

# Environmental Report



## Callow & Haywood Neighbourhood Area

May 2015

## Contents

### Non-technical summary

1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	Methodology	2
3.0	The SEA Framework	6
4.0	Appraisal of the policies	9
5.0	Implementation and monitoring	11
6.0	Next steps	12

Appendix 1: Initial SEA Screening Report

Appendix 2: SEA Scoping Report incorporating Tasks A1, A2, A3 and A4

Appendix 3: Responses to Scoping Report consultation

Appendix 3a: Responses to Draft Environmental Report consultation

Appendix 4: SEA Stage B incorporating Tasks B1, B2, B3 and B4

Appendix 5: Environmental Report checklist

Appendix 6: Feedback on Draft Environmental Report consultation

Appendix 7: Screening of amended policies

## 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.

The Callow and Haywood Group Parish has undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. The Group Parish comprises the parishes of Callow, Haywood, Grafton and Dewsall and lies approximately 3 miles to the south of Hereford City and 13 miles to north west of Ross on Wye, between the A465 and the east of the A49.

The Callow and Haywood NDP includes 10 objectives which underpin two overarching policy aims and it is intended that these objectives will be delivered by 9 criteria based planning policies; no site allocations are proposed here. There is no evidence that alternative approaches were considered prior to drafting the plan.

The environmental appraisal of the Callow and Haywood NDP has been undertaken in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plan and Programmes Regulations 2004. Stage A of the SEA process involved Scoping and Stage B provided a review and analysis of the NDP. Stage C involved preparing a Draft Environmental Report and Stage D comprised a formal consultation on both this and the Draft Plan itself.

The NDP was then refined by the NDP steering group to reflect feedback from consultation on the Draft Plan and Draft Environmental and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Reports, as well as the proposed Main Modifications to the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). None of these refinements materially affected the outcomes of Stage B of the SEA process, as they did not involve the introduction of new policies or change the overall aims and objectives of the existing planning policies, despite the addition of new criteria in certain places. In general, the refinements related to the composition of certain sentences and phrases, minor points of accuracy in relation to technical information and references to evidence base studies and other documentation. The recommendations of statutory consultees have been incorporated where necessary, too.

On that basis, the conclusion set out in the Draft Environmental Report remains valid. That is, the Callow and Haywood NDP is in general conformity with both national planning policy contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and strategic policies set within the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). Nor does it propose any growth that would be over and above that prescribed by strategic policies. Therefore no changes to the NDP are recommended as a result of the SEA.

HRA screening has been carried out as the Group Parish falls within the catchment for the River Wye, which is a European site (Special Area of Conservation). The HRA assesses the potential effects of the NDP on the River Wye SAC.

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

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Callow and Haywood Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 The Callow and Haywood NDP does not propose any site allocations, as none of the settlements within the neighbourhood area are targeted for proportional levels of growth in Policy RA1 of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). The NDP will, however, provide general policies for guiding future development across the parish as a whole.

### Purpose of the SEA

- 1.3 SEA is a requirement of EC Directive 2001/42/EC (the SEA Directive) which requires the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment to ensure that the proposals in that plan or programme contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.
- 1.4 The Directive was transposed into domestic legislation through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and which applies to plans with significant environmental effects.
- 1.5. A screening opinion was carried out on the Callow and Haywood NDP and it concluded that due to the range of environmental designations in and around the parish, there may be significant environmental effects and consequently an SEA would be required.

### About Callow and Haywood

- 1.6 Callow and Haywood Group Parish comprises the parishes of Callow, Haywood, Grafton and Dewsall. The Group Parish lies approximately 3 miles to the south of Hereford City and 13 miles to north west of Ross on Wye, between the A465 and the east of the A49.
- 1.7 In spite of its proximity to Hereford, the Group Parish has experienced limited expansion over previous plan periods; hence it is sparsely populated with a density of 0.4 persons per hectare.
- 1.8 The neighbourhood area boasts many natural features, not least 12 Special Wildlife Sites and 10 Sites of Importance to Nature Conservation. There are numerous built heritage assets, too, including listed buildings, Scheduled Monuments and non-designated assets.
- 1.9 The vision for Callow and Haywood in 2031 is supported by two overarching aims:
- Aim 1 – To protect and enhance the rural character of the parish
  - Aim 2 – To ensure the parishes remain vital and accommodating for the community

### Context of Neighbourhood Plans

- 1.10 NDPs are a relatively new type of planning document that form a key part of the Government's localism agenda. They enable local communities to develop plans that reflect local aspirations, in accordance with strategic policies.
- 1.11 The Callow and Haywood NDP must therefore conform to national planning policy set within the NPPF and strategic level local policy including the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 1.12 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) was submitted to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination on 23 September 2014. Public hearings (Examination in Public) were held from 10 to 25 February 2015 and some modifications to the Plan will be proposed, in order to ensure its soundness. These proposed Main Modifications are subject to a six week consultation which runs from 20 March to 22 May 2015. This consultation process will

relate only to the proposed modifications to the Plan that have arisen as a result of the EiP in general, and the hearing in particular. The plan will be adopted at an as yet unspecified date next summer, subject to the EiP outcome.

- 1.13 The Saved Policies of the Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan (UDP) will be used as the basis for determining planning applications until such time as the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is adopted by the Council, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 1.14 Paragraph 2016 of the NPPF and Planning Practice Guidance set out the weight that may be given to relevant policies in emerging plans, including NDPs, and indicated that weight may be given to relevant policies in emerging NDPs according to:
- The stage of preparation of the emerging plan (the more advanced the preparation, the greater the weight that may be given);
  - The extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies (the less significant the unresolved objections, the greater the weight that may be given); and
  - The degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the policies in this Framework (the closer the policies in the emerging plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).
- 1.15 This part of the NPPF is reinforced by Planning Practice Guidance published in March 2014, which is clear that an emerging NDP may be a material planning consideration once it has reached submission/local authorities publication stage (Regulation 16). This is reinforced by recent ministerial statements and case law (West Sussex), all of which have demonstrated that an emerging NDP may be a material consideration at the Regulation 16 stage.
- 1.16 Table 4.21 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) lists Twyford Common and Grafton among the settlements which it considers to be sustainable locations for growth, albeit smaller market homes which meet the needs of people with local connections or affordable housing in line with the provisions of Policy RA2.
- 1.17 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the Callow and Haywood NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the Group Parish, by setting out setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined.

### **Structure of SEA**

- 1.18 The structure of the document is as follows:
- Section 2 – Explains the SEA methodology and summarises the comments received in respect of the SEA Scoping Report and Draft Environmental Report
  - Section 3 - Introduces the Callow and Haywood NDP objectives and the SEA framework
  - Section 4 – Appraises the policies contained within the NDP against the SEA framework
  - Section 5 – Discusses the implementation and monitoring of the NDP
  - Section 6 - Concludes the SEA report by outlining next steps

## 2.0 Methodology

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

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

- *Task A1:* Identified and reviewed relevant policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives from European, National and Local sources.
- *Task A2:* Collected baseline information to provide a picture of past, present and likely future conditions within the area. This helped to establish indicators which will be used to monitor the effects and performance of the Callow and Haywood 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.

*N.B. There is no evidence within the NDP that alternative options were considered prior to launching in to the drafting of the plan and so it was impossible to undertake this element of the SEA.*

- *Task B1:* Tested NDP Objectives against the SEA Objectives
- *Task B2:* Developed and refined the NDP policies.
- *Task B3/B4:* Predicted and evaluated the significant effects of the NDP

2.4 Stage C involved preparing a Draft Environmental Report. This report presented information compiled during Stage B of the SEA process and formed the Draft Environmental Appraisal of the NDP. It accompanied the Draft Plan during its formal Regulation 14 consultation with people who live, work and carry out businesses in the neighbourhood area, as well as statutory bodies listed in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

2.5 Producing the Draft Environmental Report was therefore a legal requirement and the submission of this report to Herefordshire Council formed Stage D of the SEA process.

2.6 This Final Environmental Report represents the last stage of the SEA process, save for any changes made following the formal Regulation 16 local authority consultation.

### Scoping Report Consultation

2.7 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.

2.8 After the document was approved by the Parish Council, the Callow and Haywood SEA Scoping Report was available to three<sup>1</sup> statutory bodies for consultation from 14 July to 18 August 2014.

<sup>1</sup> Statutory consultation bodies: Natural England; English Heritage; Environment Agency

- 2.9 The consultation resulted in 2 responses, both of which are attached at Appendix 3.
- 2.10 Both responses were collated and incorporated within this document where relevant.

**Natural England:** List six further documents which should be reviewed as part of SEA Task A1. Also recommend that additional baseline data be sourced in respect of SSSIs, wildlife habitats, landscape character and the quality of agricultural land. The response makes erroneous references to a separate neighbourhood area, but is clear that a full HRA screen should be carried out due to proximity of the River Way Special Area of Conservation.

*Response: The six documents referred to have been added to A1 and further baseline data has been incorporated at A2.*

**English Heritage:** Made general comments in relation to a range of Scoping Reports which were consulted on at the same time. Suggested that 'heritage assets' be defined and given greater coverage, as opposed to focusing solely on designated assets. Several changes to the wording of certain targets and indicators are suggested, too.

*Response: Changes to the wording of relevant indicators and targets have been incorporated into A2 and A4.*

**Environment Agency:** No comments received

*Response: N/A*

#### **Draft Environmental Report consultation**

- 2.11 The Draft SEA was consulted on for a 6 week period between 24 November 2014 and 19 January 2015. The three statutory bodies listed above were consulted and comments received from one of these can be found in Appendix 3a, with a summary provided at Appendix 6.
- 2.12. The document was available on Herefordshire Council's website for comment during the period highlighted above, but representations were sent to the Parish Council. However, apart from the comments received from one statutory consultee, none of the representations were directed at content or structure of the Draft Environmental Report.
- 2.13 None of the respondents to the consultation disputed or requested an amendment to the SEA of the Callow and Haywood NDP and Natural England made clear that the Draft Environmental Report satisfies the requirements of the relevant legislation and regulations, and concur with its conclusions.

#### **Withdrawal and resubmission of the NDP**

- 2.14 As mentioned in para 1.12, the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) underwent an Independent Examination at the same time the Callow and Haywood Submission NDP was out to consultation. The EiP has resulted in proposed Main Modifications to the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and consequently the Submission NDP was withdrawn and modified, in order to ensure its conformity with the said proposed Main Modifications, and the housing policies of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) in particular.
- 2.15 The May 2015 version of the NDP incorporated changes to the level of housing proposed in the Group Parish up to 2031 and further details about where the growth would take place within the two settlements that are listed in the Local Plan (Core Strategy) at Table 4.21 as being sustainable locations for growth: Grafton and Twyford Common.
- 2.16 These proposed amendments are screened to consider if they are likely to significantly affect the earlier conclusions and the results of this assessment are shown at Appendix 7 of this report and discussed, in some detail, at para 4.9.

- 2.17 Importantly there are no suggested changes to the Environmental Report prior to the NDPs adoption, subject to the outcome of the repeat of the local authority consultation and subsequent independent examination.



### 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 Callow and Haywood NDP).

3.2 The requirement to undertake this 'context review' is contained in Annexes 1(a) and (e) of the SEA Directive which states that an Environmental Report should include:

*"...an outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes" and*

*"...the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation"*

#### Policy context

3.3 The Callow and Haywood 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

#### SEA Objectives and baseline characteristics

3.5 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 cultural 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

- 3.6 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 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 Group Parish 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.
- 3.10 The NDP does not propose that sites be allocated for development and contains only criteria-based policies. On this basis, the delivery of the NDP should not exacerbate existing problems regarding water quality or have an unacceptable adverse impact.

### **NDP Objectives**

- 3.11 The following are objectives listed in the NDP that aim to realise the vision for Callow and Haywood in 2031:

#### Objectives relating to Aim 1 (refer to para 1.9)

1. Defining and identifying the essential landscape and environmental qualities.
2. Taking opportunities to enhance the landscape eg by planting indigenous hedgerows and areas of land not needed for agriculture.
3. Identifying measures to protect the Group Parish against urban sprawl and combating aggressive and inappropriate development in open countryside.
4. Addressing threats and challenges with creative solutions e.g. the route of the proposed Southern Link Road should be designed as a green corridor with a profound zone of tree planting on either side of the road and a minimum of urban features such as lighting. High levels of road traffic through existing settlements and along country lanes such as Haywood Lane should be managed more effectively to reduce hazards and disturbance to local communities.
5. Aiming in the long run to achieve AONB status.

#### Objectives relating to Aim 2 (refer to para 1.9)

1. Exploring opportunities for a more sustainable road network to mitigate the current and increasing traffic problems and to actively explore and facilitate alternatives to car use.
2. Aiding modest and sympathetic change e.g. conversion of agricultural farm buildings and development of affordable housing to meet local needs as long as the architectural quality is high.
3. Encouraging small businesses and rural enterprise where they are sympathetic to the sustainability of the landscape and natural qualities of the Parish.
4. Supporting progress towards high quality broadband provision and mobile telephone signals for all residents and local businesses.
5. Protecting existing local community facilities and exploring opportunities for the provision of more communal meeting places in the Parish.

- 3.12 The table below tests these NDP objectives against the SEA objectives, providing a summary of the results of Task B1 of SEA. The full results are available at Appendix 4 of this report.

- 3.13 The majority of those NDP objectives which have a relationship with the SEA framework are positively compatible with it or have a neutral effect.
- 3.14 Objective 9 is not considered to be a land use matter and it is impossible to appraise the full implications of NDP objectives 4, 6, 7, 8 and 10 at this stage given the lack of detail over the exact locations of schemes that may come to fruition as a result of the implementation of these objectives (i.e. Southern Link Road, potential barn conversions and small business units); however, it is accepted that further development of the planning policies that relate to these objectives would move them towards a compatible outcome.
- 3.15 Task B1 of the SEA identified the following potential conflicts between the NDP objectives and the SEA framework:
- NDP Objective 7 conflicts with SEA Objectives 6 & 7
  - NDP Objective 8 conflicts with SEA Objectives 5/6/7/8
  - NDP Objective 9 conflicts with SEA Objectives 5/6/7/8
- 3.16 The potential conflicts listed above can be largely attributed to the possible rise in vehicular movements in remote locations once the NDP objectives have been realised on the ground and the attendant impacts on air quality and both contributions and vulnerability to climate change.

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

NDP Objectives	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>Objective 1</b>	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	x	x	0	x	x	x	0
<b>Objective 2</b>	+	+	+	+	+	x	0	0	x	x	x	0	x	x	x	+
<b>Objective 3:</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	x	x	x	+
<b>Objective 4</b>	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	x	?	?	x	x	x	?
<b>Objective 5</b>	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	+
<b>Objective 6</b>	?	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	x	x	?	?	x	x	x	?
<b>Objective 7</b>	?	?	?	?	?	-	-	?	?	?	?	x	0	+	x	?
<b>Objective 8</b>	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	0	0	?	?	x	+	x	?
<b>Objective 9</b>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
<b>Objective 10</b>	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	0	0	?	?	x	+	x	?

## 4.0 Appraisal of the policies

- 4.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Callow and Haywood NDP is developing a range of options and testing these, so that a preferred way forward can be selected.
- 4.2 Although the NDP identifies a number of key themes or issues which are considered significant to the Group Parish, there is no evidence that alternative approaches were considered prior to an informal consultation that took place in respect of an emerging draft plan during the autumn of 2014. Therefore only the following set of policies were appraised for the purposes of Stage B of the SEA:
- Policy CH1: Protecting and enhancing the rural landscape
  - Policy CH2: Building and transport design principles
  - Policy CH3: Local heritage list
  - Policy CH4: Protecting the sensitive landscapes in the urban fringe
  - Policy CH5: Managing new business development in former agricultural buildings
  - Policy CH6: Supporting tourism and local business development
  - Policy CH7: New communication technologies and energy saving
  - Policy CH8: Provision and protection of local community facilities
  - Policy CH9: Housing

### Stage B of SEA

- 4.3 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 if 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.
- 4.4 With regard to Task B2 of SEA, the NDP policies were measured against both the SEA framework and the baseline characteristics identified during Stage A of the process; here, there was no baseline data available in respect of SEA Objectives 3 and 9. Full details of this appraisal are attached at Appendix 4.
- 4.5 The policies largely score as positive or neutral against the SEA objectives and will not, therefore, have an adverse impact on the baseline characteristics or immediate environmental impacts. This is because they are criteria based policies which only consider schemes on their own merits, as and when planning applications are submitted to the local planning authority.
- 4.6 There are some unknown factors, particularly where the location of specific piece of development (i.e tourist facilities or business units) is not yet known.

NDP Policies	Baseline Data/SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>Policy CH1<sup>2</sup></b> Protecting and enhancing the rural landscape	+	+		+	x	+	x	x	x	x	x	+				+
<b>Policy CH2</b> Building and transport design principles	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	o	x	o	+				++
<b>Policy CH3</b> Local heritage list	x	?		?	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				?
<b>Policy CH4</b> Protecting the sensitive landscapes in the urban fringe.	+	+		+	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				++
<b>Policy CH5</b> Managing new business development in former agricultural buildings.	x	+		+	+	+	+	+	o	+	+	+				o
<b>Policy CH6</b> Supporting tourism and local business development in Callow and Haywood.	?	+		+	?	?	?	?	o	x	o	o				?
<b>Policy CH7</b> New communication technologies and energy saving.	?	?		?	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	x				x
<b>Policy CH8</b> Provision and protection of Local Community Facilities.	x	+		+	+	+	+	x	x	x	x	+				++
<b>Policy CH9</b> Local needs housing.	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+

- 4.7 The results of Task B3, as shown at Appendix 4, demonstrate that the cumulative impact of the NDP policies over the course of the plan period is generally positive. Although some policies may have a neutral or uncertain impact during the first 5 years of the plan period, there is no reason why they cannot have a positive effect in the medium to long-term due to policy safeguards included in the Local Plan (Core Strategy); these safeguards should avoid or mitigate against unacceptable adverse impacts.
- 4.8 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 4, reveals that the objectives and policies contained in the Callow and Haywood 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.
- 4.9 As mentioned previously, Policy CH9 was refined following the Regulation 14 Draft Plan consultation and the proposed Main Modifications to the Local Plan (Core Strategy). Accordingly, the refined policy was re-screened for its effect on the baseline and the results of this exercise are shown at Appendix 7 to this report. The earlier conclusions remain valid, that is the long-term impact of this policy should be positive.

<sup>2</sup> Refer to Submission NDP for policy criteria

- 4.10 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.

## **5.0 Implementation and monitoring**

- 5.1 Herefordshire Council as the Local Planning Authority should make arrangements to monitor the significant effects of implementing a neighbourhood plan.
- 5.2 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.
- 5.3 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).
- 5.4 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.

**6.0 Next steps**

- 6.1 The next step is to finalise the NDP and related documents and submit it for examination.
- 6.2 The NDP steering group anticipate that the NDP will be subject to Referendum at an as yet unspecified date in 2015 and hope that the plan will be Made by the end of the year.
- 6.3 Any changes made to the NDP as a consequence of the Regulation 16 local authority consultation with those who live, work or carry out business in the neighbourhood area, as well as statutory consultation bodies, will trigger a review of the SEA, unless they do not materially affect the outcomes of Stage B of the SEA process.



# Appendix 1

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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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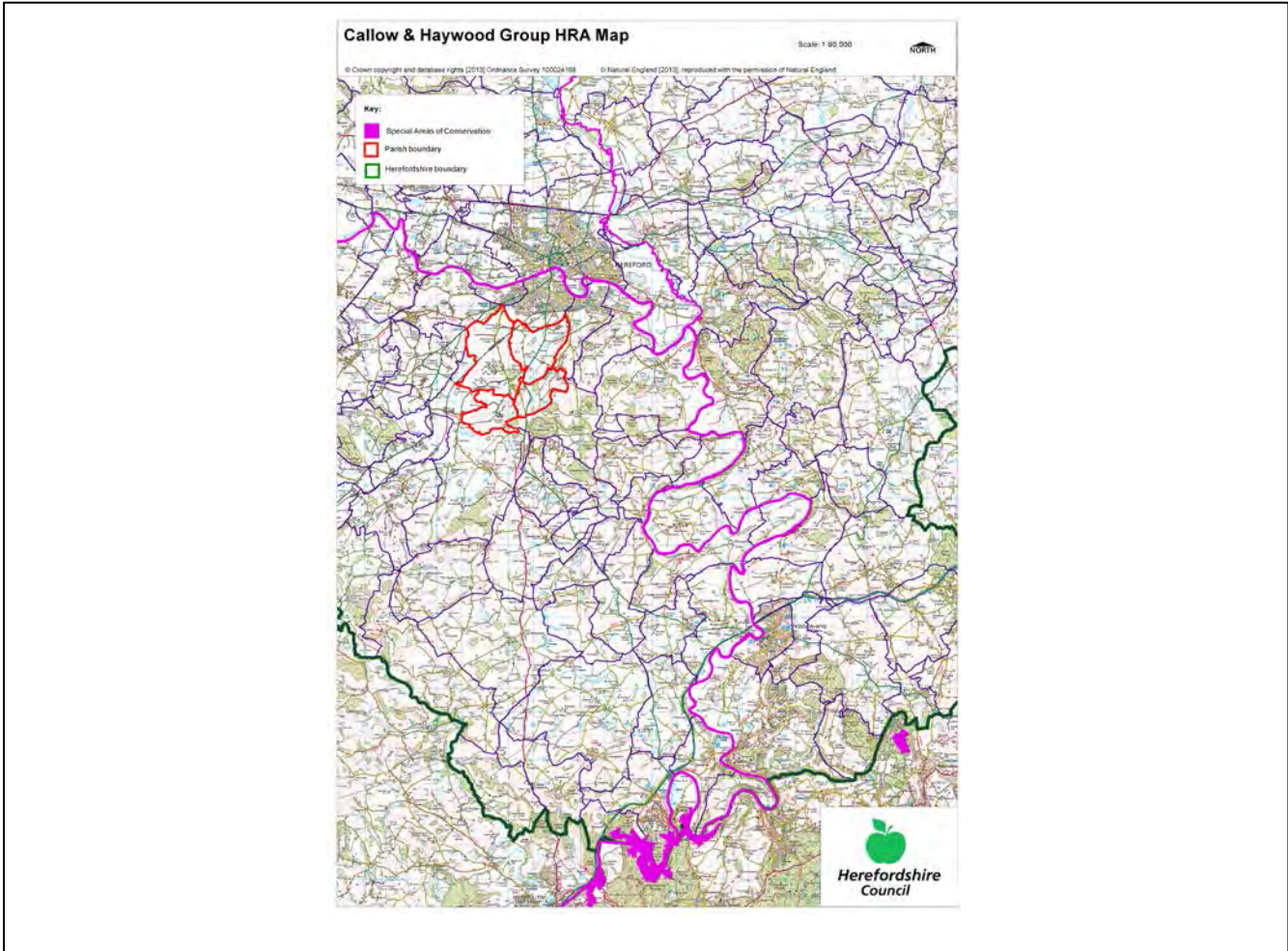
<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Callow & Haywood Group Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Callow & Haywood Group Parish Council
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	25/11/13

### **Introduction**

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

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

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



**Initial HRA Screening**

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

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	The River Wye SAC is 0.7km away from the Group 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 hydrological catchment of the River Wye
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	Grafton and Haywood Parishes are served by Hereford

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 35.4km away from the Group 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 Group Parish
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**Usk Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 31.8km away from the Group Parish
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**Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	The Group Parish is 19.7km away from Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites
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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	The Group Parish is 19.5km away from the Wye Valley Woodlands
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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 Callow & Haywood Group 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 Callow & Haywood Group 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 AQMAs within the Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	11	Veddoes Copse; Newton Coppice; Reeces Wood; Knockerhill Wood; Callow Plantation; Hopleys Wood; Pullastone Wood; Hamptons Rough Wood (border); Williams Wood (border) Nether Wood (border); Grafton Wood	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAls within the Group Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	There are no AONBs within the Group Parish	N
Conservation Areas	0	There are no Conservation Areas within the Group Parish	N
European Sites	0	There are no SACS within the Group Parish	N
Flood Areas		Flood Zones 2 and 3 follow Norton Brook and also a stream to the west of the Group Parish	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous Listed Buildings scattered throughout the Group parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCS/RIGS)	10 (SINC) 12 (SWS)	SINC: Newton Farm Wet Woodland (border); Meadow south of St Johns Cottage (border); Newton Brook (border); Belmont Pool and environs (border); Pond north of Newton Farm Open Space (border); Active railway south of Wye (border); Grafton House orchard (border); Withy Brook (border); Land north of Withy Brook (border); Great Western Way (border) SWS: Hayleasow Wood, Newton Coppice and Spring Grove; Belmont Wood and Hunderton Rough (border); Clehonger village pond (border); Knockerhill Wood and adjoining woodland; Pool at Allensmore Court (border); Reeces Wood; Roadside bank near Twyford; Hopleys Wood; Hampton Rough and The Firs; Williams Wood (border); Woodlands on Aconbury Hill (border); Helens Wood (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	1	Violette Szabo	Y
Mineral Reserves	7	Ross Road (border); Whitehouse Kennels (border); Hunderton Rough to Clehonger to Allensmore; Courtlands Farm (border); Cobhall Farm (border);	Y

		Cobhall small area north west of Green Farm (border); Home Farm (border)	
National Nature Reserve	0	There are no NNRs within the Group Parish	N
Registered & Unregistered parks and gardens	2 Unregistered	Allensmore Court (border); Belmont House	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	6	Bullingham Old Church; Churchyard cross in St Michaels churchyard; Aconbury Camp (border); Dinedor Camp (border); Site of medieval village (border); Lower Bullingham deserted medieval village (border)	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	0	There are no SSSIs within the Group Parish	N

**Decision Notification:**

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Callow & Haywood Group Neighbourhood Area:

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

**Assessment date: 22/10/2013**

**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.

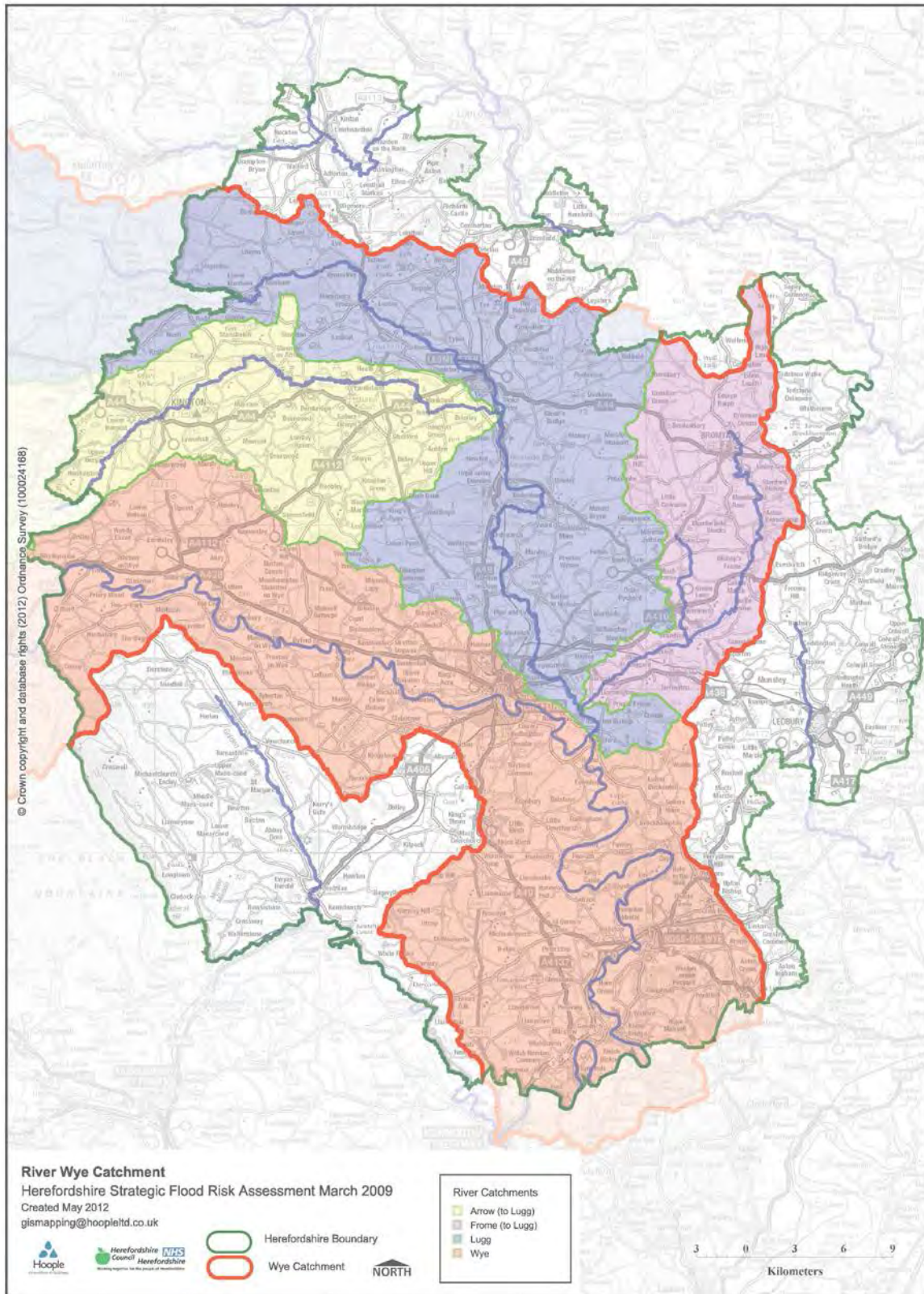
### Wye Valley Woodlands

**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



# Appendix 2

# Strategic Environmental Assessment



## Callow & Haywood Group Neighbourhood Area

Scoping Report

October 2014



## Consultation on the Scoping Report

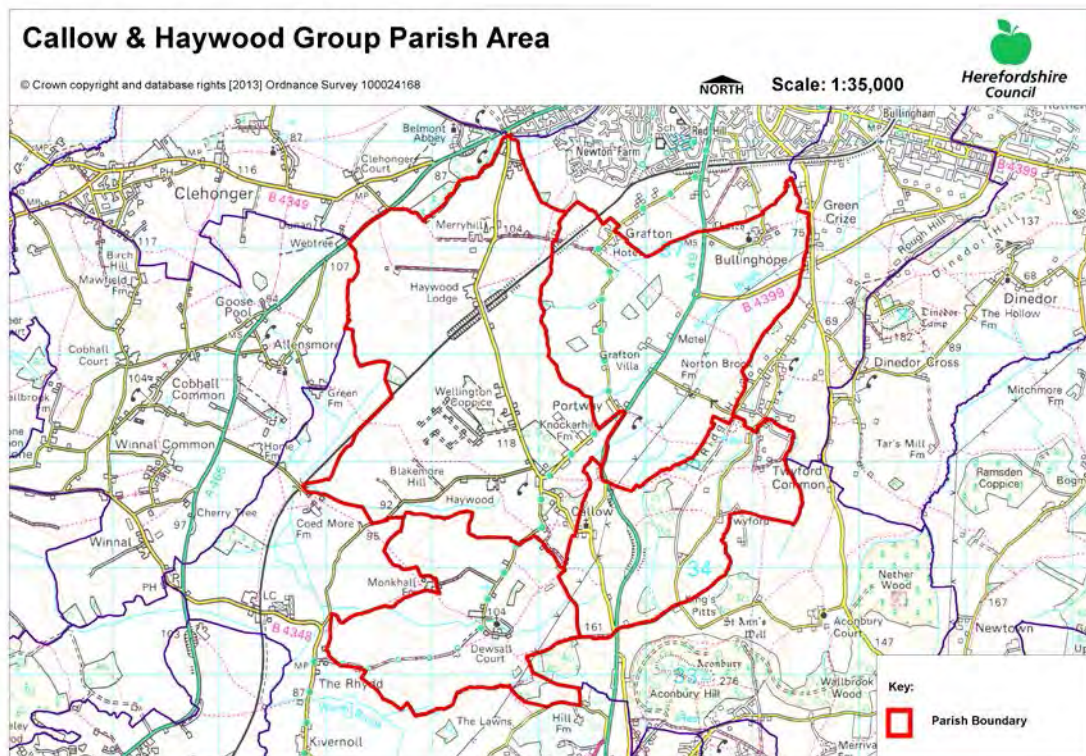
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

- 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 the Natural Resources Wales.

The three consultation bodies are as follows:

1. Natural England;
2. English Heritage;
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"> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> </ul>	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"> <li>Water</li> </ul>	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"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	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"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	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"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	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"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>	The NDP should take account of the provisions of the strategy, making the most of opportunities to enhance wildlife habitats or restore degraded ecosystems in the process.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	National Planning Policy.	2012	Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.	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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	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	2014	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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The NDP must be pro-growth and facilitate the provision and development of sustainable development.
Herefordshire Pre Submission Core Strategy 2011-2031	Development Plan Document (DPD)	2013	Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.	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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<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"> <li>• To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community</li> <li>• To improve access to services in rural areas</li> <li>• To strengthen the economic viability of the villages and their rural hinterlands</li> <li>• To achieve sustainable communities and protect the environment</li> </ul> <p>• To conserve, promote, utilise and enjoy our natural, built, historic and cultural assets for the fullest benefit of the whole community</p> <p>To achieve a thriving rural Herefordshire, the Core Strategy seeks to enhance</p>		<p>accessible to both local and neighbouring communities.</p> <p>Potential corridors for the Western Relief Road will have to be borne in mind whilst drawing up proposals.</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 role the villages have traditionally played in as accessible, sustainable centres for their rural catchments.</p> <p>Nowhere in the neighbourhood area is recommended for proportional levels of growth.</p>		
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2013-2015	Corporate	2013	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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	The LTP does not explore current transport issues in the Callow and Haywood 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"> <li>• Sustaining business survival and growth</li> <li>• Increasing wage levels, range and quality of jobs</li> <li>• Having a skilled population to meet future work needs</li> <li>• Developing the county's built infrastructure so enterprise can flourish.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	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 Callow and Haywood 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"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	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
Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Evidence	2009	<p>The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development</li> <li>Assessing sites for their housing potential; and</li> <li>Predicting when a site could be developed for housing.</li> </ul>	The SHLAA does not assess any sites within the neighbourhood area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Climatic factors</li> <li>Cultural heritage</li> <li>Flora and fauna</li> <li>Population</li> <li>Soil</li> <li>Water</li> </ul>	<p>If site allocations are pursued then the Callow and Haywood NDP should be informed by a housing land assessment, undertaken in line with Guidance Note 21: Site assessment and allocation sites.</p> <p>.</p>

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 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. Callow and Haywood falls within the Hereford HMA. Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 58% of households are unable to afford market housing.</li> <li>• There is an annual requirement for 417 affordable dwellings between 2012 and 2017.</li> <li>• Higher proportion of the HMA population is of working age (62%) compared to the county average of (61%).</li> <li>• The proportion of the population above retirement age is slightly below average (19% compared to 22% across Herefordshire).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>The LHMA provides an indication of housing needs and affordability within the Hereford HMA.</p> <p>It provides evidence that could be used to inform policies or market and affordable housing requirements in the NDP.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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"> <li>• Support growth in the rural population by 6%</li> <li>• Increase the number of households by 14.5%</li> </ul> <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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<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 Callow and Haywood 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	No settlement within the parish is specifically mentioned; however it would be appropriate for the NDP to examine housing need and requirement locally and determine whether there is any scope for allocating sites for housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Callow and Haywood 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 Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment	Evidence	2013	Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.	<p>Key findings from the survey of Gypsy and Traveller households in 2012 found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 31% of households surveyed have some sort of accommodation need</li> <li>• Of the 17 households with an accommodation need, 7 had a requirement for at least one additional pitch</li> <li>• 10 households had a requirement for bricks and mortar housing</li> <li>• There is an additional requirement for 7 pitches and 9 units of Registered Social Landlord accommodation within Herefordshire.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Callow and Haywood NDP should establish whether any of the need identified in this assessment falls within the neighbourhood area and seek appropriate pitches and provision.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
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"> <li>Biodiversity</li> </ul>	The Callow and Haywood NDP can help to achieve the priorities set within the LBAP.
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.	The study is focuses on those parts of the county which are most likely to be subject to development pressures. Therefore, although the study addresses biodiversity interests in and around the peripheries of the city of Hereford, the parish is not covered in great detail.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Climatic factors</li> <li>Cultural heritage</li> <li>Flora and fauna</li> <li>Material assets</li> <li>Population</li> <li>Soil</li> <li>Water</li> </ul>	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 Callow and Haywood NDP can overcome any existing constraints and capitalise on opportunities to enhance habitats and their networks.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
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.	Provides documentary and photographic evidence of the condition of the neighbourhood's finest landscapes. Each of these landscapes are categorised into different groups, with some identified as being worthy of protection or enhancement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Callow and Haywood NDP.
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.	<p>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.</p> <p>Whilst the parish is part of District Strategic Corridor 4 (DSC4: Hereford to Ross on Wye), it falls outside the Hereford Strategic Corridors, identified Local Enhancement Zones and Fringe Zones.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Callow and Haywood NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Renewable Energy Study	Evidence	2010	Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.	<p>The total energy demand excluding transport for Herefordshire, at that point in time, was calculated as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electrical: 731 GWh/yr</li> <li>• Heat: 1,810 GWh/yr</li> <li>• Total: 2,541 GWh/yr</li> </ul> <p>There is scope for all types of renewable energy production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Callow and Haywood 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>There are no pitches identified in Callow and Haywood.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	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 snap shot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.	<p>The study reveals that within Hollington Ward, assessed as part of Ross-on-Wye and which includes Callow, there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive under provision of parks and gardens</li> <li>• Extensive over provision of natural and semi-natural green space</li> <li>• Extensive under provision of amenity green space and outdoor sport</li> <li>• Average provision for children and young people.</li> <li>• Extensive under provision of outdoor sports facilities.</li> </ul> <p>In terms of Callow and Haywood, no specific sites are identified.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	The open space audit and assessment does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in Callow and Haywood. 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 Callow and Haywood, no specific sites are identified.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> </ul>	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
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 neighbourhood area is situated in the River Wye catchment.</p> <p>Sub-catchments within this zone are one of the most rapid response flood warning systems in the SFRA area.</p> <p>Sub-catchments within this zone record a standard percentage run off of 35-40%, which is potentially highly unsuitable for infiltration source control.</p> <p>The area has a very slow flood response (Tp-time to peak) time at around 11 hours.</p> <p>The WCS identifies 30 sites in the River Wye catchment where current discharge consent licences cannot be shown to have no adverse effect.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climatic factors</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>New development proposed through the Callow and Haywood 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 Callow and Haywood NDP.</p>

**Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Callow and Haywood**

*N.B. This is based on countywide baseline information with some additions relevant to Callow and Haywood (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 <sup>1</sup>	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.	There are no SSSIs within the Neighbourhood Area.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
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.	-

<sup>1</sup> Derived from the Pre Submission Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Assessment (May 2014)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
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.	Countywide data is available, but this indicator would not apply to this neighbourhood area, as the parish falls outside the catchment area for the River Wye SAC.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	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 to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire.  There are no formal records of any unacceptable adverse impacts on habitats or protected species.  Originally 156 Priority Species were identified for inclusion in Herefordshire's LBAP.  Similarly Herefordshire's LBAP covered 23 habitats with Action Plans.	To protect or enhance the habitats of species identified.  Zero net loss of habitats.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	-

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SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	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><b>Callow and Haywood has:</b></p> <p><b>SWS: 12<sup>2</sup></b> <b>SINCs: 10</b></p> <p><b>There are no SACs, NNRs, and LNRs within the parish.</b></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 (November 2013)
13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	<p><b>The neighbourhood area comprises the following types of landscapes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Wooded estate lands</b></li> <li>• <b>Principal settled farmlands</b></li> <li>• <b>Principal wooded hills</b></li> </ul>	-	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)

<sup>2</sup> View SEA/HRA Screening Notification Report for further details.

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	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 Callow 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 June 2014).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	<i>Rapid Townscape Assessments (2010) were only undertaken for Hereford, Ledbury and Ross.</i>  Condition of highly sensitive local landscapes is reported in the Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis.	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations	Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis (2010).

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
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.	-
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.	There are no conservation areas within the neighbourhood area.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	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.	% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1% Foot: 14.7% Bicycle: 4.3% Bus: 2% Train: 0.8% Motorbike: 0.8% Taxi: 0.3% Other: 7%  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present</i>	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 <sup>1</sup>	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 <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate	Total CO2 emissions per capita	<p>Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO<sub>2</sub>)</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i></p>	<p>Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This trend hides an increase in emissions between 2009 and 2010 when total emissions in the county increased by 5% the same as across the UK (+5%).</p>	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions produced are decreasing.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	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.	-
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: Majority of land within the neighbourhood area was listed Grades 1 (Excellent) and 2 (Very Good) for its agricultural quality.	-	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 <sup>1</sup>	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 <sup>1</sup>	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.  <b>There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 6 SAMs, none of which are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.</b>	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.	<b>To maintain or enhance current status.</b>	<b>None of the incumbent listed buildings or SAMs are considered to be at risk at present.</b>	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; searched June 2014)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	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.	There are no conservation areas within the neighbourhood area.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

**Appendix A3** – Environmental issues identified from the Callow and Haywood baseline

These environmental issues are the same as most of those identified for the Herefordshire Core Strategy<sup>1</sup>

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	Callow 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

<sup>1</sup> Derived from the Pre Submission Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Assessment (May 2014) and LDF General Scoping Report (June 2007)

		Steady decline in the chemical quality of rivers over the last 10 years.	
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**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"> <li>To improve air quality.</li> <li>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</li> <li>Restore or expand the quality of watercourses.</li> <li>Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</li> </ul>	Transport patronage by mode.	To increase the take up of less polluting forms of transport.
Biodiversity, Flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maintain or enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.</li> <li>Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</li> <li>Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</li> <li>Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</li> <li>Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</li> </ul>	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	N/A
				After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation.	Percentage of opportunities taken.
				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

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create new appropriate habitats.</li> <li>• Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings</li> <li>• Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</li> <li>• Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</li> <li>• Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</li> </ul>	Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	To protect or enhance the habitats of species identified.  Zero net loss of habitats.
				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"> <li>To reduce contributions to climate change</li> <li>To reduce vulnerability to climate change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.	To contribute towards the national target.
				Total CO2 emissions per capita.	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve or enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and cultural heritage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, historic environment and cultural heritage.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preserve, restore or expand Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</li> <li>Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</li> </ul>	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	To maintain or enhance current status in Callow and Haywood.
				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.	N/A

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Material assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve natural and man-made resources.</li> <li>To maintain or enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</li> <li>To improve the quality of surroundings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.</li> <li>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</li> <li>Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</li> <li>Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</li> <li>Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</li> </ul>	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.
				Agricultural land usage by quality	Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Population	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve the health and well-being of the population.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</li> <li>Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</li> <li>Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</li> <li>Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</li> </ul>	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design	No specific targets identified.
				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.	N/A

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To conserve soil resources and quality</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</li> <li>Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</li> <li>Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	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"> <li>To improve water quality</li> <li>To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</li> <li>To reduce, avoid and manage flood risk</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.</li> <li>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</li> <li>Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</li> <li>Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</li> <li>Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</li> <li>Restore or expand the quality of watercourses.</li> </ul>	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

Date: 08 August 2014  
Our ref: 127584  
Your ref: None



James Latham  
Technical Support Officer  
Neighbourhood Planning, Strategic Planning & Conservation teams  
Herefordshire Council

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

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

[neighbourhoodplanning@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:neighbourhoodplanning@herefordshire.gov.uk)

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Mr Latham

**Callow and Haywood Group Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 14 July 2014 which was received by Natural England on the same date.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Where Neighbourhood Plans could have significant environmental effects, they may require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the Environment Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Further guidance on deciding whether the proposals are likely to have significant environmental effects and the requirements for consulting Natural England on SEA are set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance at:  
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal/does-a-neighbourhood-plan-require-a-sustainability-appraisal/>

We welcome the production of this SEA Scoping report. The following comments are intended to further improve the SEA and its usefulness in assessing the Neighbourhood Plan.

**Appendix A1 – Plans, policies and programmes**

In addition to the plans, policies and programmes listed, we suggest that the following are relevant and should be added:

- The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010
- The EC Water Framework Directive 2000
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006
- Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan



## Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Bartestree and Lugwardine Group

### ***Biodiversity, flora and fauna***

Against the proposed indicator “*Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire*”, under “*current status*” the table states that there is no data available. Natural England is able to provide up to date information on the condition of SSSI’s. Please contact us for this information as and when required.

Under the proposed indicator “*Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan*”, no baseline information source has been identified. Maps of priority habitats and species are available on *Magic*, Defra’s GIS package for environmental assets ([www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk)).

Baseline information on the landscape and open spaces needs to be included under SA objective 15: “*Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces*”. Reference could be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Characterisation studies including Historic Landscape Characterisation if this has been carried out.

### ***Water, air, soil and material assets***

This section (or suitable alternative) should include information on geodiversity. The baseline and assessment should make reference to geological conservation and the need to conserve, interpret and manage geological sites and features, both in the wider environment and in relation to designated features. The Herefordshire & Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust may be of assistance.

The proposed indicator “*Agricultural land usage by quality*” has no countywide data identified. Agricultural land classification maps are available via *Magic* (website above). We suggest as an indicator that the Local Planning Authority could monitor and report on the number of hectares of best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 3a and higher) lost to development.

### ***Soil***

We note that the best and most versatile agricultural land has not been considered. We suggest including an indicator to monitor the hectares of the best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development.

## Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from Bartestree and Lugwardine Group baseline

We note that landscape, soil and geodiversity are not covered. These issues should be added to the SEA baseline information, so that significant impacts on these aspects of the environment can be given appropriate consideration.

Under the SEA topic “Biodiversity”, we suggest that development should be noted as an additional pressure.

### **Template A4: SEA Framework**

Under the SEA topic “Air”, not all of the sub-objectives/indicators are relevant, i.e. water quality, soil and contaminated land are covered.

Under the SEA topic “*Biodiversity, flora and fauna*” and the SEA objective “*Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces*”, landscape quality and open spaces have not been covered in the indicators. Relevant indicators should be added, or will not be possible to monitor the impacts of the plan on the landscape and open space. Reference could be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Characterisation studies including Historic Landscape Characterisation if this has been carried out. Applications resulting in the loss of open space could be monitored.

We would also welcome the inclusion of an indicator/target around the impact/benefit to ecological networks (NPPF paragraph 109, 113 and 117). We note that no targets have been identified against the indicator “*After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation*”; we suggest that perhaps the percentage of opportunities taken could be monitored.

Under SEA topic “*material assets*”, there are no targets identified against the indicator “*monitoring changes to the historic landscape*”. We suggest that the LPA could monitor the number of applications permitted despite a significant impact on the landscape having been identified.

Under the SEA topic “*Soils*”, we note that the best and most versatile agricultural land has not been considered. We suggest including an indicator to monitor the hectares of the best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development.

Under the SEA topic “*water*”, the indicator “*Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality*” should also refer to ecological quality. Reference could be made to the Water Framework Directive.

### **Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening**

We note the recommendation that a full Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening is undertaken due to proximity to the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Hayley Fleming on 0300 060 1594. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely

Hayley Fleming  
Lead adviser – Planning  
South Mercia Area Team  
(Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull)



ENGLISH HERITAGE

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

Neighbourhood Planning Team  
Herefordshire Council  
Planning Services  
PO Box 230  
Blueschool House  
Blueschool Street  
Hereford  
HR1 2ZB.

Our ref:  
Your ref:

Telephone 0121 625 6887  
Fax 0121 625 6820

15 August 2014

Dear Sir or Madam

**CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS IN:**

**(Bartestree & Lugwardine; Breinton; Brimfield little Hereford; Callow & Haywood; Dorstone; Eardisley; Lyonshall; Peterchurch; Staunton on Wye; Stretton Sugwas; Sutton St. Nicholas; Wellington; Whitbourne; Withington).**

Thank you for your e-mails and the invitation to comment on the SEA Scoping Reports for the Neighbourhood Plans listed above. We have no substantive objection to the contents of the documents but have the following comments and recommendations which we urge you to consider before finalizing the reports.

Firstly, as regards terminology there appears to be very little reference made to “heritage assets” generally which leaves a perhaps undue emphasis upon designated assets such as conservation areas, listed buildings and SAMs. This is at variance with the Government’s objective, expressed as a core planning principle in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to “conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations”. No distinction is made here between designated and undesignated assets. The accompanying Planning Practice Guidance also states (inter alia) that local planning authorities should identify specific opportunities within their area for the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets and equally this applies to all such assets.

We strongly encourage you, therefore, to weave the term “heritage assets” into the SEA templates wherever reference is made to the cultural heritage. It is difficult to be more specific as there is a degree of variation in the template content across the range of

Neighbourhood Plans covered, presumably due to differing authorships. Nevertheless in English Heritage's view some templates are more successful at reflecting historic environment concerns than others. In this regard we would particularly endorse the approach taken in relation to Dorstone, Breinton, Stretton Sugwas, Peterchurch, Brimfield and Whitbourne and suggest similar wording is applied to the other NP templates. That said, however, we would also suggest slight rewording and additions to those preferred templates.

Taking the Dorstone "Task 4" template (page 3 of 7) and the Cultural heritage SA Objective as an example, we would suggest "Value protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's *heritage assets*, historic environment and cultural heritage". Similarly under Sub-objectives consider "Preserve, protect and enhance *heritage assets*, including Conservation Areas....." Under Indicators please consider ".....aspects of local loss of *heritage assets and* locally important buildings across the Parish *and particularly* within a conservation area. Under Targets we would suggest "To *wherever possible improve upon or otherwise* maintain current status...". This reflects (inter alia) the repeated statement for each Parish under Environmental Issues that many listed buildings are in need of high levels of maintenance and there may eg be the potential for grant schemes. In the same vein, where applicable (eg Lyonshall) it should we believe be a target to "*Promote opportunities to achieve the removal of heritage assets from the At Risk Register*".

A further Indicator and Target that features in some templates (eg Staunton on Wye, Brimfield and Withington and we suggest should apply to all is "*Maintaining Herefordshire Council's Sites and Monuments Register*" with a target of "*Ensure that the Herefordshire Council Sites and Monuments Register is kept up to date*". It should in fact be possible to use the Register as an effective monitoring tool in relation to the changing status of heritage assets and the effectiveness of planning tools in achieving their conservation and enhancement. We would strongly suggest that you hold detailed discussions in this respect with your own Council historic environment specialists in order to achieve an effective indicator for the wider historic environment beyond designated heritage assets.

A final minor comment is that there are apparently stray references to "Huntingdon and Broomy Hill" that appear in the templates for Breinton and Stretton Sugwas and presumably these need editing out.

I hope you find this advice helpful.

Yours faithfully



Pete Boland  
Historic Places Adviser  
E-mail: peter.boland@english-heritage.org.uk

# Appendix 3a

Date: 19 January 2015  
Our ref: 140516  
Your ref: Callow and Haywood Group



Mr J Latham  
Herefordshire Council  
Planning Services,  
Blueschool House,  
Blueschool Street  
Hereford,  
HR1 2ZB

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

T 0300 060 3900

## BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Latham

### Re: Callow and Haywood Group Neighbourhood Development Plan SEA and HRA

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 26 November 2014 and 27 November 2014.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

### THE CONSERVATION OF HABITATS AND SPECIES REGULATIONS 2010 (AS AMENDED) (HABITATS REGULATIONS) WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 (AS AMENDED)

#### Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report

We are concerned by mention at paragraph 6.3 that the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) contains "*policies which would result in greater levels of development than envisaged by strategic policies, as set out in the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy)*". However, we have not been able to locate such policies in the NDP, and are therefore proceeding on the basis that this is a typographical error. Please do contact us immediately, if this is not the case, as the rest of our response is predicated on this presumption.

In Section 6, it appears the basis for the conclusion that there will be no likely significant effect from the NDP, in combination with the draft Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), is that in combination effects have been ruled out as the NDP aligns with the draft Local Plan.

The draft Local Plan has not yet been adopted and both it, and its HRA, are therefore subject to further changes. Given this, relying on the draft Local Plan and its HRA to avoid or mitigate for any potential impact are not considered sufficient to be certain of avoiding impact at this stage. The NDP's HRA may, of course, rely on the evidence supporting the Local Plan's HRA to draw conclusions as to whether the policies in the plan will have significant effects on the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

Natural England agrees it is unlikely that the NDP will have a significant effect on the SAC alone,





however in order to exclude the risk of in-combination effects, and to provide the necessary certainty (given that the NDP is progressing in advance of the Local Plan), we would advise changes to the wording of key policies.

We support the conclusions of the HRA Screening matrix: specifically that Policies CH1, CH4, CH5, CH7 and CH8 require strengthening to explicitly indicate the need to avoid impacts on the River Wye SAC. We also believe the conclusions of the HRA could be strengthened by more thorough reference to the emerging Nutrient Management Plan and its aims.

### **Draft Callow & Haywood Group Environment Report**

Natural England welcomes the production of an Environmental Report. Having reviewed the report Natural England confirms that it meets the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) European Directive and national regulations, and that we concur with its conclusions.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Gillian Driver on 0300 060 4335. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely

*Gillian Driver*

Miss Gillian Driver  
Planning Adviser  
South Mercia Team

# Appendix 4

NDP Objectives versus SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)			
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:	
+	Compatible	<b>S – Specific:</b>	NDP objectives should specify what is intended to be done in detail and should not be open to a wide range of misinterpretations
-	Possible conflict	<b>M – Measurable:</b>	It should be possible to monitor NDP objectives in a quantifiable way, by the use of indicators. Indicators should be measurable with limited resource implications.
0	Neutral	<b>A – Attainable/achievable:</b>	NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed
X	No relationship between objectives	<b>R – Realistic:</b>	NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.
?	Unclear, more information needed	<b>T – Time-Bound:</b>	Objectives should be specific to the NDP period or another specified time-frame. Objectives should be associated with a target and indicators should specify when the target should be achieved.

The following matrix appraises the emerging Callow and Haywood NDP Objectives in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives.

These objectives have been developed from both Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.

### SEA Objectives

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 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

NDP objectives	SEA objectives																Conclusions	Recommendations	SMART Test of NDP objective	After SMART objective
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
<b>Objective 1:</b> Defining and identifying the essential landscape and environmental qualities.	0	0	0	0	0	x	0	0	0	x	x	0	x	x	x	0	This objective does not conflict with any of the relevant SEA objectives.	Whilst this objective relates to the aim of protecting or enhancing the rural character of the parish, it should be more specific in its approach; if relevant policies within the plan were to define and identify the essential landscape and environmental qualities of the parish, what would this actually achieve on the ground?	This objective reflects the vision and has the ability to be monitored, as the countywide Annual Monitoring Report will assess changes to essential landscape and environmental assets. Future policies developed from this objective should aim to make it achievable and deliverable. The timeframe is not specifically indicated but will be for the lifetime of the plan.	Defining and identifying the essential landscape and environmental qualities.
<b>Objective 2:</b> Taking opportunities to enhance the landscape e.g. by planting indigenous hedgerows and areas of land not needed for agriculture.	+	+	+	+	+	x	0	0	x	x	x	0	x	x	x	+	Generally compatible with the relevant SEA objectives.	None.	The objective could specify the amount of tree/hedgerow planting to be undertaken, in order to make this objective measurable, attainable and achievable. In what timeframe will this target be met?	Taking opportunities to enhance the landscape by increasing the number of indigenous hedgerows within the parish from ... to ... (insert numbers) by 2031.
<b>Objective 3:</b> Identifying measures to protect the Group Parish against urban sprawl and combating aggressive and inappropriate development in open countryside.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	x	x	x	+	Generally compatible with the relevant SEA objectives; restricting growth in unsustainable locations may reduce the need to travel, thereby improving air quality and avoiding damage to the natural environment and the finest landscapes.	None.	This objective is specific and measurable when cross referenced with the SEA objectives. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic if implemented properly. Should specify time frame in which this objective is to be achieved by.	Identifying measures to protect the Group Parish against urban sprawl and combating aggressive and inappropriate development in open countryside over the plan period.

<b>Objective 4:</b> Addressing threats and challenges with creative solutions e.g. the route of the proposed Southern Link Road should be designed as a green corridor with a profound zone of tree planting on either side of the road and a minimum of urban features such as lighting. High levels of road traffic through existing settlements and along country lanes should be managed more effectively to reduce hazards and disturbance to local communities.	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	x	?	?	x	x	x	?	At this stage the exact location of the Southern Link Road is not known and so the full implications of this objective on the relevant SEA objectives cannot be appraised.	Any specific or locational policies for design should take into account the SEA objectives. However, further development of the planning policies will move the objective towards a compatible outcome.	This objective has the ability to be monitored and is achievable. It relates to the overall vision and whilst the timeframe is not indicated; this will be for the lifetime of the plan. Some consideration should be given to the specific wording of the objective as to whether it is just the Southern Link Road that would be subject to creative design proposals, or any development that takes place within the neighbourhood area.	Addressing threats and challenges with creative solutions e.g. the route of the proposed Southern Link Road should be designed as a green corridor with a profound zone of tree planting on either side of the road and a minimum of urban features such as lighting.
<b>Objective 5:</b> Aiming in the long run to achieve AONB status.	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	+	Generally compatible with the relevant SEA objectives, though not strictly speaking a land use matter.	None.	This objective reflects the vision and through monitoring changes to the landscape quality; it can strengthen the case for the area's designation as an AONB.	Aiming to achieve AONB status within the plan period.

<b>Objective 6:</b> Exploring opportunities for a more sustainable road network to mitigate the current and increasing traffic problems, and to actively explore and facilitate alternatives to car use.	?	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	x	x	?	?	x	x	x	?	This objective covers the aspects of reducing the need to travel, improving air quality and helping climate change issues, but it is impossible to assess the impact of this objective on the natural and built environs, as the exact nature and location of the transport measures is currently unknown.	Any transport measures promoted through the NDP should take account of the SEA objectives.	This objective reflects the aim of helping the community and has the ability to be monitored through the countywide Annual Monitoring Report. Future policies that are derived from this objective should aim to make it achievable and deliverable. The timeframe is not specifically indicated but will be for the lifetime of the plan.	Exploring opportunities to deliver a more sustainable road network by 2031, in order to mitigate the current and increasing traffic problems.
<b>Objective 7:</b> Aiding modest and sympathetic change e.g. conversion of agricultural farm buildings and development of affordable housing to meet local needs as long as the architectural quality is high.	?	?	?	?	-	-	?	?	?	?	?	x	O	+	x	?	The conversion of dilapidated and disused buildings into housing can have an indirect, positive effect on health and wellbeing, but the conversion of agricultural buildings in particular can increase the number of vehicular movements in remote locations and therefore exacerbate highways and air quality issues, to the detriment of climate change contributions and vulnerability.	The detailed locations of barn conversions etc are not yet known and consequently the full implications of this objective on the SEA framework cannot be fully appraised. However, further development of the planning policies on this theme would move the objective towards a compatible outcome.	This objective is specific and compatible with policy RA of the Core Strategy. Growth within the parish will continue to be monitored within the Annual Monitoring Report; therefore the objective will be measurable. In the absence of a housing land review there is no evidence to suggest that this objective is achievable and deliverable, though it does relate well to the overall vision.	Aiding modest and sympathetic change e.g. conversion of agricultural farm buildings and development of affordable housing as long as the architectural quality is high.

<b>Objective 8:</b> Encouraging small businesses and rural enterprise where they are sympathetic to the sustainability of the landscape and natural qualities of the parish.	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	0	0	?	?	x	+	x	?	To facilitate the establishment and growth of small businesses would be beneficial to human health and wellbeing as a consequence of the jobs and wealth created, but the design and location of new business units, along with the nature and scale of rural enterprises, would have an impact on the SEA objectives. The compatibility of this objective is currently vague, as the exact location and nature of the small businesses and rural enterprises is not currently known.	Further details would be required on the location of any new, small businesses and mitigation measures put in place to ensure there would be no adverse impacts on traffic, air quality, climate change issues and flood risk.	This objective meets the requirements of the SMART analysis as it is relative to the vision and achievable on the ground. Although this objective does not specifically state a timeframe in which it will be delivered, the objective as a whole is for the plan period and will in fact influence the area beyond the Plan period.	Encouraging small businesses if they pose no threat to the sustainability of the landscape and natural qualities of the parish.
<b>Objective 9:</b> Supporting progress towards high quality broadband provision and mobile telephone signals for all residents and local businesses.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Not strictly speaking a land use issue and so irrelevant in the context of the SEA objectives.	None.	Objective meets all of the SMART criteria except specifying a timeframe in which it will be achieved, notwithstanding its lack of relevance in a planning context.	Supporting progress towards high quality broadband provision for all residents and local businesses within the plan period.
<b>Objective 10:</b> Protecting existing local community facilities and exploring opportunities for the provision of more communal meeting places in the parish.	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	0	0	?	?	x	+	x	?	To protect and retain existing facilities within the parish would not have any negative effect on the SEA objectives. However, the creation of new facilities may be to the detriment of natural and environmental assets and so the compatibility of this aspect of the objective is currently vague, as the exact of the new facilities is not currently known.	None.	This objective relates well to the overall vision and has the ability to be monitored, and it is achievable. The timeframe is not indicated but will be for the lifetime of the plan.	Protecting existing local community facilities and exploring opportunities for the provision of more communal meeting places in the parish.



NDP Objectives versus SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)			
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:	
+	Compatible/very compatible	<b>S – Specific:</b>	NDP objectives should specify what is intended to be done in detail and should not be open to a wide range of misinterpretations
-	Possible conflict	<b>M – Measurable:</b>	It should be possible to monitor NDP objectives in a quantifiable way, by the use of indicators. Indicators should be measurable with limited resource implications.
0	Neutral	<b>A – Attainable/achievable</b>	NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed
X	No relationship between objectives	<b>R – Realistic:</b>	NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.
?	Unclear, more information needed	<b>T – Time-Bound:</b>	Objectives should be specific to the NDP period or another specified time-frame. Objectives should be associated with a target and indicators should specify when the target should be achieved.

The following matrix appraises the emerging Callow and Haywood NDP Policies in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives and Baseline data.

These objectives have been developed from both Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.

SEA Objectives	Baseline carried over from Stage A
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To maintain or enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)</li> <li>2. To maintain or enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</li> <li>3. To improve quality of surroundings</li> <li>4. To conserve or where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage</li> <li>5. To improve air quality</li> <li>6. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</li> <li>7. To reduce contributions to climate change</li> <li>8. To reduce vulnerability to climate change</li> <li>9. To improve water quality</li> <li>10. To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</li> <li>11. To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</li> <li>12. To conserve soil resources and quality</li> <li>13. To minimise the production of waste</li> <li>14. To improve the health of the population</li> <li>15. To reduce crime and nuisance</li> <li>16. To conserve natural and manmade resources</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Callow and Haywood has: 12 SWS; 10 SINCS. There are no SACs, SSSIs, NNRs and LNRs.</li> <li>2. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the parish at present and there are no conservation areas.</li> <li>3. No baseline data available.</li> <li>4. There are numerous scheduled monuments across the parish according to the latest version of the County Sites and Monuments Register.</li> <li>5. Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while the UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period.</li> <li>6. % of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1%, Foot: 14.7; Bicycle: 4.3%,Bus: 2%, Train: 0.8%,Motorbike: 0.8%,Taxi: 0.3%,Other: 7%.</li> <li>7. Figures on Herefordshire's CO<sub>2</sub> emissions date back to 2010: 1.62 million tonnes (mtCO<sub>2</sub>).</li> <li>8. Reduce the risk of flooding; there have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.</li> <li>9. 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%</li> <li>10. The neighbourhood area is situated in the River Wye catchment. Sub-catchments within this zone are one of the most rapid response flood warning systems in the SFRA area, recording standard percentage run off of 35-40%, which is potentially highly unsuitable for infiltration source control. The area has a very slow flood response (Tp-time to peak) time at around 11 hours. The WCS identifies 30 sites in the River Wye catchment where current discharge consent licences cannot be shown to have no adverse effect.</li> <li>11. 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.</li> <li>12. In 2011 the majority of land within the neighbourhood area was listed Grades 1 (Excellent) and 2 (Very Good) for its agricultural quality. The number of completions on previously development land (brownfield) during the same year was 67%.</li> <li>13. No baseline data available</li> <li>14. No baseline data available.</li> <li>15. No baseline data available.</li> <li>16. There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 6 SAMs, none of which are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.</li> </ol>



NDP Policies	Baseline Data/SEA Objectives																Summary of impact of NDP policy in relation to baseline data	Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
<b>Policy CH1<sup>1</sup></b> Protecting and enhancing the rural landscape	++	++		++	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	+				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline objectives as it sets the criteria requirements for development proposals.  Criterion 12 of CH1 is not considered to be deliverable as the planning system cannot guarantee views; this will therefore be deemed irrelevant to making decisions on planning applications.  The use of the word 'and' in the title of the policy and any phrases concerning the enhancement of landscape features must be changed to 'or' as a recent court decision held that an asset cannot be protected 'and' enhanced.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy CH2</b> Building and transport design principles	++	++		++	+	++	+	+	O	X	O	+				++	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline objectives as it sets the criteria requirements for development proposals.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy CH3</b> Local heritage list	X	?		?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				?	Overall the policy is potentially compatible with the baseline data.	The compatibility of this policy with the relevant SEA baseline objectives is vague as the Heritage List has yet to be adopted by Herefordshire Council. Assuming it is adopted, there is no reason why there would be any problems as regards SEA baseline objectives in the context of this policy.	TBD

<sup>1</sup> Refer to Draft Plan for Policy Criteria

<b>Policy CH4</b> Protecting the sensitive landscapes in the urban fringe.	++	++		++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				++	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the relevant baseline data.	None of merit.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
<b>Policy CH5</b> Managing new business development in former agricultural buildings.	X	++		++	+	++	++	++	O	+	+	+				O	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data.	Overall the policy is positive as it will help to reduce the need to travel and enable additional opportunities to work from home. Criteria has been included which would aim to safeguard environmental character and quality.	The principle of this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy Policies E3 and RA5 and meets its requirements for the purpose of the SEA.
<b>Policy CH6</b> Supporting tourism and local business development in Callow and Haywood.	?	+		+	?	?	?	?	O	X	O	O				?	Overall the policy is potentially compatible with the baseline data.	Additional tourism visitors and facilities and new business units can have an effect on natural resources, air quality, highways etc, but additional policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy would help mitigate these issues and thus ensure that the policy is compatible with the SEA objectives.	TBD
<b>Policy CH7</b> New communication technologies and energy saving.	?	?		?	+	+	++	++	X	X	X	X				X	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the relevant baseline data.	The siting of renewable energy schemes will be key to determining the extent to which they would have a detrimental impact on nature conservation and landscape character, but improvements to broadband can result in greater uptake of online transactions and home working, thereby reducing the need to travel and helping the environment.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA
<b>Policy CH8</b> Provision and protection of Local Community Facilities.	X	++		++	+	++	++	X	X	X	X	+				++	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	Overall the policy is positive as it will encourage the continuing use of existing facilities thus contributing to the village character and heritage environment. It will also reduce the need to travel to other areas for facilities, thus reducing the impact of climate change.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

<p><b>Policy CH9</b> Local needs housing.</p>	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	<p>Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data</p>	<p>Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline objectives. It will only lead to very small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.</p>	<p>This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.</p>
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<b>++ Move towards significantly</b>	<b>+ Move towards Marginally</b>	<b>- Move away significantly</b>	<b>- Move away marginally</b>	<b>0 Neutral</b>	<b>? Uncertain</b>	<b>X No relationship</b>
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Policy CH1: Protecting and enhancing the rural landscape						
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities	
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)			
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This criteria based policy seeks to preserve or enhance the landscape qualities of the neighbourhood area.		
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This criteria based policy seeks to preserve or enhance the landscape qualities of the neighbourhood area.		
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A			
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This criteria based policy seeks to preserve or enhance the landscape qualities of the neighbourhood area.		
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship.		
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This criteria based policy seeks to preserve or enhance the landscape qualities of the neighbourhood area.		
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.		
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.		
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.		
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.		
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.		
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This criteria based policy seeks to preserve or enhance the landscape qualities of the neighbourhood area.		

To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This criteria based policy seeks to preserve or enhance the landscape qualities of the neighbourhood area.	
<b>Overall commentary</b>	This criteria based policy seeks to preserve or enhance the landscape qualities of the neighbourhood area, as well as protect the most sensitive landscapes from inappropriate forms of development.				

<b>Policy CH2: Building and transport design principles</b>					
<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Assessment of effect</b> (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			<b>Summary Explanation</b>	<b>Enhancement and mitigation opportunities</b>
	<b>Short term</b> (1 – 5 years)	<b>Medium term</b> (6 – 10 years)	<b>Long term</b> (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the general design criteria, including standards for prospective highways and travel schemes. The policy does not conflict with the Core Strategy.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the general design criteria, including standards for prospective highways and travel schemes. The policy does not conflict with the Core Strategy.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the general design criteria, including standards for prospective highways and travel schemes. The policy does not conflict with the Core Strategy.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the general design criteria, including standards for prospective highways and travel schemes. The policy does not conflict with the Core Strategy.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the general design criteria, including standards for prospective highways and travel schemes. The policy does not conflict with the Core Strategy.	

To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the general design criteria, including standards for prospective highways and travel schemes. The policy does not conflict with the Core Strategy.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the general design criteria, including standards for prospective highways and travel schemes. The policy does not conflict with the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	O	O	O	Policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment particularly the River Wye.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	O	O	O	Policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and the NDP to ensure that there will be no unacceptable adverse impact on this objective.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the general design criteria, including standards for prospective highways and travel schemes. The policy does not conflict with the Core Strategy.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the general design criteria, including standards for prospective highways and travel schemes. The policy does not conflict with the Core Strategy.	
<b>Overall commentary</b>	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the general design criteria, including standards for prospective highways and travel schemes. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy, in which there are policy safeguards to avoid and mitigate against significant harm.				

Policy CH3: Local heritage list					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	X	X	X	No relationship	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	?	+	+	The short-term impact of this policy is uncertain as the Heritage List has yet to be adopted, but it does not conflict with the Core Strategy and so there is no reason to believe it will have an adverse impact on this objective in the medium to long-term.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	?	+	+	The short-term impact of this policy is uncertain as the Heritage List has yet to be adopted, but it does not conflict with the Core Strategy and so there is no reason to believe it will have an adverse impact on this objective in the medium to long-term.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		

To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	?	+	+	The short-term impact of this policy is uncertain as the Heritage List has yet to be adopted, but it does not conflict with the Core Strategy and so there is no reason to believe it will have an adverse impact on this objective in the medium to long-term.	
<b>Overall commentary</b>	The policy will not lead to development itself but its short-term impact is uncertain as the Heritage List has yet to be adopted. However, it does not conflict with the Core Strategy and so there is no reason to believe it will have an adverse impact on this objective in the medium to long-term.				

<b>Policy CH4: Protecting the sensitive landscapes in the urban fringe</b>					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This policy seeks to protect landscapes that have been categorised as having medium-high sensitivity from inappropriate forms of development.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy seeks to protect landscapes that have been categorised as having medium-high sensitivity from inappropriate forms of development.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This policy seeks to protect landscapes that have been categorised as having medium-high sensitivity from inappropriate forms of development.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	



To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	This policy seeks to protect landscapes that have been categorised as having medium-high sensitivity from inappropriate forms of development.	
<b>Overall commentary</b>	This is a conservation policy designed to prevent urban sprawl and consequently				

<b>Policy CH5: Managing new business development in former agricultural buildings</b>					
<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Assessment of effect</b> (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			<b>Summary Explanation</b>	<b>Enhancement and mitigation opportunities</b>
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	X	X	X	No relationship	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	O	++	++	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policies E3 and RA5. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the landscape and built environment.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	O	++	++	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policies E3 and RA5. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the historic environment and cultural heritage.	
To improve air quality	O	+	+	Increase in opportunities over time will reduce the necessity to use polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or rural workshops.	

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	++	++	Increase in opportunities over time will reduce the necessity to use polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or rural workshops.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	++	++	Increase in opportunities over time will reduce the necessity to use polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or rural workshops.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	○	++	++	Increase in opportunities over time will reduce the necessity to use polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or rural workshops.	
To improve water quality	○	○	○	Farm diversification and mobile working could have a minor impact on the demand and use of water. Policy safeguards exist to help avoid and mitigate any effect particularly on the River Wye SAC.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	?	+	+	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policies E3 and RA5. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the natural environment.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	○	+	+	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policies E3 and RA5. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the natural environment.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	+	+	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policies E3 and RA5. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the natural environment.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	○	○	○	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policies E3 and RA5. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the natural environment.	
<b>Overall commentary</b>	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policies E3 and RA5. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the natural, built and historic environments, as well as cultural heritage.				

Policy CH6: Supporting tourism and local business development in Callow and Haywood					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	?	+	+	The provision of additional tourist facilities or enhancements to existing provision could have an adverse effect on the natural environment due to the attendant rise in visitor numbers. Policy safeguards are included in the Core Strategy and the NDP, and these should avoid or mitigate against impacts on the natural environment.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The provision of additional tourist facilities or enhancements to existing provision could exert pressure on the landscape due to the attendant rise in visitor numbers. Policy safeguards are included in the Core Strategy and the NDP, and these should avoid or mitigate against impacts on the wider landscape and built environment.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The provision of additional tourist facilities or enhancements to existing provision could have an adverse effect on the historic environment due to the attendant rise in visitor numbers. Policy safeguards are included in the Core Strategy and the NDP, and these should avoid or mitigate against impacts on the historic environment and cultural heritage.	
To improve air quality	?	+	+	Additional tourism could lead to an increase visitor numbers; equally it may provide services for visitors who are already coming to the area by car.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	?	+	+	Additional tourism could lead to an increase visitor numbers; equally it may provide services for visitors who are already coming to the area by car.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	+	+	Additional policy safeguards are in place within the Core Strategy and NDP, and these should avoid and mitigate against flood risk.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	+	+	Additional policy safeguards are in place within the Core Strategy and NDP, and these should avoid and mitigate against flood risk.	

To improve water quality	O	O	O	The provision of additional tourist facilities or enhancements to existing provision could have an effect on the natural environment. Policy safeguards are included in the Core Strategy and the NDP, and these should avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment particularly the River Wye.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	O	O	O	Additional policy safeguards are included in the Core Strategy and NDP, and these should avoid and mitigate against flood risk.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	O	O	O	Additional visitor numbers could have an impact on the use and quality of surrounding land due to increasing in walking and recreation. However, sufficient policy criteria safeguards exist to ensure impact on the natural environment is mitigated against where possible.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	?	+	+	The provision of additional tourist facilities or enhancements to existing provision could have an adverse effect on the natural environment due to the attendant rise in visitor numbers. Policy safeguards are included in the Core Strategy and the NDP, and these should avoid or mitigate against impacts on the natural environment.	
<b>Overall commentary</b>	The provision of additional tourist facilities or enhancements to existing provision could have an adverse effect on the natural and built environments, as well as cultural heritage due to the attendant rise in visitor numbers. Policy safeguards are included in the Core Strategy and the NDP, and these should avoid or mitigate against unacceptable adverse impacts.				
<b>Policy CH7: New communications technologies and energy saving</b>					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	?	+	+	This policy merely aims to increase connectivity within the parish and facilitate the provision of low key energy schemes. However, depending on the siting of new installations could have some impact. Policy safeguards exist within the policy to avoid or mitigate effects on the natural environment.	

To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	?	+	+	This policy merely aims to increase connectivity within the parish and facilitate the provision of low key energy schemes. However, depending on the siting of new installations could have some impact. Policy safeguards exist within the policy to avoid or mitigate effects on the wider landscape and built environment.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	?	+	+	This policy merely aims to increase connectivity within the parish and facilitate the provision of low key energy schemes. However, depending on the siting of new installations could have some impact. Policy safeguards exist within the policy to avoid or mitigate effects on the historic environment.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Increasing connectivity over time will reduce the need to travel by polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or remote premises.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	Increasing connectivity over time will reduce the need to travel by polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or remote premises.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	++	++	++	Increasing connectivity over time will reduce the need to travel by polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or remote premises. Equally, the policy facilitates the provision of micro generation and energy saving measures, which can only lead to reductions in carbon emissions.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	++	++	++	Increasing connectivity over time will reduce the need to travel by polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or remote premises. Equally, the policy facilitates the provision of micro generation and energy saving measures, which will undoubtedly ease fears over energy security.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		

To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	X	X	X	No relationship.	
<b>Overall commentary</b>	This policy is aiming to increase connectivity within the parish and facilitate the provision of low key energy schemes. However, depending on their siting; new installations could have some impact. There are, however, policy safeguards within the policy to avoid or mitigate effects on the natural and built environments, as well as cultural heritage. Ultimately, the increase in connectivity will help to reduce the need to travel and the uptake of energy saving measures will reduce emissions and secure greater levels of energy efficiency.				

<b>Policy CH8: Provision and protection of local community facilities</b>					
<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Assessment of effect</b> (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			<b>Summary Explanation</b>	<b>Enhancement and mitigation opportunities</b>
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy seeks to encourage the continuing and increase use of existing community facilities. The use of the existing facilities will help maintain the quality of the 'townscape' and landscape character.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This policy seeks to encourage the continuing and increase use of existing community facilities. The use of the existing facilities would have no adverse impact on historic environments or cultural heritage.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Encouraging the continuing use of existing facilities will help to reduce the need to travel to other facilities and services.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	++	++	++	Encouraging the continuing use of existing facilities will help to reduce the need to travel to other facilities and services.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	++	++	++	Encouraging the continuing use of existing facilities will help to reduce the need to travel to other facilities and services.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	Encouraging the continuing use of existing facilities will help to reduce the need to develop additional land for recreations or community uses.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	Encouraging the continuing use of existing facilities will help to reduce the need to develop additional land for recreations or community uses.	
<b>Overall commentary</b>	The policy encourages the continuing and increased use of existing community facilities. This will help to reduce the requirement for additional sites and resources.				

<b>Policy CH9: Local needs housing</b>					
<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Assessment of effect</b> (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			<b>Summary Explanation</b>	<b>Enhancement and mitigation opportunities</b>
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are in place to avoid or mitigate effects on nature conservation.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are in place to avoid or mitigate effects on the landscape or townscape.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are in place to avoid or mitigate effects on the historic environment or cultural heritage.	



To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	?	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	?	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy will only lead to small scale development in line with policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
<b>Overall commentary</b>	This policy will only level to small scale development in line with relevant policies of the Herefordshire Core Strategy. Other policy safeguards are in place to ensure that peripheral issues are avoided or mitigated against.				



++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	X No Relationship
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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<b>SEA Objective</b>																
<b>NDP Objective/ Policy</b>	To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	To improve quality of surroundings	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	To improve air quality	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	To reduce contributions to climate change	To reduce vulnerability to climate change	To improve water quality	To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	To conserve soil resources and quality	To minimise the production of waste	To improve health of the population	To reduce crime and nuisance	To conserve natural and manmade resources
Objective 1 <sup>1</sup>	O	O	O	O	O	X	O	O	O	X	X	O	X	X	X	O
Objective 2	+	+	+	+	+	X	O	O	X	X	X	O	X	X	X	+
Objective 3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	O	O	O	+	X	X	X	+
Objective 4	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	X	?	?	X	X	X	?
Objective 5	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	+
Objective 6	?	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	X	X	?	?	X	X	X	?
Objective 7	?	?	?	?	?	-	-	?	?	?	?	X	O	+	X	?
Objective 8	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	O	O	?	?	X	+	X	?
Objective 9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Objective 10	?	?	?	?	-	-	-	-	O	O	?	?	X	+	X	?

<sup>1</sup> Refer to Draft Plan for details of objectives

Policy CH1 <sup>2</sup>	++	++		++	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	+				+
Policy CH2	++	++		++	+	++	+	+	O	X	O	+				++
Policy CH3	X	?		?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				?
Policy CH4	++	++		++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				++
Policy CH5	X	++		++	+	++	++	++	O	+	+	+				O
Policy CH6	?	+		+	?	?	?	?	O	X	O	O				?
Policy CH7	?	?		?	+	+	++	++	X	X	X	X				X
Policy CH8	X	++		++	+	++	++	X	X	X	X	+				++
Policy CH9	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
<b>Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective</b>	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	O	+	O	+				+
<b>Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...)</b>	Overall the Callow and Haywood NDP will contribute towards the achievement of the SEA objectives and consequently there is no reason why it should have a negative impact on the baseline. Policies have been drafted in general conformity with the Core Strategy objectives and contain many policy safeguards to ensure that the effects on environmental assets can be avoided or mitigated against. None of the policies are in direct conflict with those already assessed for the Core Strategy.															
<b>Commentary for significant cumulative effects</b>	No significant cumulative effects identified.															

<sup>2</sup> Refer to Draft Plan for exact policy wording

# Appendix 5

Objectives and context	Where referenced in NDP/SEA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Neighbourhood Development Plan's purpose and objectives are made clear.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Conflicts that exist between SEA and Neighbourhood Development Plan objectives; and between SEA objectives and other local plan objectives are identified and described.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 1 (paras 1.10 – 1.17).</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 3; and Tables A2 and A3</li> <li>• Section 3 (para 3.5).</li> <li>• Section 3 (para 3.1).</li> <li>• Section 3 (paras 3.14 – 3.16)</li> </ul>
Scoping	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory Consultees are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report.</li> <li>• The assessment focuses on significant issues.</li> <li>• Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 2 (paras 2.6 – 2.9) and Appendix 3</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 4</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 4</li> </ul>

<b>Alternatives</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Realistic alternatives are considered for key issues, and the reasons for choosing them are documented.</li> <li>Alternatives include 'do minimum' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios wherever relevant.</li> <li>The environmental effects (both adverse and beneficial) of each alternative are identified and compared.</li> <li>Inconsistencies between the alternatives and other relevant local plans, programmes or policies are identified and explained.</li> <li>Reasons are given for selection or elimination of alternatives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No evidence within Draft NDP that alternative approaches were considered prior to its formulation.</li> </ul>
<b>Baseline information</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1 and 4.</li> <li>Initial screening report and Section 1.</li> <li>Section 2.</li> </ul>

<b>Prediction and evaluation of likely significant environmental effects</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Both positive and negative effects are considered, and the duration of effects (short, medium or long-term) is addressed.</li> <li>• Likely secondary, cumulative (growing in quantity and strength) and synergistic (acting together) effects are identified, where practicable.</li> <li>• Inter-relationships between effects are considered, where practicable.</li> <li>• The prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of relevant accepted standards, regulations, and thresholds (i.e. data gathered for the evidence base).</li> <li>• Methods used to evaluate the effects are described.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tables A2, A3 and A4 (Appendix 2)</li> <li>• Tables B2 and B3 (Appendix 4)</li> <li>• Table B4 (Appendix 4)</li> <li>• Section 4</li> <li>• Section 4</li> <li>• Section 2</li> </ul>
<b>Mitigation measures</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the Neighbourhood Development Plan are indicated.</li> <li>• Issues to be taken into account when determining planning applications or other projects, for example funding bids, are identified.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 4 (paras 4.7. – 4.9)</li> <li>• Section 4</li> </ul>

<b>The Environmental Report</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation.</li> <li>• Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms.</li> <li>• Uses maps and other illustrations, where appropriate.</li> <li>• Explains the methodology used.</li> <li>• Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used.</li> <li>• Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• Section 2</li> <li>• Section 2</li> <li>• Section 2</li> <li>• <b>Included at page 1</b></li> </ul>
<b>Consultation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SEA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 2 (paras 2.4 – 2.5)</li> <li>• Section 6</li> </ul>

<b>Decision-making and information on the decision</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The environmental report and the opinions of those consulted are taken into account in finalising and adopting the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> <li>An explanation is given of how they have been taken into account.</li> <li>Reasons are given for choosing the Neighbourhood Development Plan as adopted, in the light of other reasonable alternatives considered.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sections 2 and 6</li> <li>Following draft consultation</li> <li>Following draft consultation</li> </ul>
<b>Monitoring measures</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures proposed for monitoring the Neighbourhood Development Plan are clear, practicable and linked to the indicators and objectives used in the SEA.</li> <li>Monitoring is used, where appropriate, during implementation of the Neighbourhood Development Plan to make good deficiencies in baseline information in the SEA.</li> <li>Acknowledgement that monitoring enables unforeseen adverse effects to be identified at an early stage. (These effects may include predictions which prove to be incorrect.)</li> <li>Proposals are made for action in response to significant adverse effects arising from the monitoring of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5</li> <li>Section 5</li> <li>Section 5</li> <li>Section 5</li> </ul>



# Appendix 6

**Consultation date:** 24/11/14 – 19/01/15

**Consultation title:** Regulation 14

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

<b>Response Date</b>	<b>Consultee</b>	<b>Summary of Comments</b>	<b>Response to Comments</b>
19/01/15	Natural England	Natural England welcomes the production of an Environmental Report. Having reviewed the report Natural England confirms that it meets the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) European Directive and national regulations, and that we concur with its conclusions.	Noted.

# Appendix 7

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- - Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	N/A No relationship
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**Policy 9: Housing**

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1–5 years)	Medium term (6 –10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	?	+	+	This would depend upon location of the new homes and the timescale in which they are developed. This policy would not, however, be over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are in place to avoid or mitigate effects on nature conservation.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	?	+	+	This would depend upon location of the new homes and the timescale in which they are developed. This policy would not, however, be over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are in place to avoid or mitigate effects on landscape and townscape.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	?	+	+	This would depend upon location of the new homes and the timescale in which they are developed. This policy would not, however, be over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are in place to avoid or mitigate effects on the historic environment or cultural heritage.	
To improve air quality	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	?	+	+	In the short term there will be additional traffic, however once developed alongside the sustainable transport policies then there should be more choice to use lesser polluting modes of travel.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	+	+	The design of the housing should incorporate the renewable energy schemes set out in other policies within this NDP to ensure a long term positive outcome.	

To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	+	+	This would depend upon location of the new homes and the timescale in which they are developed. This policy would not, however, be over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	?	?	+	This would depend upon location of the new homes and the timescale in which they are developed. This policy would not, however, be over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	?	+	+	This would depend upon location of the new homes and the timescale in which they are developed. This policy would not, however, be over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	+	This would depend upon location of the new homes and the timescale in which they are developed. This policy would not, however, be over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To minimise the production of waste	?	?	+	This would depend upon location of the new homes and the timescale in which they are developed. This policy would not, however, be over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This would depend upon location of the new homes and the timescale in which they are developed. This policy would not, however, be over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policies RA2, RA3, RA4, RA5 and H4 of the Core Strategy.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is in general conformity with the proposed Main Modifications to the Core Strategy, subject to the Inspector's Report, and meets the requirements of National Planning Policy Framework for growth. Other policies within the NDP will ensure that the impacts upon the SEA baseline are minimal.				

