

Environmental Report



Callow & Haywood Group Neighbourhood Area

Addendum

February 2016

Callow and Haywood NDP SEA Addendum report

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 An integral part of the work on SEA is to assess the proposals in a draft Neighbourhood Plan and their reasonable alternatives so that the likely significant effects of those available options. During the plan preparation process, options were assessed against the sustainability objectives that emerged through the SEA process.
- 1.2 In order to align with the requirements of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 in relation to the environmental report, this Addendum report has been written to update the SEA Environmental Report for Callow and Haywood Neighbourhood Area May 2015. This report provides full details of the options that were considered during the preparation of the Neighbourhood Development plan.
- 1.3 Paragraph 2.3 of the Callow and Haywood Environmental Report May 2015, stated that:
- “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.”*
- 1.4 This paragraph should be considered incorrect and therefore not considered as part of the Environmental Report May 2015, and this Addendum Report should replace Paragraph 2.3 and provide additional information to paragraph 4.2.

2.0 Appraisal of the options

- 2.1 The options that were considered by Callow and Haywood Parish during the development of their Plan have been assessed as part of the SEA, the summary matrix of the assessment can be found in Table B2 options in Appendix 1 of this Addendum.
- 2.2 The options covered the topics that were likely to formulate the policies going forward in the Plan. These options were considered by the Steering Group at the early stages of the plan production, and were also informed from the production of the Community Led Plan in 2012/2013.
- 2.3 A ‘do nothing’ option was considered by the Parish, i.e. not undertaking a Neighbourhood Development Plan, however this was disregarded at an early stage by the Parish Council. This is also considered as an option to not include a policy within the NDP but to rely solely on the Core Strategy Policies and the NPPF.
- 2.4 The Callow and Haywood parish options all had a generally positive or unknown impact upon the Baseline data and SEA objectives, in particular Option 1a (to undertake a NDP) would ensure that there is the potential for more locally specific policies to come forward.
- 2.5 Option 2a and b looked at the options available for settlement boundaries within the NDP, option 2a was more favourable as it allows more certainty as to where development will be located, and will help to define areas that are considered built form and open countryside and will help to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. However, Option 2b concludes that it will also be mainly positive in relation to the SEA objectives however there are some unknown factors as it will not be clear where the development is to be located within the village and therefore loses the certainty. This can be mitigated by ensuring there are criteria in place within the policies to help protect the quality of the landscape and surroundings.
- 2.6 Option 3 looked at housing delivery, both options 3a and 3b had a positive effect on the baseline and SEA objectives, however it was option 3a that concluded as more positive due to the certainty of allocating sites would provide. If sites were allocated then specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and positively addressed within policy wording. Although criteria based approach does not provide the same level of certainty it can provide criteria to safeguard and mitigate against any potential environmental harm.

- 2.7 Option 4 looked at employment development within the parish and whether to allocate sites for specific employment uses or to rely on a criterion based approach. Both options concluded that there would be positive outcome on the SEA objectives however allocating sites would provide more certainty, and would allow for specific environmental concerns to be investigated and positively addressed within the policy wording. However, a criterion based approach would also be able to mitigate and safeguard against any environmental concerns, however would not provide the certainty as to where the sites would be located. There are some employment development such as tourism that would benefit more from a criterion based approach as these would be on an ad hoc basis and not necessarily located within the settlements as most employment development would be.
- 2.8 Option 5 looked at the distribution of housing around the parish. All of the options had unknown responses in the assessment; however option 5B did not have any negative conclusion against the SEA objectives. This is due to the location of the settlement of Grafton is adjacent to some of the main road routes into the city of Hereford and therefore it has more availability of public transport links and it has additional community facilities which will reduce the need to travel, which could help to improve air quality.
- 2.9 Option 6 and 7 both have a positive conclusion on the SEA objectives and towards the baseline, both options can provide mitigation towards development within the Parish. Option 6 has some unknown results due to the location and scale of potential renewable energy schemes not clarified.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 Overall all of the options had mainly a positive effect on the SEA objectives and baseline, if the policies that are developed incorporated the elements of the options that are ensuring mitigation of new development and additional details are provided for design of any proposed site within criteria of the policies then the assessment of the policies should result in a positive result.
- 3.2 As these options were generally moving towards the SEA objectives any further alternatives would probably be moving away and therefore no further options are required to be assessed.

4.0 Next Steps

- 4.1 This addendum report will be published for a 5 week consultation to the Statutory consultees and will be available on the Herefordshire Council website.

Appendix 1

Template B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP options and alternatives – Callow and Haywood Submission Draft NDP, (May 2015 version) Parish
 Council Name: Callow and Haywood Parish Council

Date completed: February 2016

NDP Options and alternatives	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy in terms of SEA
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA	NA	NA	16			
Option 1 NDP preparation A / Prepare a NDP	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Prepare a NDP allows for certainty for the Parish, and ensures that local policies are in place to guide development.	All policies within the NDP would need to be in general conformity with the national policies and the Local Plan.	This option would meet the requirements of the Core Strategy in terms of SEA.
B / Do nothing / rely on Core Strategy policies	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	Do nothing option is essential not to produce a neighbourhood plan and rely on the criteria policies within the Core Strategy to guide further development. Specific policies and proposals for the parishes would not exist.	All developments would need to be in conformity with the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy has been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal and policies met the SEA objectives.	n/a
Option 2 Village boundary A / Use a settlement boundary to	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside. This can aid	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the

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manage development																	the direction of further growth to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. There is less certainty over the positive effects on the baseline as any growth with be adjudged by criteria based policy.	the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	SEA.
B / Do not use a settlement boundary to manage village development	?	?	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?					Without a settlement boundary it would risk housing development coming forward which could cause additional environmental concerns. It does not give any level of certainty as to where potential development will be located.	The NDPs policies will need to safeguard against any effects on any of the SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 3 Housing Delivery A / Allocate sites for housing, as part of an overall approach to managing delivery	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+					Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. This option could have a positive effect on the baseline.	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

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<p>B / Deliver housing through managed windfall development, with no site allocation using a criteria based policy</p>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	<p>Criteria based policy does not give the same level of certainty as the other options as it will be more reactionary than proactive in terms of growth proposals. However provided criterion is added to the policy to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline.</p>	<p>Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.</p>	<p>This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA</p>
<p>Option 4 Employment development A / Allocating land for employment, as part of the overall approach to economic development</p>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	<p>Allocation of sites for employment would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. This option could have a positive effect on the baseline.</p>	<p>Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future employment development within the area. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.</p>	<p>This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.</p>
<p>B / Not to allocate land for employment development and rely on criteria based approach</p>	+	+	+	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	+				?	<p>Without the allocation of land for employment there will be the loss of certainty of land coming forward for employment. This could have an environmental impact as no sites have been</p>	<p>Policies within the Plan would need to allow for mitigation for sites that would come forward for employment to ensure all SEA objectives are</p>	<p>This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.</p>

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																	chosen therefore mitigation would need to be included in the policies within the Plan.	achieved.		
Option 5 – Location of housing																				
A / Distribute housing within the villages of Twyford Common and Grafton	+	+	?	?	-	?	?	X	X	X	X	?					+	Distributing the housing between the two villages would be sustainable as there are more facilities within Grafton village but it would reduce the pressure on the environment, of having the housing located in one area.	Policies within the Plan would need to allow for mitigation for sites that would come forward within the two villages.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
B/ Distribute housing only in Grafton	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	X	X	X	X	?					+	Grafton is a small village but does have additional facilities to ensure that there is a reduction in travel; it is also located on the main transport routes which allows the use of public transport, and therefore	Policies within the Plan would need to allow for mitigation for sites that would come forward within Grafton.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
C/ Distribute housing only in Twyford Common	+	+	?	?	-	?	?	X	X	X	X	?					+	Twyford common does not have many community facilities therefore there could be the requirement to travel further and utilise the car more, this option is not as sustainable as options 5 A and B.	Policies within the Plan would need to allow for mitigation for sites that would come forward within Twyford Common.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

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<p>Option 6</p> <p>Include a renewable energy policy</p>	+	?	?	?	+	X	+	+	X	X	X	X				++	<p>Depending upon the scale and location of renewable energy schemes, will depend upon the environmental impact. Policies should include mitigation methods to ensure cumulative impacts do not adversely impact upon the baseline.</p>	<p>To ensure all SEA objectives are achieved and any adverse impact on the landscape, mitigation criteria will need to be incorporated into the policy.</p>	<p>This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.</p>
<p>Option 7</p> <p>Include a detailed design and heritage policy</p>	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	X	X	X	X	?	?			+	<p>This option provides good mitigation methods and therefore meets the SEA objectives and requirements within the Core Strategy.</p>	<p>This option would provide good mitigation techniques for the housing policies and should be incorporated into the policies where appropriate to help support the effect on the SEA objectives and baseline data.</p>	<p>This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.</p>