

Habitats Regulations Assessment



Fownhope Neighbourhood Area

May 2015

Contents

1.0	Introduction	1
2.0	The requirement to undertake HRA of NDPs	2
3.0	Methodology	3
4.0	Results of the initial Screening Report	4
5.0	Description of the Fownhope NDP	6
6.0	Identification of other plans and policies which may have in-combination effects	7
7.0	Assessment of the likely significant effects of the Fownhope NDP	8
8.0	Conclusions from the screening matrix	9

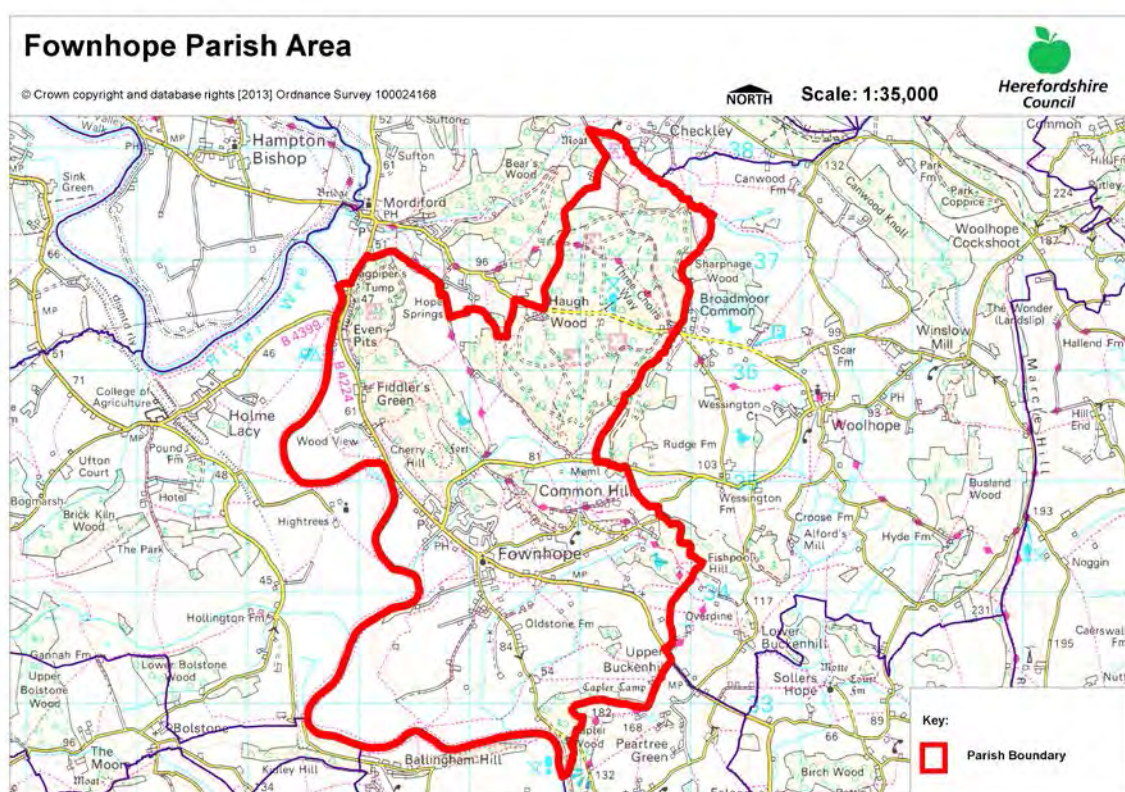
Appendix 1: Initial SEA Screening Report (December 2013)

Appendix 2: Screening of policy matrix

Appendix 3: Screening of sites matrix

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This Screening Assessment relates to a Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) that is considered to be in general conformity with higher level strategic plans, such as the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the National Planning Policy Framework. The screening stage involves assessing broadly whether the Draft Fownhope NDP is likely to have a significant effect on any European site(s).
- 1.2 Fownhope Parish Council is preparing an NDP for whole administrative area of the parish, in order to set out the vision, objectives and policies for its development of the Parish up to 2031 (Draft Plan May 2015, being assessed).
- 1.3 The NDP has allocated sites for housing and provides general policies that clarify and add locally specific detail to the policies within the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). Therefore it requires a high level screening assessment to build upon the HRA Screening Assessment Report undertaken in respect of strategic policies.
- 1.4 This high level screening assessment, which should be read in conjunction with the Pre-submission publication of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), together with the Proposed Main Modifications (March 2015) and Habitat Regulations Assessment Report (published in April 2015), ensures that there will not be any significant impacts upon Natura 2000 sites.
- 1.4 The map below shows Fownhope Neighbourhood Area and parish boundary.



2.0 The requirement to undertake Habitats Regulations Assessment of plans

2.1 The requirement to undertake HRA of development/neighbourhood plans was confirmed by the amendments to the "Habitats Regulations" published for England and Wales in July 2007 and updated in 2013. Therefore when preparing its NDP, Fownhope Parish Council is required to carry out an assessment known as "Habitats Regulations Assessment" pursuant to Reg 32 Schedule 2 Neighbourhood Planning Regulations.

2.2 Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive provides that:

'Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the [European] site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public.'

2.3 HRA is an impact-led assessment and refers to the assessment of the potential effects of a development plan on one or more European sites, including Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs):

- **SPAs** are classified under the European Council Directive 'on the conservation of wild birds' (79/409/EEC; Birds Directive) for the protection of **wild birds and their habitats** (including particularly rare and vulnerable species listed in Annex 1 of the Birds Directive, and migratory species).
- **SACs** are designated under the Habitats Directive and target **particular habitats** (Annex 1) and/or species (Annex II) identified as being of European importance.
- **Ramsar sites** support internationally important wetlands habitats

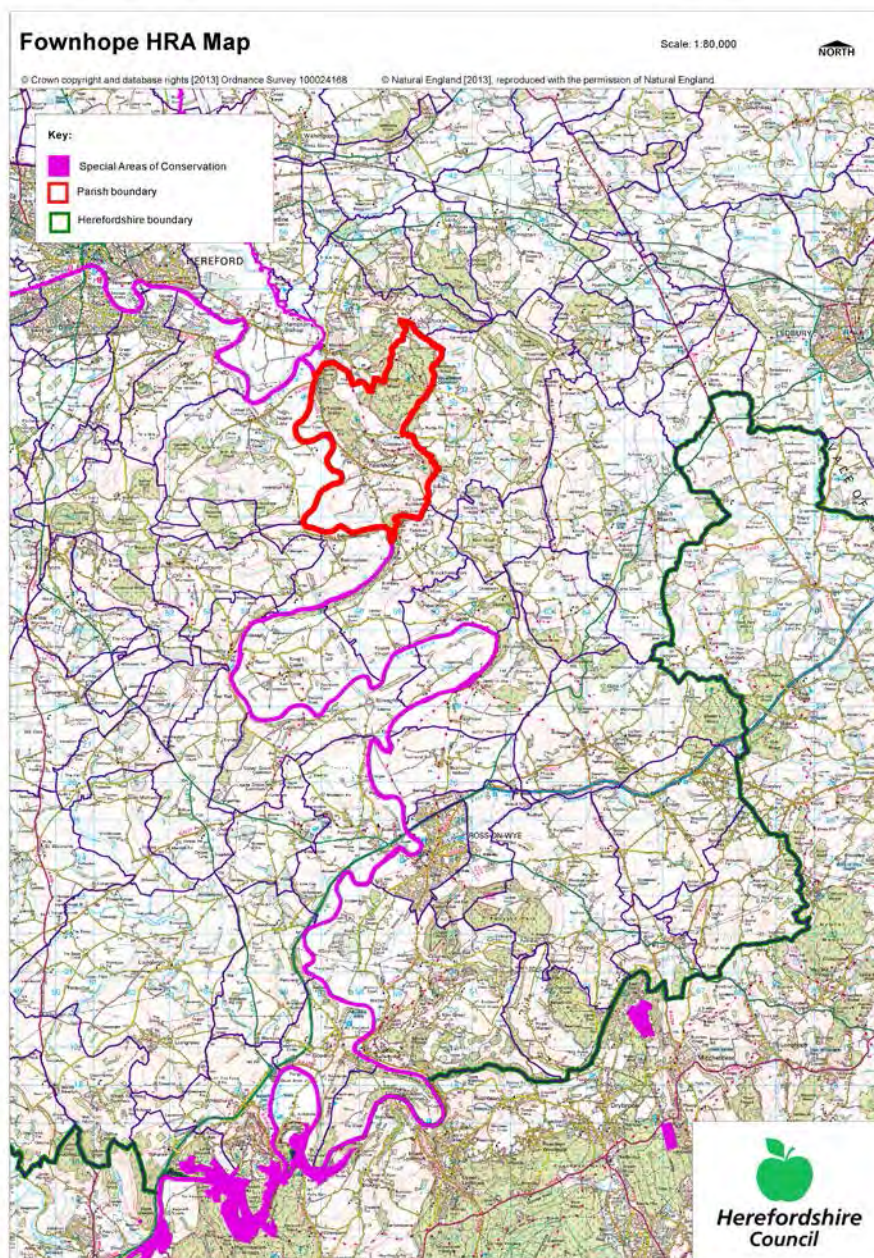
2.4 For ease of reference during HRA, general practice has been that these three designations are collectively referred to as either **Natura 2000** or **European sites**. This means that a Screening Assessment is carried out with regard to the Conservation Objectives of the European Sites and with reference to other plans or projects to identify if any significant effect is likely for any European Site.

3.0 Methodology

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

4.0 Results of the Initial Screening Report and options

- 4.1 The initial Screening Report (12 December 2013) shown in Appendix 1 revealed that the River Wye SAC runs immediately adjacent to the western boundary of the Fownhope neighbourhood area and therefore a full screening assessment would be required.
- 4.2 The following map highlights the location of River Wye SAC in relation to the neighbourhood area.



- 4.3 European sites can be sensitive to changes in water quantity and quality. As outlined within the Habitat Regulation Assessment to the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), the water supply in this area comes from Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) and no likely significant effects on European sites as a result of changes in water quality are expected in relation to the proportional growth outlined with the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 4.4 In relation to water quality, the preparation of the Nutrient Management Plan for the River Wye SAC should ensure that developments within the area can be accommodated by existing water discharge permits and would not be likely to have a significant effect upon the River

Wye SAC; this position is confirmed by latest update to the HRA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), published in May 2015.

- 4.5 For full details of the River Wye's attributes which contribute to and define their integrity and vulnerable data see Appendix 1 of the Fownhope Initial Screening Report (Full report in Appendix 1 of this HRA report).
- 4.6 Options for initial policy choices have been assessed to determine their environmental impact on the River Wye SAC (refer to Appendix 2). In general, the majority of the options concerning new development would appear to depend on location and scale in relation to environmental impact.

5.0 Description of the Fownhope NDP

- 5.1 The Draft Fownhope NDP presents criteria based policies for development in the neighbourhood area, which is equivalent to the administrative parish boundary, up to 2031.
- 5.2 The NDP sets out the vision for the parish over the plan period and 8 objectives for achieving this vision on the ground. These objectives are as follows:
- Objective 1 - There is housing local people, both young and old, can afford and enjoy.
 - Objective 2 - There are businesses in the area so our people can work near to where they live.
 - Objective 3 - Local facilities and services – health, fire, school, pubs, shops, village hall, library, sport and leisure spaces – for both young and old - are enhanced and well maintained.
 - Objective 4 - Roads, paths and cycle-ways are safe - pavements, drains, and other parts of the infrastructure are kept in good condition.
 - Objective 5 - New homes are built in manageable numbers and density, and are designed to respect and enhance the character of our village.
 - Objective 6 - New residents are welcomed into our community
 - Objective 7 - Community spirit and involvement is actively encouraged
 - Objective 8 - We are in control of the future of our village.
- 5.3 The Neighbourhood Plan also sets out 28 general policies on themes based on the objective headings above:
- Policy FW1: Sustainable development
 - Policy FW2: Safeguarding the Wye Valley AONB.
 - Policy FW3: Flooding
 - Policy FW4: Sewage Treatment Works
 - Policy FW5: Biodiversity
 - Policy FW6: Countryside Access
 - Policy FW7: Conservation of Fownhope's historic character.
 - Policy FW8: Common Hill 'Area of Special Character'
 - Policy FW9: Housing numbers
 - Policy FW10: Housing infill
 - Policy FW11: Housing in the countryside

- Policy FW12: Extensions to dwellings
- Policy FW13: Affordable housing
- Policy FW14: Rural exception sites
- Policy FW15: Phasing of development
- Policy FW16: Design criteria for housing.
- Policy FW17: Settlement boundary
- Policy FW18: Supporting local businesses.
- Policy FW19: Working from Home
- Policy FW20: Redundant rural buildings
- Policy FW21: Retail services.
- Policy FW22: Retaining community assets.
- Policy FW23: Medical services.
- Policy FW24: Community buildings.
- Policy FW25: Telecommunications.
- Policy FW26: Renewable energy.
- Policy FW27: Highways and Infrastructure.
- Policy FW28: Green spaces.

5.4 The NDP proposes that the following sites be allocated for housing, in order to facilitate the proportional growth envisaged by Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy):

- Site 1 – Mill Field (12 dwellings)
- Site 2 – Potato Barn/Mill Field
- Site 3 – Land to the rear of Lower House Gardens
- Site 4 – Ferry Lane
- Site 5 – Land adjacent to Fownhope Medical Centre

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

- 6.1 Regulation 102 of the Habitats Regulations 2010 requires an appropriate assessment where a land use plan (not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. It should be noted, however, that NDP cannot be Made (adopted) if likely significant effects occur.
- 6.2 There are a number of potentially relevant plans and projects which may result in in-combination effects with the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), and these plans have been reviewed and can be found at Appendix 2 of the Pre-submission publication of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) Habitats Regulations Assessment (May 2014).
- 6.3 It is considered that as the Fownhope NDP does not contain policies and site allocations which would result in greater levels of development than envisaged by strategic policies, as set out in the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), this review will suffice for the purposes of the NDP. Adjacent neighbourhood plans (Dormington and Mordiford, Holme Lacy and Hampton Bishop) are at varying stages of their production, but none of the proposals within these plans involve the measures to promote higher levels of growth than the Local Plan (Core Strategy) at this stage.
- 6.4 The latest version of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) also identifies that both the Water Cycle Study for Herefordshire and the work on the Nutrient Management Plan, have both been considered as part of the in-combination assessment. The former, on the one hand, indicates the potential for planned water abstraction requirements combined with pressures on European Sites from the Local Plan's policies, whilst the latter seeks to ensure the favourable conservation status of the SAC in respect of phosphate levels as soon as possible and at the latest by 2027.

7.0 Assessment of the 'likely significant effects' of the Fownhope NDP

- 7.1 As required under Regulation 102 of the Habitats Regulations 2010, a Screening Assessment has been undertaken to identify the 'likely significant effects' of the NDP. This involved the preparation of a screening matrix, which determined whether any of the policies and site allocations in the NDP would be likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye SAC.
- 7.2 The findings of these can be found in Appendices 2 and 3 of this report. Colour coding was used to record the likely impacts of the policies on the European site and its qualifying habitats and species as shown in the table below.

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

- 7.3 The screening matrix took the approach of screening each policy, objective and site allocation individually, which is consistent with current guidance. The results from the HRA reports for the Pre-submission version of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the proposed Main Modifications were also taken into consideration.
- 7.4 Mitigation of some of the identified potential effects could be achieved through additional policy wording and the implementation of the other policies within the NDP and the Local Plan (Core Strategy). Through Policies FW1, FW2, FW3, FW4, FW5, FW6, FW7 and F18 in particular, the Fownhope NDP will safeguard any proposal or development against detrimental impact on the environment and protected sites.

8.0 Conclusions from the Screening Matrix

- 8.1 None of the Fownhope NDP objectives and policies (May 2015) were concluded to be likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye SAC. This conclusion is based on assumptions and information contained within the Fownhope NDP, the proposed Main Modifications to the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the latest version of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy), updated in April 2015 in light of the said modifications and published on the Council's website.
- 8.2 In many cases this is because the policies themselves would not result in development, i.e. they related instead to criteria for development. In several cases the policies also included measures to help support the natural environment including biodiversity. In addition, to conserve community facilities and heritage, and therefore no significant effect conclusion could be reached. These policies have the potential to mitigate some of the possible adverse effects arising from other policies.
- 8.3 With regard to site allocations, the possibility of there being likely significant effects cannot be discounted on four of the five sites proposed for allocation at this stage. This can be attributed to the close proximity of sites to the River Wye SAC and in two cases; areas which are liable to flood. However, it is considered that the inclusion of additional policy wording within the related housing policies of the NDP would, along with other policies, provide adequate safeguarding measures.
- 8.4 It is unlikely that the Fownhope NDP will have any in-combination effects with any plans from neighbouring parishes, as these are the very early stages of the NPD process and it is currently anticipated that the publication of draft plans for comment will be some months away.
- 8.5 Therefore, subject to the addition of safeguarding criteria within the housing policies of the plan, it is concluded that the **Fownhope NDP will not have a likely significant effect on the River Wye SAC.**
- 8.6 Any further amendments to the policies and proposed site allocations (post May 2015) will be re-screened if required and an addendum to this report will be produced.

Appendix 1

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)

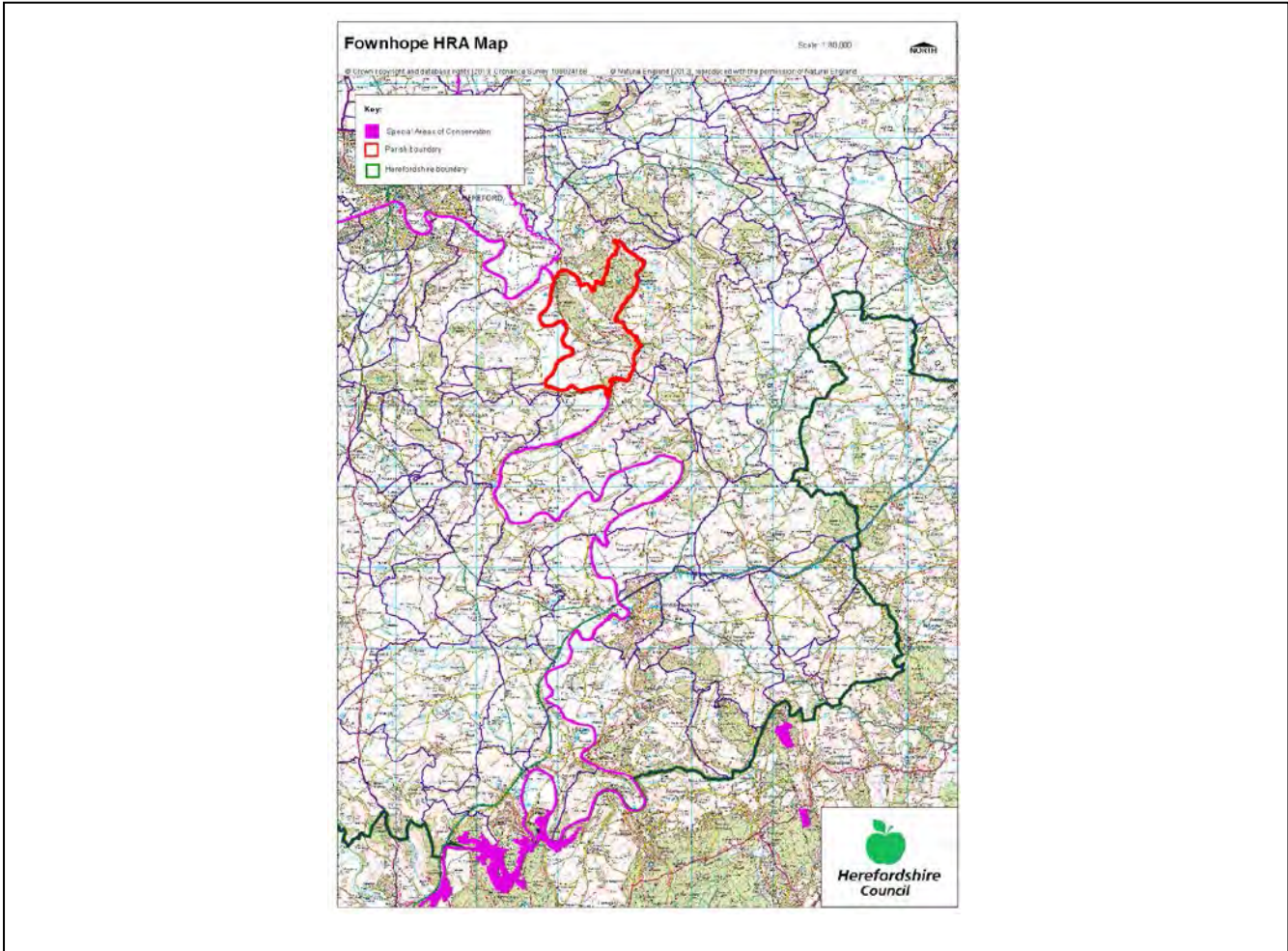
Neighbourhood Area:	Fownhope Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Fownhope Parish Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	30 th January 2014

Introduction

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

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

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



Initial HRA Screening

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC:

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	Y	The River Wye SAC runs along the western border of the Parish
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	Y	The 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	There is mains drainage in Fownhope

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 38.5km away from the Parish
---	---	--

River Clun SAC:

Does the Neighbourhood Area include: Border Group Parish Council or Leintwardine Group Parish Council?	N	River Clun does not border the Parish
--	---	---------------------------------------

Usk Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 40km away from the Parish
--	---	---

Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites are 14.1km away from the Parish
--	---	---

Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	Wye Valley Woodlands are 16km away from the Parish
--	---	--

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 Fownhope 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 Fownhope Neighbourhood Area and would need to be taken into account within a Strategic Environmental Assessment. In addition, the NDP will also need to consider the other SEA topics set out in Guidance Note 9a to ensure that the plan does not cause adverse impacts.

SEA features	Total	Explanation	SEA required
Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA)	0	There are no AQMAs within the Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	24	Lower Bolstone Wood (border); Sharpnage Wood; The Pendlehopes (border); Dormington Wood (border); Nurdens Wood/Canwood Knoll (border); Beans Butts Wood (border); Busland & Jones' Wood (border); Knowle Wood (border); Lea & Pagets Wood; Priors Court Wood (border); Fern Hope Wood (border); Fownhope Park & West Wood; Nover Wood; Holme Lacy Wood (border); Wigleys Wood (border); Siege Wood (border); Round Wood 1 (border); The Grove (border); Long Wood (border); Lyndalls & Whittlebury Woods (border); Carey & Capler Woods; Rock Cottage Wood (border); 1 x unlabelled at Ballingham Hill; 1 x unlabelled at Kidley Hill	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest (AAI)	0	There are no AAIs within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	1	Wye Valley AONB	Y
Conservation Areas	2	Fownhope village; Mordiford village (border)	Y
European Sites	1	River Wye	Y
Flood Areas		Flood Zones run along the River Wye in the west of the Parish	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous Listed Buildings throughout the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCs/RIGS)	1 (RIGS) 23 (SWS)	RIGS: Howle Hill Quarries SWS: Haugh Wood and adjoining woodland; Pentaloe Brook; Sharpnage Wood; Broadmoor Common (border); Wessington Pasture; Lea, Pagets & Buckenhill Woods (border); Sutton Hill Wood (border); Tack Wood (border); Woods along the Wye from Capler Camp; Ballingham Wood (border); Birch & Rattle Hill Woods (border); River Wye; Kidley Hill Wood (border); Ballingham Railway Tunnel (border); Fields north of Carey (border); Lower Bolstone Wood (border); Ponds at Holme Lacy (border); Woodlands and Grasslands at Fownhope; Scutterdine Quarry (border);	Y

		Fields near Checkley Chapel (border); Checkley Common (border); Backbury Hill (border); Woodland along Seager Hill (border)	
Long distance footpaths/trails	1	Wye Valley Walk	Y
Mineral Reserves	14	West Wood, Mordiford to Fownhope; Nover Wood; East of Mordiford to Fownhope; Mangerdine, north east of Mordiford (border); Limburies Wood and Joanhills Farm; Haugh Wood Gate; Woolhope to Sharpnage Wood; Between Crooked Oak & Broadmoor Farm (border); Mordiford to Fownhope to Lower Buckenhill; Pagets Wood, Fownhope to Lower Buckenhill to Sollars Hope (border); Siege Wood to Round Wood, Sollars Hope (border); Sollars Hope to Whittlebury Farm to Foxhalls (border); West of Holme Lacy (border); Barry's Cross (border)	Y
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	0	There are no NNRs within the Parish	N
Registered & Unregistered parks and gardens	2 Registered 5 Unregistered	Registered: Sufton Court (border); Holme Lacy (border) Unregistered: Fownhope Court; Old Sufton (border); Devereux Park (border); Wessington Court (border); Brockhampton, by Ross (border)	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)	5	Cherry Hill Camp; Standing cross in St Cuthbert's churchyard (border); Capler Camp (border); Churchyard cross in Holy Rood churchyard (border); Moated site 360m north of Joanshill Farm	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	12	River Wye (Unfavourable Recovering); Woodshuts Wood (Unfavourable Recovering) (border); Scutterdine Quarry (Favourable) (border); Haugh Wood (Favourable); Sharpnage Wood (Unfavourable Recovering); Cherry Hill Wood (Unfavourable Recovering); Common Hill (Favourable (part) Unfavourable Recovering (part) Unfavourable Declining (part)); Lea & Pagets Woods (Favourable (part) Unfavourable Recovering (part) Unfavourable Declining (part)); Capler Wood (Favourable); Birch Wood (Favourable) (border); River Lugg (Unfavourable Recovering) (border); Little Hill (Unfavourable No Change) (border)	Y

Decision Notification:

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Fownhope Neighbourhood Area:

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

Assessment date: 12/12/2013

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.

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

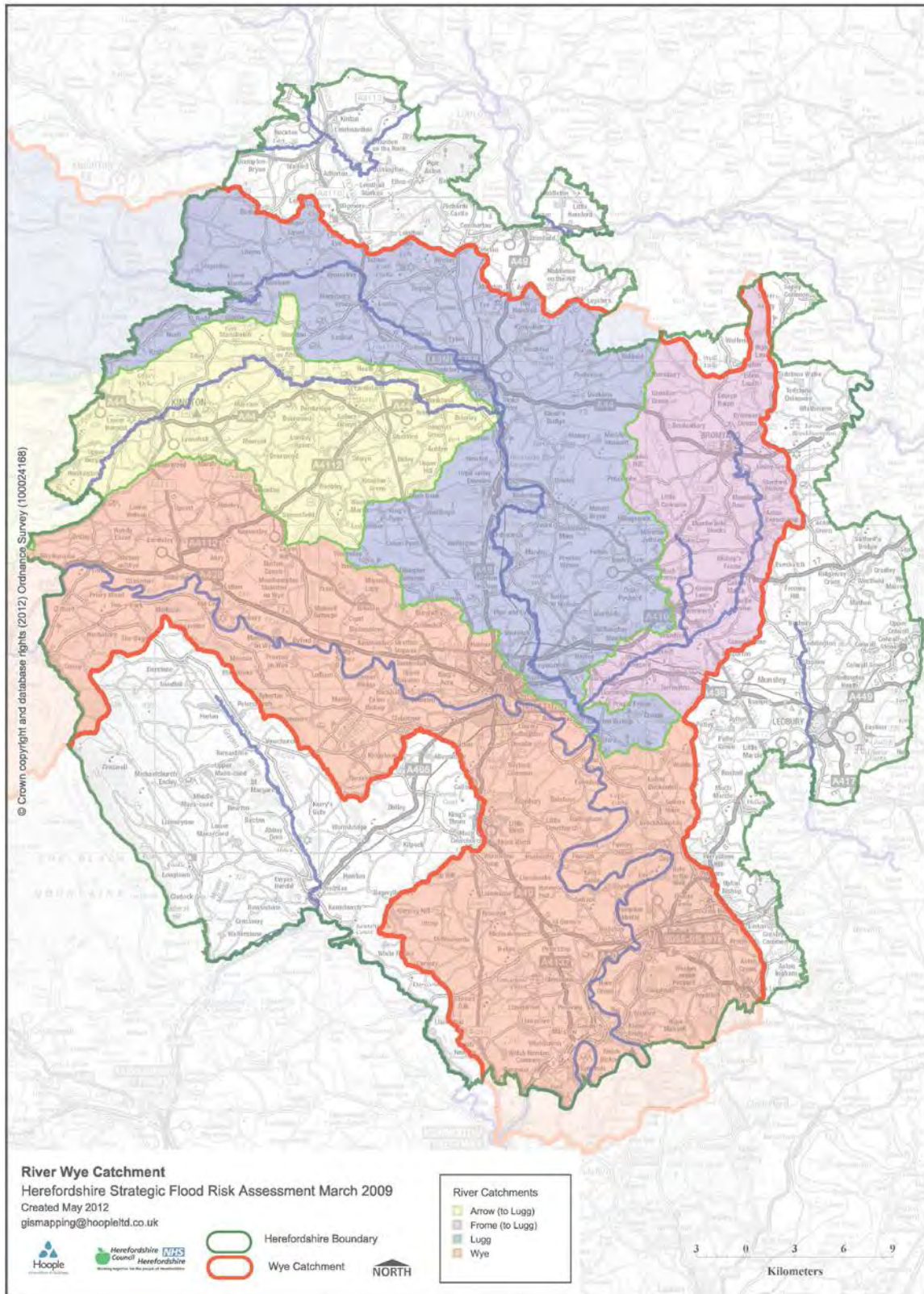
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation. 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

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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.	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 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 River Wye SAC, 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 3 Manage future housing using a settlement boundary.	Small scale proportionate growth within a defined settlement boundary area.	Uncertain as to the impact on the River Wye SAC as dependant on the location of the development. The River Wye flows immediately west of Fownhope.	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.

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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 4 Allocate sites and identify a settlement boundary.	Small scale proportionate growth on specific sites identified on a proposals map and within a defined settlement boundary area.	Greater degree of certainty over the impact of future development on the River Wye SAC, as the location of housing would be pre-determined and the settlement boundary would provide a clear distinction between open countryside and the built environment.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. 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 5 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 River Wye SAC as dependant on the location of the development. The River Wye flows immediately west of Fownhope Common.	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.
NDP Objectives					
Objective 1 There is housing local people, both young and old, can afford and enjoy.	Small scale proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy).	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, this objective will not lead to development; rather it acknowledges that limited growth will occur across the neighbourhood area in line with the Local Plan (Core Strategy).

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
Objective 2 There are businesses in the area so our people can work near to where they live.	Promoting measures to encourage small business start-ups and new or expanded employment premises.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, this objective will not lead to development; rather it will seek to ensure that local employment opportunities are available.
Objective 3 Local facilities and services – health, fire, school, pubs, shops, village hall, library, sport and leisure spaces – for both young and old - are enhanced and well maintained.	Promoting measures to ensure that local facilities and services remain viable and are able to function properly.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, this objective will not lead to development; rather it will seek to ensure the continued use and maintenance of community facilities.
Objective 3 Roads, paths and cycle-ways are safe - pavements, drains, and other parts of the infrastructure are kept in good condition.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Objective 4 New homes are built in manageable numbers and density, and are designed to respect and enhance the character of our village.	Promoting measures to ensure that housing developments are introduced in phases and do not have an adverse effect upon the built and natural environments.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, this objective will not lead to development; rather it will help to ensure that housing developments are spread over the plan period.
Objective 5 New residents are welcomed into our community.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Objective 6 Community spirit and involvement is actively encouraged.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Objective 7 We are in control of the future of our village.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
NDP Policies					
Policy FW1¹ Sustainable development.	Promote sustainable development measures for all new development across the parish.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, this policy will not lead to development; rather it aims to ensure that new development coming forward under the other NDP policies contributes to sustainable development.
Policy FW2 Safeguarding the Wye Valley AONB.	Seeks to ensure that the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and AONB are preserved or enhanced.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, this policy will not lead to development; rather it aims to ensure that new development coming forward under the other NDP policies contributes to and respects the value of natural heritage assets.
Policy FW3 Flooding.	Seeks to reduce impacts of flooding within the parish.	N/A	Rive Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	This policy should help to mitigate potential adverse effects of future development on designated areas by ensuring that development happens in sustainable non-flood risk locations.	No, the policy itself will not lead to development; instead it relates to the criteria used for permitting development in suitable locations. The policy is aiming to reduce development in flood risk areas thus reducing the impact on the water environment.
Policy FW4 Sewerage Treatment Works.	Seeks to ensure that development proposals can be accommodated by the Sewerage Treatment Works (STW).	N/A	Rive Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	This policy should help to mitigate potential adverse effects of future development on designated areas by ensuring that proposals meet the required infrastructure requirements.	No, the policy itself will not lead to development; instead it aims to ensure that development can be accommodated by existing infrastructure, or else facilitates the provision of necessary upgrades.
Policy FW5 Biodiversity.	Greater degree of protection afforded to the parish's green networks.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, this policy will not lead to new development; rather it specifically aims to ensure that any development proposed will conserve or enhance local ecological features and networks. As such this policy could help to provide mitigation against the potential of other NDP policies.

¹ Refer to Draft Plan for policy criteria

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
Policy FW6 Countryside access.	Additional visitor numbers, increased traffic, increased abstraction and demand for water use.	Potential increase in visitor numbers to the parish could have an effect on the Rive Wye.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Measures are included in both the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the NDP to help relieve any increased pressure in the River Wye for recreation purposes. Improved water efficiency measures, metering and addressing leakage in supply will help mitigate any additional pressures in water supply. The implementation of the Nutrient Management Plan will specifically address issues relating to water quality in the River Wye.	No, as the policy emphasises the importance of natural environment. Although visitor and tourism activity may increase within the parish, sufficient policy safeguards are in place to ensure the sensitivity of the River Wye is mitigated from likely significant harm.
Policy FW7 Conservation of Fownhope's historic character.	Policy requires all proposals concerning to demonstrate how they will conserve or enhance historic assets. This includes non-designated heritage assets.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, as the policy merely seeks to ensure that greater checks and balances are placed on proposals that directly affect heritage assets, including those which are not subject to any formal designation, at the planning application stage.
Policy FW8 Common Hill 'Area of Special Character'.	High level conservation of the area designated Common Hill.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, as the policy seeks to better conserve the Common Hill area and places precise restrictions on the location and type of development.

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
<p>Policy FW9</p> <p>Housing numbers.</p>	<p>Policy to support the delivery of market housing to meet the needs of local people in line with Local Plan (Core Strategy) Policy RA2.</p>	<p>Some small scale housing development.</p> <p>Housing, infrastructure development and possible increase in recreational activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of non-allocated development, however the policy would result in small scale growth.</p>	<p>Rive Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>The policies set out in the Local Plan (Core Strategy), subject the outcome of the Inspector's Report, and elsewhere within the NPD should help to avoid adverse impacts upon the European site; though the policy could be strengthened with the inclusion of the following sentence: Development can only proceed where any adverse effects on the River Wye SAC can be avoided or mitigated. Development will only be permitted when it does not compromise the ability of the NMP to deliver the necessary overall nutrient reductions along those stretches of the River Wye SAC which are already exceeding water quality targets or at risk of doing so.</p> <p>Whilst the Local Plan (Core Strategy) has yet to be adopted and cannot, therefore, be relied upon in too much detail, the implications of the Main Modifications to its policies, for the earlier HRA findings, are set out in an addendum report, prepared in April 2015 and published on the Council's website. This addendum report reveals that none of the changes proposed to the policies through the Main Modifications would affect the conclusions set out in the September 2014 HRA Report. It also makes clear that the roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) should avoid adverse effects.</p>	<p>No. This policy conforms to Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), and although it is acknowledged that there will be an increase in the demand for water abstraction and sewage treatment, the latest version of the HRA underlying the Core Strategy (April 2015) confirms that the roll out of Policy RA2 across the rural areas should not lead to adverse effects on the integrity of the River Wye SAC, provided the mitigation measures set out in the NMP are implemented.</p>

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
Policy FW10 Housing infill.	Inside the settlement boundary, small scale limited employment/residential development within existing curtilages.	Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of development, however the policy would result in very small scale growth.	N/A	N/A	No, this policy steers development towards the settlement boundary in accordance with both existing and emerging planning policy.

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
<p>Policy FW11</p> <p>Housing in the countryside.</p>	<p>Policy to support the delivery of housing in line with Policies RA3, RA4 and RA5 of the Core Strategy.</p>	<p>Some small scale housing development.</p> <p>Housing, infrastructure development</p> <p>Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of development, however the policy would result in small scale growth.</p>	<p>Rive Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>The policies set out in the Local Plan (Core Strategy), subject the outcome of the Inspector's Report, and elsewhere within the NPD should help to avoid adverse impacts upon the European site; though the policy could be strengthened with the inclusion of the following: Development can only proceed where any adverse effects on the River Wye SAC can be avoided or mitigated. Development will only be permitted when it does not compromise the ability of the NMP to deliver the necessary overall nutrient reductions along those stretches of the River Wye SAC which are already exceeding water quality targets or at risk of doing so.</p> <p>Whilst the Local Plan (Core Strategy) has yet to be adopted and cannot, therefore, be relied upon in too much detail, the implications of the Main Modifications to its policies, for the earlier HRA findings, are set out in an addendum report, prepared in April 2015 and published on the Council's website. This addendum report reveals that none of the changes proposed to the policies through the Main Modifications would affect the conclusions set out in the September 2014 HRA Report. It also makes clear that the roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) should avoid adverse effects.</p>	<p>No, this policy merely supports the provisions of Policies RA3, RA4 and RA5 of the Core Strategy. There are additional policy criteria in place in both the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the NDP to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p>

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
Policy FW12 Extensions to dwellings.	Measures to support incidental improvements to properties across the parish.	Extensions and other minor alterations to existing dwellings.	N/A	N/A	No, this policy merely allows for extensions to existing dwellings so long as certain criteria are met, and many schemes fall within the scope of the permitted development regime anyway.

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
<p>Policy FW13</p> <p>Affordable housing.</p>	<p>Policy to support the delivery of affordable housing in line with Policy H1 of the Core Strategy.</p>	<p>Some small scale housing development.</p> <p>Housing, infrastructure development</p> <p>Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of development, however the policy would result in small scale growth.</p>	<p>Rive Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>The policies set out in the Local Plan (Core Strategy), subject the outcome of the Inspector's Report, and elsewhere within the NPD should help to avoid adverse impacts upon the European site; though the policy could be strengthened with the inclusion of the following: Development can only proceed where any adverse effects on the River Wye SAC can be avoided or mitigated. Development will only be permitted when it does not compromise the ability of the NMP to deliver the necessary overall nutrient reductions along those stretches of the River Wye SAC which are already exceeding water quality targets or at risk of doing so.</p> <p>Whilst the Local Plan (Core Strategy) has yet to be adopted and cannot, therefore, be relied upon in too much detail, the implications of the Main Modifications to its policies, for the earlier HRA findings, are set out in an addendum report, prepared in April 2015 and published on the Council's website. This addendum report reveals that none of the changes proposed to the policies through the Main Modifications would affect the conclusions set out in the September 2014 HRA Report. It also makes clear that the roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) should avoid adverse effects.</p>	<p>No, this policy would allow for small affordable housing schemes and supports Policy H1 of the Core Strategy. There are additional policy criteria in place in both the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the NDP to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p>

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
<p>Policy FW14</p> <p>Rural exception sites.</p>	<p>Policy to support the delivery of rural exception sites in line with Policy H2 of the Core Strategy.</p>	<p>Some small scale housing development in places that would not ordinarily achieve planning permission.</p> <p>Housing, infrastructure development</p> <p>Possible increase in recreation activities, vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p> <p>Uncertain as to the impacts upon the River Wye SAC dependent on the location of development, however the policy would result in small scale growth.</p>	<p>Rive Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>The policies set out in the Local Plan (Core Strategy), subject the outcome of the Inspector's Report, and elsewhere within the NPD should help to avoid adverse impacts upon the European site; though the policy could be strengthened with the inclusion of the following: Development can only proceed where any adverse effects on the River Wye SAC can be avoided or mitigated. Development will only be permitted when it does not compromise the ability of the NMP to deliver the necessary overall nutrient reductions along those stretches of the River Wye SAC which are already exceeding water quality targets or at risk of doing so.</p> <p>Whilst the Local Plan (Core Strategy) has yet to be adopted and cannot, therefore, be relied upon in too much detail, the implications of the Main Modifications to its policies, for the earlier HRA findings, are set out in an addendum report, prepared in April 2015 and published on the Council's website. This addendum report reveals that none of the changes proposed to the policies through the Main Modifications would affect the conclusions set out in the September 2014 HRA Report. It also makes clear that the roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) should avoid adverse effects.</p>	<p>No, this policy would allow for small rural exception schemes and supports Policy H2 of the Core Strategy. There are additional policy criteria in place in both the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the NDP to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.</p>

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
Policy FW15 Phasing of development.	Housing development spread over the course of the plan period.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, as the policy would not itself lead to development; instead it provides support for housing development on a piecemeal basis.
Policy FW16 Design criteria for housing.	Policy sets out design criteria for all prospective developments.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, as the policy would not itself lead to development; instead it relates to the design criteria for development. This refers to measures to reduce light pollution and avoid damage to wildlife habitats.
Policy FW17 Settlement boundary.	Measures to support controlled growth, including the development of site allocations.	Housing development.	Rive Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	N/A	No, as the policy merely seeks to ensure that there are greater checks and balances on the location of growth.

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
<p>Policy FW18</p> <p>Supporting local businesses.</p>	<p>Policy encourages the continued use of the site for employment uses and would support the provision of expanded premises.</p>	<p>Employment and infrastructure development.</p> <p>Possible vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p>	<p>Rive Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>This policy should help to reduce the extent to which people need to travel to work by allowing incumbent businesses the opportunity to expand.</p> <p>Policies LD2, SD1, SD3 and SD4 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and FW1 within the NDP will aim to help avoid any adverse impacts on the River Wye from any new employment or business uses.</p> <p>Whilst the Local Plan (Core Strategy) has yet to be adopted and cannot, therefore, be relied upon in too much detail, the implications of the Main Modifications to its policies, for the earlier HRA findings, are set out in an addendum report, prepared in April 2015 and published on the Council's website. This addendum report reveals that none of the changes proposed to the policies through the Main Modifications would affect the conclusions set out in the September 2014 HRA Report. It also makes clear that the roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) should avoid adverse effects.</p> <p>Improved water efficiency measures, metering and addressing leakages in the supply may help to mitigate any additional pressures on the water supply as a result of new development.</p>	<p>No, this policy is seeking retention of existing and development of further small scale businesses. This may have a positive effect on reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>There are policy safeguards within Local Plan (Core Strategy) and other NDP policies that will help mitigate potential likely significant effects.</p>

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
Policy FW19 Working from Home.	Measures to support the various home-based enterprises which are currently in operation.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, as the policy merely seeks to ensure that the necessary facilities are in place to support home working, which would reduce the need to travel to the benefit of the environment.
Policy FW20 Redundant rural buildings	Re-use of buildings that are no longer required for the purpose they were intended to serve.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, whilst this policy would allow for, and indeed encourage the re-use of buildings for agricultural, tourism and business use, there are additional policy criteria in place to ensure that proposed uses are appropriate and to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.
Policy FW21 Retail services.	Measures to resist the loss of retail facilities to housing and support appropriate growth of existing provision.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, as the policy merely seeks to retain existing provision and ensure that existing retail premises are able to expand, but not to the detriment of the character of the village.
Policy FW22 Retaining community assets.	Measures to resist the loss of specific community assets.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No, as the policy merely seeks to avoid the change of use of specific premises, some of which may be nominated as Assets of Community Value.
Policy FW23 Medical services.	Measures to support the provision of new or extended healthcare facilities.	Supported housing. New day care premises.	N/A	N/A	No, whilst this policy would allow for, and indeed encourage the provision and development of new or extended facilities, there are additional policy criteria in place to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects.

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
<p>Policy FW24</p> <p>Community buildings.</p>	<p>Encourage and enhance the use of community facilities, as well as facilitating new provision.</p>	<p>New community facilities.</p> <p>Possible vehicular movements and demand for water abstraction and treatment.</p>	<p>Rive Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>Policies LD2, SD1, SD3 and SD4 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and FW1 within the NDP will aim to help avoid any adverse impacts on the River Wye from new community uses.</p> <p>Whilst the Local Plan (Core Strategy) has yet to be adopted and cannot, therefore, be relied upon in too much detail, the implications of the Main Modifications to its policies, for the earlier HRA findings, are set out in an addendum report, prepared in April 2015 and published on the Council's website. This addendum report reveals that none of the changes proposed to the policies through the Main Modifications would affect the conclusions set out in the September 2014 HRA Report. It also makes clear that the roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) should avoid adverse effects.</p> <p>Improved water efficiency measures, metering and addressing leakages in the supply may help to mitigate any additional pressures on the water supply as a result of new development.</p>	<p>No, although this policy could result in the development of new community facilities or the loss of existing provision to new uses, which depending on location could have potential effect on the River Wye, sufficient policy safeguards are in place within both the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and NDP policy to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects on the River Wye.</p>

NDP objectives	HRA Screening of NDP objectives and policies				
	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)?
Policy FW25 Telecommunications.	Encouragement for full mobile and internet coverage during the plan period and energy saving measures. This could result in additional masts and transmitter facilities within the parish.	Depending on type and location of infrastructure: Physical damage or disturbance and or non-physical disturbance such as noise.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Measures included within Policy SD2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) should help to mitigate potential impacts relating to non-physical disturbances. This policy could be strengthened by including reference to the European site. Good practice construction techniques including noise suppression measures, hours of operation may help to mitigate potential adverse effects during construction.	No, this objective will not lead to development itself and will encourage the uptake of mobile working to the benefit of transport concerns and air quality. There are safeguards within policy to ensure that disruption caused by the siting of proposals is minimised.
Policy FW26 Renewable energy.	Greater uptake of microgeneration and other low density renewable energy schemes.	Depending on type and location of infrastructure: Physical damage or disturbance and or non-physical disturbance such as noise.	River Wye (including River Lugg) SAC	Measures included within Policy SD2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) should help to mitigate potential impacts relating to non-physical disturbances. Good practice construction techniques including noise suppression measures, hours of operation may help to mitigate potential adverse effects during construction.	No, as although this policy could result in the development of renewable energy infrastructure which depending on its location may have potential effect on the River Wye, sufficient policy safeguards are in place within both the Local Plan (Core Strategy) and NDP to avoid or mitigate any likely significant effects on the River Wye.
Policy FW27 Highways and Infrastructure.	Promoting measures to ensure that highways can cope with additional traffic and that transport service and facilities are kept up to date.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No. This policy will not lead to development; rather it seeks to ensure that development proposals do not exacerbate existing problems relating to highways and transport.
Policy FW28 Green spaces.	Conservation of specific green areas of land.	N/A	N/A	N/A	No. This policy will not lead to development; rather it seeks to conserve areas of green space and prevent alternative forms of use, to the benefit of the natural environment and landscape character.

Appendix 3

Proposed Site Allocations	Characteristics of development, such as size	Location of proposed site allocation	HRA Screening of NDP Proposed Site Allocations			
			European Sites potentially affected	Likely effect if proposed site allocation is developed. Could the site result in LSE on European Sites?	Mitigation measures to be considered to avoid any impacts	If recommendations are implemented, would it be possible that it would result in no likely significant effect?
Site 1 Mill Field	The size of the development is approximately 1.5 hectares; this would yield 12 dwellings, though an appeal decision is pending on refusal of planning permission for a scheme of 33 dwellings.	Site comprises a relatively large field behind Scotch Firs on the north side of the main throughfare to the village (B4224); this road separates the site from the River Wye SAC. Potential effects on the AONB and Conservation Area in addition to the European site; therefore landscape and heritage constraints on development.	River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC	No: the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects, but note that development would be located in reasonably close proximity of the River Wye.	There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy FW9 (as per the recommendation of Stage B of SEA) should reinforce the strength of this policy in avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts. In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated. This site has been identified in direct response to the proportional growth target within that policy and its development, either in isolation or in tandem with the other proposed site allocations, would not exceed the Local Plan's requirements.	No: the latest iteration of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) confirms that NMP can mitigate the effects of 5,300 dwellings in rural areas and the proposed site allocation, in combination with the others, will not exceed the proportional growth target for the settlement.

<p>Site 2</p> <p>Potato Barn/Mill Field</p>	<p>The size of the development is approximately 0.8 hectares; this would yield 8 dwellings, subject to the resolution of highways access.</p>	<p>Site is located on the south side of the main throughfare to the village (B4224) and within yards of the River Wye SAC.</p> <p>Potential effects on the AONB and Conservation Area in addition to the European site; therefore landscape and heritage constraints on development.</p> <p>Noise and light pollution caused during the construction phase and an increase in vehicular movements following completion of the dwellings are liable to cause harm.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>No: the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects, but note that development would be located in reasonably close proximity of the River Wye.</p>	<p>There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy FW9 (as per the recommendation of Stage B of SEA) should reinforce the strength of this policy in terms of avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts. Practical measures outlined in Policies FW1 and FW18, such as tree planting, would help to soften the impact of development.</p> <p>In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated. This site has been identified in direct response to the proportional growth target within that policy and its development, either in isolation or in tandem with the other proposed site allocations, would not exceed the Local Plan's requirements.</p>	<p>No: the latest iteration of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) confirms that NMP can mitigate the effects of 5,300 dwellings in rural areas and the proposed site allocation, in combination with the others, will not exceed the proportional growth target for the settlement.</p>
--	---	---	---	--	---	---

<p>Site 3</p> <p>Land to the rear of Lower House Gardens</p>	<p>The size of the development is approximately 0.9 hectares; this would yield 8 dwellings, subject to the resolution of highways access and flood risk.</p>	<p>Site is located to the rear of Lower House Gardens, landlocked and dependent on Site 2 for access.</p> <p>Potential effects on the AONB and Conservation Area in addition to the European site; therefore landscape and heritage constraints on development.</p> <p>Development of this site would be dependent on Site 2 which, if developed in tandem, would be liable to cause harm due to the creation of noise and light pollution during the construction phase and an increase in vehicular movements following completion of the dwellings.</p> <p>The site is also at risk of flooding, which means there is a greater than average probability of pollutants entering local watercourses, including the European site.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>No: the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects, but note that development would be located in reasonably close proximity of the River Wye.</p>	<p>There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy FW9 (as per the recommendation of Stage B of SEA) should reinforce the strength of this policy in terms of avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts. Practical measures outlined in Policies FW1 and FW18, such as tree planting, would help to soften the impact of development and Policy FW3 should prevent the onset of problems associated with flood risk.</p> <p>In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated. This site has been identified in direct response to the proportional growth target within that policy and its development, either in isolation or in tandem with the other proposed site allocations, would not exceed the Local Plan's requirements.</p>	<p>No: the latest iteration of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) confirms that NMP can mitigate the effects of 5,300 dwellings in rural areas and the proposed site allocation, in combination with the others, will not exceed the proportional growth target for the settlement.</p>
---	--	---	---	--	--	---

<p>Site 4 Ferry Lane</p>	<p>The size of the development is approximately 0.35 hectares; this would yield 5 dwellings, subject to the resolution of highways access and flood risk.</p>	<p>Site is a linear strip accessed via the Tanhouse junction with the B4224.</p> <p>Potential effects on the Conservation Area in addition to the European site; therefore allocation may pose a slight risk to cultural heritage assets.</p> <p>The site is also at risk of flooding, which means there is a greater than average probability of pollutants entering local watercourses, including the European site.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>No: the scale of development proposed would not give rise to likely significant effects, but note that development would be located in reasonably close proximity of the River Wye.</p>	<p>There are sufficient safeguards within other policies to avoid any adverse impacts, and the inclusion of additional policy wording in the attendant Policy FW9 (as per the recommendation of Stage B of SEA) should reinforce the strength of this policy in terms of avoiding unacceptable adverse impacts. Practical measures outlined in Policies FW1 and FW18, such as tree planting, would help to soften the impact of development and Policy FW3 should prevent the onset of problems associated with flood risk and the dwellings would be built on higher ground anyway.</p> <p>In any event, the 2015 HRA Report confirms that the roll out of the NMP would continue to mitigate the effects of Policy RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy), a policy upon which the proposed allocation of this site for housing is predicated. This site has been identified in direct response to the proportional growth target within that policy and its development, either in isolation or in tandem with the other proposed site allocations, would not exceed the Local Plan's requirements.</p>	<p>No: the latest iteration of the HRA for the Local Plan (Core Strategy) confirms that NMP can mitigate the effects of 5,300 dwellings in rural areas and the proposed site allocation, in combination with the others, will not exceed the proportional growth target for the settlement.</p>
<p>Site 5 Land adjacent to Medical Centre</p>	<p>The size of the development is approximately 0.6 hectares; this would yield 7 dwellings.</p>	<p>Site is immediately adjacent to Fownhope Medical Centre and is relatively free of significant constraints.</p>	<p>River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC</p>	<p>No: it is considered that likely significant effects can be ruled out at this stage given that development would be located some distance from the River Wye SAC.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>