

Habitats Regulations Assessment



Callow & Haywood Group Neighbourhood Area

Addendum

February 2016

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 To ensure that the requirements of the Habitats Directive and Regulations are met it is necessary to consider the options considered through the HRA process to the Callow and Haywood NDP.
- 1.2 The purpose of this further HRA Addendum Report is to detail the findings of the screening of the full options considered during the development of the Callow and Haywood NDP and consider if they significantly affect the conclusions of the earlier first HRA Report (November 2014) and Addendum report (May 2015).
- 1.3 However, the review of the options are not considered to significantly affect the conclusions of the earlier HRA reports, as they do not materially change the overall aims and objectives of the policies, but show the background to the development of the policies.
- 1.4 Within the original HRA report, November 2014, paragraph 4.6 states 'There is no evidence that alternative options were considered prior to launching into the drafting of the plan and consequently it was impossible to undertake this element of the assessment.' However the Parish have confirmed that options were considered throughout the development of the plan and the options were informed from the production of the Community Led Plan in 2012/2013, therefore this Addendum replaces paragraph 4.6. The options covered the topics that were likely to formulate the policies going forward in the Plan.

2.0 Summary of main findings of the assessment of the options

- 2.1 Appendix 1 of this Addendum shows the summary matrix of the full options that have been assessed for the Callow and Haywood NDP. None of the options are found to have a significant effect upon the River Wye SAC. However criterion within policies should help towards mitigating against any potential effect that could come forward with development within the Parish.

3.0 Conclusion

- 3.1 With reference to section 2 above, the full options considered during the development of the NDP are not considered to affect the findings of the first HRA report and addendum.
- 3.2 Therefore the earlier conclusion that the **Callow and Haywood NDP will not have a likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC** remains valid.

4.0 Next steps

- 4.1 This Addendum Report will be published for a 5 week consultation with the Key Stakeholders and also on the Herefordshire Council website.

Appendix 1

NDP options	HRA Screening of NDP Options				
	Likely activities (operations) to result as a consequence of the objective/policy	Likely effect if objective/policy implemented. Could they have Likely Significant Effects on European Sites?	European Sites potentially affected	Mitigation measures to be considered, as necessary, through redraft of objective/option/policy.	Could the policy have any likely significant effects on European sites (taking mitigation into account)?
Option 1 Do nothing / Rely on Core Strategy policies	No NDP to determine planning applications.	Criteria policies within the Core Strategy would guide further development. Specific policies and proposals for the parish would not exist.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Option 2 Manage future housing using a settlement boundary.	Small scale proportionate growth within a defined settlement boundary area.	Uncertain as to the impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Additional criteria would be required when formulating the accompanying settlement boundary policy to ensure that no likely significant effects could occur. Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects. Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.
Option 3A Allocate sites for housing.	Small scale proportionate growth on specific sites identified on a proposals map.	Greater degree of certainty over the impact of future development on the European sites, as the location of housing would be pre-determined and not left to market forces.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects. Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.
Option 3B (preferred option) Manage future housing through a development management policy.	Small scale proportionate growth where the location would be determined by a criteria based policy.	Uncertain as to the impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Criteria based housing policy would require to include reference to mitigation measures to avoid any non-disturbance effects on the River Wye via its catchment. Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects. Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this. Further assessments will be undertaken at draft policy stage.

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Option 4A Allocate sites for employment.	Small scale employment growth on specific sites identified on a proposals map.	Greater degree of certainty over the impact of future development on the European sites, as the location of employment development would be pre-determined	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects. Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this.
Option 4B Rely on criteria based approach towards economic development	Small scale employment growth where the location would be determined by a criteria based policy.	Uncertain as to the full impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Criteria based employment policy would require to include reference to mitigation measures to avoid any non-disturbance effects on the River Wye via its catchment.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects. Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this
Option 5A Distribute housing within the villages of Twyford Common and Grafton	Small scale proportionate growth where the location would be determined by a criteria based policy.	Uncertain as to the full impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development within both of the settlements. However locating within the settlement will mean the facilities to mitigate against an adverse effect will be in place.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects. Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this
Option 5B Distribute housing only in Grafton	Small scale proportionate growth where the location would be determined by a criteria based policy.	Uncertain as to the full impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development within the settlement. However locating within the settlement will mean the facilities to mitigate against an adverse effect will be in place.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects. Policy criteria should be included within the NDP which reflects this
Option 5C Distribute housing only in Twford Common	Small scale proportionate growth where the location would be determined by a criteria based policy.	Uncertain as to the full impact on the European sites as dependant on the location of the development within the settlement. However locating	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording.	No, development in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the policy safeguards which exist within the Core Strategy should avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects. Policy criteria should be included within the

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		within the settlement will mean the facilities to mitigate against an adverse effect will be in place.		Policy would need to take account of the proportional growth requirements of the Core Strategy and potential headroom capacity at the local STW.	NDP which reflects this
Option 6 Include a renewable energy policy	Community and individual renewable energy schemes	If small scale schemes should have little impact upon the SAC	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Good practice techniques for construction may help to eliminate disturbance during construction phases. Ensure future policy balances out the scale of promoted schemes and avoid the location to close to the River Wye SAC or its tributaries.	No; policy criteria can be added to mitigate.
Option 7 Include detailed design and heritage policies	Protection towards heritage in the parish Mitigation towards development through the design policies	N/A	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Criteria based design and heritage policies would require to include reference to mitigation measures, and would help to provide safeguarding measures to other policies against development.	No, this criteria based policies will help to mitigate against an adverse effect.