

Environmental Report



Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Area

March 2016

Weston Beggard NDP Environmental Report

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Non-technical summary

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is an important part of the evidence base which underpins Neighbourhood Development Plans (NDP), as it is a systematic decision support process, aiming to ensure that environmental assets, including those whose importance transcends local, regional and national interests, are considered effectively in plan making.

Weston Beggard Parish Council has undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. The neighbourhood area comprises the whole administrative parish of Weston Beggard and lies west of Hereford, Bartestree and Lugwardine and Withington. Weston Beggard consists of two main settlements of Weston Beggard to the south and Shucknall to the north, both have been identified as 4.15 settlements for proportionate growth within the Core Strategy.

The Reg14 Consultation Draft Weston Beggard NDP includes nine objectives which underpin an overarching vision and it is intended that these objectives will be delivered by 5 criteria based planning policies. Seven alternative options have been tested and consulted prior to policy selection.

The environmental appraisal of the Weston Beggard NDP has been undertaken in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plan and Programmes Regulations 2004. Stage A of the SEA process involved Scoping and Stage B provides a review and analysis of the NDP. Stage C involved preparing an Environmental Report and Stage D comprises a formal consultation on both this and the Draft Plan itself. Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening showed that a full HRA assessment was required due to parts of the area being within the River Wye (Including Lugg) SAC hydrological catchment. A separate report has been produced with this regard.

The NDP was then refined by the NDP steering group to reflect:

- Feedback from consultation on the Draft Plan and Draft Environmental and Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Reports at reg 14 consultation.
- Refine policy WB4 to clarify position on Shucknall Court livework units.

The majority of these refinements relate to the composition of certain sentences and phrases, minor points of accuracy in relation to technical information and references to evidence base studies and other documentation; although some policies were restructured in accordance with comments at County and Parish level, their overall aims and objectives remained the same. Nor does the Submission NDP introduce any new sites and consequently, the outcomes of Stage B of the SEA process were largely unaffected. The main modification was the addition of WB4 Shucknall Court live work units. On that basis, the conclusion set out in the Draft Environmental Report remains valid. That is, the Weston Beggard NDP is in general conformity with both national planning policy contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and strategic policies set within the adopted Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), Therefore no major changes to the NDP are recommended as a result of the SEA.

On the whole, it is considered that the Weston Beggard NDP is in general conformity with both national planning policy contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and strategic policies set within the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). The plan proposes a level of growth which reflects a current planning application for housing development and would potentially exceed the proportionate growth that prescribed by strategic policies. Due to the dispersed nature of Weston Beggard it is acceptable to have a criteria based policy which identifies the settlement of Weston Beggard and Shucknall.

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

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 The Weston Beggard NDP has been produced by Weston Beggard Parish Council. It consists of generic policies for the whole of the neighbourhood area and specific policies for housing, employment and community uses in Weston Beggard village.

Purpose of the SEA

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

Neighbourhood Plan Context

- 1.6 The neighbourhood area comprises the whole administrative area of Weston Beggard parish and lies approximately 8km north east of Hereford. The parish comprises of the two main settlements of Weston Beggard and Shucknall and has 4 farm complexes scattered throughout the parish. The main road in the Parish is the A4103 to the north of the parish links Shucknall up with Withington to the east and Yarkhill to the West.
- 1.7 The neighbourhood area is sited within the Hereford HMA, an area known for its landscape and covers appropriately 371 hectares. Weston Beggard is the principal settlement within the Parish. The parish itself has no defined centre and has no facilities and industry have gone.
- 1.8 The neighbourhood area boasts many natural features, including 9 Special Wildlife sites and 2 RIGS and 5 ancient woodlands. There are numerous built heritage assets, too, including numerous listed buildings, 2 Scheduled Monuments and non-designated assets.
- 1.9 The vision for the neighbourhood area in 2031 outline within the Reg14 Consultation Draft Neighbourhood Plan (November 2015) is;

Weston Beggard to develop up to 2031 as a thriving, cohesive, secure rural community set in open countryside in harmony with the landscape and nature.

- Objective 1: To maintain the rural integrity, identity and character of community.
- Objective 2: To protect and enhance the local environment - air and water quality, green and open spaces, woodland and hedgerows, wildlife, footpaths and cycleways, and views.
- Objective 3: To meet local housing requirements
- Objective 4: To meet the needs of small and home based businesses.
- Objective 5: To support tourism through B&B provision and other local small scale initiatives
- Objective 6: Manage development of largescale farming units /polytunnels.
- Objective 7: Provide support for new community facilities eg shop, pub, café.

- Objective 8: Provide support for small scale renewable energy opportunities linked to individual developments.
- Objective 9: Improve local infrastructure including broadband, public transport, road improvements, gas supply improvements, and telecommunications

Context of Neighbourhood Plans

- 1.11 NDPs are a relatively new type of planning document that form a key part of the Government's localism agenda. They enable local communities to develop plans that reflect local aspirations, in accordance with strategic policies.
- 1.12 The Weston Beggard NDP must therefore conform to national planning policy set within the NPPF and strategic level local policy including the adopted Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 1.13 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) Inspectors report was received on 29 September 2015 and this indicated that the plan was sound. The plan was adopted on the 16th October 2015.
- 1.14 Paragraph 216 of the NPPF and Planning Practice Guidance set out the weight that may be given to relevant policies in emerging plans, including NDPs, and indicated that weight may be given to relevant policies in emerging NDPs according to:
- The stage of preparation of the emerging plan (the more advanced the preparation, the greater the weight that may be given);
 - The extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies (the less significant the unresolved objections, the greater the weight that may be given); and
 - The degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the policies in this Framework (the closer the policies in the emerging plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).
- 1.15 This part of the NPPF is reinforced by Planning Practice Guidance published in March 2014, which is clear that an emerging NDP may be a material planning consideration once it has reached submission/local authorities publication stage (Regulation 16). This is reinforced by recent ministerial statements and case law (West Sussex), all of which have demonstrated that an emerging NDP may be a material consideration at the Regulation 16 stage¹.
- 1.16 Table 4.15 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) lists Weston Beggard among the settlements which it considers to be sustainable locations for proportional growth in line with the provisions of Policy RA2. Other areas within the neighbourhood areas are considered open countryside under the provision of Policy RA3.
- 1.18 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the Weston Beggard parish area, by setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined.

¹ For the avoidance of doubt, this NDP is currently at the Draft Plan Stage (Regulation 14) and cannot, therefore, be given weight in reaching decisions on planning applications

Structure of SEA

1.19 The structure of the document is as follows:

- Section 2 – Explains the SEA methodology and summarises the comments received in respect of the SEA Scoping Report
- Section 3 - Introduces the Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Plan objectives and the SEA framework
- Section 4 - Appraises the objectives contained within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 5 - Appraises the options considered within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 6 – Appraises the policies contained within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 7 – Discusses the implementation and monitoring of the Neighbourhood Plan
- Section 8 - Concludes the SEA report by outlining next steps

2.0 Methodology

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

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

- *Task A1:* Identified and reviewed relevant policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives from European, National and Local sources.
- *Task A2:* Collected baseline information to provide a picture of past, present and likely future conditions within the area. This helped to establish indicators which will be used to monitor the effects and performance of the Weston Beggard NDP.
- *Task A3:* Focused on the environmental issues identified from the baseline, highlighting key issues and problems within the neighbourhood area.
- *Task A4:* Used the information gathered from Tasks A1-A3 to develop a set of SEA objectives, sometimes referred to as the 'sustainability framework'.
- *Task A5:* Collated the results of Tasks A1-A4 within a Scoping Report, a document which was subject to a statutory 5 week consultation.

2.3 Stage B involved 4 tasks and assessed the effects of the NDP.

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

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

- 2.5 Producing an Environmental Report was therefore a legal requirement and the submission of this report to Herefordshire Council forms Stage D of the SEA process.
- 2.6 This Final Environmental Report represents the last stage of the SEA process, save for any changes made following the formal Regulation 16 local authority consultation.

Scoping Report Consultation

- 2.7 With regard to the SEA scoping assessments, documents A1 to A4 were completed by a Herefordshire Council Planning Officer and sent to the Parish Council for comment, in readiness for a 5 week consultation with statutory bodies, pursuant to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.
- 2.8 After the document was approved by the Parish Council, the Weston Beggard SEA Scoping Report was available to four² statutory bodies for consultation from 4th December 2014 to 8th January 2015.

Consultation outcomes from Statutory Consultees

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

Natural England: List six further documents which should be reviewed as part of SEA Task A1. Recommend that additional baseline data be sourced in respect of SSSIs, wildlife habitats, landscape character and the quality of agricultural land. It was also suggested that reference to the Historic Landscape Characterisation was made. Natural England agrees that a full Habitat Regulation Assessment is required.

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

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

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

Environment Agency: No comments received

Natural Resources Wales: No comments received

Response: N/A

Draft Environmental Report consultation

- 2.11 The Draft SEA was consulted on for a 6 week period between 14th December 2015 and 31st January 2016. The three statutory bodies listed above were consulted and comments received from one of these can be found in Appendix 3a, with a summary provided at Appendix 6.

² Statutory consultation bodies: Natural England; English Heritage; Environment Agency Natural Resources Wales

- 2.12. The document was available on Herefordshire Council's website for comment during the period highlighted above, but representations were sent to the Parish Council. However, apart from the comments received from one statutory consultee, none of the representations were directed at content or structure of the Draft Environmental Report.
- 2.13 None of the respondents to the consultation disputed or requested an amendment to the SEA of the Weston Beggard NDP and Natural England made clear that the Draft Environmental Report satisfies the requirements of the relevant legislation and regulations, and concur with its conclusions.
- 2.14 As such, there are no suggested changes to the Environmental Report prior to the NDPs adoption, subject to the outcome of the local authority consultation and the Inspector's Report into the Examination of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).

3.0 The SEA Framework

3.1 As mentioned previously, Stage A of the SEA identifies and reviews relevant policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives from European, National and Local sources (refer to Table A1 in Appendix 2 for details of those documents that were reviewed in completing Stage A of SEA on the Weston Beggard NDP).

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

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

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

Policy context

3.3 The Weston Beggard NDP will deliver the Local Plan (Core Strategy) at parish level by adding locally specific detail to strategic policies. As a consequence, the Scoping Report for the NDP was based on the context review Herefordshire Council undertook for its Local Plan (Core Strategy).

3.4 The results of this assessment (context review) provide the source of the local baseline data and have been incorporated into the SEA framework. It should be noted that:

- No list of policies, plans and programmes can ever be exhaustive and that Herefordshire Council has selected those considered to be of particular relevance to the planning system;
- New or revised plans and policies can emerge during the SEA process

3.5 The following strategies and plans have been reviewed and, where appropriate, incorporated within the SA Framework objectives:

- *The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010)* - These regulations transpose the Habitats Directive in England, Wales and to a limited extent Scotland by ensuring that activities are carried out in accordance with the Habitats Directive, which is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna.
- *The EC Water Framework Directive (2000)* - Commits all EU member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water courses by 2015
- *The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)* - The major legal instrument for wildlife protection in Britain, although other significant acts have been passed since. It has numerous parts and supplementary lists and schedules many of which have been amended since publication.
- *Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)* - Forms part of the UK's Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework by setting out England's contribution towards the UK's commitments under the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity.
- *The Countryside and Right of Way Act (2000)* - Creates a statutory right of access on foot to certain types of open land, to modernise the public rights of way system, to

strengthen nature conservation legislation, and to facilitate better management of AONBs

- *The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)* - Designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering Government policy.
- *Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy (2009)* - Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will more effectively meet its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.
- *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012)* - Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.
- *Planning Practice Guidance (2013)* - Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.
- *Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP) 2013-2015* - Sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period April 2013 to April 2015.
- *Understanding Herefordshire Report (2014)* - Important to understand the place such as the local economy natural and built environment in which people live, learn and work as part of understanding their quality of life. Enable development for economy and housing to required levels and growth should be supported by sustainable transport measures.
- *Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-2018 (2014)* - Identifies the issues and challenges facing the special features of the area and contains 24 guiding principles and 46 strategic objectives which will help address them.
- *Wye Valley AONB management Plan 2014-2018 (2014)* - The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision for the area and the priorities for its management.
- *Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016* - Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to support business growth up to 2016.
- *Herefordshire Employment Land Study (2012)* - Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.
- *Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (2009)* - The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:
 - Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development
 - Assessing sites for their housing potential; and
 - Predicting when a site could be developed for housing.
- *Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) (2013)* - Builds on an earlier Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) developed for Herefordshire and Shropshire. Its purpose is to inform the Local Plan's policies regarding housing need and demand (for

market and affordable housing) within each of the 7 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031.

- *Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study (2012)* - Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.
- *Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report (2013)* - Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy
- *Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment (2013)* - Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2007)* - Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.
- *Building Biodiversity into the LDF (2009)* - Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010)* - Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.
- *Renewable Energy Study (2010)* - Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.
- *Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment (2012)* - Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.
- *Open Spaces Study (2006)* - The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snap shot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.
- *Play Facilities Study (2012)* - The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.
- *Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study (2009)* - The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development. The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.

3.6 Appendix 1 of the Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Plan Scoping Report provides additional detail on the Plans, Policies and Programmes mentioned above and identifies the implications for the SEA and NDP.

SEA Objectives and baseline characteristics

- 3.7 The SEA objectives that were used at Stages A and B of the process are listed in the following table.

SEA Objective	
1	To maintain or enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)
2	To maintain or enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes
3	To improve the quality of surroundings
4	To conserve or where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage
5	To improve air quality
6	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
7	To reduce contributions to climate change
8	To reduce vulnerability to climate change
9	To improve water quality
10	To provide for sustainable sources of water supply
11	To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk
12	To conserve soil resources and quality
13	To minimise the production of waste
14	To improve the health of the population
15	To reduce crime and nuisance
16	To conserve natural and manmade resources

- 3.8 The SEA objectives detailed above conform to the SEA Directive, and are derived from the Sustainability Appraisal undertaken for the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy 2011-2031.
- 3.9 Baseline information gathered during Stage A of the SEA process provided details of the current environmental characteristics of the neighbourhood area and the status of its natural assets and features (refer to Appendix 2). This information was analysed as part of Task B2 of SEA, which looked at the extent to which the emerging NDP policies will help or obstruct these characteristics.
- 3.10 The NDP proposes a criteria based plan and does not allocate a settlement boundary for any settlement within Weston Beggard. In order to facilitate the proportional growth envisaged by Policy RA1 and RA2 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) criteria for housing (10 houses) is stated in Policy WB2. On this basis, the delivery of the NDP should need to ensure that sufficient criteria and mitigation in place to support the delivery of any development or proposal without increasing the risk of flooding and its associated issues.
- 3.11 Baseline characteristics within the SEA detail the current environmental status of environmental characteristics in the neighbourhood plan area from different sources. The source of Baseline Information used in Table A2 in Appendix 2, and analysed in Table B2 can be found in Appendix 4 Baseline characteristics in relation to the neighbourhood area for the Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Plan SEA objectives are listed below.

SEA Objective	Baseline Data / Characteristic	Future Baseline trends
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	<p>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition.</p> <p>2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire.</p> <p>Weston Beggard has 1 SSSI-Perton roadside section and quarry which is rated as favourable. The parish falls within the Lower Frome Sub catchment which is the hydrological catchment for the River Wye catchment; this is currently meeting phosphate targets.</p> <p>Weston Beggard Parish has: 1 SSSI, 9 SWS, and 2 RIGS. There are no NNRs and SINCs within the Parish.</p>	<p>% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)</p> <p>To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.</p>
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings within the neighbourhood area at present.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.
To improve quality of surroundings	In terms of Weston Beggard itself, the study reveals that parking space is inadequate. In addition there is currently inadequate provision of public open space in the village.	No specific targets identified
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and two SAMs. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the parish at present.	To conserve and where possible enhance historic assets
To improve air quality	Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This suggests that air quality is improving.	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1%, Foot: 14.7%, Bicycle: 4.3%, Bus: 2%, Train: 0.8%, Motorbike: 0.8%, Taxi: 0.3%, Other: 7%.	To encourage the take up of lesser polluting modes of transport.
To reduce contributions to climate change	Herefordshire latest figure of CO ₂ emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO ₂)	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.

To reduce vulnerability to climate change	No baseline data available	No specific targets identified.
To improve water quality	Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive. Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84% The River Lugg section of the SAC is currently exceeding phosphate targets. Some parts of the northern and eastern parts of the neighbourhood area is within the River Wye catchment.	To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	Weston Beggard parish falls into the Herefordshire Conjunctive Use Water Resource Zones (WRZs), one of 6 zones covering Herefordshire. 39% of demand is from non-household use.	No specific targets identified
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	Lower Frome catchment has a 33.4% standard run percentage run off by sub catchment. This is potentially moderately unsuitable for infiltration source control. The WCS states that the river within the Lower Frome catchment is in a moderate ecological condition.	New development proposed through the Weston Beggard NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure
To conserve soil resources and quality	Within Weston Beggard there mostly grade 2 and grade 3 (very good to good/ moderate) to the north of the neighbourhood area and grade 1 (excellent) to the south.	Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development
To minimise the production of waste	No baseline data available	No specific targets identified.
To improve health of the population	In terms of Weston Beggard parish itself, the study reveals that there are no playing pitches within the Parish	No specific targets identified.
To reduce crime and nuisance	No baseline data available	No specific targets identified.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Principal settled farmlands; settled farmlands on River terrace.	No specific targets identified.

3.13 There are three objectives for which there is no local baseline data available and therefore this provides a limitation on the baseline data and whether the NDP policies are able to move towards or away from this data, this also means that there are no future trends to link the SEA objective too.

NDP Objectives

3.14 The following are objectives listed in the NDP that aim to realise the vision for Weston Beggard in 2031:

Objective 1: To maintain the rural integrity, identity and character of community.
Objective 2: To protect and enhance the local environment - air and water quality, green and open spaces, woodland and hedgerows, wildlife, footpaths and cycleways, and views.
Objective 3: To meet local housing requirements
Objective 4: To meet the needs of small and home based businesses.
Objective 5: To support tourism through B&B provision and other local small scale initiatives
Objective 6: Manage development of largescale farming units/polytunnels.
Objective 7: Provide support for new community facilities eg shop, pub, café.
Objective 8: Provide support for small scale renewable energy opportunities linked to individual developments.
Objective 9: Improve local infrastructure including broadband, public transport, road improvements, gas supply improvements, and telecommunications.

3.15 These NDP objectives were tested against the SEA objectives, with the full results of Task B1 of SEA available at Appendix 4 of this report.

3.14 The majority of those NDP objectives which have a relationship with the SEA framework are positively compatible with it or have a neutral effect.

4.0 Assessing the NDP Objectives

- 4.1 The objectives listed in the NDP aim to realise the vision for Weston Beggard. There are a total of nine objectives, these are listed in para 1.10 above.
- 4.2 The table below tests these NDP objectives against the SEA objectives, providing a summary of the results of Task B1 of SEA. The full results are available at Appendix 4 of this report.
- 4.3 The majority of those NDP objectives which have a relationship with the SEA framework are positively compatible with it or further clarification is required to fully assess the effects.
- 4.4 Task B1 of the SEA identified that the seven NDP objectives were compatible with the SEA framework.
- 4.5 Task B1 also required objectives to be SMART assessed. These too were seen as compatible

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

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

5.0 Assessing the NDP Options

- 5.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Weston Beggard NDP is developing a range of options and testing these, so that a preferred way forward can be selected. The options that were considered during the development of the Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Plan were supplied by the parish council and have been assessed as part of the SEA. These options were predominately concerning the method of managing the proportional growth for the settlements of Weston Beggard and Shucknall. The summary matrix of the assessment can be found in Table B2 options these tables are in Appendix 4.
- 5.2 The seven options covered were are followed;
1. Do nothing
 2. Settlement boundary or not
 3. Allocation or criteria based approach
 4. Residential development at one location or on small plots
 5. Support Development of large scale framing units/ polytunnels or not
 6. Support Commercial renewable development or not

7. Develop new business or not and what type of business

- 5.3 A 'do nothing' option was also considered by Weston Beggard Parish Council, i.e. not undertaking a Neighbourhood Development Plan, however this was disregarded at an early stage by the Parish Council as it was considered the majority of the community would support the work undertaken for a Neighbourhood Plan.
- 5.4 The second option of designating settlement boundaries would also have seen a positive effect on the baseline. 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 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 will be adjudged by criteria based policy. However a settlement boundary has not been drawn for Weston Beggard due to lack of community support.
- 5.5 The third option of allocation sites for housing was considered. Pursuing this 2nd option would have given greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within Weston Beggard, where proportional growth is expected. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved. However, this was not seen as the favoured option by the community as the dispersed nature of the settlements within Weston Beggard, therefore has decided to take a criteria based approach.

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Option 1	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Option 2	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Option 3	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Option 4	0	+	+	?	0	0	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	0	0	0
Option 5	+	+	+	x	x	x	+	x	x	?	?	?	+	0	0	0
Option 6	0	+	+	x	0	0	0	+	+	+	x	x	x	0	0	0
Option 7	0	+	+	x	+	+	+	x	x	+	x	x	x	0	0	0

6.0 Appraisal of the policies

- 6.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Weston Beggard NDP is developing a range of options and testing these, so that a preferred way forward can be selected.
- 6.2 The plan has been organised with a set of general overarching policies for the whole neighbourhood area and four specific allocation proposals. These emerging set of draft policies have been appraised for the purposes of Stage B of the SEA:
- Policy WB1: A Valued Environment in which to live
 - Policy WB2 The Right Housing in the Right Place
 - Policy WB3: Supporting a Thriving Rural Economy
 - Policy WB4 Delivery of Local Infrastructure
 - Policy WB5 Access to Community Facilities

Stage B of SEA

- 6.3 In the context of Task B1 of SEA, the previous section of this report identified that many of the NDP objectives are compatible with the SEA framework, while others had either a neutral impact, no relationship with the SEA objectives or if needed; further information such as location of development. Additional policy safeguards within the NDP and Local Plan (Core Strategy) would help mitigate any possible conflicts.
- 6.4 With regard to Task B2 of SEA, the NDP policies were measured against both the SEA framework and the baseline characteristics identified during Stage A of the process; here, there was no baseline data available in respect of SEA Objectives 3 and 9. Full details of this appraisal are attached at Appendix 4.
- 6.5 The policies largely score as positive or neutral against the SEA objectives and will not, therefore, have an adverse impact on the baseline characteristics or immediate environmental impacts. This is because they are criteria based policies which only consider schemes on their own merits, as and when planning applications are submitted to the local planning authority. Some policies would benefit from some additional criteria in order to strengthen them against any risk to environmental assets or highlight mitigation measures.
- 6.6 There are some unknown factors, particularly where the location of specific piece of development is not yet known.

NDP Policy	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Policy P1	++	+	+	x	+	x	+	+	x	x	+	+	+	+	x	++
Policy P2	+	++	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+
Policy P3	0	+	+	x	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0
Policy P4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Policy P5	x	+	+	x	x	+	+	+	x	x	x	+	x	+	+	0

- 6.9 The results of Task B3, as shown at Appendix 4, demonstrate that the cumulative impact of the NDP policies over the course of the plan period is generally positive. This plan is a criteria based plan that does not allocate sites or settlement boundaries so further determination of environmental impact can be determined at planning application stage.
- 6.10 Task B4 of SEA brings together the results of earlier tasks and thus identifies the cumulative impact of the entire of the NDP. This task, which is also attached at Appendix 4, reveals that the objectives and policies contained in the NDP are by and large in general conformity with the Local Plan (Core Strategy), save those specific mentions as needed a review in further drafts of the plan. If these amendments are made it is considered that the cumulative effect of the plan will contribute to the achievement of the SEA objectives.

Regulation 14 Draft Plan Consultation

- 6.11 As mentioned previously, several policies were refined following the Draft Plan stage; these changes were necessitated by comments received during the consultation period. A few wording changes were made to policy WB2 and 3 to add additional environmental protection and safeguard natural landscape. Policy WB4 has been added to clarify live work unit policy for Shucknall Court. This has made old policy name WB4 Delivery of Local Infrastructure and WB5 Access to Community Facilities moved to be called WB5 and WB6.

6.12 Accordingly, the amended policies WB2 and WB3 were re screened for their cumulative impact over the course of the plan period. The results of this assessment, shown at Appendix 7, reveal that the outcomes Stage B of the SEA process mentioned above were largely unaffected by the refinements. Additional policy WB4 has been screened and the conclusion that this criteria based policy will have no significant effects towards the surrounding environment, any potential impact caused by live work units is mitigated by policy WB1 and WB2 as well as policies listed within the Core Strategy.

Post reg 14 consultation NDP policies are listed below.

- Policy WB1 A Valued Environment in which to live
- Policy WB2 The Right Housing in the Right Place
- Policy WB3 Supporting a Thriving Rural Economy
- Policy WB4 Shucknall Court: Live Work units
- Policy WB5 Delivery of Local Infrastructure
- Policy WB6 Access to Community Facilities

6.13 Rescreening of the policies reflecting the changes can be found in D3, the overall conclusion is that the policy wording changes have no significant effect. Policy WB4 has no negative effect towards the SEA baseline data and helps to clarify Weston Beggards position on RA5 policy, adding more certainty and support towards live work units within the open countryside.

7.0 Implementation and monitoring

- 7.1 Herefordshire Council as the Local Planning Authority should make arrangements to monitor the significant effects of implementing a neighbourhood plan.
- 7.2 Indeed, Regulation 17 of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 requires the Local Planning Authority to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of any NDP that was subject to SEA, in order to identify unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and to enable appropriate remedial actions.
- 7.3 Accordingly, Herefordshire Council will monitor outcomes from the NDP policies and the results of these will be reported in the Council's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).
- 7.4 The AMR runs from 1 April to 31 March each year and the topics covered therein include the following:
- Housing delivery;
 - Previously developed land
 - Housing completions
 - Affordable housing conditions
 - Employment land delivery.

8.0 Next steps

- 8.1 The next step is to finalise the NDP and related documents and submit it for examination after the regulation 16 local authority consultation.
- 8.2 Responses on the Draft NDP will be reviewed by the Parish Council and the plan amended where appropriate.
- 8.3 Any changes made to the NDP as a consequence of the Regulation 16 consultation with those who live, work or carry out business in the neighbourhood area, as well as statutory consultation bodies, will trigger a review of the SEA, unless they do not materially affect the outcomes of Stage B of the SEA process.

Appendix 1

**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:	Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Weston Beggard Parish Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	29/08/2014

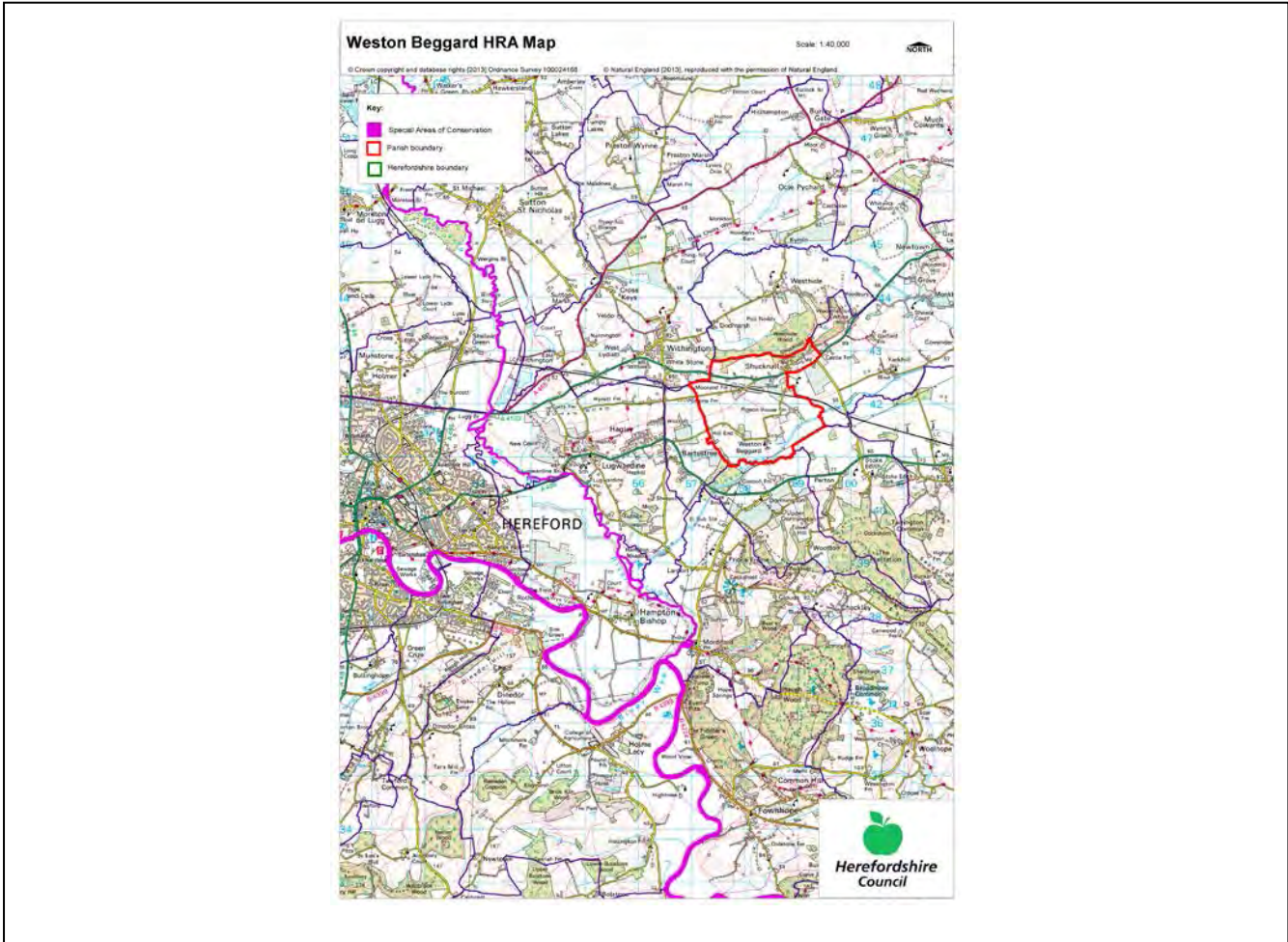
Introduction

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.

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



Initial HRA Screening

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC:

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	The River Lugg is 2.7km away from 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 Frome (to the River Lugg).
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	There is mains drainage at Weston Beggard.

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 33.5km 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 45.1km 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 22km 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 25km 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 Weston Beggard 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 Weston Beggard 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	5	Westhide Wood; Tidnor Wood (border); Ash Coppice (border); Priors Court Wood (border); Dormington Wood (border)	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest (AAI)	0	There are no AAIs within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	0	There are no AONBs within the Parish	N
Conservation Areas	0	There are no Conservation Areas within the Parish	N
European Sites (SAC)	0	There are no SACs within the Parish	N
Flood Areas/Zones		There are Flood Zones running along River Frome in the south of the Parish	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous listed buildings within the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCS/RIGS)	2 (RIGS) 9 (SWS)	RIGS: Bartestree Quarry (Lowes Hill) (border); Dormington Slip (border) SWS: River Frome; Woodland on Shucknall; Perton roadside section ad quarry (border); Backbury Hill (border); Checkley Common (border); Woodland along Seager Hill (border); Old Canal at Monkhide (border); Ash Coppice (border); Fields near Checkley Chapel (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	0	There are no long distance footpaths/trails within the Parish	N
Mineral Reserves Sites	7	River Lodon, Monkhide to Yarkhill to Bartestree; Shucknall Hill Common; Yarkhill Reservoir to Hillend Grove (border); Quarry south east of Westhide (border); North of Lugwardine and Bartestree (border); Perton Quarry to Sheepcote Hill to Woolhope Cockshoot (border); South of Prospect Farm to Broad Grove (border)	Y
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	0	There are no NNRs within the Parish	N
Registered & Unregistered Parks and Gardens	1 Registered 5 Unregistered	Registered: Stoke Edith (border) Unregistered: Bartestree Court (border); Hagley Park/Court (border); Longworth (border); Porch House	Y

		(border); Westhide Court (border)	
Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)	2	Churchyard cross in St John the Baptist churchyard; Moated Site in Yarkhill Parish (border)	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	1	Perton roadside section and quarry (Favourable) (border)	Y

Decision Notification:

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

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

Assessment date: 15/07/2014

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.

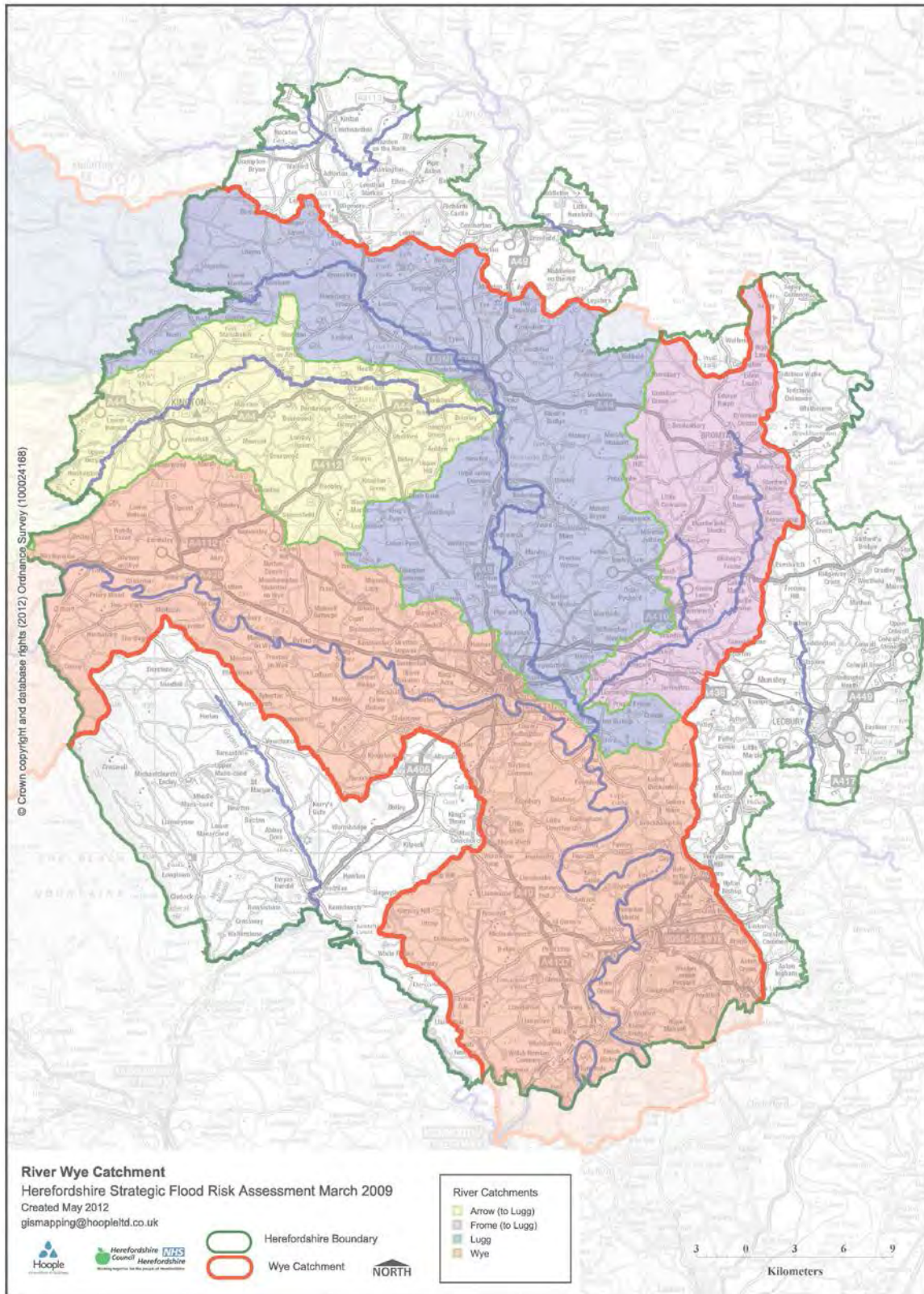
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation.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

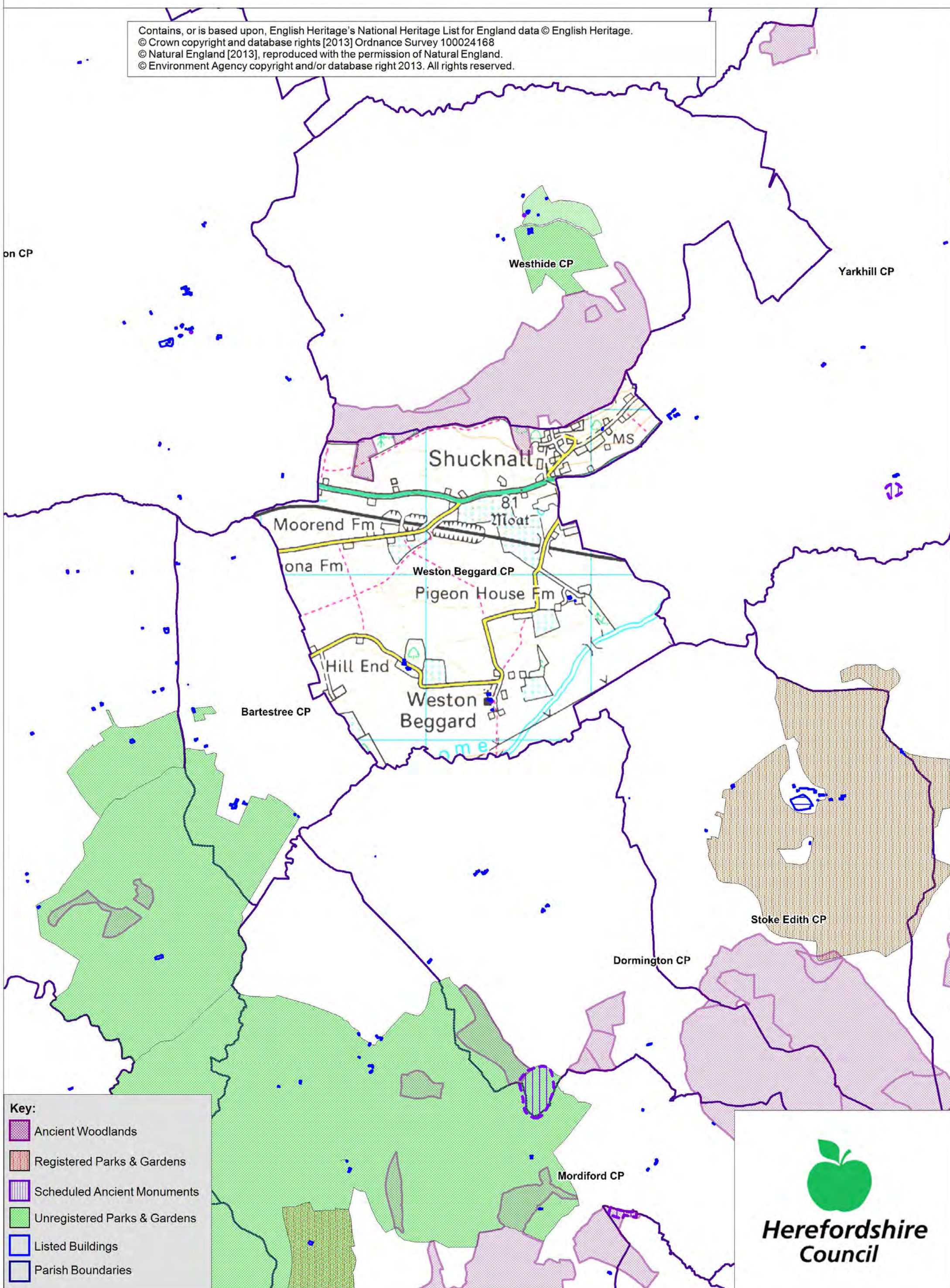


Weston Beggard SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:20,000



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Key:

- Ancient Woodlands
- Registered Parks & Gardens
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Unregistered Parks & Gardens
- Listed Buildings
- Parish Boundaries

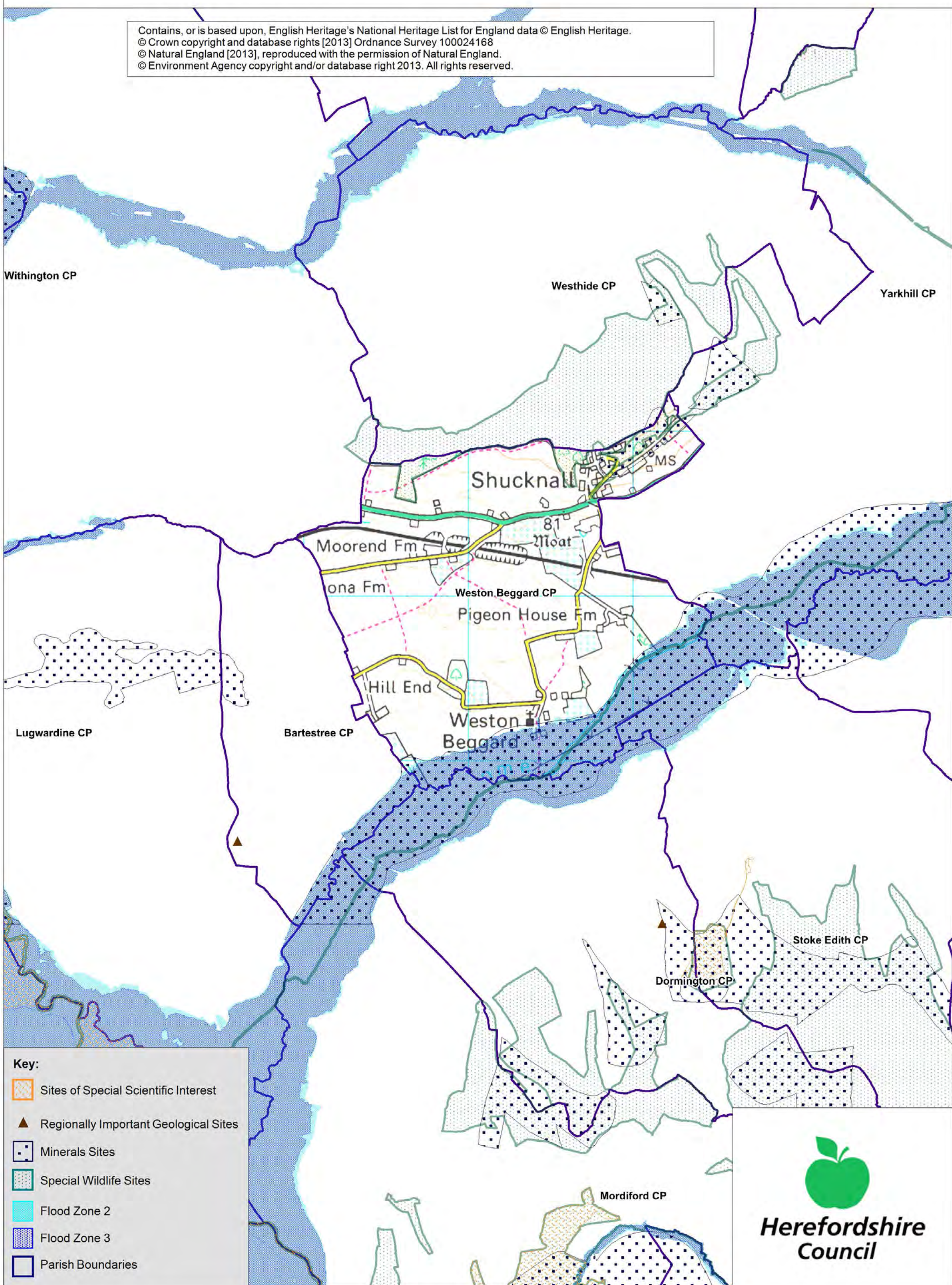
**Herefordshire
Council**

Weston Beggard SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:20,000



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Key:

- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Regionally Important Geological Sites
- Minerals Sites
- Special Wildlife Sites
- Flood Zone 2
- Flood Zone 3
- Parish Boundaries

Appendix 2

Strategic Environmental Assessment



Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Area

Scoping Report

November 2014

Consultation on the Scoping Report

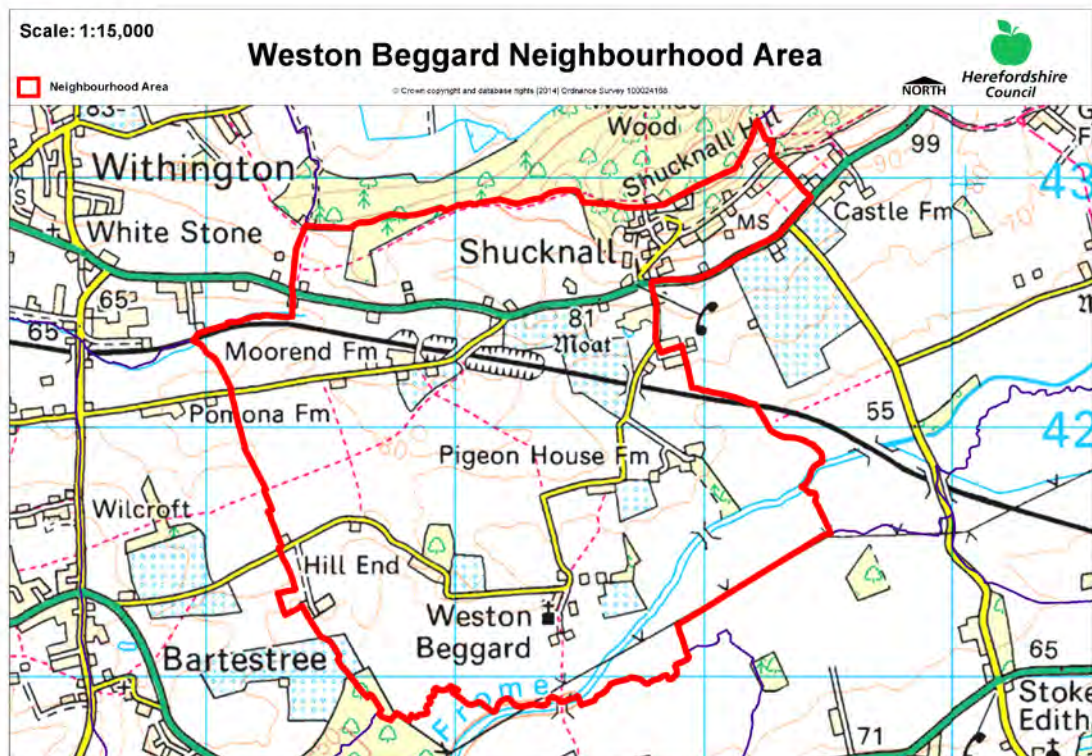
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

- Ensure the SEA is both comprehensive and sufficiently robust to support the Neighbourhood Development Plan during the later stages of full public consultation;
- Seek advice on the completeness of the plan review and baseline data and gain further information where appropriate;
- Seek advice on the suitability of key sustainability issues;
- Seek advice on the suitability of the sustainability objectives.

Comments on this Scoping Report have been invited from the three consultation bodies as required by the SEA regulations, together with the Natural Resources Wales.

The three consultation bodies are as follows:

1. Natural England;
2. English Heritage;
3. Environment Agency.



Template A1: Identification and review of local Neighbourhood Area relevant plans, policies and programmes

Parish Council Name: Weston Beggard parish.

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Weston Beggard Plan

Date completed: October 2014

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations	European Union Legislation	2010	These regulations transpose the Habitats Directive in England, Wales and to a limited extent Scotland by ensuring that activities are carried out in accordance with the Habitats Directive, which is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna.	The Regulations make it an offence (subject to exceptions) to deliberately capture, kill, disturb, or trade in the animals listed in Schedule 2, or pick, collect, cut, uproot, destroy, or trade in the plants listed in Schedule 4. However, these actions can be made lawful through the granting of licenses by the appropriate authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Cultural heritage and the landscape 	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.

¹ Derived from the LDF General Scoping Report (June 2007)

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The EC Water Framework Directive	European Union	2000	Commits all EU member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water courses by 2015	Aims for 'good status' for all ground and surface waters (rivers, lakes, transitional waters, and coastal waters) in the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water 	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)	Domestic Legislation	1981	The major legal instrument for wildlife protection in Britain, although other significant acts have been passed since. It has numerous parts and supplementary lists and schedules many of which have been amended since publication.	The principle mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Soil 	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services	National Strategy	2011	Forms part of the UK's Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework by setting out England's contribution towards the UK's commitments under the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity.	Sets out to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity 	The NDP should take account of the provisions of the strategy, making the most of opportunities to enhance wildlife habitats or restore degraded ecosystems in the process.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The Countryside and Right of Way Act (2000)	Domestic Legislation	2000	Creates a statutory right of access on foot to certain types of open land, to modernise the public rights of way system, to strengthen nature conservation legislation, and to facilitate better management of AONBs.	<p>The Act provides for a new right of access on foot to areas of open land comprising: Mountain (land over 600 metres); Moorland; Heath; Downland; Registered common land.</p> <p>There are provisions to consider extending the right in the future to coastal land, but not woodland despite some early publicity suggesting this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Soil 	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)	Domestic Legislation	2006	Designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering Government policy.	Provides that any public body or statutory undertaker in England and Wales must have regard to the purpose of conservation of biological diversity in the exercise of their functions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Soil 	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy	European Union Strategy	2009	Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will more effectively meet its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.	<p>Recognises the need to gradually change current unsustainable consumption and production patterns and move towards a better integrated approach to policy making. The Strategy sets overall objectives, targets and concrete actions for seven key priority challenges, predominantly environmental:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change and clean energy; • Sustainable transport • Sustainable production and consumption; • Public health threats; • Better management of natural resources; • Social inclusion, demography and migration; • Fighting global poverty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Population and human health 	The Neighbourhood Plan should take into account the objectives of the strategy. The aim of sustainable development should be implicit in its approach.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services	National Strategy	2011	Forms part of the UK's Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework by setting out England's contribution towards the UK's commitments under the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity.	Sets out to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity 	The NDP should take account of the provisions of the strategy, making the most of opportunities to enhance wildlife habitats or restore degraded ecosystems in the process.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	National planning policy.	2012	Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The NDP should take into account the relevant policies set within the NPPF.
Planning Practice Guidance	Government Guidance	2014	Provides guidance to local planning authorities and others on the operation of the planning system.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	The NDP should take into account the planning guidance provided within these documents.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soil • Water 	
Herefordshire Core Strategy, Pre-submission document 2011-2031	Development Plan Document (DPD)	2013	<p>Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.</p>	<p>Outlines the emerging suite of countywide planning policies relating to housing, economic development and the environment, which the NDP will need to be in conformity with where relevant.</p> <p>The Core Strategy includes a range of objectives, five of which directly relate to rural areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community • To improve access to services in rural areas • To strengthen the economic viability of the villages and their rural hinterlands • To achieve sustainable communities and protect the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	<p>The NDP should take account of relevant policies set within in the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Where necessary, the NDP should provide services, facilities and employment opportunities that are accessible to both local and neighbouring communities.</p> <p>Weston Beggard is within the Hereford HMA.</p> <p>The settlements of Shucknall and Weston Beggard are classified as RA2 villages. This means that these settlements should adhere to the RA2 policy; accepting affordable housing needs only. There are</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve, promote, utilise and enjoy our natural, built, historic and cultural assets for the fullest benefit of the whole community <p>To achieve a thriving rural Herefordshire, the Core Strategy seeks to enhance the role the villages have traditionally played in as accessible, sustainable centres for their rural catchments.</p>		no RA1 villages within the parish of Weston Beggard.
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP) 2013-2015	Corporate	2013	Sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period April 2013 to April 2015.	The document includes three key objectives, one which seeks to maintain access for rural residents and people without access to a car. Intrinsic to this is the retention of a 'core network' of bus services which focus on journeys between Hereford and the market towns, along with main transport corridors close to larger rural settlements. To this end, the strategy aims to increase the number of bus users by 1.3% (4,700 journeys) by 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Climate factors Population and human health 	The LTP does not explore current transport issues in the Weston Beggard neighbourhood area, but any new development proposed through the NDP should seek to reduce the environmental impacts of transport.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Understanding Herefordshire Report	Built and natural environment	2014	<p>Important to understand the place such as the local economy natural and built environment in which people live, learn and work as part of understanding their quality of life</p> <p>Enable development for economy and housing to required levels.</p> <p>Growth should be supported by sustainable transport measures.</p>	An air quality management plan is in place to tackle this. Destination Hereford project is in place to give locals more sustainable transport options.	<p>Improve air quality.</p> <p>Have a more diverse range of transport options.</p>	None identified.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2009-2014	Corporate	2009	Identifies the issues and challenges facing the special features of the area and contains 24 guiding principles and 46 strategic objectives which will help address them.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	Weston Beggard Plan neighbourhood Area is not within or adjacent to the Malvern Hills AONB.
Wye Valley AONB management Plan 2009-2014	Corporate	2009	The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision for the area and the priorities for its management.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	Weston Beggard Plan neighbourhood Area is not within or adjacent to the Wye Valley AONB.
Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016	Corporate	2011	Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to	The document outlines the path and direction to foster economic vitality within Herefordshire. Key objectives therefore include:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Material assets • Population and human health 	None of merit.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
			support business growth up to 2016.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustaining business survival and growth • Increasing wage levels, range and quality of jobs • Having a skilled population to meet future work needs • Developing the county's built infrastructure so enterprise can flourish. 		
Herefordshire Employment Land Study	Evidence	2012	Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan	<p>This study covers existing employment sites in Hereford, the five market towns and their rural hinterlands.</p> <p>There are no employment land allocations within Weston Beggard at present and so the study does not identify sites which are worthy of continued protection from alternative uses. Nor does it make any recommendations in respect of employment need within the neighbourhood area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material assets • Population and human health 	None of merit; however the NDP process may have to explore whether there is any employment need locally and if so whether there is any scope for providing employment land and premises.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
			period.			
Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Evidence	2009	<p>The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development • Assessing sites for their housing potential; and • Predicting when a site could be developed for housing. 	An SHLAA was not undertaken for Weston Beggard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The village of Weston Beggard and Shucknall did not have a SHLAA assessment undertaken; therefore a local site assessment exercise should be undertaken for these two villages should site allocation be required.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA)	Evidence	2013	Builds on an earlier Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) developed for Herefordshire and Shropshire. Its purpose is to inform the Local Plan's policies regarding housing need and demand (for market and affordable housing) within each of the 7 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031.	<p>Weston Beggard falls within the Hereford HMA. Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 57% of households are unable to afford market housing. • There is an annual requirement for 98 affordable dwellings between 2011 to 2031. <p>The study identifies that by 2031 Hereford HMA, additional need for :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5440 market houses • 2929 affordable houses. <p>The study highlights that within the Hereford HMA the overall estimated housing need by size 2011-2031 is as follows: 1 Bed - 30.3%, 2 bed -34%, 3 bed – 32.3% 4 bed-3.5%.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	<p>The LHMA provides an indication of housing needs and affordability within the Hereford HMA.</p> <p>It provides evidence that could be used to inform policies or market and affordable housing requirements in the NDP.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study	Evidence	2014	Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.	<p>Demographic projections indicate a need for 14,700 to 15,300 for 2011-31. (735-765 homes per annum.)</p> <p>The delivery of 5,300 homes in the rural areas would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support growth in the rural population by 6% • Increase the number of households by 14.5% <p>Forecasts also predict that growth in the population of the rural areas is likely to be primarily through an increase in those aged over 75.</p> <p>Moderate growth is expected in the 30-44 and 60-74 age brackets.</p> <p>The Local Housing Requirements Study therefore anticipates continuing improvements in life expectancy; significant growth is expected of those in their</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	<p>This study provides an indication of housing requirements in the rural areas and the Hereford HMA.</p> <p>This evidence can be used to inform the content of the Weston Beggard NDP, which could include policies to facilitate the provision of the right types of homes in the right places.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				80s, with the existing population in their 40s and 50s moving into retirement. As a consequence, the rural areas will face an increasing urgency to provide more 3 bedroom homes, with more 1 and 2 bed homes required in the affordable sector.		
Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report	Evidence	2013	Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy	<p>The villages of Weston Beggard and Shucknall are RA2 settlements.</p> <p>Therefore development will be restricted to market homes which meet the needs of people with local connections or affordable housing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The Weston Beggard NDP will need to be in conformity with the provisions of Policy RA2.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment	Evidence	2013	Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.	<p>Key findings from the survey of Gypsy and Traveller households in 2012 found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 31% of households surveyed have some sort of accommodation need • Of the 17 households with an accommodation need, 7 had a requirement for at least one additional pitch • 10 households had a requirement for bricks and mortar housing • There is an additional requirement for 7 pitches and 9 units of Registered Social Landlord accommodation within Herefordshire. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The Weston Beggard NDP should establish whether any of the need identified in this assessment falls within the neighbourhood area and make appropriate provisions for it.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Evidence	2007	Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.	Integrating biodiversity objectives with other environmental, social and economic needs can provide a sustainable living and working environment that benefits both people and nature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity 	The NDP can help to achieve the LBAP priorities.
Building Biodiversity into the LDF	Evidence	2009	Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.	This document provides useful information in respect of Hereford and the market towns only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	There is a lack of information about rural areas which means it will be necessary to gather and assess existing biodiversity and geodiversity data, in order to ensure that the Weston Beggard NDP can overcome any existing constraints and capitalise on opportunities to enhance habitats and their networks.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy	Evidence	2010	Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.	Establishes policies and principles for the protection and enhancement of those features and functions that contributes to the environment of Herefordshire across a range of scales.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Weston Beggard NDP.
Renewable Energy Study	Evidence	2010	Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.	<p>The total energy demand excluding transport for Herefordshire, at that point in time, was calculated as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electrical: 731 GWh/yr • Heat: 1,810 GWh/yr • Total: 2,541 GWh/yr <p>There is scope for all types of renewable energy production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Weston Beggard NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment	Evidence	2012	Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.	<p>The study updates components of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework 2010 such as updating population forecasts, setting local standards for synthetic turf pitches and grass playing fields within Herefordshire. It identifies any current gaps in provision, and looks forward to 2031 to assess what facilities are likely to be required by that date.</p> <p>In terms of Weston Beggard parish itself, the study reveals that there are no playing pitches within the Parish.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	<p>The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Weston Beggard NDP.</p> <p>Additional local evidence may be required to identify if there is a need for any secured playing pitch facilities within the Group Parish.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Open Spaces Study	Evidence	2006	The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snap shot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.	<p>The study reveals that within the Weston Beggard, there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive over provision of parks and gardens and natural and semi natural greenspace • Under provision of amenity greenspace • Extensive under provision outdoor sport • Average provision for children and young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	The open space audit and assessment of does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in Weston Beggard.
Play Facilities Study	Evidence	2012	The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of	In terms of Weston Beggard itself, the study reveals that there are no play facilities within Weston Beggard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	None of merit.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
			providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.			
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study	Evidence	2009	<p>The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development.</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.</p>	<p>Weston Beggard falls within the Lower Frome catchment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Frome catchment has a 33.4% standard run percentage run off by sub catchment. This is potentially moderately unsuitable for infiltration source control • Lower Frome has a very slow response (Tp-time to peak) time at around 11 hours. • The WCS states that the river within the Lower Frome catchment is in a moderate ecological condition. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Material assets • Population and human health • Water 	<p>New development proposed through the Weston Beggard NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure.</p> <p>Up-to-date flood risk information should be gathered from the Environment Agency, in order to ensure that any flood risks are considered when preparing the Weston Beggard NDP.</p>

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Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Weston Beggard

N.B. This is based on countywide baseline information with some additions relevant to Weston Beggard (in red). Where no locally specific data is available for current status, trends and targets, only countywide data is reported. Any gaps in data may be filled following additional research.

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</i>							
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. <i>Weston Beggard has 1 SSSI-Perton roadside section and quarry which is rated as favourable.</i>	2006: 22% 2007: 22% 2008: 22% 2010: 24 % Proportion of SSSI land that was in unfavourable condition but recovering increased between 2010 and 2012 going from 41% to 65%. Proportion in unfavourable and declining condition had also decreased from 4% to 1%.	% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)	Herefordshire's SSSIs are in extremely poor condition relative to England as whole, where 96.1% of all SSSI land was in favourable condition in April 2014. The proportion of SSSI in unfavourable condition but recovering is greater than England as a whole, where the figure currently stands at 58.6%.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013). NE & DEFRA Website October 2014
13. Value, maintain,	Natural environment	After use of mineral sites	<i>There is no countywide or</i>	-	Percentage of opportunities	Should be monitored through	-

¹ Derived from the Pre Submission Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Assessment (May 2014)

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
restore and expand county biodiversity.		especially wildlife habitat creation	<i>locally specific data available at present.</i>		taken.	AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	The parish falls within the Lower Frome Sub catchment which is the hydrological catchment for the River Wye catchment; this is currently meeting phosphate targets.	N/A	Successful completion of the Nutrient Management Plan will provide future targets	New development within the area could lead to the water quality failing the phosphate levels and conservation objectives.	Nutrient Management Plan (2014)
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire. <i>There is no locally specific data available at</i>	There are no formal records of any unacceptable adverse impacts on habitats or protected species. Originally 156 Priority Species were identified for inclusion in Herefordshire's	To protect and where possible enhance the habitats of protected species identified. No net losses	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11)

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
			<i>present.</i>	LBAP. Similarly Herefordshire's LBAP covered 23 habitats with Action Plans.			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.	Weston Beggard has: SSSI: 1 SWS: 9 RIGS: 2 There are no SACs, NNRs, SINCs and LNRs within the parish.	As of 2012, there had been no change in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of the planning permissions granted.	To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	Herefordshire Council Initial Screening Report for the Neighbourhood Plan August 2014
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Principal settled farmlands; settled farmlands on River terrace.	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Herefordshire Landscape Character Assessment (2004 updated 2009)
SEA Topic covered by objectives: <i>Material assets</i>							

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template. Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there are two scheduled monuments in Weston Beggard according to the latest version of the register.	-	No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Herefordshire Environmental Records Register (search October 2014).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	Historic Landscape Character assessments have only been undertaken for Hereford City. Rapid townscape Assessments (2010) were only undertaken for Hereford, Ledbury and Ross.	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Historic Landscape Character Assessment for Hereford. Rapid townscape Assessments (2010)

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Population, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</i>							
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design standards.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning aspects of local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings particularly within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings within Weston Beggard present.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings .There are no conservation areas within Weston Beggard.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched October 2014)

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Climatic Factors</i>							
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate change.	Transport patronage by mode	<p>% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by:</p> <p>Car: 70.1% Foot: 14.7% Bicycle: 4.3% Bus: 2% Train: 0.8% Motorbike: 0.8% Taxi: 0.3% Other: 7%</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present</i></p>	The number of people cycling or travelling by bus as the main form transport to get to work declined between 2001 and 2011 – across England and Wales there was little change in either. Walking or driving a car or van on the other hand increased.	To encourage the take up of lesser polluting modes of transport.	There are a lack of transport options for many rural communities and therefore high car ownership and dependency – the last decade has seen a 15 per cent increase in household car ownership, although this is not reflected in traffic flows of recent years with volumes in Hereford City and wider county having decreased. The proportion of people working from home increased over the decade from 15 per cent in 2001 to 17 per cent in 2011.	2011 Census

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate change.	Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	To contribute towards the national target.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate	Total CO2 emissions per capita	Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO ₂) <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This trend hides an increase in emissions between 2009 and 2010 when total emissions in the county	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.	CO ₂ emissions produced are decreasing.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
				increased by 5% the same as across the UK (+5%).			
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water</i>							
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public wellbeing, the economy and the environment.	Natural environment	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 2010/11: None <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.	None identified.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water, air, soil, material assets</i>							
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	Natural environment	Agricultural land usage by quality. LA to monitor the number of hectares of the best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 3a and	<i>Within Weston Beggard there mostly grade 2 and grade 3 (very good to good/ moderate) to the north of the neighbourhood area and grade 1 (excellent) to the</i>	-	Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	DEFRA 'Magic' website for land classification

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
		higher) lost to development.	<i>south.</i>				
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	Natural environment	Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive	Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84% <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Figure steadily improved before going into decline: Herefordshire 1999 85.9%, 2000 89.5%, 2001 92.2%, 2002 91.8%	To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality.	None identified.	The State of Herefordshire (2007) Water Framework Directive (2000)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Soil</i>							
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.	2010/11: 67% 2011-13: 57% <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Completions on PDL had risen to 71% by 2005.	To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy.	The number of brownfield completions has fallen slightly in recent years, though this is probably the offshoot of tough market conditions.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11) and (2011-2013)
19. Ensure integrated,	Built	Housing densities in	<i>There is no countywide or</i>	-	No specific targets	Should be monitored through	-

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
efficient and balanced land use.	environment	urban and rural areas	<i>locally specific data available at present.</i>		identified.	AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Level of development in urban areas compared to rural.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i> This indicator would not be applicable to rural NDPs.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Cultural heritage</i>							
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR and which is due to be published in 2014. However, this data would be too large to incorporate into this template. There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and two	There were 70 heritage assets in Herefordshire that were considered to be at high risk and included in the Heritage at Risk Register 2014.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status. (If heritage is at risk include-promote opportunities to achieve the removal of heritage assets from the at risk register.	None of Weston Beggards listed buildings or SAMs are considered to be at risk at present.	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; search October 2014)

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
			SAMs. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.				
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning aspects of local loss of heritage assets, locally important buildings within the parish and particularly within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template. There are no conservation areas within Weston Beggard.	There are no conservation areas within Weston Beggard.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched October 2014)

Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the Weston Beggard baseline

These environmental issues are the same as most of those identified for the Herefordshire Core Strategy¹

SEA Topic		Environmental issue	SA objectives
1	Air	High reliance upon the private car causing high levels of air pollution and in Hereford in particular	Objective 16
		Need to reduce carbon emissions by encouraging alternative modes of travel.	
2	Biodiversity	Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from the adaptation and diversification of farming and forestry employment.	Objectives 13 &15
		Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from development	
		Minimise loss of biodiversity and expand opportunities for wildlife everywhere.	
3	Climatic factors	Reduce greenhouse gas emissions through planning, design and build.	Objective 16
4	Cultural heritage	Weston Beggard has two Scheduled Ancient Monuments and numerous listed buildings, all of which require ongoing protection and many in need of high levels of maintenance.	Objective 20
5	Flora and fauna	Conserve and enhance the character and quality of historic landscapes, including all types of natural flora and fauna.	Objective 15
6	Material assets	How the countryside can continue to be managed in an economically, socially and environmentally beneficial way in the face of continuing pressures on traditional farming.	Objectives 14 & 18
7	Population	Minimise energy waste through good designs, which help to reduce energy consumption and maximise efficiency.	Objective 15
		Need to avoid enforcement investigations/action concerning locally important buildings and those within conservation areas in particular.	
8	Soil	Promoting development of previously developed land and buildings as opposed to greenfield sites or agricultural land of the highest quality.	Objectives 18 & 19

¹ Derived from the Pre-submission Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Assessment (May 2014) and LDF General Scoping Report (June 2007)

9	Water	Issues relating to availability of resources, foul drainage, pollution, and abstraction in a county which supports water dependent biodiversity of international and national importance, given the predicted climate change consequences for water availability and demanding projections for new housing.	Objectives 17 & 18
		Steady decline in the chemical quality of rivers over the last 10 years.	

Template A4: SEA Framework

SEA Scoping Stage A, Task A4 - SEA Framework SEA Objectives, Indicators, Targets

Parish Council Name: Weston Beggard

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Weston Beggard Plan

Date completed: October 2014

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
Nature Conservation (Biodiversity, flora and fauna)	Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity. Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance. Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species. Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces. Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value. Create new appropriate habitats. Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings 	<p>Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.</p> <p>After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation</p> <p>Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.</p>	<p>% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase)</p> <p>% of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)</p> <p>Percentage of opportunities taken</p> <p>To protect and where possible enhance the habitats of protected species identified. No net losses</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management • Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. • Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users. 		
Landscape	Not covered in SA	<p>To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p> <p>To improve quality of surroundings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance the landscape everywhere and particularly in designated areas • Value and protect diversity and local distinctiveness • Improve landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside • Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space • Improve satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live • Decrease litter and 	<p>Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.</p> <p>Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.</p> <p>Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.</p> <p>Area resulting in a loss of open space as a result of planning permission</p>	<p>To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			<p>graffiti in towns and countryside</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Result in the loss of open space 		
Heritage	Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, historic environment and cultural heritage.	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and culture heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve, protect and enhance heritage assets including conservation areas, listed buildings, archaeological sites and other culturally important features in both urban and rural settings. Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place. Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area. 	<p>The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.</p> <p>Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).</p> <p>Ensure that Herefordshire Council's Sites and Monuments Register is kept up to date.</p>	<p>To improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p> <p>To improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p> <p>No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
Air and Climate	<p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p> <p>Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.</p>	<p>To improve air quality</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>To reduce contributions to climate change</p> <p>To reduce vulnerability to climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. Protect or enhance the quality of watercourses. Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation. 	<p>Transport patronage by mode</p> <p>Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.</p> <p>Total CO2 emissions per capita</p>	<p>To increase the take up of alternative modes to the private car.</p> <p>To contribute towards the national target.</p> <p>To reduce the overall carbon emissions.</p>
Water	Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to	<p>To improve water quality</p> <p>To provide for sustainable sources of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate 	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
	<p>public well-being, the economy and the environment.</p> <p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p>	<p>water supply</p> <p>To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p>	<p>change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems. Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate. Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. Protect or enhance the quality of watercourses. 	<p>Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality</p> <p>Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.</p>	<p>To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality as set out in the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>To meet the targets set out in the Nutrient Management Plan (2014)</p>
Soil	<p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p> <p>Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land</p>	<p>To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously 	<p>Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.</p> <p>Amount of land identified as best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development.</p>	<p>To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy.</p> <p>Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
	use.		developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.		
Population and Human Health	Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	To improve health of the population To reduce crime and nuisance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings. Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management. Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, 	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design	No specific targets identified.

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			and accommodate the needs of disabled users.		
Material Assets	<p>Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.</p> <p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p>	To conserve natural and manmade resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. • Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. • Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build. • Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques. 	<p>The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.</p> <p>Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.</p> <p>Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.</p> <p>Agricultural land usage by quality</p>	<p>Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development. No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.</p>

Appendix 3

Date: 15 January 2015
Our ref: 139243
Your ref: Neighbourhood Area SEA Scoping



Mr J. Latham
Technical Support Officer
Neighbourhood Planning, Strategic Planning & Conservation teams
Herefordshire Council
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T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Latham

Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening for:

Ballingham, Bolstone & Hentland Group;
Kington, Kington Rural & Lower Harpton and Huntington
Upton Bishop
Vowchurch & District Group
Weston Beggard

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 04 December 2014.

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

We welcome the production of this SEA Scoping report. With respect to the natural environment Natural England wishes to make the following comments which are intended to further improve the SEA and its usefulness in assessing the Neighbourhood Plan.

Appendix A1 – Plans, policies and programmes

All that refer to:

Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2009- 2014, we advise referring to the more up to date [Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2014 to 2018](#).

Wye Valley AONB Management Plan 2009-2014, we advise also referring to [Draft Wye Valley Management Plan 2014 -19](#).



Appendix A2 – Baseline information

Biodiversity, flora and fauna

Ballingham, Bolstone & Hentland Group

Under objective-13. “*Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity*”, proposed indicator: “Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth” there are no trends, targets, issues and constraints and would refer you to the other Neighbourhood Area Scoping Report we have been consulted on which do include these details.

Upton Bishop

Under objective-13. “*Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity*”, proposed indicator- “*Net change to condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire*”, it is stated under Current Status that “there are no SSSIs within the Neighbourhood area”. Whilst this statement is correct, consideration should be made of impacts to SSSIs outside the Neighbourhood Area which could be impacted by Neighbourhood Area plan.

All

Under the proposed indicator “*Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan*”, we advise an additional or at least the following baseline information source -Maps of priority habitats and species are available on *Magic*, Defra’s GIS package for environmental assets (www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk). We note that some of the report refer to the Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11) as a baseline information source- could this be applied to all of them?

Water, air, soil and material assets

All

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

Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the baseline

All

Natural England welcomes the environmental issues identified.

Appendix A4 – SEA Framework

All

Under topic “*Nature Conservation*”- “*Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity*”, we advise that any indicators chosen should allow for the monitoring of the effects of the plan on the objective concerned, and not the objective more generally. Thus, for example, condition of Sites of Special Scientific Interest is not a useful thing to monitor, but impacts of the plan on Sites of Special Scientific Interest might be.

Under the SEA topic “*Landscape*” reference could be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Characterisation studies including Historic Landscape Characterisation if this has been carried out.

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

Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

We would remind you of one of the basic conditions that a draft neighbourhood plan or Order must meet, as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012, which states that 'The making of the neighbourhood development plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site'.

Kington, Kington Rural & Lower Harpton and Huntington

Weston Beggard

We welcome this initial assessment and agree that a full screening exercise will be required to assess the impacts on the River Wye (including the River Lugg) Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

Ballingham, Bolstone & Hentland Group;

We welcome this initial assessment and agree that a full screening exercise will be required to assess the impacts on the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC and Wye Valleys Woodlands SAC

Upton Bishop

We welcome this initial assessment and agree that a full screening exercise will be required to assess the impacts on the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC, Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC.

Vowchurch & District Group

We welcome this initial assessment and agree that a full screening exercise will not be required.

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

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

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

Yours sincerely

Gillian Driver

Miss Gillian Driver
Planning Adviser
South Mercia Team



ENGLISH HERITAGE

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

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

Our ref:
Your ref:

Telephone 0121 625 6887
Fax 0121 625 6820

05 January 2015

Dear Sir or Madam

CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS IN: Ballingham, Bolstone & Hentland Group; Kington, Kington Rural & Lower Harpton and Huntingdon; Upton Bishop; Vowchurch & District Group; Weston Beggard.

Thank you for your e-mail and the invitation to comment on the SEA Scoping Reports for the Neighbourhood Plans listed above. We have no substantive objection to the contents of the documents. However, having considered the above Neighbourhood Plans please note that overall our comments and recommendations to you in relation to these remain substantively the same as those which we communicated to you in our letter of the 15th August 2014 in response to the first tranche of SEA Scoping Reports. We urge you to refer back to and consider these representations before finalizing the reports in relation to the above Neighbourhood Plans also.

Specifically in relation to the seventh tranche of consultations we note that all of the SEA Scoping Reports appear to have anomalous references to SAM's, the Herefordshire SMR, monitoring changes to historic landscapes and historic landscape character assessments in relation to SA Objective 14 "Use natural resources and energy more effectively". Presumably this is unintentional? Is there some confusion as between the Herefordshire Sites and Monuments Register and the Herefordshire Environmental Records Register? Would these elements in fact be more relevant under SA Objectives 15 and 20?

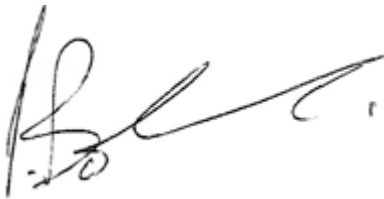
Other than that we note the SEA Frameworks sections of the SEA's submitted are generally commendable in their approach of including references to historic landscape and townscape quality, the maintenance of the Herefordshire SMR and conservation and wherever possible enhancement of locally significant heritage assets. We also particularly commend the

treatment of “Heritage at Risk” and the commitment to put measures in place to assist in the removal of heritage assets from the register, also the commitment to encourage the retention and re-use of existing buildings.

A final minor comment is to simply highlight a typographical error in Appendix A3 of the Ballingham, Bolstone & Hentland Group where S.4 “Cultural Heritage” erroneously references “Eardisley Group”.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Boland', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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

Appendix 3a

Date: 26 January 2016
Our ref: 174412 173727 SM 260116 WestonBeggardNP
Your ref: Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Plan



FAO wbandp15@gmail.com and
neighbourhoodplanning@herefordshire.gov.uk

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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Sirs

Planning consultation: Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Plan – Public Consultation Draft Regulation 14 Consultation, Draft Strategic Environmental Report and Draft Habitats Regulation Assessment

Location: Herefordshire County

Thank you for your consultations in respect of the above documents.

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

Environmental Report (Nov 2015) and Habitat Regulations Assessment (Nov 2015)

Natural England has no general comments in respect of the above documents. We offer the following specific comments, however, in respect of the River Wye SAC:

International sites – River Wye SAC

Natural England understands that the River Lugg SSSI (a tributary to the River Wye SAC) is located 2.5km away from the edge of the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary. We also understand that the Neighbourhood Plan area falls (partially) within the Lower Frome Sub Catchment for the River Wye and the River Lugg's hydrological catchment. We acknowledge that the presence of the SAC is addressed within the accompanying Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) and Environmental Report and is referenced within the Neighbourhood Plan itself.

The River Wye SAC is a European designated site (also commonly referred to as Natura 2000 sites) and its interest features are afforded protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, as amended (the 'Habitats Regulations'). Development that will have an adverse effect on the River Wye SAC should not be permitted. Neither should development compromise the ability of the nutrient management plan to deliver the necessary overall nutrient reductions along those stretches of the River Wye SAC which are already exceeding water quality targets.

In considering the European site interest, Natural England advises Herefordshire County Council that, as a competent authority under the provisions of the Habitats Regulations, they should have regard for any potential impacts that a this Plan will have. The [Conservation objectives](#) for each European site explain how the site should be restored and/or maintained and may be helpful in

assessing what, if any, potential impacts a plan or project may have.

Given the small scale nature of the proposed new development within the NDP area to 2031 we are in agreement that the delivery of the Neighbourhood Plan should not exacerbate existing problems regarding water quality or have an unacceptable adverse impact upon the River Wye SAC.

Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP)

Natural England has reviewed the above document and in general terms considers it addresses the protection of the natural environment well. However, we offer the following comments / advice to the steering group:

International and national sites

Natural England welcomes the reference to the nearby River Wye SAC and its tributary the River Lugg as well as their respective hydrological catchments within this document. As discussed above, the River Wye is an important international site and any development which was to have an adverse impact upon its conservation objectives should be avoided. Given the small scale nature of the proposed new development within the NDP area to 2031 we understand that the delivery of the Neighbourhood Plan should not exacerbate existing problems regarding water quality or have an unacceptable adverse impact upon the River Wye SAC.

The Perton Roadside Section and Quarry SSSI is located approximately 1.2km to the southeast of the NDP boundary. The Neighbourhood Plan must ensure that any proposal or activity that would be likely to damage or destroy the interest features of this nationally designated site is avoided.

Vision, Objectives and Policies

We welcome the clear support for development which is harmonious with landscape and nature as part of the Plan's overall vision. We also welcome WB Objectives 1, 2 and 8 (the latter in its provision of support for small scale renewable energy opportunities).

Natural England advocates inclusion of policies within NDP's that support the protection, enhancement of creation of Green Infrastructure (GI) for both people and wildlife. Multi-functional GI is important to underpin the overall sustainability of a development by performing a range of functions including flood risk management, the provision of accessible green space, climate change adaptation and supporting biodiversity. An example of a green infrastructure provision is sustainable drainage systems. These can deliver benefits for people and for wildlife and make a valuable contribution to the local green infrastructure network. Actions such as re-naturalising watercourses can also bring multifunctional benefits, including benefiting flood attenuation. Woodland planting can also help mitigate flooding, see [Woodland for Water: Woodland measures for meeting Water Framework Directive objectives](#) for further information.

Ordinarily, we advise inclusion of a specific policy on GI to ensure NDP's are supportive of the whole remit of [green infrastructure](#). This, to protect existing GI within the boundary of the plan area and also to promote the creation of new GI should new development opportunities come forward. Such GI can include protection and creation of wildlife corridors and other environmental assets in the area to preserve and expand the existing ecosystem network. However, we consider that Policies WB1 – 5 are generally sufficient for this purpose.

Additionally, we note that there are a number of local wildlife sites within the locality of the NDP area whose habitats may provide a starting point for GI enhancement and creation, potentially making new ecological connections to the nearby SSSI. You will be able to obtain information on non-statutory sites and species records from the Herefordshire Wildlife Trust and/or the Local Biological Records Centre.

You may find it helpful to refer to the [Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Study \(2010\)](#).

Neighbourhood plan policies may also provide encouragement for development proposals to incorporate features into new build or retrofit buildings in a way which is beneficial to wildlife. E.g. the incorporation of roosting opportunities for bats or the installation of bird nest boxes. Moreover, research indicates that green roofs/living roofs can reduce run-off and thereby the risk of surface water flooding; reducing the requirement for heating and air-conditioning; and providing habitat for wildlife. Further information can be found here: <http://livingroofs.org/>.

We also advise including policy to protect specifically [priority habitat](#) and other environmental assets in the area to preserve the existing eco-system network.

Finally, we recommend that reference is made to the Natural England Standing Advice for Protected Species which is available on the gov.uk website. It helps local planning authorities better understand the impact of development on protected or priority species should they be identified as an issue at particular developments. This also sets out when, following receipt of survey information, the authority should undertake further consultation with Natural England.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime for any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Susan Murray on 0300 060 2967. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Susan Murray
Lead Adviser – Sustainable Development
North Mercia Area Team
Natural England
0300 060 2967
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Hours of work: Tuesday's and Thursday's only

Appendix 4

Template B1: Weston Beggard NDP Objectives review against SEA objectives

Parish Council Name: Weston Beggard

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Weston Beggard NDP

Date completed: November 2015

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:		
+ =/++	Compatible/ Very comp	S – Specific:	NDP objectives should specify what is intended to be done in detail and should not be open to a wide range of misinterpretations	The following matrix appraises the emerging Weston Beggard NDP Objectives in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives. These have been developed from Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.
- =	Possible conflict	M – Measurable:	It should be possible to monitor NDP objectives in a quantifiable way, by the use of indicators. Indicators should be measurable with limited resource implications.	
0 =	Neutral	A – Attainable/achievable:	NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed	
X =	No relationship between objectives	R – Realistic:	NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.	
? =	Unclear, more information needed	T – Time-Bound:	Objectives should be specific to the NDP period or another specified time-frame. Objectives should be associated with a target and indicators should specify when the target should be achieved.	

SEA Objectives

- 1- To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)
- 2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes
- 3- To improve quality of surroundings
- 4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage
- 5- To improve air quality
- 6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
- 7- To reduce contributions to climate change
- 8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change
- 9- To improve water quality
- 10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply
- 11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk
- 12- To conserve soil resources and quality
- 13- To minimise the production of waste
- 14- To improve health of the population
- 15- To reduce crime and nuisance
- 16- To conserve natural and manmade resources

NDP objectives	SEA Objectives																Conclusions	Recommendations	SMART Test of NDP objective	After SMART objectives
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
WB Objective 1: To maintain the rural integrity, identity and character of community.	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	x	x	+	+	0	+	0	+	Overall this objective is compatible with the SEA objectives and has mostly a positive effect towards the SEA baseline.	No recommendations.	This objective is achievable and deliverable via the supportive policies of both the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan. There are no specific references to the timescales; however this is covered in a general statement in the plan.	No changes recommended.
WB Objective 2: To protect and enhance the local environment - air and water quality, green and open spaces, woodland and hedgerows, wildlife, footpaths and cycleways, and views.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	Overall this objective is compatible with the SEA objectives and has mostly a positive effect towards the SEA baseline. This objective can help mitigate impact caused from potential development.	No recommendations.	This objective is achievable and deliverable. Planning permission granted can be monitored. There are not specific references to the timescales; however this is covered in a general statement in the plan.	No changes recommended.
B Objective 3: To meet local housing requirements	0	+	+	0	0	0	x	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Overall this objective is compatible with the SEA objectives and has mostly a neutral effect towards the SEA baseline.	No recommendations.	This objective is achievable and deliverable. Planning permission granted can be monitored. There are not specific references to the timescales; however this is covered in a general statement in the plan.	No changes recommended.
B Objective 4: To meet the needs of small and home based businesses.	0	+	+	0	0	0	x	x	0	0	0	+	0	x	x	+	Overall this objective is compatible with the SEA objectives and has mostly a neutral effect towards the SEA baseline.	No recommendations.	This objective relates well to the overall vision and has the ability to be monitored, and it is achievable. There are no specific references to the timescales; however this is covered in a general statement in the plan.	No changes recommended.
WB Objective 5: To support tourism through B&B provision and other local small scale initiatives	0	+	+	x	0	0	x	x	0	0	+	+	0	x	x	+	Overall this objective is compatible with the SEA objectives and has mostly a neutral effect towards the SEA baseline. Could cause a small increase in traffic but scale is unlikely to be significant.	No recommendations.	This objective relates well to the overall vision and has the ability to be monitored, and it is achievable. There are no specific references to the timescales; however this is covered in a general statement in the plan.	No changes recommended.

WB Objective 6: Manage development of largescale farming units /polytunnels.	0	0	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	Overall this objective is compatible with the SEA objectives and has mostly a neutral effect towards the SEA baseline.	No recommendations.	This objective relates well to the overall vision and has the ability to be monitored, and it is achievable. There are no specific references to the timescales; however this is covered in a general statement in the plan.	No changes recommended.
Objective 7: Provide support for new community facilities eg shop, pub, café.	0	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	X	X	0	0	0	X	+	Overall this objective is compatible with the SEA objectives and has mostly a positive effect towards the SEA baseline.	No recommendations.	This objective relates well to the overall vision and has the ability to be monitored, and it is achievable. There are no specific references to the timescales; however this is covered in a general statement in the plan.	No changes recommended.
Objective 8: Provide support for small scale renewable energy opportunities linked to individual developments.	?	+	+	X	+	0	+	+	0	X	X	0	0	0	X	+	Overall this objective is compatible with the SEA objectives and has mostly a neutral effect towards the SEA baseline. Impact on nature conservation can be determined on a case by case basis at planning application stage.	No recommendations.	This objective relates well to the overall vision and has the ability to be monitored, and it is achievable. There are no specific references to the timescales; however this is covered in a general statement in the plan.	No changes recommended.
Objective 9: Improve local infrastructure including broadband, public transport, road improvements, gas supply improvements, and telecommunications	0	+	+	X	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	X	+	Overall this objective is compatible with the SEA objectives and has mostly a positive effect towards the SEA baseline.	No recommendations.	This objective relates well to the overall vision and has the ability to be monitored, and it is achievable. There are no specific references to the timescales; however this is covered in a general statement in the plan.	No changes recommended.

Template B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP Options – Weston Beggard NDP

Parish Council Name: Weston Beggard Parish.

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Weston Beggard Neighbourhood development Plan

Date completed: October 2015

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:		
+ =/++	Compatible/very comp	S – Specific:	NDP objectives should specify what is intended to be done in detail and should not be open to a wide range of misinterpretations	The following matrix appraises the emerging Weston Beggard NDP Objectives in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives. These have been developed from Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.
- =	Possible conflict	M – Measurable:	It should be possible to monitor NDP objectives in a quantifiable way, by the use of indicators. Indicators should be measurable with limited resource implications.	
0 =	Neutral	A – Attainable/achievable:	NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed	
X =	No relationship between objectives	R – Realistic:	NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.	
? =	Unclear, more information needed	T – Time-Bound:	Objectives should be specific to the NDP period or another specified time-frame. Objectives should be associated with a target and indicators should specify when the target should be achieved.	

SEA Objectives	Baseline carried over from Stage A
<p>1- To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)</p> <p>2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p> <p>3- To improve quality of surroundings</p> <p>4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage</p> <p>5- To improve air quality</p> <p>6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>7- To reduce contributions to climate change</p> <p>8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change</p> <p>9- To improve water quality</p> <p>10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p> <p>12- To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>13- To minimise the production of waste</p> <p>14- To improve health of the population</p> <p>15- To reduce crime and nuisance</p> <p>16- To conserve natural and manmade resources</p>	<p>1-The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. Weston Beggard has 1 SSSI-Perton roadside section and quarry which is rated as favourable. The parish falls within the Lower Frome Sub catchment which is the hydrological catchment for the River Wye catchment; this is currently meeting phosphate targets. Weston Beggard Parish has: 1 SSSI, 9 SWS, and 2 RIGS. There are no NNRs and SINCs within the Parish.</p> <p>2-There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Staunton-on-Wye at present.</p> <p>3- In terms of Weston Beggard parish itself, the study reveals that there are no playing pitches within the Parish</p> <p>4-Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there is two SAMs in Weston Beggard Parish and numerous listed buildings according to the latest version of the register.</p> <p>5-Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This suggests that air quality is improving.</p> <p>6-% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1%, Foot: 14.7%;Bicycle: 4.3%,Bus: 2%, Train: 0.8%,Motorbike: 0.8%,Taxi: 0.3%,Other: 7%.</p> <p>7-Herefordshire latest figure of C02 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO²)</p> <p>8-Reduce the risk of flooding-There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>9-Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive. Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84%.</p> <p>10- Weston Beggard parish falls into the Herefordshire Conjunctive Use Water Resource Zones (WRZs), one of 6 zones covering Herefordshire. 39% of demand is from non-household use.</p> <p>11-Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds. The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>12- Within Weston Beggard there mostly grade 2 and grade 3 (very good to good/ moderate) to the north of the neighbourhood area and grade 1 (excellent) to the south.</p> <p>13, 14, 15: No baseline data available</p> <p>16- The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Principal settled farmlands; settled farmlands on River terrace.</p>

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy
	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	13	14	15	16			
Option 1: Do nothing	X	X	X	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: Settlement boundary or not	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty to Weston Beggard and Shucknall and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 3: Allocation or criteria based approach	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	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 provide criteria is added to the policy to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline.	Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Option 4: Residential development at one location or on small plots	0	+	+	?	0	0	+	+	?	?	?	+	+	0	0	0	Overall this option has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. Due to size and scale of houses it is unlikely to have a significant impact on traffic and air pollution. Impact on water resources can be determined further at planning application stage.	Overall this option meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Option 5: Support Development of large scale framing units/polytunnels or not	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	X	X	?	?	?	+	0	0	0	Overall this option has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data Impact of water extraction and soil conservation can be determined at planning application stage.	N/A	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Option 6: Support Commercial renewable development or not	0	+	+	X	0	0	0	+	+	+	X	X	X	0	0	0	Overall this option has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.	N/A	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Option 7: Develop new business or not and what type of business	0	+	+	X	+	+	+	X	X	+	X	X	X	0	0	0	Overall this option has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.	N/A	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Template B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP policies – Weston Beggard NDP

Parish Council Name: Weston Beggard Parish.

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Weston Beggard Neighbourhood development Plan

Date completed: November 2015

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:		
+ =/++	Compatible/very comp	S – Specific:	NDP objectives should specify what is intended to be done in detail and should not be open to a wide range of misinterpretations	The following matrix appraises the emerging Weston Beggard NDP Objectives in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives. These have been developed from Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.
- =	Possible conflict	M – Measurable:	It should be possible to monitor NDP objectives in a quantifiable way, by the use of indicators. Indicators should be measurable with limited resource implications.	
0 =	Neutral	A – Attainable/achievable:	NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed	
X =	No relationship between objectives	R – Realistic:	NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.	
? =	Unclear, more information needed	T – Time-Bound:	Objectives should be specific to the NDP period or another specified time-frame. Objectives should be associated with a target and indicators should specify when the target should be achieved.	

SEA Objectives	Baseline carried over from Stage A
<p>1- To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)</p> <p>2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p> <p>3- To improve quality of surroundings</p> <p>4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage</p> <p>5- To improve air quality</p> <p>6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>7- To reduce contributions to climate change</p> <p>8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change</p> <p>9- To improve water quality</p> <p>10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p> <p>12- To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>13- To minimise the production of waste</p> <p>14- To improve health of the population</p> <p>15- To reduce crime and nuisance</p> <p>16- To conserve natural and manmade resources</p>	<p>1-The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. Weston Beggard has 1 SSSI-Perton roadside section and quarry which is rated as favourable. The parish falls within the Lower Frome Sub catchment which is the hydrological catchment for the River Wye catchment; this is currently meeting phosphate targets. Weston Beggard Parish has: 1 SSSI, 9 SWS, and 2 RIGS. There are no NNRs and SINCs within the Parish.</p> <p>2-There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Staunton-on-Wye at present.</p> <p>3- In terms of Weston Beggard parish itself, the study reveals that there are no playing pitches within the Parish</p> <p>4-Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there is two SAMs in Weston Beggard Parish and numerous listed buildings according to the latest version of the register.</p> <p>5-Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This suggests that air quality is improving.</p> <p>6-% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1%, Foot: 14.7%,Bicycle: 4.3%,Bus: 2%, Train: 0.8%,Motorbike: 0.8%,Taxi: 0.3%,Other: 7%.</p> <p>7-Herefordshire latest figure of CO2 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO²)</p> <p>8-Reduce the risk of flooding-There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>9-Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive. Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84%.</p> <p>10- Weston Beggard parish falls into the Herefordshire Conjunctive Use Water Resource Zones (WRZs), one of 6 zones covering Herefordshire. 39% of demand is from non-household use.</p> <p>11-Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds. The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>12- Within Weston Beggard there mostly grade 2 and grade 3 (very good to good/ moderate) to the north of the neighbourhood area and grade 1 (excellent) to the south.</p> <p>13, 14, 15: No baseline data available</p> <p>16- The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Principal settled farmlands; settled farmlands on River terrace.</p>

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy
	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	13	14	15	16			
Policy WB1: A Valued Environment in which to live	+	+	+	X	+	X	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	X	++	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. This policy could also help to mitigate detrimental impacts caused from development.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. However must stipulate what safeguards there are against nuisance and crime from the development.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy WB2: The Right Housing in the Right Place	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. This policy conforms with the target development of 10 houses for proportionate growth allocated in RA2 policy within the Core Strategy.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. However must stipulate what safeguards there are against nuisance and crime from the development.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy WB3: Supporting a Thriving Rural Economy	0	+	+	X	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. However must stipulate what safeguards there are against nuisance and crime from the development.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy WB4: Delivery of Local Infrastructure	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	+	X	X	+	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. However must stipulate what safeguards there are against nuisance and crime from the development.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy WB5: Access to Community Facilities	X	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	X	+	+	0	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. However must stipulate what safeguards there are against nuisance and crime from the development.	This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Template B3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the policies and sites within the Neighbourhood Development Plan

Parish Council Name: Weston Beggard

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Weston Beggard

Date completed: November 2015

Key:

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- - Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	N/A No relationship
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Policy WB1: A Valued Environment in which to live

SEA Policy	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A

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To improve water quality	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall this policy is not over and above the Core Strategy. This policy will also help mitigate against detrimental environmental impact caused from potential development. This policy helps to safeguard the local biodiversity and the rural environment.				

Policy WB2 The Right Housing in the Right Place

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve quality of surroundings	+	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and	0	0	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A

cultural heritage					
To improve air quality	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve water quality	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To minimise the production of waste	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve health of the population	0	0	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A

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To reduce crime and nuisance	0	0	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall this policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and no cumulative effects have been identified. This policy set a criteria for housing to be developed in or around the existing settlement.				

Policy WB3: Supporting a Thriving Rural Economy

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)				Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To maintain and enhance the quality of	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A

landscapes and townscapes					
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve air quality	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve water quality	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A

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To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve natural and manmade resources	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall this policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and no cumulative effects have been identified.				

Policy WB4 Delivery of Local Infrastructure

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A

To improve air quality	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve water quality	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve health of the population	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A

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To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall this policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and no cumulative effects have been identified.				

Policy WB5 Access to Community Facilities

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To maintain and enhance the quality of	+	+	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A

landscapes and townscapes					
To improve quality of surroundings	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve air quality	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve water quality	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A

To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve soil resources and quality	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To minimise the production of waste	X	X	X	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To improve health of the population	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To reduce crime and nuisance	0	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
To conserve natural and manmade resources	0	0	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	N/A
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall this policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and no cumulative effects have been identified.				

Template B4: Assessment of cumulative impacts of the Neighbourhood Development Plan

Parish Council Name: Weston Beggard

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Weston Beggard NDP

Date completed: November 2015

Key:

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards marginally	-- Move away Significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	X No relationship
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SEA Objective / Objective / Policy	1. To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	2. To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	3. To improve quality of surroundings	4. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	5. To improve air quality	6. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	7. To reduce contributions to climate change	8. To reduce vulnerability to climate change	9. To improve water quality	10. To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	11. To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	12. To conserve soil resources and quality	13. To minimise the production	14. To improve health of the population	15. To reduce crime and nuisance	16. To conserve natural and manmade resources
B Objective 1: To maintain the rural integrity, identity and character of community.	++	+	+	++	+	0	0	0	X	X	+	+	0	+	0	+
WB Objective 2: To protect and enhance the local environment - air and water quality, green and open spaces, woodland and hedgerows, wildlife, footpaths and cycleways, and views.	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	0	++
B Objective 3: To meet local housing	0	+	+	0	0	0	X	X	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

requirements																
B Objective 4: To meet the needs of small and home based businesses.	0	+	+	0	0	0	x	x	0	0	0	+	0	x	x	+
WB Objective 5: To support tourism through B&B provision and other local small scale initiatives	0	+	+	x	0	0	x	x	0	0	+	+	0	x	x	+
WB Objective 6: Manage development of largescale farming units/polytunnels.	0	0	+	+	+	+	x	x	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	+
B Objective 7: Provide support for new community facilities eg shop, pub, café.	0	+	+	+	+	+	x	x	+	x	x	0	0	0	x	+
WB Objective 8: Provide support for small scale renewable energy opportunities linked to individual developments.	?	+	+	x	+	0	+	+	0	x	x	0	0	0	x	+
WB Objective 9: Improve local infrastructure including broadband, public transport, road improvements, gas supply improvements, and telecommunications.	0	+	+	x	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	x	+

Policy WB1: A Valued Environment in which to live	++	+	+	X	+	X	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	X	++
Policy WB2: The Right Housing in the Right Place	+	++	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+
Policy WB3: Supporting a Thriving Rural Economy	0	+	+	X	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0
Policy WB4: Delivery of Local Infrastructure	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	+	X	X	+
Policy WB5: Access to Community Facilities	X	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	X	+	+	0
Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...)	Overall the Neighbourhood Plan policies and objectives have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data. And are in general conformity with the Core Strategy Overall all of the policies and objectives meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA. Policy WB1 and objectives strive to preserve and maintain natural and built historic environment that can help mitigate impact from the housing policies.															
Commentary for significant cumulative effects	Overall this has had a positive effect on the SEA baseline data. Overall the unknown areas require further detail such as location, scale and size of development, therefore are likely to be determined at planning application/ proposal stage.															

Appendix 5

Weston Beggard Options

Do Nothing
Settlement Boundary
Site options
Allocate sites for housing
Manage future housing using a settlement boundary
Allocate sites and identify a settlement boundary
Manage future housing through a development management policy

Appendix 6

Objectives and context	Where referenced in NDP/SEA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Neighbourhood Development Plan's purpose and objectives are made clear. • The Neighbourhood Area's environmental issues and constraints, including acknowledgement of those in the Local Plan (Core Strategy) SA, where relevant, and local environmental protection objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets. • SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate. • Links with other locally related plans, programmes and policies are identified, explained and acknowledgement for those set out in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant. • Conflicts that exist between SEA and Neighbourhood Development Plan objectives; and between SEA objectives and other local plan objectives are identified and described. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 1 (para 1.3-1.10) • Sections 2 and 3; and Tables A2 and A3 • Section 3 (para 3.7). • Section 3 (para 3.1). • Section 4 (paras 4.4 – 4.5)
Scoping	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory Consultees are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report. • The assessment focuses on significant issues. • Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2 (paras 2.6 – 2.9) & Appendix 3 • Sections 2 and 6 • Sections 2 and 6

Alternatives	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realistic alternatives are considered for key issues, and the reasons for choosing them are documented. Alternatives include 'do minimum' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios wherever relevant. The environmental effects (both adverse and beneficial) of each alternative are identified and compared. Inconsistencies between the alternatives and other relevant local plans, programmes or policies are identified and explained. Reasons are given for selection or elimination of alternatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 5. Section 5 (paras 5.2 – 5.4). Section 5 & Appendix 5 N/A Section 5 (paras 5.2 – 5.4).
Baseline information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant aspects of the current state of the local, neighbourhood area environment and their likely evolution without the Neighbourhood Development Plan are described. Acknowledgement to the information in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant. Environmental characteristics of the local, neighbourhood area, likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the designated neighbourhood area, where it is likely to be affected by the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 1 and 6. Initial screening report and Section 1. Section 2.

Prediction and evaluation of likely significant environmental effects	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects identified include the types listed in the Directive (biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climate factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape), as relevant; and other local likely environmental effects are also covered, as appropriate. • Both positive and negative effects are considered, and the duration of effects (short, medium or long-term) is addressed. • Likely secondary, cumulative (growing in quantity and strength) and synergistic (acting together) effects are identified, where practicable. • Inter-relationships between effects are considered, where practicable. • The prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of relevant accepted standards, regulations, and thresholds (i.e. data gathered for the evidence base). • Methods used to evaluate the effects are described. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tables A2, A3 and A4 (Appendix 2) • Tables B2 and B3 (Appendix 4) • Table B4 (Appendix 4) • Section 6 • Section 6 • Section 2
Mitigation measures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the Neighbourhood Development Plan are indicated. • Issues to be taken into account when determining planning applications or other projects, for example funding bids, are identified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 6 (paras 6.6. – 6.8) • Section 6.

The Environmental Report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation. • Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms. • Uses maps and other illustrations, where appropriate. • Explains the methodology used. • Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used. • Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion. • Contains a non-technical summary covering the overall approach to the SEA, the objectives of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, the main options considered, and any changes to the Neighbourhood Development Plan resulting from the SEA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A • N/A • N/A • Section 2 • Section 2 • Section 2 • Included at page 1
Consultation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SEA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. • Consultation Bodies and the public likely to be affected by, or having an interest in, the Neighbourhood Development Plan are consulted in ways and at times, which give them an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions on the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan and Environmental Report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2 (paras 2.4 – 2.5). • Section 7.

Decision-making and information on the decision	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The environmental report and the opinions of those consulted are taken into account in finalising and adopting the Neighbourhood Development Plan. An explanation is given of how they have been taken into account. Reasons are given for choosing the Neighbourhood Development Plan as adopted, in the light of other reasonable alternatives considered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections 2 and 8. Following draft consultation Following draft consultation
Monitoring measures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measures proposed for monitoring the Neighbourhood Development Plan are clear, practicable and linked to the indicators and objectives used in the SEA. Monitoring is used, where appropriate, during implementation of the Neighbourhood Development Plan to make good deficiencies in baseline information in the SEA. Acknowledgement that monitoring enables unforeseen adverse effects to be identified at an early stage. (These effects may include predictions which prove to be incorrect.) Proposals are made for action in response to significant adverse effects arising from the monitoring of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 7. Section 7. Section 7. Section 7.

Appendix 7

Template D1: SEA Consultation Feedback

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

Parish Council Name: Weston Beggard

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Plan

Details of consultation: *this could include how the consultation was advertised and what information was provided*

Consultation date: 14.12.2015 - 31.01.2016.

Consultation title: Weston Beggard Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 14

Response Date	Consultee	Summary of Comments	Response to Comments
26/01/16	Natural England	Having reviewed the report Natural England confirms that it meets the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) European Directive and national regulations, and that we concur with its conclusions that the small scale nature of the proposed new development within the NDP area we are in agreement that the delivery of the Neighbourhood Plan should not exacerbate existing problems regarding water quality or have an unacceptable adverse impact upon the River Wye SAC.	Noted.

Appendix 8

D3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the amended Neighbourhood Development Plan policies following reg 14

Parish Council Name: Weston Beggard

Date completed: February 2016

Key:

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- - Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	N/A No relationship
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Policy WB2 The right housing in the right place

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (10 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	0	0	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To improve quality of surroundings	0	+	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and	+	+	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a positive effect on the SEA	

culture heritage				baseline.	
To improve air quality	0	0	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	0	+	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a positive effect on the SEA	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	0	+	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a positive effect on the SEA	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a positive effect on the SEA	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	0	0	0	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a positive effect on the SEA	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a positive effect on the SEA	
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a positive effect on the SEA	
To improve health of the population	0	0	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	

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To reduce crime and nuisance	0	0	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	Affordable housing needs with Bartestree and Lugwardine will have a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall this Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy moves towards the relevant SEA objectives. Modification to this policy has a positive towards the SEA baseline. No significant effects on the River Wye SAC including Lugg have been indicated.				

Policy WB3 Supporting a thriving economy

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (10 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	0	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	

To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To improve air quality	0	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	0	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	0	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To improve health of the population	0	0	0	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To reduce crime and nuisance	0	0	0	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	

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To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall this Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy moves towards the relevant SEA objectives. Modification to this policy has a positive towards the SEA baseline. No significant effects on the River Wye SAC including Lugg have been indicated.				

Policy WB4 (New policy added) Shucknall Court: Livework units

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (10 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	0	0	0	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	0	0	0	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	

To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To improve water quality	0	0	0	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	0	0	0	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	0	0	0	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a neutral effect on the SEA baseline.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To improve health of the population	0	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To reduce crime and nuisance	0	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy supporting a thriving rural economy has a positive effect on the SEA baseline.	

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Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall this Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and the policy moves towards the relevant SEA objectives. Modification to this policy has a positive towards the SEA baseline. No significant effects on the River Wye SAC including Lugg have been indicated.
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