

# Habitats Regulations Assessment



## Bartestree & Lugwardine Group Neighbourhood Area

November 2015

# **Bartestree with Lugwardine HRA**

## **HRA Screening Assessment**

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## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This Screening Assessment relates to a Neighbourhood Development Plan that is considered to be in general conformity with higher level strategic plans, such as the Herefordshire Core Strategy and the National planning Policy Framework. The screening stage involves assessing broadly whether the Bartestree with Lugwardine Draft Neighbourhood Plan is likely to have a significant effect on any European site.
- 1.2 Bartestree with Lugwardine Parish Council is producing a Neighbourhood Development Plan for Bartestree with Lugwardine Parish, in order to set out the vision, objectives and policies for the development of the Parish up to 2031. This HRA reviews the Draft Bartestree with Lugwardine Plan (November 2015) being assessed.
- 1.3 The NDP has identified two settlement boundaries within the villages of Bartestree and Lugwardine, including the three large scale sites which have been approved for houses up to 121 approved, and 17 small scale windfall from 2011-2015 and 7 that are likely to be approved. This leaves a total of around 145 dwellings which have been confirmed, with a minimum housing target of 152 dwellings. Bartestree with Lugwardine have several areas in the settlement boundaries which have the potential to accommodate housing beyond the minimum target figure. However all sites selected are small by nature and any large scale sites have not been considered, as potential housing will be achieved windfall and small sites within the settlement boundary. Bartestree with Lugwardine NDP provides criteria based policies that clarify and provide local detail to the policies within the Herefordshire Core Strategy. Therefore it requires a high level screening assessment to build upon the HRA Screening Assessment Report for the Herefordshire Core Strategy. Therefore this high level screening assessment should be read in combination with the Herefordshire Pre-submission publication of the Local Plan-Core Strategy Habitat Regulations Assessment Report (April 2014) and its addendum (July 2015) ensures that there will not be any significant impacts upon Natura 2000 sites.
- 1.4 This high level screening assessment, which should be read in conjunction with the Pre submission publication of the adopted Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy (October 2015), and Habitat Regulations Assessment Report (published in April 2015)(adJuly 2015), ensures that there will not be any significant impacts upon Natura 2000 sites.
- 1.5 The map below shows Bartestree with Lugwardine Area with the European Site highlighted.

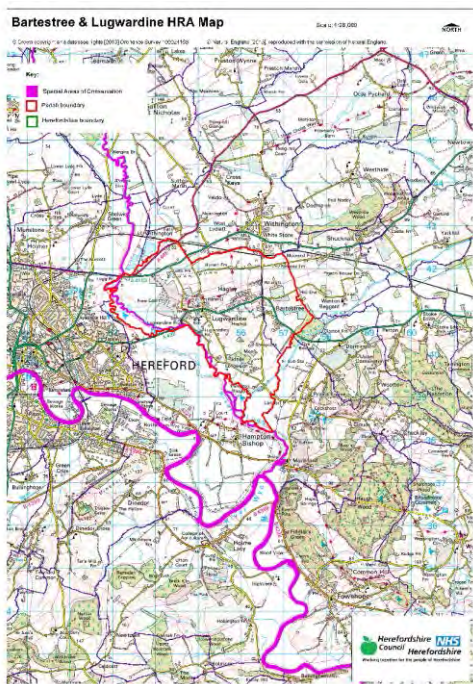


Figure 1- Bartestree with Lugwardine HRA Map

## 2.0 The requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment of neighbourhood plans

- 2.1 The requirement to undertake HRA of development plans was confirmed by the amendments to the “Habitats Regulations” published for England and Wales in July 2007 and updated in 2013. Therefore, when preparing its NDP, Bartestree with Lugwardine Parish Council is required by law to carry out an assessment known as “Habitats Regulations Assessment”. It is also a requirement in Regulation 32 schedule 2 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.
- 2.2 Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive provides that:  
*Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [European] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.*
- 2.3 HRA is an impact-led assessment and refers to the assessment of the potential effects of a neighbourhood plan on one or more European sites, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs):
- **SPAs** are classified under the European Council Directive ‘on the conservation of wild birds’ (79/409/EEC; ‘Birds Directive’) for the protection of **wild birds and their habitats** (including particularly rare and vulnerable species listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive, and migratory species).
  - **SACs** are designated under the Habitats Directive and target **particular habitats** (Annex 1) and/or species (Annex II) identified as being of European importance.
- 2.4 For ease of reference during HRA, general practice has been that these three designations are collectively referred to as either **Natura 2000** or **European sites**. This means that a Screening Assessment is carried out with regard to the Conservation Objectives of the European Sites and with reference to other plans or projects to identify if any significant effect is likely for any European Site.

### **3.0 Methodology**

- 3.1 As the Bartestree with Lugwardine Neighbourhood Development Plan is not directly connected with the management of any European sites, and includes proposals for development which may affect European sites, it is necessary under Regulation 102(1)(a) of the Habitats Regulations 2010 to undertake screening for likely significant effects on European sites.
- 3.2 The HRA of neighbourhood plans is undertaken in stages and should conclude whether or not a proposal or policy in a neighbourhood plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site in question. This is judged in terms of the implications of the plan for a site's 'qualifying features' (i.e. those Annex I habitats, Annex II species, and Annex I bird populations for which it has been designated) and are measured with reference to the conservation objectives for those qualifying features as defined by Natural England.
- 3.3 The first process is to undertake an initial screening report to determine the need to undertake the requirement for a HRA, this initial screening identifies whether the Plan could impact upon any European site that could be within the Neighbourhood Area or nearby.
- 3.4 If a European Site is within the Neighbourhood Area or the Neighbourhood Area could impact upon a European site then this will need to be taken into account and a full screening assessment will need to be undertaken.
- 3.5 The full screening stage consists of a description of the plan, identification of potential effects on European Sites, assessing the effects on European Sites (taking into account potential mitigation provided by other policies in the plan). For Neighbourhood Plans the outcome should demonstrate there are no likely effects upon the European sites. If any likely effects occur then there will need to be amendments to the NDP made and be re-screened until all likely effects have been mitigated.

#### **4.0 Results of the Initial Screening Report and Options**

- 4.1 The initial Screening report (May 2013) found that the River Wye SAC is located to the south west, and the river Lugg is 0.5km away from the Group Parish Neighbourhood Area and therefore a full screening assessment is required.
- 4.2 For full details of the River Wye's attributes which contribute to and define their integrity and vulnerable data see Appendix 1 of the Bartestree with Lugwardine Plan Initial Screening Report. The Initial Screening Report, May 2013, can be found in Appendix 4 of this HRA report. This information made it possible to identify the features of each site which determine site integrity, as well as the specific sensitivities of each site, therefore enabling later analysis of how the potential impacts of the Bartestree with Lugwardine Prior Neighbourhood Plan may affect site integrity.
- 4.3 The initial options for the NDP were assessed to determine their environmental impact that could affect the River Wye SAC. Overall the majority of the options proposing any growth appear to depend on location and scale in relation to environmental impact. However the options selected are on a small scale and are unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC.
- 4.4 As Bartestree with Lugwardine progresses from options onto their NDP policies, the Plan will need to identify ways in which the least effect on the River Wye SAC could be achieved, alongside taking forward the preferred options from the consultation from the community. If a majority of these options are taken forward either as standalone policies or in combination with other policies then the mitigation from these options will help to counter balance the effect of all new development within the Parish. A list of the options assessed can be found in Appendix 1, and the Assessment matrix for the options can be found Appendix 2.

## 5.0 Description of the Bartestree with Lugwardine Neighbourhood Plan

- 5.1 The Draft Bartestree with Lugwardine Plan present detailed policies for development in the Neighbourhood Area, which is equivalent to the group parish boundary, up to 2031. The first part of the Plan introduces the Plan and its preparation and discusses the background to each of the villages.
- 5.2 The NDP then details the vision for the Group Parish over the Plan period and 10 objectives of how this will be achieved. The objectives cover the following topics:
1. Promote sustainable development and accommodate at least 152 new properties in a manner that is appropriate to the character of the village and its countryside setting;
  2. Control development to avoid expansion into surrounding countryside;
  3. Provide housing which meets the needs of the diverse and growing community;
  4. maintain and develop existing local leisure facilities and amenities in tandem with any new housing development;
  5. Improve employment opportunities which provide 'added value' for the community;
  6. Improve traffic management in tandem with new housing development;
  7. Preserve important existing green spaces and create new green space for the community;
  8. Support householders applications which make use of renewable energy technology to reduce their impact on the environment;
  9. Maintain the historic separation of the settlements of Bartestree with Lugwardine;
  10. Maintain the character and surroundings of all scheduled and listed monuments and buildings and preserve historic parklands.
- 5.3 The Neighbourhood Plan also sets out 13 policies on themes based on the objective headings above:

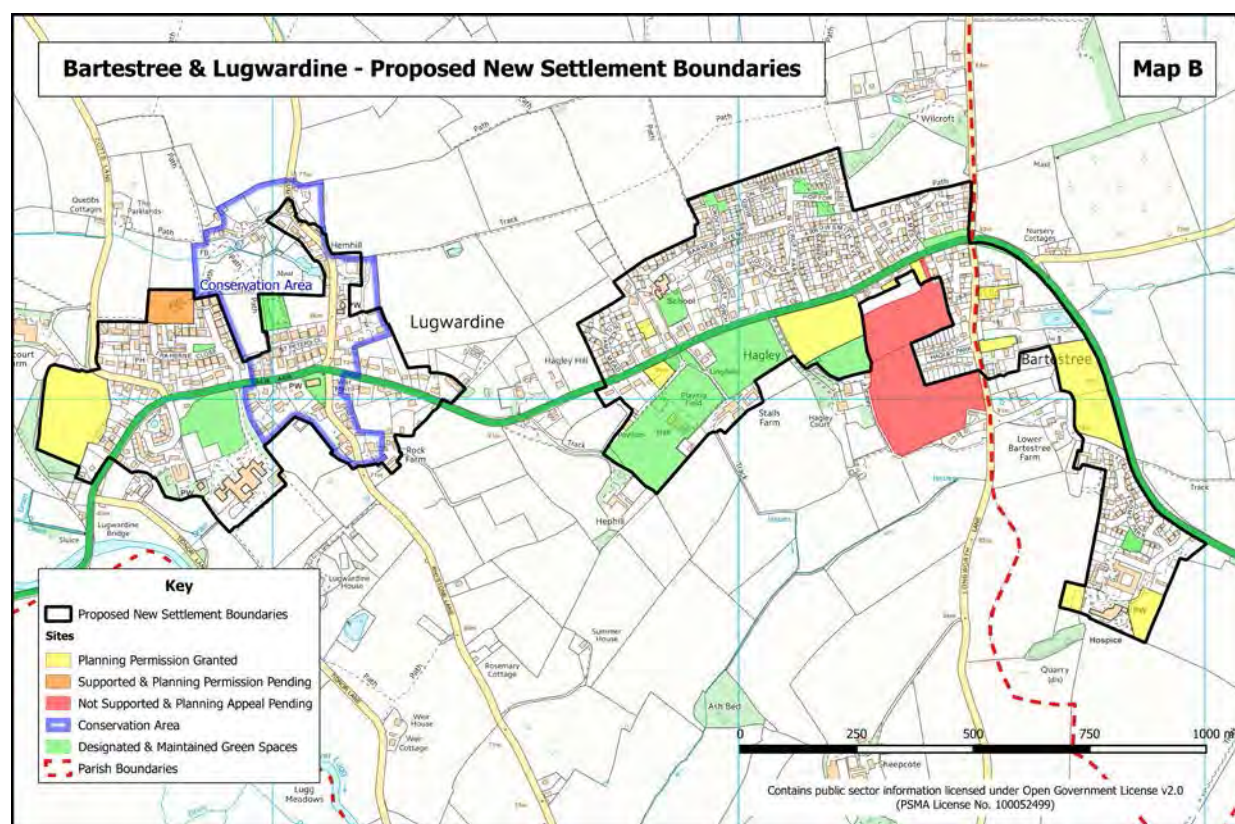
<b><i>Policy BL1-Housing Design Criteria</i></b>
<b><i>Policy BL2-Extentions to Properties</i></b>
<b><i>Policy BL3- Infilling and Windfalls</i></b>
<b><i>Policy BL4-Settlement Boundaries</i></b>
<b><i>Policy BL5-Housing in the Countryside</i></b>
<b><i>Policy BL6-Redundant Rural Buildings</i></b>
<b><i>Policy BL7-Rural exception sites</i></b>
<b><i>Policy BL8-Conserving Historic Character</i></b>
<b><i>Policy BL9-Protecting Green Spaces</i></b>
<b><i>Policy BL10-Affordable Housing</i></b>
<b><i>Policy B11-Working from home</i></b>
<b><i>Policy B12-Supporting Local business</i></b>
<b><i>Policy B13-Transport and Highways</i></b>

- 5.4 The NDP proposes that the sites can be found for housing in the vacant sites stated within the Settlement boundaries of Bartestree and Lugwardine in order to facilitate the proportional growth envisaged by Policy RA1 and RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy). Development on these sites are subject to environmental constraints and access, this can be determined at planning application stage and is assessed on a case by case basis. The Settlement Boundaries proposed can be found on the map below.



## 5.5 Bartestree with Lugwardine Settlement Boundaries

- 5.6 As an 4.14 identified settlement Bartestree with Lugwardine have both been allocated settlement boundaries. The HRA screening assessment has found the settlement boundaries proposed to have no significant impact on the SAC.



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

- 6.1 Regulation 102 of the Habitats Regulations 2010 requires an appropriate assessment where a land use plan (not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. In addition, in accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning Regulation 2012 a NDP cannot have a significant effect on any European Site whether alone or in combination with another Plan.
- 6.2 There are a number of potentially relevant plans and projects which may result in in-combination effects with the Core Strategy across Herefordshire, these plans have been reviewed and can be found in Appendix 2 of the pre-submission publication of the Herefordshire Local Plan – Core Strategy Habitats Regulations Assessment (May 2014)(app July 2015). It is seen that as this NDP does not go over and beyond the requirements set out in the Core Strategy this review will also be substantial for the NDP.
- 6.3 It is considered that as the Bartestree with Lugwardine NDP contains policies that provides potential housing sites in the settlement boundaries, which would result in similar levels of development that is envisaged by strategic policies, as set out in the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), this review will suffice for the purposes of the NDP. Adjacent Neighbourhood Plans (Hampton Bishop, Dormington and Mordiford, Weston Beggard and Withington Group) and the Hereford are plan are at varying stages of their production. But none of the proposals within these plans involve the measures to promote higher levels of growth than the Local Plan (Core Strategy) at this stage.



6.4 The latest version of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) also identifies that both the Water Cycle Study for Herefordshire and the work on the Nutrient Management Plan, have both been considered as part of the in-combination assessment. The former, on the one hand, indicates the potential for planned water abstraction requirements combined with pressures on European Sites from the Local Plan's policies, whilst the latter seeks to ensure the favourable conservation status of the SAC in respect of phosphate levels as soon as possible and at the latest by 2027.

**7.0 Assessment of the 'likely significant effects' of the Bartestree with Lugwardine Plan NDP**

7.1 As required under Regulation 102 of the Habitats Regulations 2010, a screening assessment has been undertaken to identify the 'likely significant effects' of the NDP. A screening matrix was prepared in order to identify whether any of the policies in the Plan would be likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye SAC.

7.2 The findings of the screening matrix can be found in the Screening Matrix in Appendix 3 of this report. Colour coding was used to record the likely impacts of the policies on the European site and its qualifying habitats and species as shown in the table 1 below.

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

7.3 The screening matrix took the approach of screening each policy, objective and housing policy individually, which is consistent with current guidance. The results from the HRA reports for the adopted October 2015 version of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) were also taken into consideration.

7.4 Mitigation of some of the identified potential effects could be achieved through additional policy wording and the implementation of the other policies within the NDP and the Local Plan (Core Strategy). Surface and foul water drainage helps to alleviate impact of flooding through precautionary work before development is committed. The Bartestree and Lugwardine NDP will safeguard any proposal or development against detrimental impact on the environment and protected sites in BL1 and BL4.

## 8.0 Timescale for adoption

- 8.1 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) has been adopted on the 16th October 2015. Given the current draft stage of the Bartestree with Lugwardine Neighbourhood Development Plan.

## 9.0 Conclusions from the Screening Matrix

- 9.1 None of the Bartestree with Lugwardine NDP objectives and policies ( November 2015) were concluded to be likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye SAC. This conclusion is based on assumptions and information contained within the Bartestree with Lugwardine NDP, to the adopted Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the latest version of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) published on the Council's website.
- 9.2 In many cases this is because the policy itself would not result in development, i.e., it related instead to criteria for development. Where there are housing development policies, a number of cases the policies also included measures to help support the natural environment policy BS8/9 and protecting Local Heritage therefore no significant effect conclusion could be reached. In addition, these policies have the potential to mitigate some of the possible adverse effects arising from other policies such as housing and transport infrastructure policies. Many of the policies impact from housing development will be mitigated by Core Strategy environmental and landscape policies SD1, LD2, OS1 and OS3.
- 9.3 The plan allocates settlement boundaries within the two core settlements of Bartestree and Lugwardine. The Neighbourhood Area has one 4.14 settlement of Bartestree and Lugwardine. Within the settlement boundaries there is space to accommodate housing in line with the housing development target in the Core Strategy. In response to the River Wye SAC, the River Lugg runs Bartestree and Lugwardine and has a number of tributaries running into the Lugg and Wye catchment.
- 9.4 The water cycle study highlights that most of the River Wye catchment has a moderate ecological status. The WCS identified sites in the River Lugg catchment area are principally affected by water resources adverse impacts. It requires a holistic integrated approach to flood risk management. This will require integrated flood management and special mitigation measures if housing is required. The 2014 Nutrient Management Plan highlights the River Lugg section of the SAC is currently exceeding the phosphate target and suggests that new development could have a small impact on the phosphate levels downstream in the Lugg. NDP has generally addressed these issues in policy BL1 and BL4. These policies as well as policies within the Core Strategy can help to mitigate the effects of additional development. In addition, the preparation of the Nutrient Management Plan for the River Wye SAC should ensure that development within Herefordshire which can be accommodated within existing water discharge permits would not be likely to have a significant effect upon the River Wye SAC.
- 9.5 It is unlikely that the Bartestree with Lugwardine NDP will have any in-combination effects with any Plans from neighbouring parish councils as the level of growth proposed is the same as that proposed for the Housing Market Area in the Herefordshire Core Strategy and all of the proposed housing sites will be of a small scale.
- 9.6 It is therefore concluded that the **Bartestree with Lugwardine Neighbourhood Plan will not have a likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC.**
- 9.7 Any further amendments to policies (post November 2015) will be rescreened if required and an addendum to this report will be produced.

# Appendix 1

## **Bartestree with Lugwardine Options**

### **General Options**

1. Do nothing
2. Allocate Settlement Boundary for Lugwardine
3. Allocate Settlement Boundary for Bartestree
4. Allocate Settlement Boundary for Frome Park
5. Manage future housing using a settlement boundary
6. Allocate sites for housing
7. Allocate sites and identify a settlement boundary
8. Manage future housing through a development management policy

### **Housing Options**

9. Development solely on infill plots only (up to 5 houses)
10. Housing on plots of 6-10 houses
11. Housing on 11-15 houses
12. Housing Development of larger estates.
13. Housing sites of 11 or more dwellings have been included in the new settlement boundary.
14. Convert Redundant buildings for homes
15. Homes to be built on Brownfield sites
16. Homes built within existing villages
17. Homes built on the edge of villages
18. Homes built on greenfield sites
19. Build family homes (3 bed +)
20. Build adapted/ easy access homes
21. Build starter homes (2 bed)
22. Build executive homes (4 bed+)
23. Build flats/ apartments 1+bed)

### **Employment Use Options**

24. Allocation of employment use through Conversion of existing buildings
25. Allocation of employment use on Brownfield Land
26. Allocation of employment use on Greenfield Land

### **Settlement Boundary Options**

27. Include land adjacent Newcourt Farm
28. Include land Adjacent Traherne/ Court Close
29. Include land Lotties Plot
30. Include land adjacent Gateway Nursery
31. Include land adjacent Frome Court/Park

### **Including SHLAA Options**

32. Inclusion of approved applications the SHLAA /HLAA sites

*HLAA/250/001/ part HLAA/220/001 / part HLAA/366/001 / HLAA/168/002 / HLAA/168/003 / HLAA/168/001 / HLAA/168/006 / 0/Bart/003 with the undesignated field to the north have all been included in the new proposed settlement boundary.*

33. Include SHLAA sites not been included

*HLAA/196/003 / 0/Bart/006 / 0/Bart/002 / 0/Bart/001 / HLAA/129/001 / HLAA/168/005*

34. Include SHLAA sites that's have been considered not suitable for Development

*0/Bart /004 / 0/Bart/005 / 0/Bart/007 / 0/Lug /002 / 0/Lug /004*

# Appendix 2



## Table 1: HRA Screening of Emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan Options

Parish Council Name: Bartestree with Lugwardine

NDP Title: Neighbourhood Development Plan

Date undertaken: September 2015

NDP options , objectives, policies	HRA Screening of Emerging NDP Options				
	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence of the objective/option/policy	Likely effect if option implemented. Could they have Likely Significant Effects (LSE) on European Sites? (Yes/No, with reasons)  <i>(If no, progress on to next objective/option/policy. If yes, progress on to next set of columns in row)</i>	European Sites potentially affected	Mitigation measures to be considered, as necessary, through redraft of objective/option/policy and to be considered as part of Appropriate Assessment	If recommendations are implemented, would it be possible that it would result in no LSE? (Yes/No with reasons)
Do nothing	No NDP to determine planning applications.	Criteria policies within the Core Strategy would guide further development. Specific policies and proposals for the parish would not exist.	The River Lugg runs along the border of Lugwardine Parish. The River Wye is about 1km away from the Parish. The group parish is within the hydrological catchment area of the parish.	N/A	N/A

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Allocate Settlement Boundary for Lugwardine	New housing will be developed in settlement boundary. Increase demand in transportation. Increase demand in water abstraction and waste production. New houses developed.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Additional criteria would be required when formulating the accompanying settlement boundary policy to ensure that no likely significant effects could occur.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No, this option acknowledges sustainable scale growth within defined settlement boundaries in line with Core Strategy policy. Safeguard policies exist within the plan.
Allocate Settlement Boundary for Bartestree	New housing will be developed in settlement boundary. Increase demand in transportation. Increase demand in water abstraction and waste production. New houses developed.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Additional criteria would be required when formulating the accompanying settlement boundary policy to ensure that no likely significant effects could occur.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No, this option acknowledges sustainable scale growth within defined settlement boundaries in line with Core Strategy policy. Safeguard policies exist within the plan.
Allocate Settlement Boundary for Frome Park	New housing will be developed in settlement boundary. Increase demand in transportation. Increase demand in water abstraction and waste production.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Additional criteria would be required when formulating the accompanying settlement boundary policy to ensure that no likely significant effects could occur.  Policy would need to take	No, this option acknowledges sustainable scale growth within defined settlement boundaries in line with Core Strategy policy. Safeguard policies

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		RA2 of the Core Strategy. Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.		account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	exist within the plan.
Allocate sites for housing	Small scale proportionate growth on specific sites identified on a proposals map.	Greater degree of certainty over the impact of future development on the European sites, as the location of housing would be pre-determined and not left to market forces.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.  Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.
Manage future housing using a settlement boundary	Small scale proportionate growth within a defined settlement boundary area.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Uncertain as to the impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Additional criteria would be required when formulating the accompanying settlement boundary policy to ensure that no likely significant effects could occur.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.  Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be

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					undertaken at draft policy stage.
Allocate sites and identify a settlement boundary	Small scale proportionate growth on specific sites identified on a proposals map and within a defined settlement boundary area.	Greater degree of certainty over the impact of future development on the European sites, as the location of housing would be pre-determined and the settlement boundary would provide a clear distinction between open countryside and the built environment.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	<p>Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.</p> <p>Additional criteria would be required when formulating the accompanying settlement boundary policy to ensure that no likely significant effects could occur.</p> <p>Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.</p>	<p>No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p> <p>Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.</p>
Manage future housing through a development management policy	Small scale proportionate growth where the location would be determined by a criteria based policy.	Uncertain as to the impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	<p>Criteria based housing policy would require to include reference to mitigation measures to avoid any non-disturbance effects on the River Wye via its catchment. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.</p> <p>Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the</p>	<p>No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p> <p>Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further</p>

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				Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.
Development solely on infill plots only (up to 5 houses)	Small increase in traffic Use of building materials	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant
Housing on plots of 6-10 houses	Small increase in traffic Use of building materials	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant
Housing on 11-15 houses	Increase in traffic short term and long term. Use of building materials	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets, Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant
Housing Development of larger estates.	Increase in traffic	There may be significant effect on the SAC if growth is disproportionate.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Ensure growth is proportionate within the settlements of Bartestree and Lugwardine. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of	No. This will depend on scale and extent of such development; if it is disproportionate it is likely to have a detrimental effect on

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				development.	the SAC.
Housing sites of 11 or more dwellings have been included in the new settlement boundary.	Increase in traffic Use of building materials	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant
Convert Redundant buildings for homes	Increase in water abstraction and usage Traffic increase Increase parking space demand	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC
Homes to be built on Brownfield sites	Increase in water abstraction and usage Traffic increase Increase parking space demand	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC.
Homes built within existing villages	Increase in water abstraction and usage Traffic increase Increase parking space demand	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC

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				development.	
Homes built on the edge of villages	Increase in water abstraction and usage Traffic increase Increase parking space demand	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC
Homes built on greenfield sites	Increase in water abstraction and usage Traffic increase Increase parking space demand	Highly likely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This option is against the Core Strategy RA3 policy. Therefore this option should be excluded.	This option is likely to have a detrimental effect on the natural landscape and environment in principle. It will depend on size and location of housing development.
Build family homes (3 bed +)	Increase in water abstraction and usage Traffic increase Increase parking space demand	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC
Build adapted/ easy access homes	Increase in water abstraction and usage Traffic increase Increase parking space demand	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC

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				development.	
Build starter homes (2 bed)	Increase in water abstraction and usage Traffic increase Increase parking space demand	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC
Build executive homes (4 bed+)	Increase in water abstraction and usage Traffic increase Increase parking space demand	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC
Build flats/ apartments (1+bed)	Increase in water abstraction and usage Traffic increase Increase parking space demand	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria policies BL8/9 included within the plan which safeguard environmental and historical assets. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC
Allocation of employment use through Conversion of existing buildings	Building conversion Increase in water usage Job creation Increase in traffic	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site. However it environmental impact an be further determined on site and size and scale of	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Reuse of building is in line with Core Strategy policy RA5/ E1. Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage. Policies within the Core Strategy	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC. Environmental impact can be further determined on a case

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	Parking demands	proposed employment site.		help to mitigate effect of development.	by case basis at planning application stage.
Allocation of employment use on Brownfield Land	Increase in water usage Job creation Increase in traffic Parking demands	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site. However it environmental impact an be further determined on site and size and scale of proposed employment site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Reuse of Brownfield land is accordance to NPPF and Core Strategy and falls in line with sustainable development. Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.	No.Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC. Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage.
Allocation of employment use on Greenfield Land	Building conversion Increase in water usage Job production	Highly likely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This option is against the Core Strategy RA3 policy. Therefore this option should be excluded.	Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage.

Settlement boundary Options/ Land inclusion

NDP options	HRA Screening of Emerging NDP objectives, options and policies				
Include land adjacent Newcourt Farm	Increase in water usage Job creation Increase in traffic Parking demands	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Policies within the Core Strategy help to mitigate effect of development.  Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be	No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC. Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at

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				<p>positively addressed within the policy wording.</p> <p>Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.</p>	<p>planning application stage.</p>
<p>Include land Adjacent Traherne/ Court Close</p>	<p>Increase in water usage</p> <p>Job creation</p> <p>Increase in traffic</p> <p>Parking demands</p>	<p>Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.</p>	<p>River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.</p> <p>Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.</p>	<p>No. Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC. Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage.</p>
<p>Include land Lotties Plot</p>	<p>Increase in water usage</p> <p>Job creation</p> <p>Increase in traffic</p> <p>Parking demands</p>	<p>Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.</p>	<p>River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.</p> <p>Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the</p>	<p>No Unlikely to have significant environmental impact on the SAC. Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage.</p>

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				local STW.	
Include land adjacent Gateway Nursery	Increase in water usage Job creation Increase in traffic Parking demands	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No. Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage.
Include land adjacent Frome Court/Park	Increase in water usage Job creation Increase in traffic Parking demands	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage.
Inclusion of approved applications the SHLAA /HLAA sites	Increase in water usage Job creation Increase in traffic	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.	No. Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage.

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	Parking demands			Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	
Include SHLAA sites not been included	Increase in water usage Job creation Increase in traffic Parking demands	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No. Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage.
Include SHLAA sites that's have been considered not suitable for Development	Increase in water usage Job creation Increase in traffic Parking demands	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.  Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No. Environmental impact can be further determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage.

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# Appendix 3

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

Parish Council Name: Bartestree and Lugwardine

NDP Title: Neighbourhood Development Plan

Date undertaken: September 2015

NDP options , objectives, policies	HRA Screening of Emerging NDP objectives, options and policies				
	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence of the objective/option/policy	Likely effect if option implemented. Could they have Likely Significant Effects (LSE) on European Sites? (Yes/No, with reasons)  <i>(If no, progress on to next objective/option/policy. If yes, progress on to next set of columns in row)</i>	European Sites potentially affected	Mitigation measures to be considered, as necessary, through redraft of objective/option/policy and to be considered as part of Appropriate Assessment	If recommendations are implemented, would it be possible that it would result in no LSE? (Yes/No with reasons)
<b>Objective 1. Promote sustainable development and accommodate at least 152 new properties in a manner that is appropriate to the character of the village and its countryside setting</b>	<p>Housing development in line with Core Strategy targets.</p> <p>Increase in vehicle traffic.</p> <p>Increase recreation activities.</p> <p>Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.</p>	<p>Majority of housing target has been met through accepted applications. These applications have been</p> <p>The required number of houses is in line with the Core Strategy and types of new houses will be provided within the relevant constraints appropriate to the character and countryside.</p>	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Implementation of Core Strategy policy LD2: Biodiversity and Geodiversity, which aims to avoid adverse impacts on European sites from development including housing. Policy SD1: Sustainable design and Energy efficiency should help to mitigate potential impacts relating to non-physical disturbance.	No: development is in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should help avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.

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<b>Objective 2:</b> <i>Control development to avoid expansion into countryside</i>	Development will take place but the rural character of the parish will be retained as development will be within the identified settlement boundary.	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Implementation of Core Strategy policy LD2: Biodiversity and Geodiversity, which aims to avoid adverse impacts on European sites from development including housing.	No: the objective acknowledges proportionate growth within defined settlement boundaries in line with Core Strategy policy. Safeguard policies exist within the plan.
<b>Objective 3:</b> <i>Provide housing which meets the needs of the diverse and growing community</i>	Housing will be developed to meet need of the community developed.  Increase in vehicle traffic.  Increase recreation activities.	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site. Potential detrimental effects would be mitigated with the policies within the Core Strategy and by NDP policy BL8 and BL9.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Core Strategy policies OS1-OS3 relating to open space, sport and recreation may help relieve any increase pressure on European sites for recreation space, if appropriately implemented.	No: development is in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should help avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.
<b>Objective 4:</b> <i>Maintain existing local leisure facilities and amenities in tandem with any new housing development</i>	Local amenities will be safeguarded and new facilities will be developed with new development.	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site. NDP policy	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Core Strategy policies OS1-OS3 relating to open space, sport and recreation may help relieve any increase pressure on European sites for recreation space, if appropriately implemented. NDP policy	No: the scale and extent of such development is unlikely to have a significant impact on the SAC, but can be determined further on a case by case basis.
<b>Objective 5:</b> <i>Improve employment opportunities which provide added value for the community</i>	Increase in vehicle traffic.  Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.	Unlikely that there will have a significant effect on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	N/A	No: this objective itself will not directly lead to development, instead it relates to provision of employment. Development caused from this objective can be assessed on a

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					case by case basis
<b>Objective 6:</b> Improve traffic management in tandem with new housing development	N/A	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This objective helps to mitigate adverse effects on traffic caused by future housing development within Bartestree and Lugwardine.	No: this objective itself will not lead to development, instead it relates to controlling and mitigating adverse effects caused by additional housing development.
<b>Objective 7:</b> Preserve important existing green spaces and create new garden space for the community	New garden space for the community created.  Increase recreation activities.	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This objective helps to safeguard greenspace in line with policy LD2, and help mitigate adverse effects caused from development.	No: Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant. This objective is likely to have a beneficial effect on environment and biodiversity of Bartestree and Lugwardine.
<b>Objective 8:</b> Support householders applications which make use of renewable energy technology to reduce their impact on the environment	N/A	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This objective could help mitigate any adverse impact caused from development.	No: this objective itself will not lead to development, instead it relates to a criteria based objective.
<b>Objective 9:</b> Maintain the historic separation of the settlements of Bartestree and Lugwardine.	N/A	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This objective helps Bartestree and Lugwardine maintain the defined settlements of Bartestree and Lugwardine and safeguard against unsustainable development.	No: this objective itself will not lead to development, instead it relates to criteria based objective. This objective safeguards historic character of settlement boundaries of the two villages.

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<b>Objective 10:</b> Maintain the character and surroundings of all scheduled and listed monuments and buildings and preserve historic parklands.	N/A	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This objective helps Bartestree and Lugwardine maintain historic character and helps safeguard against inappropriate development within Bartestree and Lugwardine.	No: this objective itself will not lead to development, instead it relates to criteria based objective. This objective safeguards character, historic landscape and buildings within Bartestree and Lugwardine.
<i>Policy BL1-Housing Design Criteria</i>	N/A	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	In accordance with policy Core Strategy policy SD1, this policy can help mitigate the effects of development through sustainable housing design. This can help minimise adverse impact on the environment and the SAC.	No, this policy will not lead to development; rather it sets out design criteria for development to adhere to.
<i>Policy BL2-Extensions to Properties</i>	N/A	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This policy sets out a design criteria for extensions and properties and can help safeguard against inappropriate development within Bartestree and Lugwardine.	No, this policy will not lead to development; rather it sets out design criteria for development to adhere to.
<i>Policy BL3- Infilling and windfall</i>	Development of infill sites  Increase in vehicle traffic	Due to size and nature of windfall and infill development it is unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This policy sets out criteria for windfall and infill sites and can help safeguard against inappropriate	This policy acknowledges that proportional growth will occur across the neighbourhood area in

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	Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.	European Site. Any adverse effects will be mitigated by Core Strategy polices RA3, RA4 and RA5.		development within Bartestree and Lugwardine.	line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy). Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant.
<i>Policy BL4-Settlement Boundaries</i>	Development within the settlement boundary  Increase in vehicle traffic  Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.  Increase recreation activities.	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This policy helps Bartestree and Lugwardine contain development and control growth in a sustainable way. Adverse effects will be mitigated by NDP policy BL1, BL8 and BL9.	Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant, as the development is contained in a sustainable approach.
<i>Policy BL5-Housing in the Countryside</i>	Development in redundant rural buildings  Increase in vehicle traffic  Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This policy sets out criteria for housing development in the countryside. This policy conforms to Core Strategy policy RA3, RA4 and RA5.	Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to have a significant impact on the River Wye (Lugg) SAC.
<i>Policy BL6-Redundant Rural Buildings</i>	Development in redundant rural buildings  Increase in vehicle traffic  Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This policy deals with rural development and accords with Core Strategy Policy RA5 Re-use of rural buildings.	No. Due to the scale and nature of development this policy is unlikely to produce an adverse impact upon the European site.
<i>Policy BL7-Rural exception sites</i>	Housing development in rural areas.	Due to the size and scale of potential development it is unlikely that there will be any significant effects	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This policy deals with rural development and accords with Core Strategy Policy H2 Rural	No. Due to the scale and nature of development this policy is unlikely to

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	Increase in vehicle traffic  Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.	on the European Site.		exception sites.	produce an adverse impact upon the European site.
<i>Policy BL8-Conserving Historic Character</i>	N/A	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This policy helps Bartestree and Lugwardine maintain historic character and helps safeguard against inappropriate development.	No this policy safeguards against inappropriate development in order to preserve the historic character of Bartestree and Lugwardine.
Policy BL9-Protecting Green Spaces	N/A	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This policy helps to safeguard greenspace in line with policy LD2, and help mitigate adverse effects caused from development.	No: Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant. This objective is likely to have a beneficial effect on environment and biodiversity of Bartestree and Lugwardine.
Policy BL10-Affordable Housing	Affordable housing development in rural areas.  Increase in vehicle traffic  Increased demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment.	Unlikely that there will be any significant effects on the European Site.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This policy is criteria based policy for affordable housing within Bartestree and Lugwardine and conforms to Core Strategy policy H1.	No: Scale and extent of such development is unlikely to be significant. But this can be determined further at planning application stage.
Policy B11-Working from home	N/A	N/A	N/A	This policy will help to mitigate effects of new development and exiting development within Bartestree and	No, this policy will not directly lead to development; it seeks to encourage working from home. This may

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				Lugwardine.	help cut back commuter traffic and congestion, improving air quality of Bartestree and Lugwardine.
Policy B12-Supporting Local business	N/A	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	N/A	No, this policy will not directly lead to development; it seeks to support local business from planning application stage.
Policy BL13-Transport and highways	N/A	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	This policy will help to mitigate traffic and vehicular effects of new development within Bartestree and Lugwardine.	No, this policy will not directly lead to development, it provide criteria for development proposals.



# Appendix 4

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

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

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

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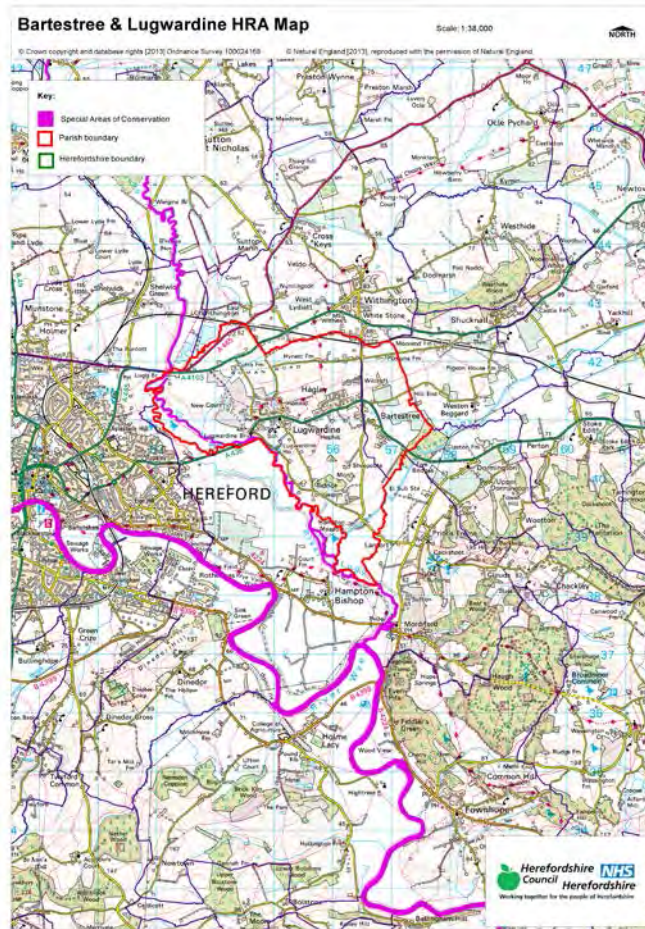
<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Bartestree & Lugwardine Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Bartestree and Lugwardine GPC
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> September 2012

### **Introduction**

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

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

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



**Initial HRA Screening**

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

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	Y	The River Lugg runs along the border of Lugwardine Parish. The River Wye is about 1km away from the Parish
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	Y	The Group Parish is within the River Lugg hydrological catchment
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	There is mains drainage within Hereford City

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 32.1km away from the Parish
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**River Clun SAC:**

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

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 42.1km away from the Parish
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**Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites are 22.1km away from the Parish
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**Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	Wye Valley Woodlands are 22.6km away from the Parish
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**HRA Conclusion:**

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

**European Site**

*(List only those which are relevant from above)*

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC

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

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

<b>SEA features</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>SEA required</b>
Air Quality Management Areas	0	There are no AQMA's within the Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	1	Tidnor Wood	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAI's within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	There are NO AONB's within the Parish	N
Conservation Areas	1	Lugwardine village is a Conservation Area	Y
European Sites	1	River Lugg SAC runs along the border of Lugwardine Parish	Y
Flood Areas		Flood Zones 2 and 3 in the south and west of the Parish, and also along the north ending just north of Hynett Farm	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous listed buildings throughout the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCs/RIGS)	1 RIGS 1 SWS	RIGS: Bartestree Quarry (Lowes Hill) SWS: Lugg Meadows	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	0	No Long distance footpaths run through the Parish	N
Mineral Reserves	4	2 sites in the west, 1 central, and 1 to the east of the Parish	Y
National Nature Reserve	0	There are No NNR's within the Parish	N
Registered & unregistered parks and gardens	6 Unregistered	New Court Lugwardine, Lugwardine Court, Hagley Park/Court, Bartestree Court, Longworth, Old Sufton	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	2	Moated site 60m south west of Old Court Farm Hemhill, Lugg Bridge	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	2	Lugg and Hampton Meadows (Favourable); River Lugg (Unfavourable Recovering)	Y

### **Decision Notification:**

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Bartestree and Lugwardine Neighbourhood Area:

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

**Assessment date: 16/05/2013**

**Assessed by: James Latham**

## Appendix 1: European Sites

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

<b>Downton Gorge</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> 10km for air quality associated with poultry units or other intensive agricultural practices.
<b>River Clun</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Water quality is important to maintain the site feature. Parishes either side of the River Clun will be affected.
<b>River Wye</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation. Transition mires and quaking bogs. White-clawed (or Atlantic Stream) crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> . Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> . Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> . River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> . Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> . Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> . Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> . Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> . Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Proximity: Developments should not be within 100m of the designated bank. Some developments beyond 100m may also have impacts based on proximity and these issues should be addressed where possible when developing NDP policy and choosing site allocations. Water Quality: Within the whole catchment of the River Wye, which includes the River Lugg, mains drainage issues with regards to water quality are being resolved through the Core Strategy / Local Plan and development of a Nutrient Management Plan. Welsh Water should be consulted to ensure that the proposed growth will be within the limit of their consents. Otters: "An otter will occupy a 'home range', which on fresh waters usually includes a stretch of river as well as associated tributary streams, ditches, ponds, lakes and woodland. The size of a home range depends largely on the availability of food and shelter, and the presence of neighbouring otters. On rivers, a male's home range may be up to 40km or more of watercourse and associated areas; females have smaller ranges (roughly half the size) and favour quieter locations for breeding, such as tributary streams. Otters without an established home range are known as 'transients'. They are mostly juveniles looking for a territory of their own, or adults that have been pushed out of their territories. Transient otters may use an area for a short while, but they will move on if conditions are not suitable or if they are driven away by resident otters. Transients will have been important in extending the range of otters, but they are very difficult to identify from field signs. Within a home range an otter may use many resting sites. These include above-ground shelters, such as stands of scrub or areas of rank grass, and underground 'holts' – for example, cavities under tree roots and dry drainage pipes." (Source: EA website: <a href="http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf">http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf</a> accessed 09/04/2013)

### Usk Bat Site

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

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

### Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites

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

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

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

NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider:

Woodland habitat buffer.

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

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

### Wye Valley Woodlands

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

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



## Appendix 2: Wye Catchment Map

