not materially affect the outcomes of Stage B of the SEA process.

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:	Sutton St Nicholas Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Sutton St Nicholas Parish Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	22 January 2014

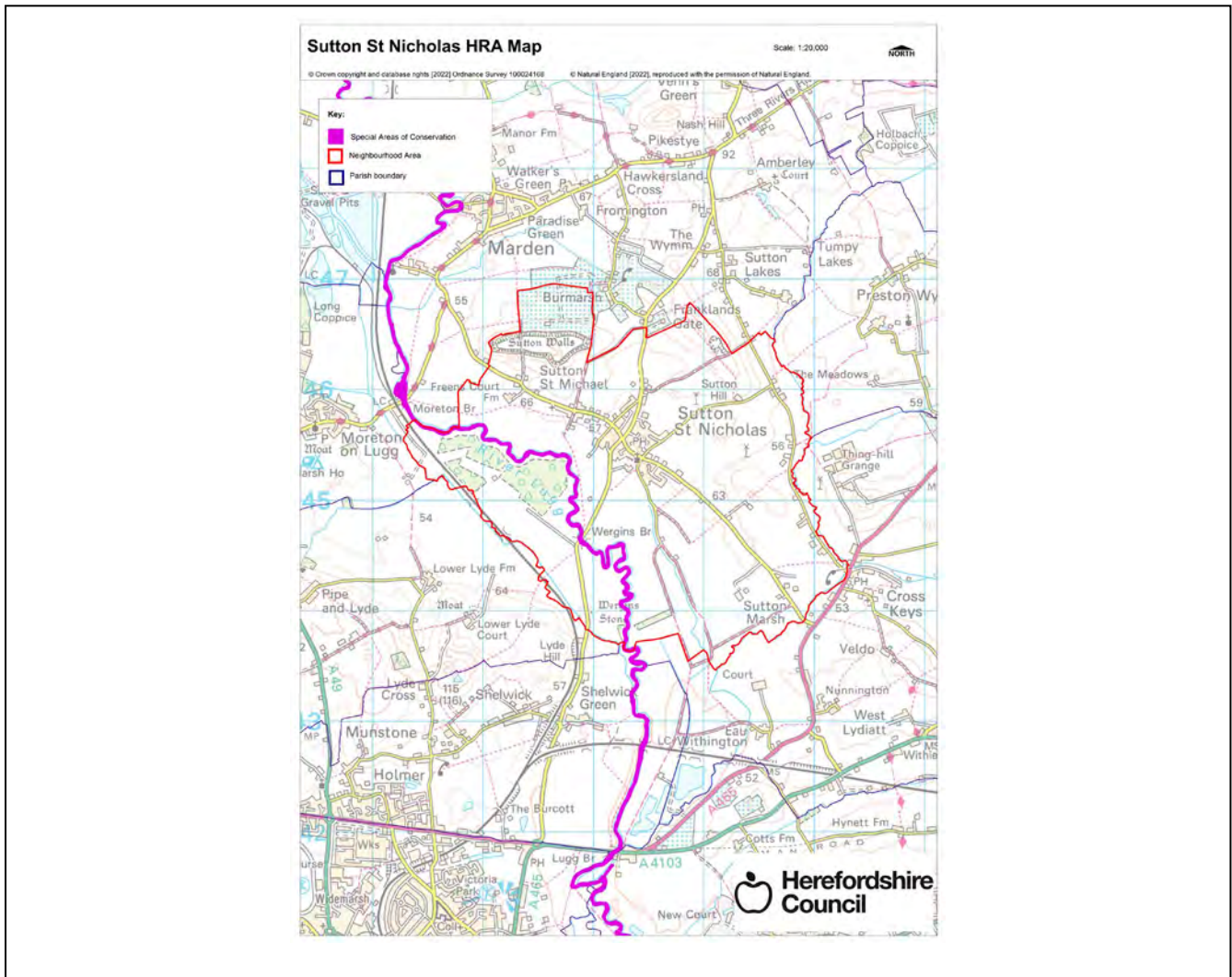
Introduction

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)



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 SAC runs through the Neighbourhood Area.
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye SAC?	Y	The Neighbourhood Area is within the hydrological catchment of the River Lugg.
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the River Lugg hydrological catchment area?	Y	The Neighbourhood Area is within the River Lugg hydrological catchment area.
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	There is mains drainage in Sutton St Nicholas.

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 27.7km away from the Neighbourhood Area.
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River Clun SAC:

Does the River Clun border the Neighbourhood Area	N	The River Clun SAC does not border the Neighbourhood Area.
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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 25.9km away from the Neighbourhood Area.
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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 27.1km away from the Neighbourhood Area.
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HRA Conclusion:

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

European Site

(List only those which are relevant)

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 Sutton St Nicholas 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	1	Ash Bed.	2	Long Coppice; Pipe Coppice, Alders Coppice.
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	-	0	-
Conservation Areas	1	Sutton St Nicholas.	0	-
Flood Areas	Flood Zones run along the River Lugg and also a stream/brook off the Lugg running through the south and east of the Parish.			
Geoparks	0	-	0	-
Listed Buildings	There are numerous listed buildings throughout the Neighbourhood Area.			
Local Geological Sites	2	Sutton Walls; Franklands Gate.	0	-
Local Wildlife Sites	3	River Lugg; Field south of Sutton Rhea; Sutton Hill Gravel Pit.	1	Wellington Marsh.
Mineral Reserves	3	East of Burmarsh, west of Sutton Lakes; South east of Sutton St Nicholas;	2	South of Moreton on Lugg; Upper Paradise Farm to Marden Court.

SEA features	Within Neighbourhood Area			Bordering Neighbourhood Area		
	Total number	Name(s)	SSSI Status	Total number	Name(s)	SSSI Status
		Area around Wellington constrained by 200m zone and area to north of Wellington outside 200m zone.				
National Nature Reserve	0	-		0	-	
Nature Trails	0	-		1	Three Rivers Ride.	
Registered Parks and Gardens	0	-		0	-	
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	4	Sutton Walls (camp); Freen's Court magnate's residence, moat and fishponds; Deserted Medieval village; The Wergins Stone.		0	-	
Sites of Importance in Nature Conservation	0	-		0	-	
Special Areas of Conservation	1	River Wye (including Lugg).		0	-	
Unregistered parks and gardens	1	Sutton Court.		0	-	
			SSSI Status			SSSI Status
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	1	River Lugg.	Unfavourable Recovering/ Unfavourable Declining.			

Decision Notification:

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Sutton St Nicholas Neighbourhood Area will require further environmental assessment for Habitats Regulations Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Assessment date: 23 February 2022

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.

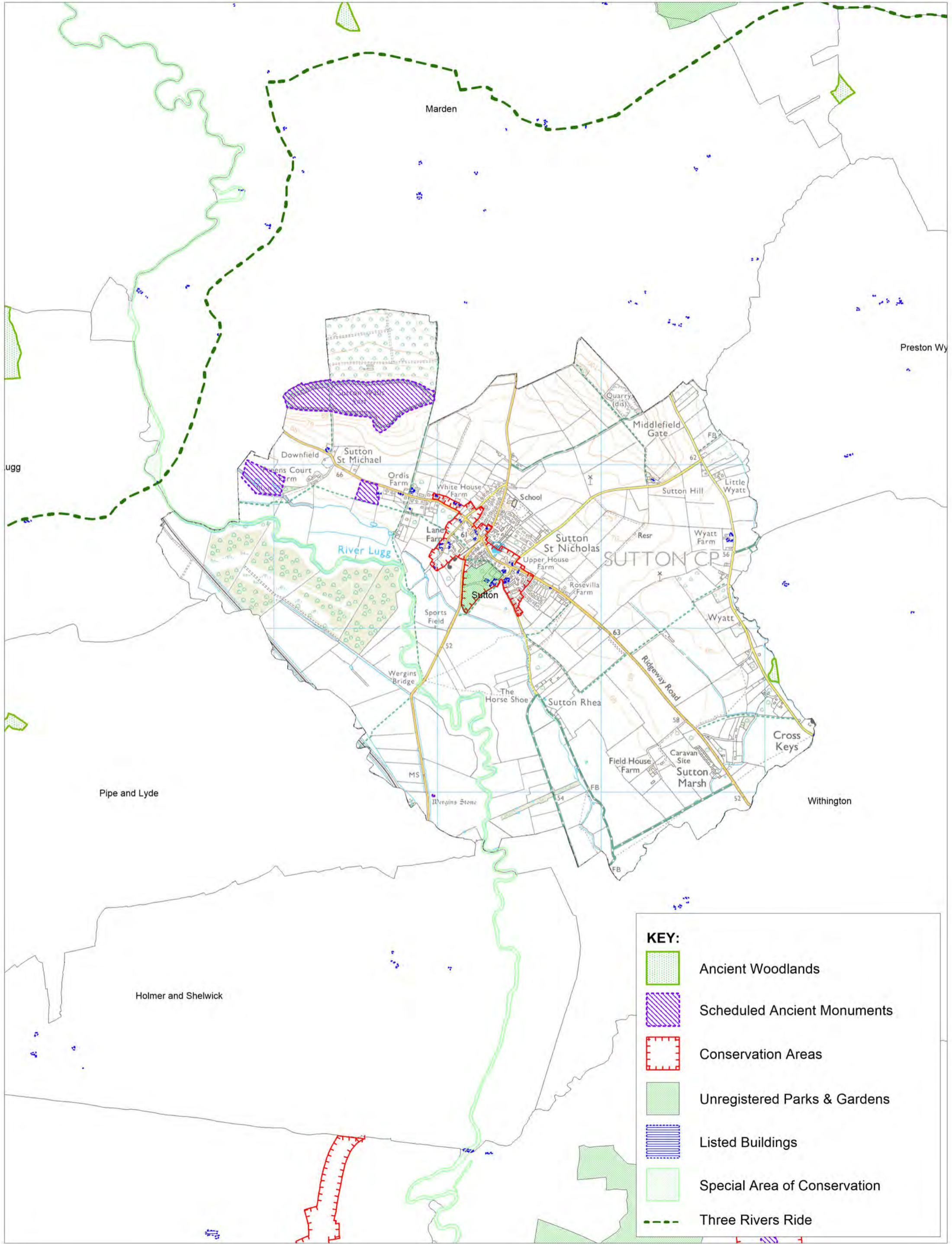


Sutton St Nicholas SEA Map 1










SCALE: 1:20,000

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KEY:

-  Ancient Woodlands
-  Scheduled Ancient Monuments
-  Conservation Areas
-  Unregistered Parks & Gardens
-  Listed Buildings
-  Special Area of Conservation
-  Three Rivers Ride

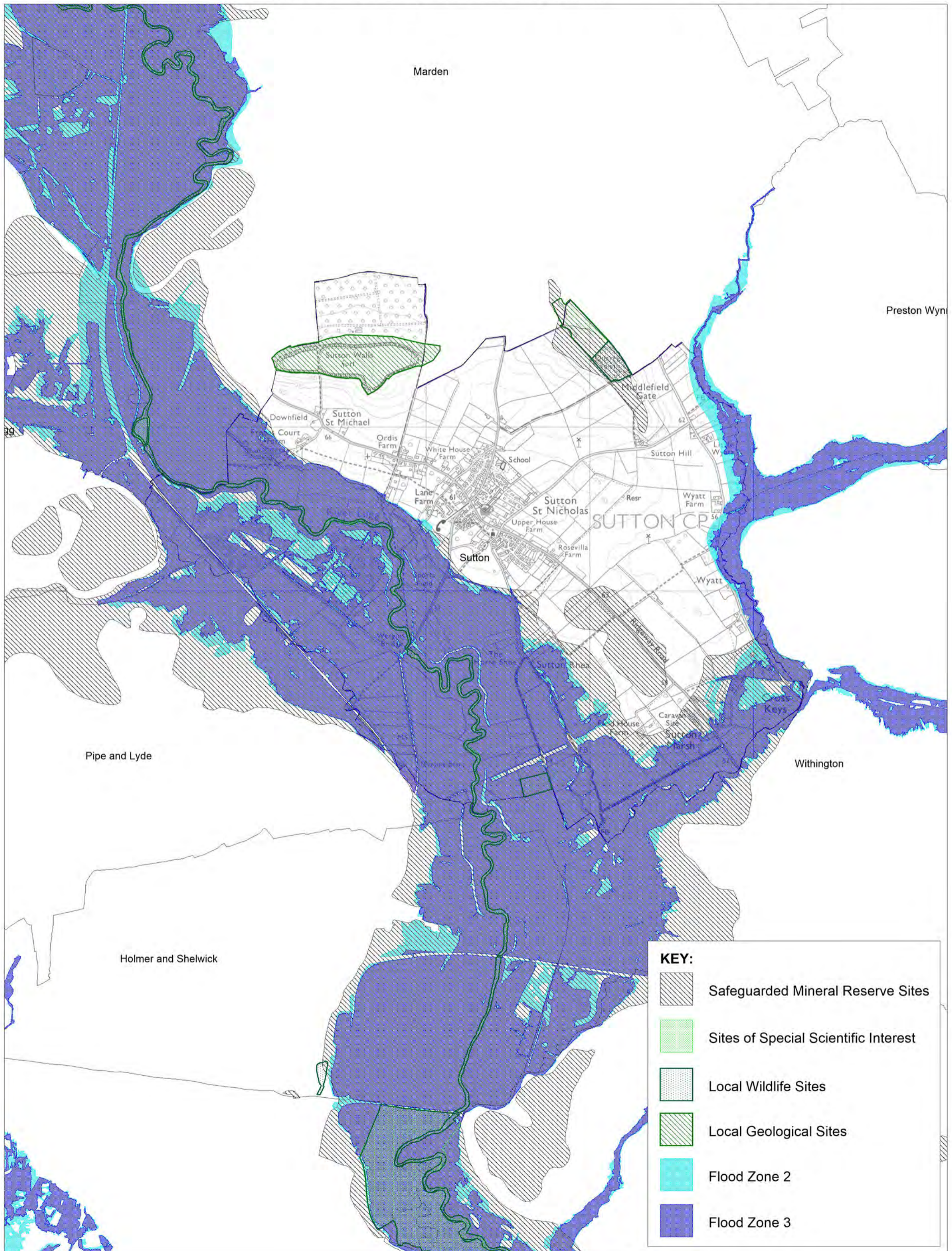


Sutton St Nicholas SEA Map 2









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KEY:

-  Safeguarded Mineral Reserve Sites
-  Sites of Special Scientific Interest
-  Local Wildlife Sites
-  Local Geological Sites
-  Flood Zone 2
-  Flood Zone 3

Appendix 2

Strategic Environmental Assessment

Scoping Report for:

Sutton St Nicholas Neighbourhood Area

February 2022



Consultation on the Scoping Report

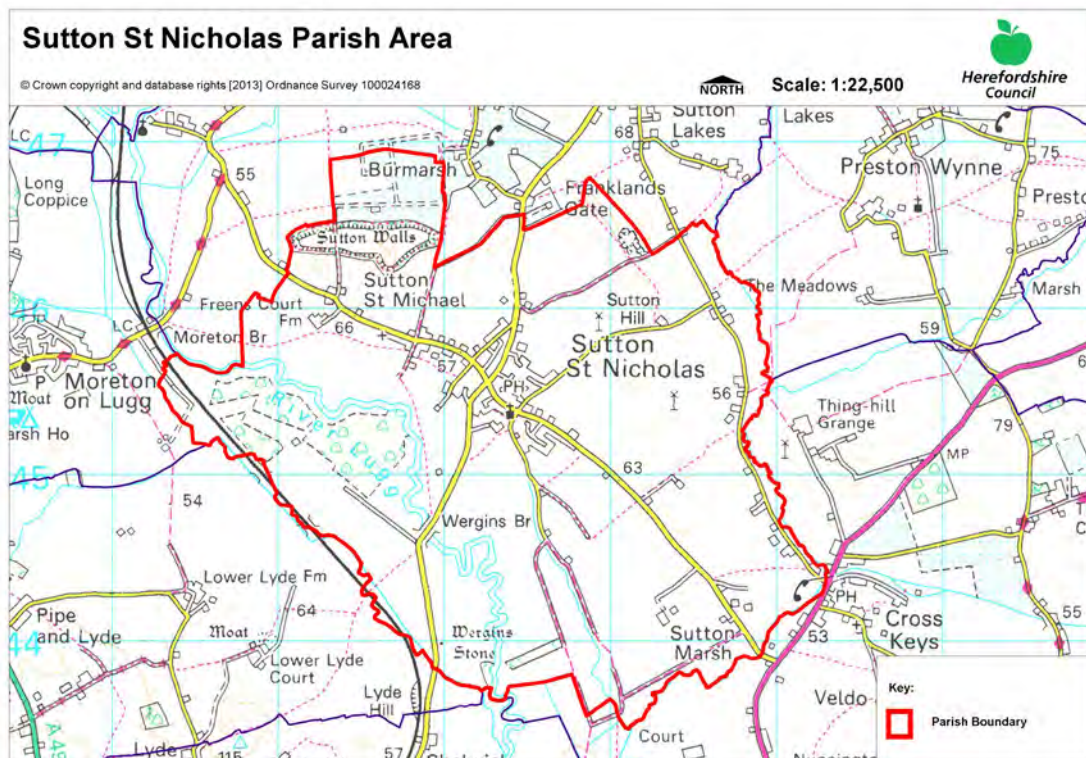
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

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

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

The three consultation bodies are as follows:

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



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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)	Domestic Legislation	1981	The major legal instrument for wildlife protection in Britain, although other significant acts have been passed since. It has numerous parts and supplementary lists and schedules many of which have been amended since publication.	The principle mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 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.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)	Domestic Legislation	2006	Designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering Government policy.	Provides that any public body or statutory undertaker in England and Wales must have regard to the purpose of conservation of biological diversity in the exercise of their functions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.
Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy	EU Strategy.	2009	Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will better meet its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.	Recognises the need to gradually change current unsustainable consumption and production patterns and move towards a better integrated approach to policy making. The Strategy sets overall objectives, targets and concrete actions for seven key priority challenges, predominantly environmental.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	The NDP should take account of the objectives of the strategy, making the aim of sustainable development an integral part of its proposals.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services	National Strategy	2011	Forms part of the UK's Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework by setting out England's contribution towards the UK's commitments under the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity.	Sets out to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.	2018	Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.	Aims to make the planning system less complex, more accessible and able to promote growth within the ethos of sustainable development. The presumption is in favour of sustainable development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	The guidance contained within the section on Neighbourhood Planning should be borne in mind during the preparation of the NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Planning Practice Guidance	Government Guidance	2022	Provides guidance to local planning authorities and others on the operation of the planning system.	Offers up-to-date, electronic guidance on every aspect of planning from air quality and design to land stability and rural housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	The NDP must be pro-growth and facilitate the provision and development of sustainable development.
Herefordshire Core Strategy 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.	Outlines the emerging suite of countywide planning policies relating to housing, economic development and the environment, which the NDP will need to be in conformity with where relevant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	<p>The NDP should take account of relevant policies set within the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Where necessary, the NDP should provide services, facilities and employment opportunities that are</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<p>The Pre Submission Core Strategy includes a range of objectives, five of which directly relate to rural areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • 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</p>		<p>accessible to both local and neighbouring communities.</p> <p>April 2021 proportionate housing growth figures for Sutton St Nicholas are; Target:72 Completed:53 Commitments:3</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<p>traditionally played in as accessible, sustainable centres for their rural catchments.</p> <p>Seeks proportional growth of up to 18% in Sutton St Nicholas (Hereford HMA) over the plan period,</p>		
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2016- 2031	Corporate	2016	Sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period April 2013 to April 2015.	The document includes three key objectives, one of which seeks to maintain access for rural residents and people without access to a car. Intrinsic to this is the retention of a 'core network' of bus services which focus on journeys between Hereford and the market towns, along with main transport corridors close to larger rural settlements. To this end, the strategy aims to increase the number of bus users by 1.3% (4,700 journeys) by 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Climatic factors • Population 	The LTP does not explore current transport issues in the Sutton St Nicholas neighbourhood area, but any new development proposed through the NDP should seek to reduce the environmental impacts of transport.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016	Corporate	2011	Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to support business growth up to 2016.	<p>The document outlines the path and direction to foster economic vitality within Herefordshire. Key objectives therefore include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Material assets • Population 	None of merit.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Employment Land Study	Evidence	2012	Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.	<p>This study covers existing employment sites in Hereford, the five market towns and their rural hinterlands.</p> <p>There are no employment land allocations within Sutton St Nicholas at present and so the study does not identify sites which are worthy of continued protection from alternative uses. Nor does it make any recommendations in respect of employment need within the neighbourhood area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material assets • Population 	None of merit; however it would be appropriate for the NDP to examine employment need locally and determine whether there is any scope for providing employment land and premises.

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Evidence	2018	<p>The SHLAA 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 Sutton itself, the SHLAA identifies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 300 additional dwellings could be provided on 6 sites. Of the 300 dwellings, 30 could be provided in 1-10 years, and 270 in 11-20 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Biodiversity Climatic factors Cultural heritage Flora and fauna Population Soil Water 	<p>The SHLAA assesses the potential availability of land for housing in parts of Sutton St Nicholas.</p> <p>The Sutton St Nicholas NDP should be informed either by the findings of the SHLAA or a housing land assessment, undertaken in line with Guidance Note 21: Site assessment and allocation sites.</p>

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. Sutton St Nicholas falls within the Hereford HMA. Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of owner occupation are higher on the western side of the city • 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) 	<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>
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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study	Evidence	2012	Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.	<p>The delivery of 5,300 homes in the rural areas would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • 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 Sutton St Nicholas NDP.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report	Evidence	2013	Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy	The villages within the neighbourhood area are listed among the settlements which are considered to be sustainable locations for growth of up to 18%, in accordance with the EiP outcome.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	The Sutton St Nicholas NDP will need to be in general conformity with the provisions of Local Plan policies concerning the rural areas.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Traveller's sites DPD	Evidence	2019	Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.	Key findings from the DPD. In Herefordshire there are a number of small privately owned traveller sites and larger sites that are managed by Herefordshire Council. The private sites varying size with small sites of 1-5 pitches typically being occupied by a single, extended family. In total there are 133 authorised pitches across the county. In addition to this there are 10 Travelling Show people plots in Ross on Wye. No sites have been allocated in the Pyons Group neighbourhood area.	<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 	None of merit.
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 Sutton St Nicholas NDP can help to achieve the priorities set within the LBAP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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 • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • 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 Sutton St Nicholas NDP can overcome any existing constraints and capitalise on opportunities to enhance habitats and their networks.
Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis	Evidence	2010	Technical Paper which supports the SHLAA by classifying the landscape sensitivity of the urban fringe on the edges of Hereford and the five market towns.	The document provides useful information in respect of Hereford and the market towns only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna 	None of merit.

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment	Evidence	2012	Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.	<p>The study updates components of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework 2010 such as updating population forecasts, setting local standards for synthetic turf pitches and grass playing fields within Herefordshire. It identifies any current gaps in provision, and looks forward to 2031 to assess what facilities are likely to be required by that date.</p> <p>In terms of Sutton St Nicholas itself, the study reveals that there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.9 ha of playing pitch area (at the Primary School) <p>There are no hectares of playing pitch area with secured community access.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population 	None of merit, but there may be local evidence of need for playing pitch provision.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Open Spaces Study	Evidence	2006	The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snapshot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.	<p>The study reveals that within Central Herefordshire, to which Sutton St Nicholas is a part, there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive over provision of parks and gardens • Extensive over provision of natural and semi-natural green space • Under provision of amenity green space and outdoor sport • Average provision for children and young people. • Extensive under provision of outdoor sports facilities. <p>In terms of Sutton St Nicholas itself, no specific sites are identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population 	The open space audit and assessment does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in Sutton St Nicholas. However, there may be a need to include a policy which encourages and facilitates the provision of outdoor recreational facilities.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Play Facilities Study	Evidence	2012	The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.	In terms of Sutton St Nicholas itself, the recreation ground is identified in the study as being good in terms of its usage, play value and access.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population 	Recreation grounds is worthy of continued protection through the NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study	Evidence	2009	<p>The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development.</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study (WCS) examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.</p>	<p>The SFRA reveals that Sutton St Nicholas is within the five highest general flood hazard catchments due to the Lower Lugg.</p> <p>The neighbourhood area is situated in the Lugg River catchment.</p> <p>Sub-catchments within this zone record a standard percentage run off of 30-35%, which is potentially moderately unsuitable for infiltration source control.</p> <p>The area has a moderately slow flood response (Tp-time to peak) time at around 9-11 hours.</p> <p>The WCS identifies a significant number of water bodies in the River Lugg catchment that have poor ecological status.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Material assets • Population • Water 	<p>New development proposed through the Sutton St Nicholas NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure.</p> <p>Up-to-date flood risk information should be gathered from the Environment Agency, in order to ensure that any flood risks are considered when preparing the Sutton St Nicholas NDP.</p>

Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Sutton St Nicholas

N.B. This is based on countywide baseline information with some additions relevant to Sutton St Nicholas (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 or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	<p>Current status of local SSSIs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> River Lugg (Unfavourable recovering) 	<p>Percentage of SSSI land in favourable condition.</p> <p>2006: 22% 2007: 22% 2008: 22% 2010: 24% 2011: 27%</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>% 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>	NE & Defra website (search Feb 2022).

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
				Proportion in unfavourable and declining condition had also decreased from 4% to 1%.			
13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	Percentage of opportunities taken.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	The River Lugg was found to be failing its “favourable condition” status because of high levels of phosphates, and although the Wye was still within its required status there was growing concern that wastewater discharges, and especially	Collaborative working between Herefordshire Council and Powys County Council, NE, EA, and NRW enabled the development of a NMP for these two rivers. This collaborative approach has continued with	The roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan will determine future targets.	New development within the area could lead to the water quality failing the phosphate levels and conservation objectives.	Nutrient Management Plan 2021

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
			phosphates, arising from planned future development would ultimately lead to deterioration in water quality.	the establishment of a NMB includes the Wye and Usk Foundation, Welsh Water, Farm Herefordshire, the NFU and the CLA to help bring forward actions to implement the NMP. Implementing this will ensure the River Wye maintains its favourable condition status and the River Lugg retains this status with a target date of 2027, this means reducing the average			

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
				phosphate load in the rivers to less than 0.05mg/l.			

13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	<p>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i></p>	<p>2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire.</p> <p>There are no formal records of any unacceptable adverse impacts on habitats or protected species.</p> <p>Originally 156 Priority Species were identified for inclusion in Herefordshire's LBAP.</p> <p>Similarly Herefordshire's LBAP covered 23 habitats with Action Plans.</p>	<p>To protect or enhance the habitats of species identified.</p> <p>Zero net loss of habitats.</p>	<p>Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.</p>	<p>Herefordshire Council AMR (2018/19)</p>
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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 or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.	<p>Sutton St Nicholas has:</p> <p>SSSI: 1 SWS: 4 RIGS: 1</p> <p>The River Lugg SAC runs through the parish, but there are no SINC.</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.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	NDP SEA/HRA Screening Notification Report (February 2022)
13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	<p>The neighbourhood area comprises the following types of landscapes:</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).

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objectives: <i>Material assets</i>							
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template. Whilst there is no locally specific data available at present, there are numerous archaeological and historic sites in Sutton St Nicholas according to the latest version of the register.	-	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 Feb 2022).

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	<p><i>Rapid Townscape Assessments (2010) were only undertaken for Hereford, Ledbury and Ross.</i></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.	-
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Population, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</i>							
15. Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design standards.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	<p>Rapid Townscape Assessments (2010)</p> <p>Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis (2010)</p>

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
15. Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the Sutton conservation area at present.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the conservation area.	To maintain or enhance current status.	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched Feb 2022)

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

SA Objective 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	Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO ²) <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This trend hides an increase in emissions between 2009 and 2010 when total emissions in the county increased by 5% the same as across the UK (+5%).	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.	CO ² emissions produced are decreasing.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).

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.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	2010/11: None There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2018/2019)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water, air, soil, material assets</i>							
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	Natural environment	Agricultural land usage by quality	<i>There is no countywide data available at present.</i> 2011: Large tracts of land in and around Sutton St Nicholas were listed Grades 2 (Very Good) and 3 (Good to Moderate) for their agricultural quality, though data requires an update.	-	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 figure dates back to 2005: 84% <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Figure steadily improved before going into decline: Herefordshire 1999 85.9%, 2000 89.5%, 2001 92.2%, 2002 91.8%	To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality.	None identified.	The State of Herefordshire Report (2007) Water Framework Directive (2000)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Soil</i>							
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.	2011/13: 57% <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	2010/11: 67% Completions on PDL had risen to 71% by 2005.	To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy.	The number of brownfield completions has fallen slightly in recent years, though this is probably the offshoot of tough market conditions.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2011/13)
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Housing densities in urban and rural areas	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-

SA Objective 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	Level of development in urban areas compared to rural.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Cultural heritage</i>							
20. Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 4 SAMs, none of which are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.	In 2011, there were 58 heritage assets in Herefordshire that were considered to be at high risk and included in the Heritage at Risk Register.	To maintain or enhance current status.	None of Sutton's listed buildings or SAMs are considered to be at risk at present.	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; searched Feb 2022)

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of heritage assets, locally important buildings across the Parish and particularly within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the Sutton conservation area at present.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the conservation areas.	To maintain or enhance current status.	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched Feb 2022)

Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the Sutton St Nicholas baseline

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

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 less polluting forms of transport.	
2	Biodiversity	Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from the adaptation and diversification of farming and forestry employment.	Objectives 13 & 15
		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	Sutton St Nicholas has numerous Scheduled Ancient Monuments and listed buildings, all of which require ongoing protection and many in need of high levels of maintenance.	Objective 20
5	Flora and fauna	Conserve and enhance the character and quality of historic landscapes, including all types of natural flora and fauna.	Objective 15
6	Material assets	How the countryside can continue to be managed in an economically, socially and environmentally beneficial way in the face of continuing pressures on traditional farming.	Objectives 14 & 18
7	Population	Minimise energy waste through good designs, which help to reduce energy consumption and maximise efficiency.	Objective 15
		Need to avoid enforcement investigations/action concerning locally important buildings and those within conservation areas in particular.	
8	Soil	Promoting development of previously developed land and buildings as opposed to greenfield sites or agricultural land of the highest quality.	Objectives 18 & 19
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 (objectives, indicators and targets)

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve air quality. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources. 	<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. 	Transport patronage by mode.	To increase the take up of less polluting forms of travel.
Biodiversity, Flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain or enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity. Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces. 	<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. 	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> % of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)
				After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation.	No specific targets identified.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new appropriate habitats. • 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 space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users. 	Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	The roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan will determine future targets
				Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	To ensure that the amount of land covered by traditional orchards does not decline further.
				Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.	To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation.
				Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	The number of local sites under positive conservation management (Increase).

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

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

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
			<p>efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	Agricultural land usage by quality	Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve the health and well-being of the population. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, 	<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 	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design	No specific targets identified.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
		including its rural areas and open spaces.	settings. <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. 	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.	To maintain or enhance current status in Sutton St Nicholas.

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

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve water quality To provide for sustainable sources of water supply To reduce, avoid and manage flood risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources. 	<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. 	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.
				Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality.	To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality, as set out in the Water Framework Directive.

Appendix 3

Herefordshire Council
Neighbourhood Planning
Plough Lane
Hereford
HR4 0LE

Our ref: SV/2022/111226/SE-
01/SP1-L01

Your ref:

Date: 31 March 2022

F.A.O: James Latham

Dear James

SUTTON ST. NICHOLAS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SEA SCOPING REPORT

I refer to your email of the 25 February 2022. We have reviewed the SEA Scoping Report, dated February 2022, and would offer the following brief comments for your consideration at this stage. It is understood that the Scoping Report relates to the forthcoming review of the Sutton St. Nicholas Adopted Neighbourhood Plan (NDP).

We would acknowledge, due to the volume of NDP's in the Herefordshire Council area, that a number of SEA Scoping Reports have been produced in recent years which follow a similar and agreed template. As such we would have no significant comments to offer on this latest iteration, specific to Sutton St Nicholas, although the consideration of ongoing concerns around Phosphate levels in the River Wye SAC, and specifically the River Lugg, is necessary and welcomed. This is particularly important as Sutton St. Nicholas falls within the Lugg SAC sub-catchment and the watercourse lies within the Parish Area.

It is important that the forthcoming NDP review offers robust confirmation that development within the Parish will not impact upon the Lugg, which is currently failing its favourable condition status. As stated within the Scoping Report there is ongoing collaborative work between Herefordshire Council, Powys Country Council, Natural England, Natural Resource Wales and the Environment Agency around this issue and reducing Phosphate levels in the Lugg.

It is also important that to demonstrate that development is not impacted by flooding and that there is sufficient waste water infrastructure in place to accommodate growth for the duration of the plan period.

Environmental Themes: The themes presented appear to incorporate the 'SEA topics' suggested by Annex I(f) of the SEA Directive and appear reasonable to reflect the purpose of this report and its potential environmental effects. The themes include Air

Environment Agency
Hafren House, Welshpool Road, Shelton, Shropshire, Shrewsbury, SY3 8BB.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Cont/d..

Quality, Biodiversity, Climate Change, Soil and Water (including water resource, drainage and flood risk).

To assist Herefordshire Council, and those Parishes producing NDP's we have previously provided general advice in line with our Neighbourhood Plan pro-forma. I have attached a copy of our latest iteration for reference and consideration of the Neighbourhood Planning teams/Parishes. We have also produced Climate Change Guidance for our local area which is attached for your consideration/reference.

Biodiversity: We understand that you have consulted Natural England (NE) for comments and as the lead on SSSI/SAC area; they will offer you some advice on the options to protect and enhance such designations etc. As stated above the River Lugg SAC is a key consideration for the Sutton St. Nicholas NDP and the need to demonstrate that development will not impact further on the watercourse and impact upon its ability to return to a favourable condition by 2027.

The SEA objectives and questions appear reasonable to help create, enhance and connect habitats, species and/or sites of biodiversity interest. We welcome reference to the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan and recognition of the embedding 'net gain' principles as key to environmental considerations.

Flood Risk: Based on our indicative Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea), Sutton St. Nicholas is shown to fall within Flood Zone 1, the low risk Zone, albeit the wider Parish does fall within large areas of Flood Zone 3 (high risk) associated with the River Lugg and other ordinary watercourses.

Our Flood Map primarily show flooding from Main Rivers, not ordinary watercourses, or un-modelled rivers, with a catchment of less than 3km². As such it should not be assumed that these smaller ordinary watercourses do not have floodplains and there may be slightly more of the site affected by flood risk than is immediately expected just from reference to the Flood Zone Mapping. Therefore, some assessment of flood risk associated with these unmodelled watercourses may be necessary as part of any supporting evidence base carried out for the NDP area if development is proposed in/adjacent to such locations.

This is to confirm that the site is developable, has safe occupation and that there will be no impact on third parties. We would also expect opportunities be sought for enhancement and/flood risk improvements.

It should be noted that the Flood Map provides an indication of 'fluvial' flood risk only. You are advised to discuss matters relating to surface water (pluvial) flooding with the Land Drainage Team at Herefordshire Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA).

With regards any additional housing allocations proposed within the NDP, going forward we would only make substantive further flood risk comments if the Plan was seeking to allocate sites for development in Flood Zones 3 and/or 2 (the latter being used as the 1% climate change extent), or as identified within any Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA).

Water Quality/Water Resources: The Environmental Bill (2020) policy statement states that the new bill aspires to secure long term, resilient water and wastewater services, making for a greener and more resilient country for the next generation within its 25 year environmental plan. Key elements to help inform the 25-year plan include trying to reform waterbodies to as close to their natural state.

With reference to the Water Framework Directive (WFD) we would expect Herefordshire Council to continue to help address WFD failures through its role as planner, issuing ordinary watercourse consents and as land manager. All watercourses in the Plan area (and UK) are duty bound to reach Good Ecological Status or Potential (GES/GEP) by 2027. It is essential that WFD is fully integrated into the Local Plan process and that all future development helps to address the issues that currently prevent the watercourse from achieving GES/GEP. Similarly, at the NP level, we welcome reference to the need to 'protect and enhance the quality of watercourses' and the necessary target of ensuring that watercourses, primarily the Lugg in this instance, meets conservation objectives or do not fall below the required standard. As recognised in the Report the aim for the Lugg is to achieve a favourable status by 2027 which will mean Phosphate reductions and no development which would impact upon its ability to achieve this.

Appendix 1 (European Sites) states that water quality issues are being resolved through the Core Strategy / Local Plan and development of a Nutrient Management Plan. Whilst this is ongoing work it important that the Sutton St. Nicholas NDP also considers this key issue.

I trust the above is of assistance at this time.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Graeme Irwin
Planning Specialist
Direct dial 02030 251624
Direct e-mail graeme.irwin@environment-agency.gov.uk



Historic England

Mr James Latham
Herefordshire Council
Neighbourhood Planning & Strategic Planning
Plough Lane
Hereford
Herefordshire
HR4 0LE

Direct Dial: 0121 625 6887

Our ref: PL00766702

30 March 2022

Dear Mr Latham

SUTTON ST NICHOLAS NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN- SEA SCOPING REPORT

Thank you for your consultation and the invitation to comment on the SEA Scoping Document for the above Neighbourhood Plan.

Historic England have no substantive concerns as to the contents of the document and consider the evidence base for the SEA, the identified key issues and the proposed SEA framework to be well thought out and fit for purpose.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

P. Boland.

Peter Boland
Historic Places Advisor
peter.boland@HistoricEngland.org.uk

cc:



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Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any Information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.

Neighbourhood Planning Team

From: Mid Planning <MidPlanning@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk>
Sent: 24 March 2022 10:46
To: Neighbourhood Planning Team; Latham, James; Idf
Subject: NDP SEA SR - Neighbourhood Development Plan (Scoping) - NRW Response
NRW:07380666

This message originated from outside of Herefordshire Council or Hoople. Please do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for consulting Natural Resources Wales (NRW) on the above Neighbourhood Development Plan SEA Scoping consultation.

We have reviewed the consultation documents and have no comment to make. We refer you to Natural England (NE) as the Appropriate Nature Conservation Body (ANCB) for England for their comments on the scoping stage.

Kind Regards
Cinzia Sertorio

Tîm Cynllunio Datblygu / Development Planning Team
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales

Ffôn / Tel: 03000 654696
www.cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk / www.naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Yn falch o arwain y ffordd at ddyfodol gwell i Gymru trwy reoli'r amgylchedd ac adnoddau naturiol yn gynaliadwy / Proud to be leading the way to a better future for Wales by managing the environment and natural resources sustainably.

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg a byddwn yn ymateb yn Gymraeg, heb i hynny arwain at oedi / Correspondence in Welsh is welcomed, and we will respond in Welsh without it leading to a delay.

Appendix 4

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Scoping Stage B1:- Objectives assessed against SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)

The following matrix appraises the emerging Sutton St Nicholas 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.

SMART criteria:

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

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.

A – Attainable/achievable:

NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed

R – Realistic:

NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.

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.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1-Assessment outcome
Very positive- Compatible with sea objective.
Positive- Compatible with sea objective.
Conflict- Negative effect/ conflict with sea objective.
Neutral-Neutral effect on sea objective.
No relationship between objectives- No link with sea objective.
Uncertain- Uncertain impact on sea objective, more information needed.

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

Objective Housing:

- To define a settlement boundary to establish the planned extent of the built form of Sutton St Nicholas village over the plan period, 2011 to 2031
- To provide for a proportionate amount of new housing to meet Local Plan requirements
- To ensure that new housing is of a size, type and tenure to address community housing needs.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Conclusions – The objective has positive impacts on the SEA baseline, by defining a settlement boundary and the allocation of housing more certainty can be given to the location of potential development within the parish. Some areas of the baseline remain uncertain at this stage, however the additional of policy criteria will provide policy safeguards.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.

After Smart Objective- No change.

Objective Jobs, local services and infrastructure;

- To enable new employment proposals of suitable scale uses, consistent with the rural character of the parish and residential amenity
- To manage larger-scale agricultural and forestry development
- To support the provisions of new and improved communications infrastructure
- To protect local community facilities and support additional provisions
- To identify community needs and infrastructure to be met through Community Actions
- To support appropriate proposals for renewable and low carbon energy generation

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Conclusions –. The objective has positive impacts on the SEA baseline. Some areas of the baseline remain uncertain at this stage, however the additional of policy criteria will provide policy safeguards

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective meets all of the SMART Objectives.

After Smart Objective- No change.

Objective 3; Open spaces and the environment

- To ensure that new development does not have an adverse effect on the River Wye Special Area of Conservation
- To protect and enhance landscape character and key views, particularly in terms of the setting of the village
- To safeguard local green spaces
- To protect existing green infrastructure and encourage new provision
- To ensure that new housing and other development is well-designed, sustainable and makes a positive contribution to townscape and landscape
- To conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very Positive				Very Positive

Conclusions – The objective has positive impacts on the SEA baseline

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective meets all of the SMART Objectives.

After Smart Objective- No change.

Sutton St Nicholas NDP - B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP Policies (April 2022)

The following matrix appraises the emerging Sutton St Nicholas NDP policies in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives. These have been developed from Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.
SMART criteria:
<p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A – Attainable/achievable: NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed</p> <p>R – Realistic: NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.</p> <p>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.</p>

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1: Assessment outcome
Very positive: Compatible with sea objective.
Positive: Compatible with sea objective.
Conflict: Negative effect/ conflict with sea objective.
Neutral: Neutral effect on sea objective.
No relationship between objectives: No link with sea objective.
Uncertain: Uncertain impact on sea objective, more information needed.

<p>SEA Objectives:</p> <p>1-To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)</p> <p>2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p> <p>3- To improve quality of surroundings</p> <p>4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage</p>
--

<p>5- To improve air quality</p> <p>6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>7- To reduce contributions to climate change</p> <p>8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change</p> <p>9- To improve water quality</p> <p>10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p>
--

<p>12- To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>13- To minimise the production of waste</p> <p>14- To improve health of the population</p> <p>15- To reduce crime and nuisance</p> <p>16- To conserve natural and manmade resources</p>
--

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT1 Sutton St Nicholas settlement boundary

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline, as the settlement boundary will provide certainty guiding development.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is in conformity and complements policy RA1.RA2 and RA3 of the Core Strategy.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT2 Land at the Lane

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline, the supporting text details that the southern tip of the site must be retained to help with structural landscaping, and helping biodiversity measures, and to ensure sensitive design due to adjacent conservation area and listed buildings. Attenuation pond have also been highlighted due to the proximity of the River Lugg flood plain.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is seeking to provide certainty over proportional growth requirements and other policy safeguards exist. This allocation is within the previous NDP and has been subject to the assessment and examination process previously.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT3 Land adjacent to The Linnings

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	uncertain	uncertain	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Policy has a positive effect on the baseline. The criteria is seeking to include cycling and walking links to the site and the nearby school. The supporting text indicates careful consideration given to the landscape and boundary issues.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is seeking to provide certainty over proportional growth requirements and other policy safeguards exist. This allocation is within the previous NDP and has been subject to the assessment and examination process previously

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT4 Housing mix

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
No relationship	No relationship	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship				No relationship

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy is has a positive relationship within the baseline where relevant. As this is concerning, the range and type of housing development within the village rather than the principle of development, much of the baseline has no direct relationship.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline and seek to complement the policies of the Core Strategy, particularly H1.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT5 Householder development

Sutton St Nicholas NDP - B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP Policies (April 2022)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy is positive against the baseline objectives; it is seeking to enable the alteration and extension of existing residential properties to enable adaption of living space. This will reduce the need for some additional dwellings as homeowners seek more space. Sufficient safeguarding criteria are included within the policy to result in a positive impact.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline and seek to complement the policies of the Core Strategy

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT6 Small-scale employment (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline. Reusing redundant buildings for employment use will help the baseline. Enabling traffic to be safely accommodated on the local roads will help meet the baseline also.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline and seek to complement the policies of the Core Strategy, there are a number of safeguarding policies which will ensure that the cumulative impact on the baseline is positive.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT7 Agricultural and forestry development

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Natural	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline. The policy contains a number of criteria which directly address the baseline characteristics.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline and seek to complement the policies of the Core Strategy, there are a number of safeguarding policies which will ensure that the cumulative impact on the baseline is positive.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT8 Communication infrastructure

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				No relationship

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy has a positive effect on the baseline; it is seeking to improve broadband and communications within the parish.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline and seek to complement the policies of the Core Strategy

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT9 Community facilities (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline and seek to complement the policies of the Core Strategy.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT10 Renewable and low carbon energy

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy has a positive effect on the baseline as it contains a number of criteria to ensure sufficient safeguards exist.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT11 Water quality in the River Lugg

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy will not lead to development itself as it is seeking to ensure that all developments do not adversely affect the integrity of the River Wye SAC and any issues with the Moreton on Lugg wastewater treatment works.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT12 Landscape character (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very positive

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy is very positive against all the baseline objectives as it is aiming to protect and enhance a wide range of local features within the landscape.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Policy complements a number of Core Strategy policies including SD3, SD4, LD1, LD2 and LD3.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT13 Key views

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
No relationship	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy is very positive against the relevant baseline objectives as it is aiming to protect key views within the parish

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Policy complements a number of Core Strategy policies

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT14 Local green Space and public open space (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very positive

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy is very positive against all the baseline objectives as it is aiming to protect Local Green Space and open space.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Policy complements a number of Core Strategy policies including OS3, SD3, SD4, LD1, LD2 and LD3.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT15 Green infrastructure (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive				Very Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy is very positive against the baseline objectives as it is aiming to protect and enhance a wide range of local green infrastructure features

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Policy complements a number of Core Strategy policies including SD3, SD4, LD1, LD2 and LD3.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT16 Building design (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy is positive against the baseline objectives as it is aiming to maintain and enhance local distinctiveness and encourage a high level of design.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Policy complements a number of Core Strategy policies including SD1, SD3, SD4, LD1, LD2 and LD3.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT17 Heritage

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very positive	Very positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

The policy is very positive against all the baseline objectives as it is aiming to protect, conserve and enhance a wide range of local historic features

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Policy complements a number of Core Strategy policies including LD1, LD2, LD3 and LD4.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Key:

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1- Assessment outcome
Very compatible-Very positive effect
Compatible –Positive effect
Conflict- Negative effect
Neutral-Neutral effect
No relationship between objectives- No link
Uncertain- more information needed

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT1 Sutton St Nicholas settlement boundary

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6ncertain – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															

Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive
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Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT2 Land at the Lane

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT3 Land adjacent to The Linnings

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															

Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	uncertain	uncertain	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive
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SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	uncertain	uncertain	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	uncertain	uncertain	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT4 Housing mix

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
No relationship	No relationship	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship				No relationship

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
No relationship	No relationship	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship				No relationship

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
No relationship	No relationship	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship				No relationship

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT5 Householder development

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT6 Small-scale employment (original policy)

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT7 Agricultural and forestry development

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Natural	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Natural	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Natural	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT8 Communication infrastructure

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				No relationship

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				No relationship

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				No relationship

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT9 Community facilities (original policy)

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT10 Renewable and low carbon energy

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															

Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive
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SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT11 Water quality in the River Lugg

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT12 Landscape character (original policy)

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT13 Key views

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
No relationship	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
No relationship	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
No relationship	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT14 Local green Space and public open space (original policy)

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															

Very positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very positive
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Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT15 Green infrastructure (original policy)

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive				Very Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT16 Building design (original policy)

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															

Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive
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SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT17 Heritage

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very positive	Very positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very positive	Very positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very positive	Very positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Key:

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards marginally	-- Move away Significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	X No relationship
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The following matrix appraises the revised Sutton St Nicholas NDP Objectives and policies in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives. These have been developed from Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.

SMART criteria:

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

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.

A – Attainable/achievable:

NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed

R – Realistic:

NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.

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.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1-Assessment outcome

Very positive- Compatible with sea objective.

Positive- Compatible with sea objective.

Conflict- Negative effect/ conflict with sea objective.

Neutral-Neutral effect on sea objective.

No relationship between objectives- No link with sea objective.

Uncertain- Uncertain impact on sea objective, more information needed.

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

Objective 1; Housing

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Objective 2: Jobs, local services and infrastructure

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Objective 3; Open spaces and the environment

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very Positive				Very Positive

Policies

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT1 Sutton St Nicholas settlement boundary

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT2 Land at the Lane

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT3 Land adjacent to The Linnings

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	uncertain	uncertain	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT4 Housing mix

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
No relationship	No relationship	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship				No relationship

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT5 Householder development

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT6 Small-scale employment (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT7 Agricultural and forestry development

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Natural	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT8 Communication infrastructure

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				No relationship

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT9 Community facilities (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT10 Renewable and low carbon energy

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT11 Water quality in the River Lugg

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT12 Landscape character (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT13 Key views

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
No relationship	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT14 Local green Space and public open space (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16

Very positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very positive
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Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT15 Green infrastructure (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive				Very Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT16 Building design (original policy)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: SUT17 Heritage

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very positive	Very positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Summary

Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective

Overall the reviewed Sutton St Nicholas Neighbourhood Plan policies and objectives have a positive towards the SEA baseline data. They are in general conformity with the Core Strategy. All of the policies and objectives meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Cumulative effects of whole plan

Overall all of the policies and objectives meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA. Policies and objectives strive to preserve and maintain natural and built historic environment that can help mitigate impact from the housing policies. This plan ensures appropriate sized development is developed this may help mitigate the effect of development. The site identified within the settlement boundary lie outside any flood risk zone or environmental designation.

Commentary for significant cumulative effects Overall this has had a positive effect on the SEA baseline data. Overall the unknown areas require further detail such as location, scale and size of development, therefore are likely to be determined at planning application/ proposal stage. No significant cumulative effects have been identified.

Appendix 5

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 each alternative are identified and compared. 	<p>Chapter 4 and chapter 5</p> <p>Paragraph 5.4</p> <p>Chapter 5</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, 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,</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. 	Following draft consultation
<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>