

# Environmental Report



## Abbeydore & Bacton, Ewyas Harold & Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area

December 2014

# **Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan 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.

Abbeydore and Bacton Group Parish Council, Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council and Kentchurch Parish Council have jointly undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. The neighbourhood area comprises the Parishes of Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group (Ewyas Harold, Rowelstone, Dulas and Llancillo) and Kentchurch and lies approximately 20km to the southwest of Hereford City and 10km to north of Abergavenny.

The Draft Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch NDP includes 15 objectives which underpin an overarching vision and it is intended that these objectives will be delivered by 11 criteria based planning policies, 1 policy for the Abbeydore, 5 policies for the Ewyas Harold area and 1 for the Kentchurch area. There is only one site allocation policy included and 5 alternative options have been tested.

The environmental appraisal of the Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch NDP has been undertaken in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plan and Programmes Regulations 2004. Stage A of the SEA process involved Scoping and Stage B provided a review and analysis of the NDP. Stage C involved preparing 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 not required. A separate report has been produced with this regard.

On the whole, it is considered that the Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch 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 is proportionate that would be that prescribed by strategic policies. There are some revised wording changes suggested to strengthen or clarify some policies areas as a result of the SEA. There are two policies within the draft plan which it is suggested are reviewed as a result of the SEA, these are policy EH4 and K1.

Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the effects of the policies within the Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch 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 Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan (NDP).

1.2 The Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch NDP has been produced by three parish councils jointly. It consists of generic policies for the whole of the neighbourhood area and specific policies for the three parishes; Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Pontrilas. It does not propose any housing site allocations, however does contain a specific site allocation for the relocation of the primary school.

### **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 Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch 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 Parishes of Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group (Ewyas Harold, Rowlestone, Dulas and Llancillo) and Kentchurch and lies approximately 20km to the southwest of Hereford City and 16km to north of Abergavenny.

1.7 The neighbourhood area is within the Golden Valley, an area known for its landscape. The area consists of Ewyas Harold which is the largest village in the south west of Herefordshire. This village processes many key local services which are utilised by the surrounding rural population. The surrounding parishes of Rowlestone, Llancillo and Dulas are extremely rural and consist of scattered farmhouse and hamlets. Abbeydore and Bacton parish is traditional farmland area within numerous woodlands. Pontrilas was a railway junction until the 1940s and the Hereford – Cardiff mainline still runs through the village. Kentchurch is dominated by Kentchurch Court and Deer Park estate.

1.8 The neighbourhood area boasts many natural features, including 2 Special Wildlife sites, 46 Special Wildlife Sites, 57 ancient woodlands and 2 registered parks and gardens. There are numerous built heritage assets, too, including listed buildings, Scheduled Monuments and non-designated assets.

1.9 The vision for the neighbourhood area in 2031 outline within the neighbourhood plan (October 2014) is;

‘The vibrant village centres act as a focus for the rural neighbourhood plan area, supporting local services and encourage appropriate industry. The rural character of both village and countryside is preserved until 2013. New development is integrated into its setting, whether at the heart of the village or in the rural areas. All development has minimal impact on the area’s setting and environment. All development is essential to support the needs and functioning of the local community.’

1.10 The NDP objectives (October 2014) are as follows:

Abbeydore and Bacton

- Objective 1 – to ensure that the housing and employment needs of the local community are met in such a way that minimises the impact of development on the rural nature of the parishes.
- Objective 2 – to control and guide how new development is designed and integrated in to the existing fragile rural setting of Abbeydore and Bacton.

#### Ewyas Harold Group

- Objective 1 – to ensure local housing needs are met in Ewyas Harold, and to permit housing development in line with the Core Strategy taking into account current planning commitments and windfalls
- Objective 2 – to permit housing development in Dulas, Llancillo and Rowlestone that meets purely local needs; does not compromise the quiet rural nature of the parish; and complies with Policy RA3.
- Objective 3 – to promote the Ewyas Harold Design Statement objectives, and to encourage all development to be appropriate, and of high quality design; achieving the best sustainable development standards available at the time.
- Objective 4 – to improve service provision, and develop Ewyas Harold as the main service provider in south west Herefordshire. This will include (but is not limited to) developing health and well being services; bus and transport services; encouraging shops and commercial businesses; assisting B&B and other tourist provision.
- Objective 5 – to redevelop the former Catholic Church of St John Kemble for use as Community Health and Wellbeing Centre.
- Objective 6 – on the Catholic Church site, offer parking facilities for users of the adjacent Doctor's Surgery, thus reducing congestion in Ewyas Harold village centre.
- Objective 7 – to use development agreements/funding to finance the improvement of Trappe House corner on the Abbeydore Road. This will provide safe pedestrian crossing, with adequate pavements on all sides, and appropriate traffic calming measures.
- Objective 8 – to install a pedestrian road bridge across the A465 to link Ewyas Harold and Pontrilas villages, or (as an alternative) provide a suitable foot crossing to improve pedestrian safety over this road.
- Objective 9 – to work with Herefordshire Council to improve the vehicular turning on/off the A465 at the junction with the Rowlestone Road.
- Objective 10 – to improve road, cycling and pavement facilities to a standard that enable children to walk and cycle safely to school, thus safeguarding the system for use of the whole community.
- Objective 11 – to improve facilities for families with young people and children in Ewyas Harold to encourage young families to live in the village.

#### Kentchurch

- Objective 1 – to ensure that the housing and employment needs of the local community are met in such a way that minimises the impact of development on the rural nature of the parishes
- Objective 2 – to control and guide how new development is designed and integrated in accordance with the wishes of the local community and clearly highlighted all areas where special consideration needs to be given.

## 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 Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch NDP must therefore conform to national planning policy set within the NPPF and strategic level local policy including the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 1.13 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) was submitted to the Secretary of State of Independent Examination on 23 September 2014. The examination will begin on the 10 February 2015.
- 1.14 The Saved Policies of the Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan (UDP) will be used as the basis for determining planning applications until such time the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is adopted by the Council, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- 1.15 Paragraph 2016 of the NPPF and Planning Practice Guidance set out the weight that may be given to relevant policies in emerging plans, including NDPs, and indicated that weight may be given to relevant policies in emerging NDPs according to:
- The stage of preparation of the emerging plan (the more advanced the preparation, the greater the weight that may be given);
  - The extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies (the less significant the unresolved objections, the greater the weight that may be given); and
  - The degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the policies in this Framework (the closer the policies in the emerging plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).
- 1.16 This part of the NPPF is reinforced by Planning Practice Guidance published in March 2014, which is clear that an emerging NDP may be a material planning consideration once it has reached submission/local authorities publication stage (Regulation 16). This is reinforced by recent ministerial statements and case law (West Sussex), all of which have demonstrated that an emerging NDP may be a material consideration at the Regulation 16 stage<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.17 Table 4.20 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) lists Ewyas Harold and Pontrilas among the settlements which it considers to be sustainable locations for proportional growth in line with the provisions of Policy RA2. Table 4.21 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) highlights Abbeydore, Bacton and Rowlestone as villages where housing development will be restricted to market homes which meet the needs of people with local connections or affordable housing. 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 Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Parish area, by setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined.

## 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

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<sup>1</sup> 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

- Section 3 - Introduces the Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch 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 Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch 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.

### Scoping Report Consultation

- 2.6 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.
- 2.7 After the document was approved by the Parish Council, the Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch SEA Scoping Report was available to four<sup>2</sup> statutory bodies for consultation from 03 October to 07 November 2014.

### Consultation outcomes from Statutory Consultees

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

**Natural England:** List six further documents which should be reviewed as part of SEA Task A1. Also recommend that additional baseline data be sourced in respect of SSSIs, wildlife habitats, landscape character and the quality of agricultural land. It was also suggested that reference to the Historic Landscape Characterisation was made. Natural England agrees that a full Habitat Regulation Assessment was not 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*

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<sup>2</sup> Statutory consultation bodies: Natural England; English Heritage; Environment Agency Natural Resources Wales

### 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 Abbeystre and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch 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 Abbeystre and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch 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 2009-2014 (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.
- *Wye Valley AONB management Plan 2009-2014 (2009)* - 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 Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch 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 Following the completion of Task B2 of SEA it was apparent that the largest environmental issue within the Group Parishes have is the impact of any development of flooding and water quality.
- 3.11 The NDP propose one site for the relocation of a school and mainly contains criteria-based policies. On this basis, the delivery of the NDP should need to ensure that sufficient criteria policy was in place to support the delivery of development without increasing the risk of flooding and its associated issues.
- 3.12 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 comprises the Parishes of Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Plan SEA objectives are listed below.

<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Baseline Data / Characteristic</b>	<b>Future Baseline trends</b>
<p>To maintain and enhance nature conservation  (biodiversity, flora and fauna)</p>	<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>Within Abbeydore and Bacton there are 2 SSSI's, both are rated as favourable .Wormbridge Common (Border) and Chanstone Wood (border).</p> <p>2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire.</p> <p>There are SSSI: 2, SWS: 46, Ancient woodlands: 57, Registered parks and gardens: 2 (Whitfiled and Kentchurch Court), Unregistered parks and gardens: 8, no SACs, NNRs, SINC's and LNRs within the parish.</p>	<p>% 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)</p> <p>To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.</p>
<p>To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p>	<p>There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings within the neighbourhood area at present.</p>	<p>To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p>
<p>To improve quality of surroundings</p>	<p>The study reveals that Ewyas Harold has one play area, it is currently in a good condition and does not require refurbishment. The study also highlighted that 2 .09 playing pitch area with secured community access –this is Ewyas Harold Recreation ground-consisting of 1 senior football pitch and 1 cricket pitch. 0.86 is not open for community use and has 2 junior football grounds (Ewyas Harold primary).Abbeydore , Bacton and Kentchurch have no playing pitches to be assessed.</p>	<p>No specific targets identified</p>
<p>To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage</p>	<p>There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 17 SAMs. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch parishes at present.</p>	<p>To conserve and where possible enhance historic assets</p>
<p>To improve air quality</p>	<p>Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This suggests that air quality is improving.</p>	<p>To reduce the overall carbon emissions.</p>
<p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p>	<p>% 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>To encourage the take up of lesser polluting modes of transport.</p>

To reduce contributions to climate change	Herefordshire latest figure of CO2 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO <sup>2</sup> )	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	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. Abbeydore and Bacton fall within the Upper Monnow catchment. This is regarded as one of the highest general risk of hazard flooding zones in the county. Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch fall within the Lower Monnow catchment	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.
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. The neighbourhood area is not 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	The joint 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	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.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.
To conserve soil resources and quality	Within Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch the majority of the land is grade 3 and 4 (good to poor). To the north of Abbeydore there is a small strip of grade 1 land (excellent). Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land. 2010/11: 67% 2011-13: 57%.	Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development  To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy
To minimise the production of waste	No baseline data available	No specific targets identified.
To improve health of the population	No baseline data available	No specific targets identified.
To reduce crime and nuisance	No baseline data available	No specific targets identified.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 17 SAMs. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch parishes at present. The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Principal settled farmlands, enclosed settled commons, riverside meadows, unenclosed commons and ancient timbered farmland.	

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.

#### 4.0 Assessing the NDP Objectives

4.1 The objectives listed in the NDP aim to realise the vision for Abbeystone and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch. There are a total of 15 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 the following NDP objectives would benefit from additional wording or clarification to strengthen their compatibility with the SEA framework:

- Objective Abbeystone 2
- Objective Kentchurch 2

4.5 Task B1 also required objectives to be SMART assessed. A number of objectives were found not to have sufficient detail or to result in an enabling policy within the draft plan. It is also suggested that these are reviewed in subsequent drafts of the plan;

- Objective EH5
- Objective EH6
- Objective EH7
- Objective EH8
- Objective EH9

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

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Objective AB1	o	+	+	+	+	o	?	?	o	?	?	o	x	x	X	+
Objective AB2	?	+	+	+	x	x	+	X	?	?	+	o	?	x	X	+
Objective EH1:	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	o	+	?	x	X	?
Objective EH2	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	x	X	X
Objective EH3	+	+	+	+	x	x	+	+	x	+	x	x	+	x	X	+
Objective EH4	?	?	+	?	+	+	x	X	x	x	x	?	x	+	X	X
Objective EH5	x	+	+	+	o	o	o	X	x	x	x	+	x	+	X	+
Objective EH6	x	+	+	+	o	+	o	X	x	x	x	+	x	+	X	+

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Objective EH7	?	?	?	o	?	?	x	X	x	x	x	?	x	x	X	?
Objective EH8	?	?	?	?	?	?	x	X	x	x	x	?	x	x	X	?
Objective EH9	?	?	?	?	?	?	x	X	x	x	x	?	x	x	X	?
Objective EH10	o	o	+	?	+	o	+	X	x	x	x	?	x	x	X	?
Objective EH11	?	?	+	?	+	o	+	X	x	x	x	?	x	x	X	?
Objective K1	o	+	+	+	+	o	?	?	o	?	?	o	x	x	X	+
Objective K2	?	+	+	+	x	x	+	X	?	?	+	o	?	x	X	+

## 5.0 Assessing the NDP Options

- 5.1 The options that were considered during the development of the Abbeystre and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Plan were supplied by the parish councils and have been assessed as part of the SEA. The summary matrix of the assessment can be found in Table B2 options these tables are in Appendix 4.
- 5.2 The options covered were are followed;
- Do nothing.
  - 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. [This is the approach that was adopted]
- 5.3 A 'do nothing' option was also considered by all three Parish Councils, 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 allocation sites for housing was considered and rejected by all three Parish Councils due to the fact that natural growth over the recent period strongly suggests that the housing aspirations will be met without the need for allocation. Ewyas Harold GPC discussed this and it is minuted. Also, the questionnaires sent out to the residents of Abbeystre and Bacton and Kentchurch asked this question but only a small percentage of the replies wanted this approach. Two questions in AB questionnaire returned 32% who said that they had land suitable to develop and 20% said they could identify land on which it would be suitable to build.
- 5.5 Pursuing this 2<sup>nd</sup> option would have given greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within Ewyas Harold and Pontrilas, 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.
- 5.6 The third 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. Within the draft plan, the only place with a settlement boundary in the area is Ewyas Harold. Kentchurch considered and rejected the idea of drawing up a settlement boundary. Abbeystre and Bacton did not consider producing a settlement boundary.

- 5.7 The option to designate a settlement boundary and allocation land was also favourable in terms of the SEA objectives but this was considered and rejected by the parishes for the combination of the reasons outlined within the above two options.
- 5.8 The final option of producing development management criteria policies was chosen by the parish councils. 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 providing criteria is added to the policies to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline.

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

## 6.0 Appraisal of the policies

- 6.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch 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 then specific policies for each of the parish council areas. These emerging set of draft policies have been appraised for the purposes of Stage B of the SEA:
- Policy G1 – New homes in the countryside
  - Policy G2 – Rural exception housing
  - Policy G3 – Protecting and enhancing the landscape of the Golden Valley
  - Policy G4 – Design
  - Policy G5 – Flooding
  - Policy G6 – Tourism
  - Policy G7 – Golden Valley Green Infrastructure
  - Policy G8 - Highway and transport
  - Policy G9 – Rural environment and tranquillity
  - Policy G10 – Dark Skies
  - Policy G11 – Rural Businesses and Homeworking
  - Policy AB1 – New housing development in Abbeydore and Bacton Villages
  - Policy EH1 – Housing in the village of Ewyas Harold
  - Policy EH2 – Housing design in Ewyas Harold
  - Policy EH3 – Development affecting highways and streetscapes
  - Policy EH4 – Ewyas Harold primary school
  - Policy EH5 – Ewyas Harold local centre
  - Policy K1 – Housing in the village of Pontrilas

## 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 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, this is particularly relevant to Policy G2 and Policy G8.
- 6.6 There are some unknown factors, particularly where the location of specific piece of development is not yet known.
- 6.7 However two policies are considered to not be compatible with the SEA objectives as presently written. Policy EH4 is a proposal to relocate the primary school. This proposal is within flood area 2 and 3 according to the Environment Agency flood maps. The site is also adjacent to the Dulas Brook, which is a SWS. However the policy does not include any reference or mitigation relating to these issues. It is considered an assessment needs to be undertaken regarding the flooding aspects of this site and the potential impact on the SWS and watercourse. Therefore at present, this policy is not in conformity with the Core Strategy as details of a sequential test and flooding issues have not been included in accordance with Policy SD3. Therefore is not compatible with the objective of the SEA.
- 6.8 There are also concerned regarding Policy K1 as there are some unknown issues with the policy as written. Reference to a settlement boundary in criteria I is not supported with a designation. The policy also refers to 'within' the village and 'beyond' the village without clarity. Therefore affects on the baseline are unclear at this stage. This policy will lead to small scale development within Pontrilas in line with Core Strategy policy RA2. However policy reference to the settlement boundary is not confirmed by an associated designation which could impact on some of the SEA objectives being met particularly with regards to objectives 1 -4 This policy does not go beyond the Core Strategy in terms of SEA, however it may not be compatible with some objectives.

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Policy G1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	o				+
Policy G2	?	?	?	?	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?				?
Policy G3:	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy G 4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy G 5	?	x	x	+	x	x	+	+	+	+	+	+				?
Policy G 6	+	+	+	+	?	o	o	+	+	?	?	?				+
Policy G 7	+	+	+	+	+	x	+	+	+	x	+	+				+
Policy G8	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	x	x	?	x				x
Policy G 9	x	+	+	+	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x
Policy G10	x	+	+	+	x	x	+	x	x	x	x	x				+

<b>Policy G11</b>	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+				+
<b>Policy AB1</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
<b>Policy EH1</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
<b>Policy EH2</b>	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				+
<b>Policy EH3</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	X	+				+
<b>Policy EH4</b>	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	?	-	+				+
<b>Policy EH5</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+				+
<b>Policy K1</b>	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?				?

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. Although some policies may have a neutral or uncertain impact during the first 5 years of the plan period, there is no reason why they cannot have a positive effect in the medium to long-term due to policy safeguards included in the Local Plan (Core Strategy); these safeguards should avoid or mitigate against unacceptable adverse impacts.

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.

## 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 This report will be subject to a formal public consultation of 6 weeks duration alongside the Draft Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch NDP.

8.2 Responses on the Draft NDP will be reviewed and the plan amended where appropriate.

8.3 Any changes made to the NDP as a consequence of the Regulation 14 consultation with those who live, work or carry out business in the neighbourhood area, as well as statutory

consultation bodies, will trigger a review of the SEA, unless they do not materially affect the outcomes of Stage B of the SEA process.

# Appendix 1

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**Initial Habitat Regulations Assessment and Strategic Environmental  
Assessment Screening Notification**

**The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulation 2012 (Reg. 32)**

**Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d)**

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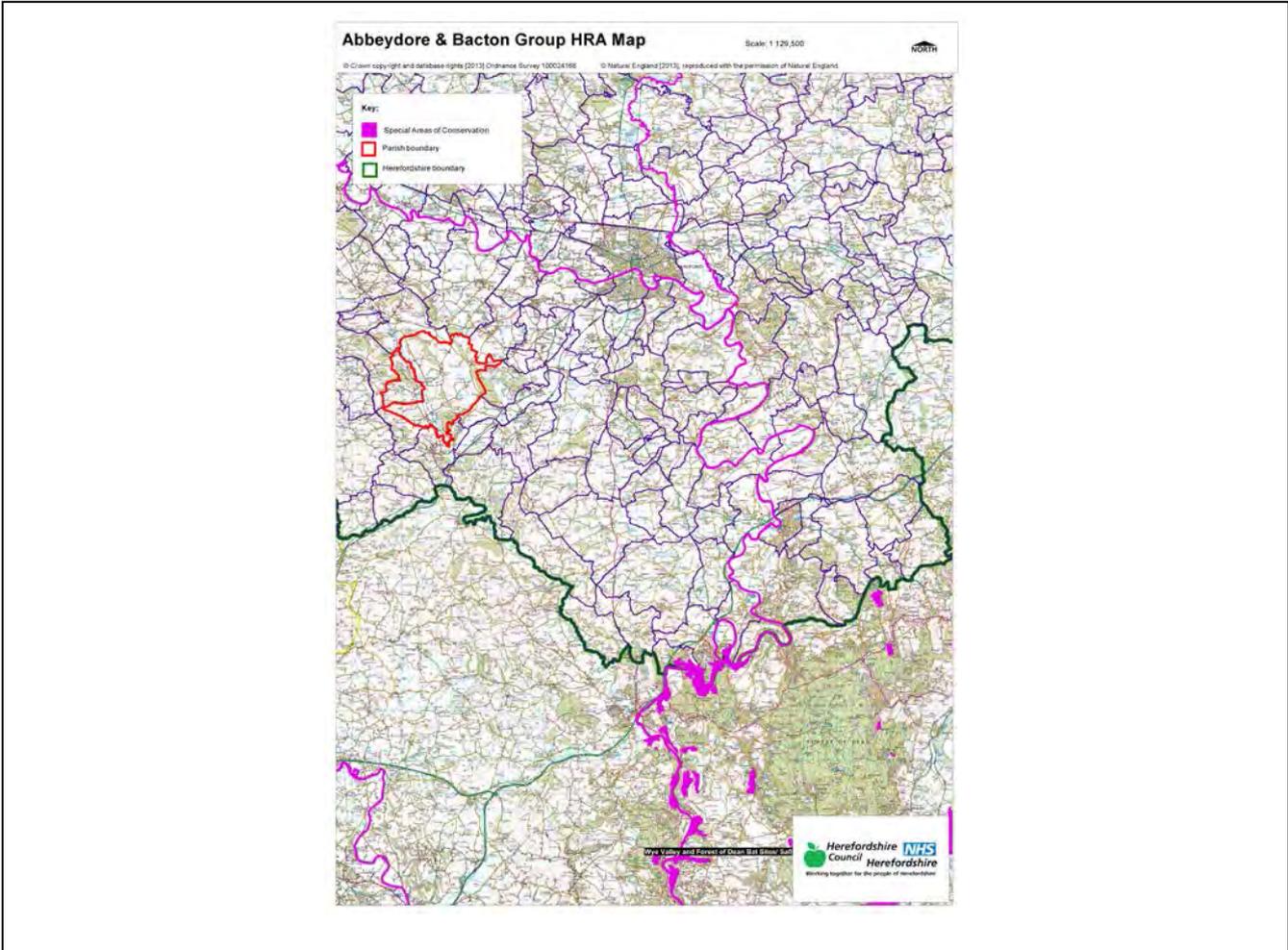
<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Abbeydore & Bacton Group Parish Council
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	06/12/2012

### **Introduction**

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

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

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



**Initial HRA Screening**

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

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	Neither the River Wye or Lugg are in or are next to the Group Parish
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	N	The Group Parish is not within the hydrological catchment of the Wye or Lugg
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?		Not Applicable

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 37.4km away from the Group 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 Group Parish
--	---	---

**Usk Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 22.59km away from the Group 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	The Group Parish is 26.3km away from Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites
--	---	--

**Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	The Group Parish is 20.6km away from the Wye Valley Woodlands
--	---	---

**HRA Conclusion:**

The assessment above highlights that the no European Sites will need to be taken into account in the future Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton & Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area and a Full HRA Screening will not be required.

**European Site**

*(List only those which are relevant from above)*

**Strategic Environmental Assessment Initial Screening for nature conservation landscape and heritage features**

The following environmental features are within or in general proximity to the Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area and would need to be taken into account within a Strategic Environmental Assessment. In addition, the NDP will also need to consider the other SEA topics set out in Guidance Note 9a to ensure that the plan does not cause adverse impacts.

<b>SEA features</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>SEA required</b>
Air Quality Management Areas	0	There are no AQMA's within the Group Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	19	Gilberts Hill Wood; Big Birches Wood; Big Wood; Nells Wood; Ladys Coppice; Brampton Hill Wood 2; Ravenshoot and Dunshill Woods; Minns Close Tump Wood; Hill Wood; Cwm Sayce Wood; Lan Awr Wood; Tan House & Hay Brooks Woods; Lawn Wood (border); Park Wood (border); Eaton Hill Wood (border); Heirons Wood (border); Dulas Court Wood 1 (border); Dulas Court Wood 2 (border)	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAI's within the Group Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	There are no AONB's within the Group Parish	N
Conservation Areas	0	There are no Conservation Areas within the Group Parish	N
European Sites	0	There are no SAC's within the Group Parish	N
Flood Areas		Flood Zones 2 & 3 around the River Dore and Worm Brook	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous listed buildings within the Group Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCs/RIGS)	18 SWS	Disused railway line – Pontrilas to Ewyas Harold; Dore Abbey; River Dore; Gilberts Hill Wood and Garrabach Coppice; Woodland near Abbeydore; Big Birches Wood; Whitfield; Brampton Hill Wood; New Barns, Dunseal, Ravenshot, WDS and Pontapina Break; Bacton Woods; Russells Coppice & adjoining grassland; Chanstone Wood and adjoining woodlands; Eaton Wood (border); Dulas brook (border); Roadside verge near Trout inn (border); Ewyas Harold Common (border); Dulas Churchyard (border); Timberline Wood and adjoining woodlands (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	1	Herefordshire Trail	Y
Mineral Reserves	0	There are no Mineral Reserves Sites in the Parish	N
National Nature Reserve	0	There are No NNR's in the Parish	N

Registered & unregistered parks and gardens	1 Registered 4 Unregistered	Registered: Whitfield. Unregistered: Morehampton; Bacton Manor; Abbey Dore Court; Dulas Court (border)	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	8	Dore Abbey: A Cistercian Monastery; Motte and Bailey Castle 200yds (180m) SW of Newcourt Farm; Bowl barrow on southern edge of Dunseal Wood, 450m NNW of Kerrys Gate; Motte Castle with associated courtyard and mill leat. 130m north west of Chanstone Mill (border); Moated site, fishponds, and associated building platforms 117m west of Chanstone Mill (border); Thruston tump, a Motte Castle at Thruston Court (border); Motte and Bailey Castle and alien priory immediately south of castle lands (border); St Michaels Church, churchyard and standing cross immediately east of Dulas Court (border)	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	2	Chanstone Wood (Favourable) (border); Wormbridge Common (Favourable) (border)	Y

**Decision Notification:**

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area:

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

**Assessment date: 16/05/2013**

**Assessed by: James Latham**

## Appendix 1: European Sites

The table below provides the name of each European Site, which has been screened in for the purposes of neighbourhood planning in Herefordshire; includes their site features of integrity; and vulnerability data. This is based on the sites individual features of integrity and their vulnerabilities, which could include distance criteria. This has been used in identifying which parishes are likely to require a full HRA Screening of their future Neighbourhood Development Plan, to establish if their plan might have Likely Significant Effects on a European Site.

<b>Downton Gorge</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> 10km for air quality associated with poultry units or other intensive agricultural practices.
<b>River Clun</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Water quality is important to maintain the site feature. Parishes either side of the River Clun will be affected.
<b>River Wye</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation. Transition mires and quaking bogs. White-clawed (or Atlantic Stream) crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> . Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> . Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> . River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> . Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> . Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> . Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> . Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> . Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Proximity: Developments should not be within 100m of the designated bank. Some developments beyond 100m may also have impacts based on proximity and these issues should be addressed where possible when developing NDP policy and choosing site allocations. Water Quality: Within the whole catchment of the River Wye, which includes the River Lugg, mains drainage issues with regards to water quality are being resolved through the Core Strategy / Local Plan and development of a Nutrient Management Plan. Welsh Water should be consulted to ensure that the proposed growth will be within the limit of their consents. Otters: "An otter will occupy a 'home range', which on fresh waters usually includes a stretch of river as well as associated tributary streams, ditches, ponds, lakes and woodland. The size of a home range depends largely on the availability of food and shelter, and the presence of neighbouring otters. On rivers, a male's home range may be up to 40km or more of watercourse and associated areas; females have smaller ranges (roughly half the size) and favour quieter locations for breeding, such as tributary streams. Otters without an established home range are known as 'transients'. They are mostly juveniles looking for a territory of their own, or adults that have been pushed out of their territories. Transient otters may use an area for a short while, but they will move on if conditions are not suitable or if they are driven away by resident otters. Transients will have been important in extending the range of otters, but they are very difficult to identify from field signs. Within a home range an otter may use many resting sites. These include above-ground shelters, such as stands of scrub or areas of rank grass, and underground 'holts' – for example, cavities under tree roots and dry drainage pipes." (Source: EA website: <a href="http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf">http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf</a> accessed 09/04/2013)

### Usk Bat Site

**Site Features:** Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection: European dry heaths, Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration, Blanket bogs, Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation, Caves not open to the public, *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines. Annex II species of primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, UK population 5%, although it is suggested this is an underestimate.

**Vulnerability data:** Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues.

### Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites

**Site Features:** Annex II species that are a primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*. Greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*

**Vulnerability data:** Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues.

Greater Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 20-30km between their summer and winter roosts.

NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider:  
Woodland habitat buffer.

Lesser Horseshoe Bat: Old buildings; woodland locations; sheltered valleys, extensive deciduous woods or dense scrub, close to roost sites. In areas of fragmented habitats, linear habitats such as hedgerows are important corridors. Vulnerable to loss or disturbance of both summer and winter roosts and removal of linear habitat.

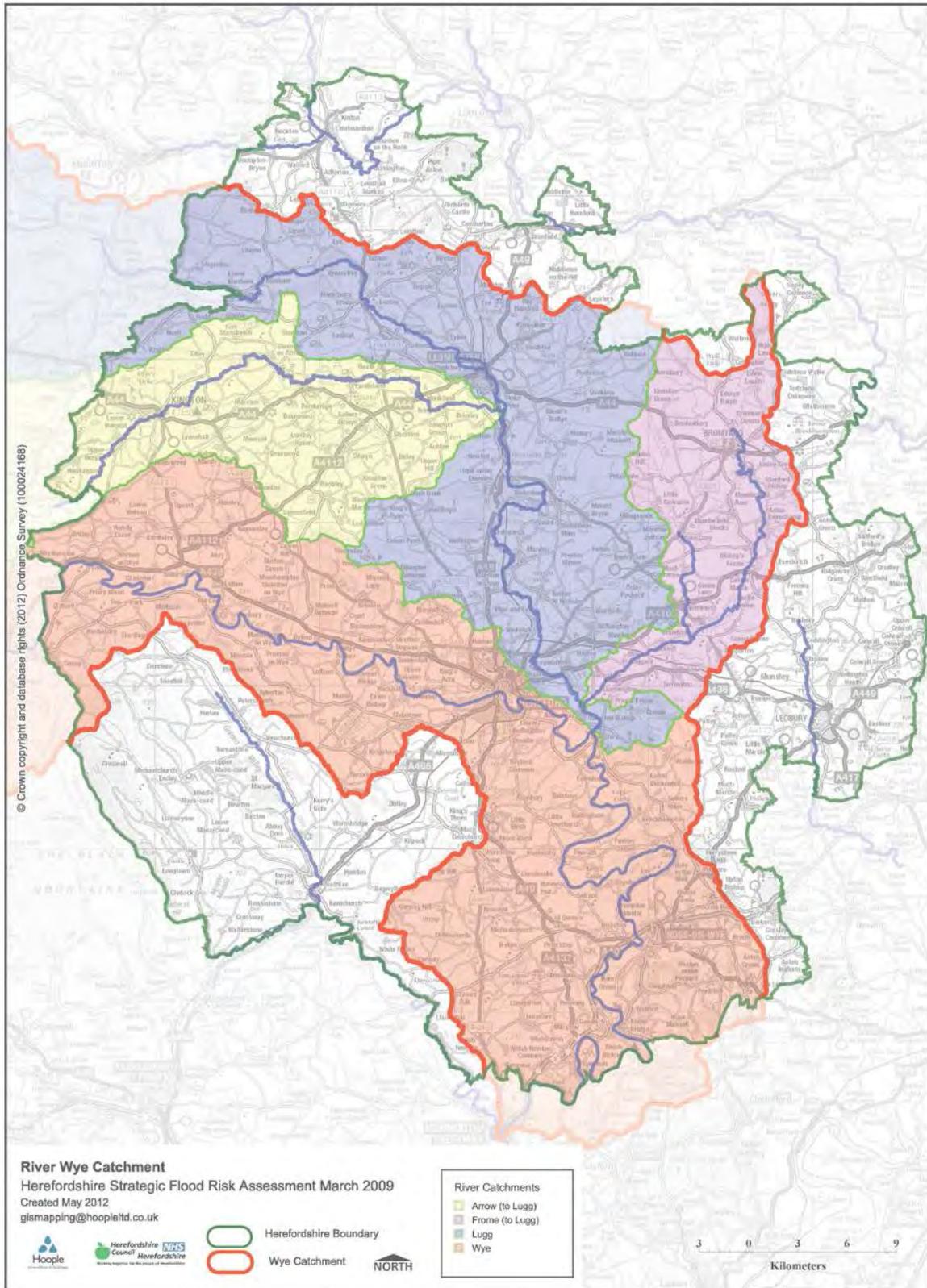
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation. A system/series of sites required. Vulnerable to loss of insect food supply, due to insecticide use, changing farming practices and loss of broad-leaved tree-cover and loss / disturbance of underground roosts sites.

### Wye Valley Woodlands

**Site Features:** Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for site selection: Beech forests *Asperulo-Fagetum*, *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines, *Taxus baccata* woods of the British Isles. Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, 51-100 residents

**Vulnerability data:** Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues. NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider: Woodland habitat buffer. Lesser Horseshoe Bat: Old buildings; woodland locations; sheltered valleys, extensive deciduous woods or dense scrub, close to roost sites. In areas of fragmented habitats, linear habitats such as hedgerows are important corridors. Vulnerable to loss or disturbance of both summer and winter roosts and removal of linear habitat.

## Appendix 2: Wye Catchment Map

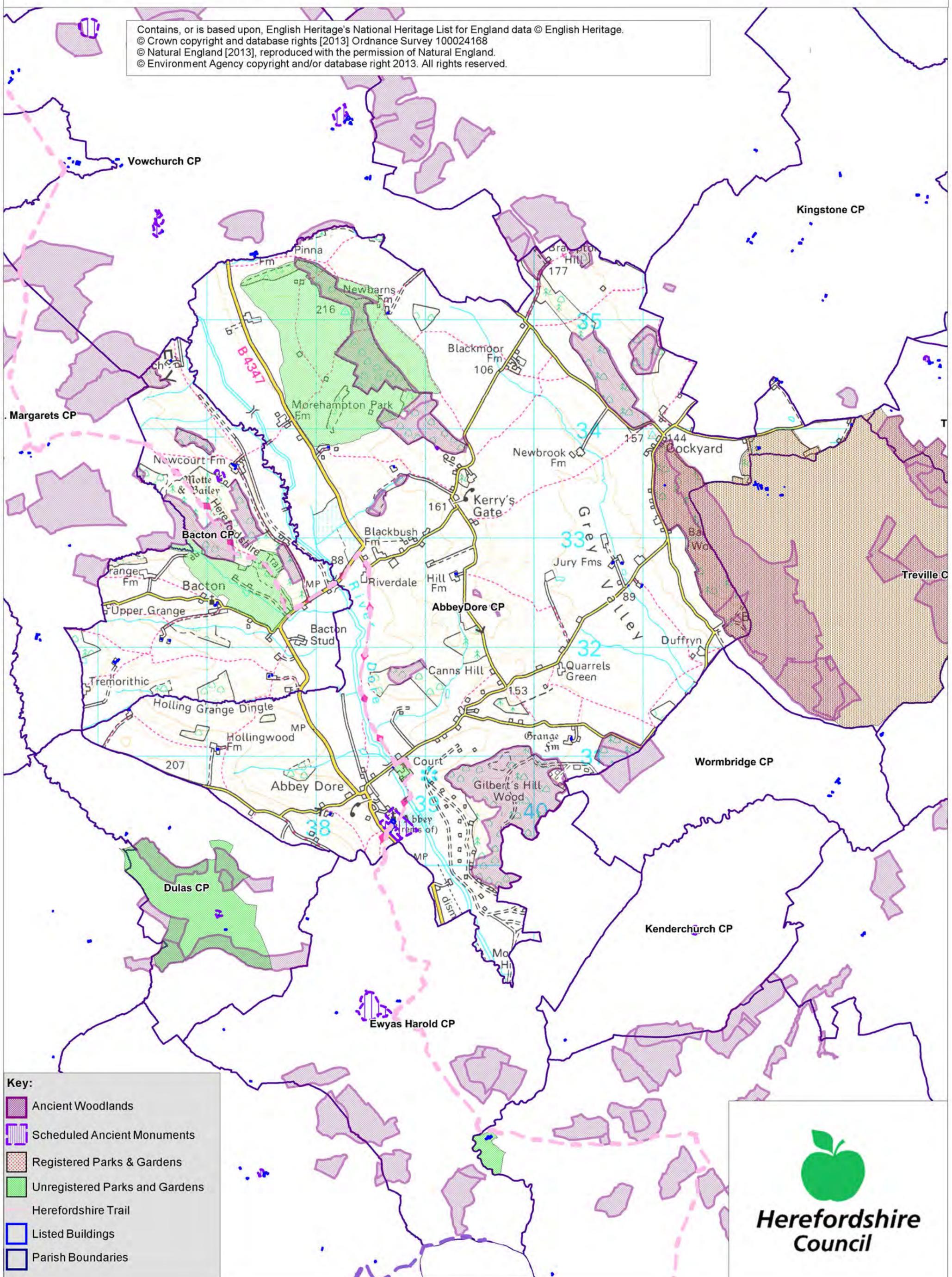


# Abbeydore & Bacton SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:30,000



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**Key:**

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

**Herefordshire Council**

# Abbeydore and Bacton SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:30,000



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- Key:**
- Special Wildlife Sites
  - Flood Zone 2
  - Flood Zone 3
  - Parish Boundaries



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**Initial Habitat Regulations Assessment and Strategic Environmental  
Assessment Screening Notification**

**The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulation 2012 (Reg. 32)**

**Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d)**

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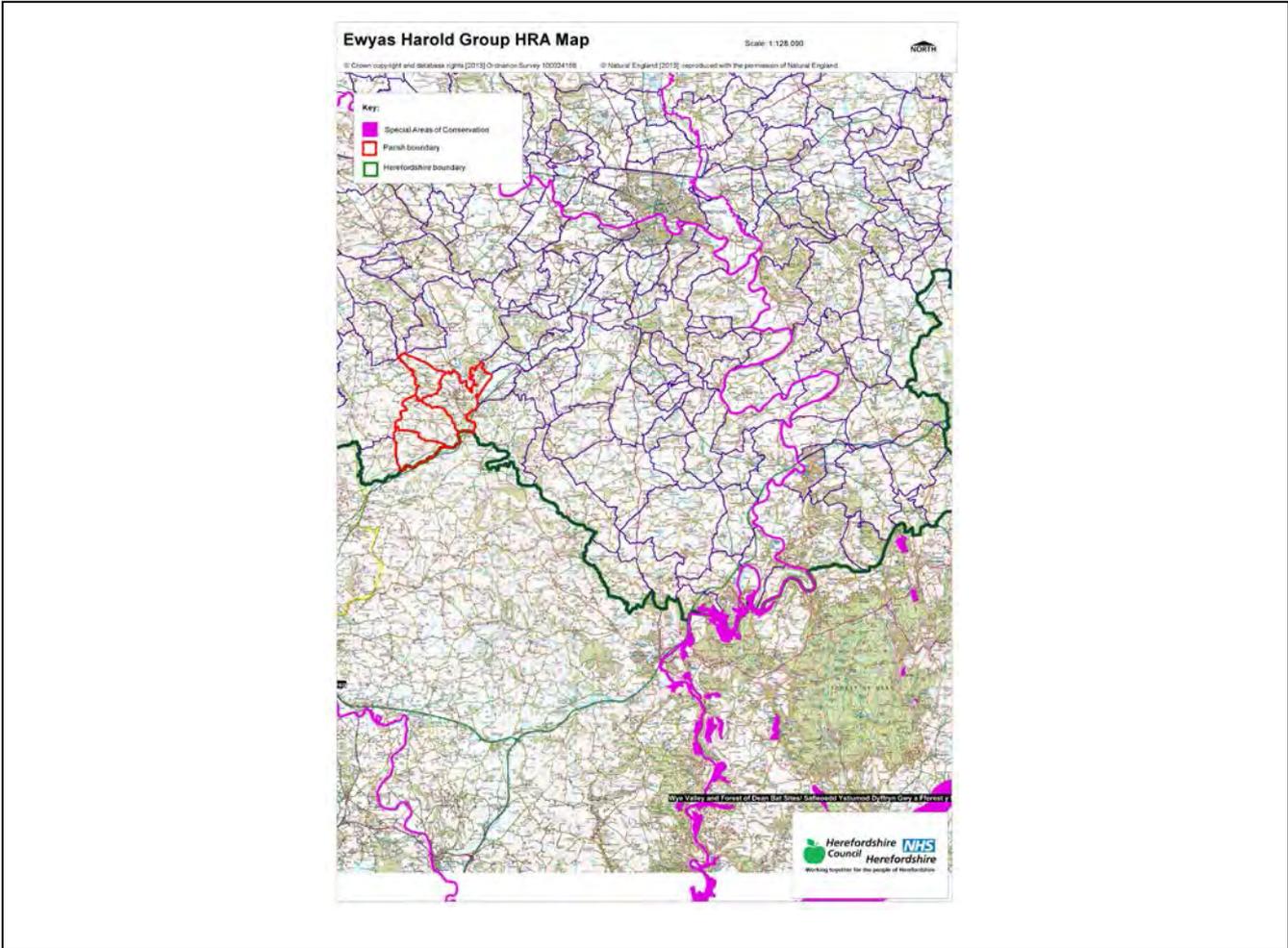
<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	06/12/2012

### **Introduction**

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

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

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



**Initial HRA Screening**

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

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	Neither the River Wye or Lugg are in or are next to the Group Parish
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	N	The Group Parish is not within the hydrological catchment of the Wye or Lugg
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?		Not Applicable

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 42.5km away from the Group Parish
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**River Clun SAC:**

Does the Neighbourhood Area include: Border Group Parish Council or Leintwardine Group Parish Council?	N	River Clun does not border the Group Parish
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**Usk Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 17.79km away from the Group Parish
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**Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	The Group Parish is 26.05km away from Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites
--	---	---

**Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	The Group Parish is 17.61km away from the Wye Valley Woodlands
--	---	--

**HRA Conclusion:**

The assessment above highlights that no European Sites will need to be taken into account in the future Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area and a Full HRA Screening will not be required.

**European Site**

*(List only those which are relevant from above)*

## **Strategic Environmental Assessment Initial Screening for nature conservation landscape and heritage features**

The following environmental features are within or in general proximity to the Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area and would need to be taken into account within a Strategic Environmental Assessment. In addition, the NDP will also need to consider the other SEA topics set out in Guidance Note 9a to ensure that the plan does not cause adverse impacts.

<b>SEA features</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>SEA required</b>
Air Quality Management Areas	0	There are no AQMA's within the Group Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	17	Llancillo Wood; Llancillo Hall Wood; Camps Wood; Gwern Snell Wood; Cae-Newydd Wood; Pikes Wood; Callow Hill Wood; Lodge Wood; Dulas Court Wood 1; Dulas Court Wood 2; Paradise Wood; Gilberts Hill Wood (border); Big Birches Wood (border); Cwm Y Cotterell Wood (border); Mill Wood (border); Gwern Y Cae Wood (border); Pistle Brook Wood (border)	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAI's within the Group Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	There are no AONB's within the Group Parish	N
Conservation Areas	0	There are no Conservation Areas within the Group Parish	N
European Sites	0	There are no SACs within the Group Parish	N
Flood Areas		There are Flood Zones 2 & 3 around the River Monnow and Dore and also Dulas Brook	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous listed buildings within the Group Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCs/RIGS)	19 (SWS)	Woodland nr Llancillo Hall; Fedw Wood; Pool east of Ruthland Farm; Pikes Wood & adjoining woods; Cwm Wood; Callow Hill Wood; The Poplars Meadow; Dulas Churchyard; Gilberts Hill Wood & Garrabach Coppice; Disused railway line – Pontrilas to Ewyas Harold; Ewyas Harold Common; Dulas Brook; Roadside Verge nr Trout Inn; The Poplars Meadow; Dore Abbey (border); Woodlands around Gwern-Gounsell (border); River Monnow; Walterstone Brook (border); Big Birches Wood (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	2	Monnow Valley Walk; Herefordshire Trail	Y
Mineral Reserves	0	No Minerals Sites within the Group Parish	N
National Nature Reserve	0	No NNR's within the Group Parish	N

Registered & unregistered parks and gardens	3 Unregistered	Dulas Court; Pontrilas Court (border); Abbeydore Court (border)	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	7	Mound east of St Peters Church; Castle mound west of Court Farm; Motte and Bailey Castle and alien priory immediately south of castle lands; St Michaels Church, churchyard and standing cross immediately east of Dulas Court; Dore Abbey: A Cistercian monastery (border); Motte Castle 100m north east of Howton Farm (border); Walterstone Camp (border)	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	0	There are no SSSI's within the Group Parish	N

**Decision Notification:**

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area:

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

**Assessment date: 17/05/2013**

**Assessed by: James Latham**

## Appendix 1: European Sites

The table below provides the name of each European Site, which has been screened in for the purposes of neighbourhood planning in Herefordshire; includes their site features of integrity; and vulnerability data. This is based on the sites individual features of integrity and their vulnerabilities, which could include distance criteria. This has been used in identifying which parishes are likely to require a full HRA Screening of their future Neighbourhood Development Plan, to establish if their plan might have Likely Significant Effects on a European Site.

<b>Downton Gorge</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> 10km for air quality associated with poultry units or other intensive agricultural practices.
<b>River Clun</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Water quality is important to maintain the site feature. Parishes either side of the River Clun will be affected.
<b>River Wye</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation. Transition mires and quaking bogs. White-clawed (or Atlantic Stream) crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> . Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> . Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> . River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> . Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> . Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> . Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> . Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> . Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Proximity: Developments should not be within 100m of the designated bank. Some developments beyond 100m may also have impacts based on proximity and these issues should be addressed where possible when developing NDP policy and choosing site allocations. Water Quality: Within the whole catchment of the River Wye, which includes the River Lugg, mains drainage issues with regards to water quality are being resolved through the Core Strategy / Local Plan and development of a Nutrient Management Plan. Welsh Water should be consulted to ensure that the proposed growth will be within the limit of their consents. Otters: "An otter will occupy a 'home range', which on fresh waters usually includes a stretch of river as well as associated tributary streams, ditches, ponds, lakes and woodland. The size of a home range depends largely on the availability of food and shelter, and the presence of neighbouring otters. On rivers, a male's home range may be up to 40km or more of watercourse and associated areas; females have smaller ranges (roughly half the size) and favour quieter locations for breeding, such as tributary streams. Otters without an established home range are known as 'transients'. They are mostly juveniles looking for a territory of their own, or adults that have been pushed out of their territories. Transient otters may use an area for a short while, but they will move on if conditions are not suitable or if they are driven away by resident otters. Transients will have been important in extending the range of otters, but they are very difficult to identify from field signs. Within a home range an otter may use many resting sites. These include above-ground shelters, such as stands of scrub or areas of rank grass, and underground 'holts' – for example, cavities under tree roots and dry drainage pipes." (Source: EA website: <a href="http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf">http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf</a> accessed 09/04/2013)

### Usk Bat Site

**Site Features:** Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection: European dry heaths, Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration, Blanket bogs, Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation, Caves not open to the public, *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines. Annex II species of primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, UK population 5%, although it is suggested this is an underestimate.

**Vulnerability data:** Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues.

### Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites

**Site Features:** Annex II species that are a primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*. Greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*

**Vulnerability data:** Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues.

Greater Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 20-30km between their summer and winter roosts.

NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider:

Woodland habitat buffer.

Lesser Horseshoe Bat: Old buildings; woodland locations; sheltered valleys, extensive deciduous woods or dense scrub, close to roost sites. In areas of fragmented habitats, linear habitats such as hedgerows are important corridors. Vulnerable to loss or disturbance of both summer and winter roosts and removal of linear habitat.

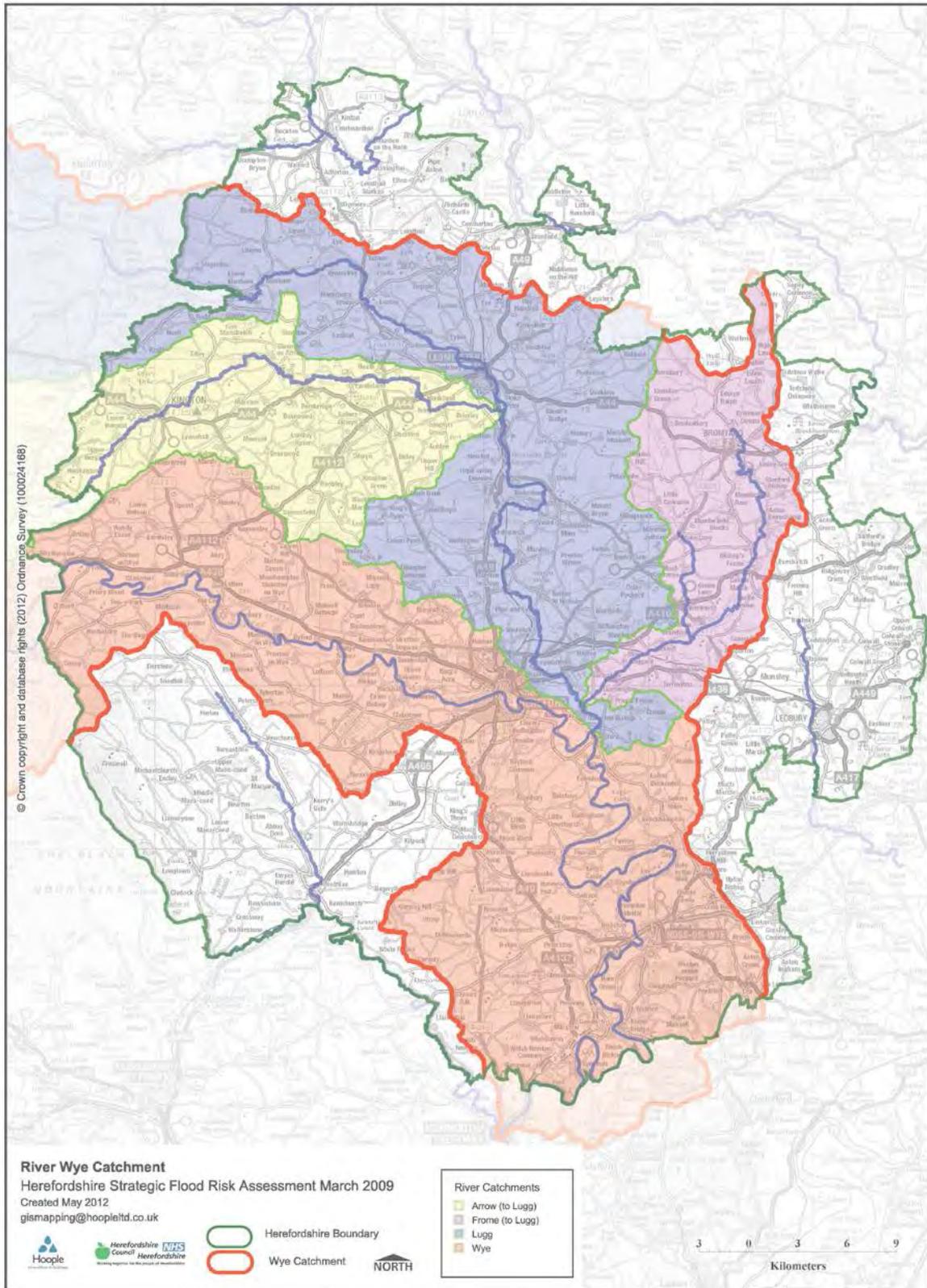
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation. A system/series of sites required. Vulnerable to loss of insect food supply, due to insecticide use, changing farming practices and loss of broad-leaved tree-cover and loss / disturbance of underground roosts sites.

### Wye Valley Woodlands

**Site Features:** Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for site selection: Beech forests *Asperulo-Fagetum*, *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines, *Taxus baccata* woods of the British Isles. Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, 51-100 residents

**Vulnerability data:** Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues. NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider: Woodland habitat buffer. Lesser Horseshoe Bat: Old buildings; woodland locations; sheltered valleys, extensive deciduous woods or dense scrub, close to roost sites. In areas of fragmented habitats, linear habitats such as hedgerows are important corridors. Vulnerable to loss or disturbance of both summer and winter roosts and removal of linear habitat.

## Appendix 2: Wye Catchment Map

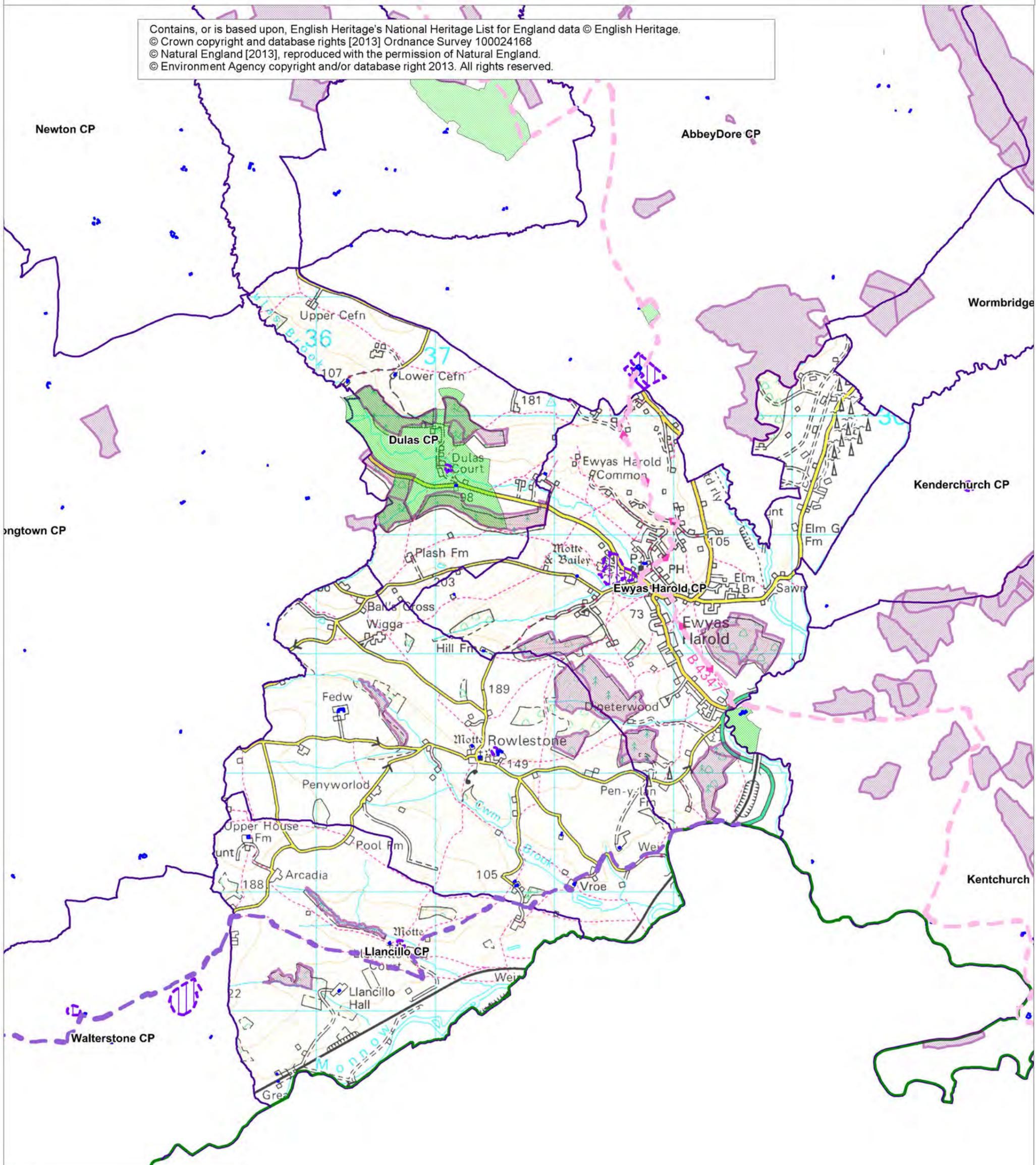


# Ewyas Harold Group SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:30,000



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**Key:**

- Ancient Woodlands
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Unregistered Parks and Gardens
- Monnow Valley Walk
- Herefordshire Trail
- Listed Buildings
- Parish Boundaries



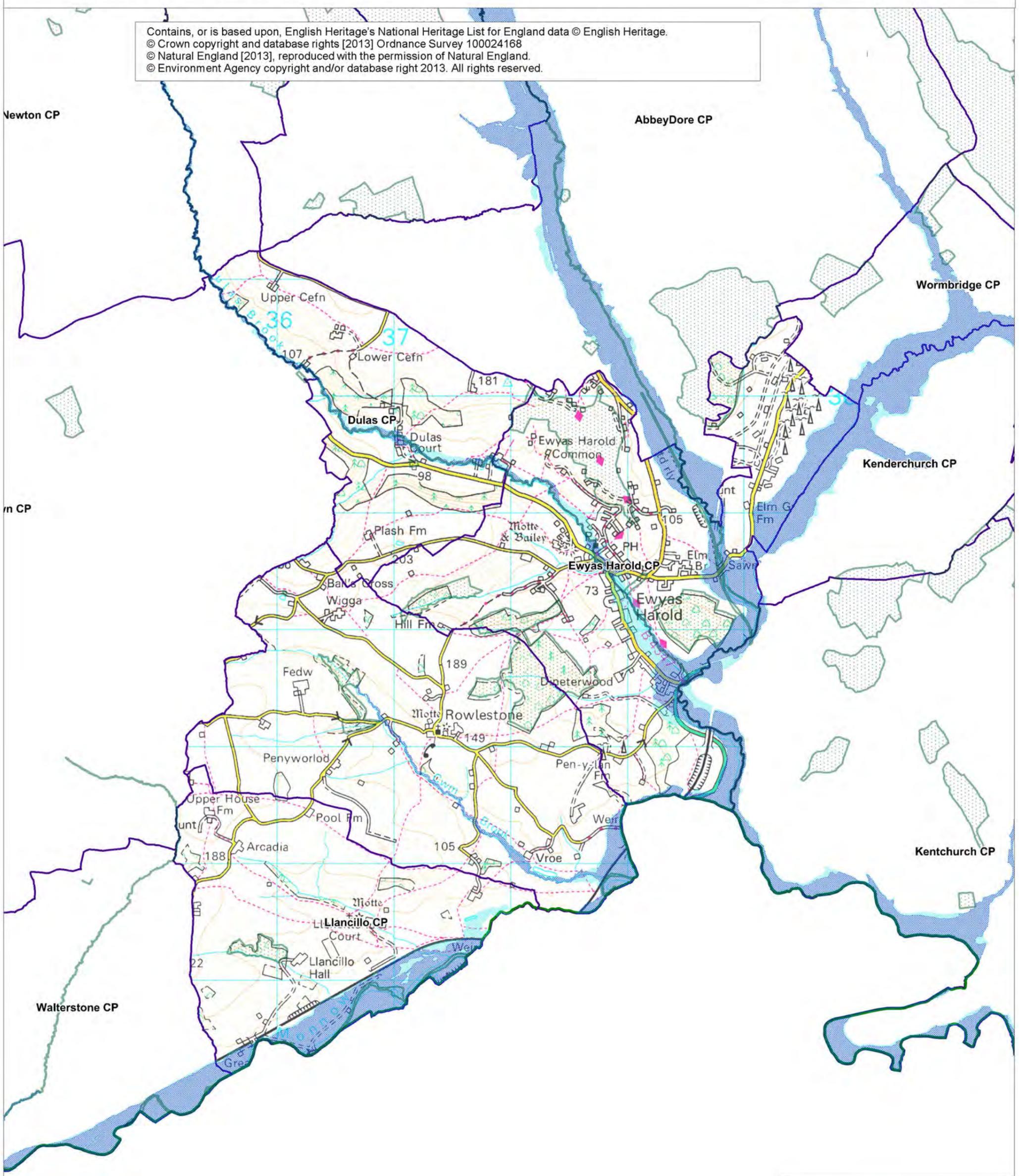
**Herefordshire  
Council**

# Ewyas Harold Group SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:30,000



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**Key:**

- Special Wildlife Sites
- Flood Zone 2
- Flood Zone 3
- Parish Boundaries



**Herefordshire  
Council**

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**Initial Habitat Regulations Assessment and Strategic Environmental  
Assessment Screening Notification**

**The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulation 2012 (Reg. 32)**

**Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d)**

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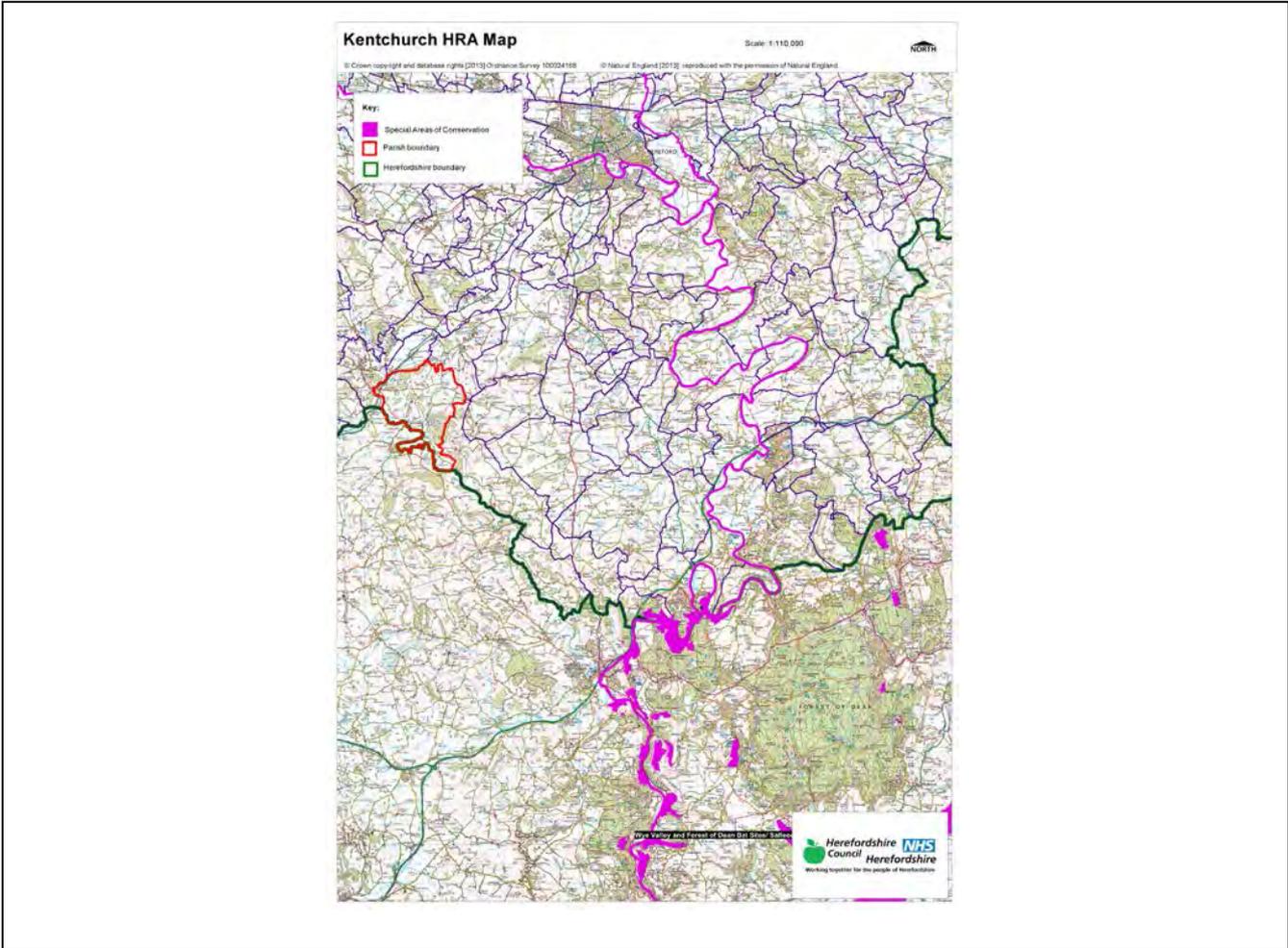
<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Kentchurch Parish Council
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	06/12/2012

### **Introduction**

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

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

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



**Initial HRA Screening**

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

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	Neither the River Wye or Lugg are in or are next to the Parish
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	N	The Parish is not within the hydrological catchment area of the River Wye
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	N/A	Not Applicable

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 43.97km away from the Parish
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**River Clun SAC:**

Does the Neighbourhood Area include: Border Group Parish Council or Leintwardine Group Parish Council?	N	River Clun does not border the Parish
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**Usk Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 23.5km away from the Parish
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**Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	The Parish is 21.89.km away from Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites
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**Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	The Parish is 13.4km away from the Wye Valley Woodlands
--	---	---

**HRA Conclusion:**

The assessment above highlights that no European Sites will need to be taken into account in the future Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area and a Full HRA Screening will not be required.

**European Site**

*(List only those which are relevant from above)*

**Strategic Environmental Assessment Initial Screening for nature conservation landscape and heritage features**

The following environmental features are within or in general proximity to the Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore & Bacton and Kentchurch 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	0	There are no AQMA's within the Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	21	Farm Wood; Cym Y Cotterell Wood; Brooks Farm Wood; Old House Coppice; Gwern Y Cae Wood; Mill Wood; Pistle Brook Wood; Gwern-Gounsell Wood; Bowlston Court Wood; Folly Oaks Wood; Meadows Wood; Little Meadows Wood; Copse Wood; Great Corras Wood; Burnt House Wood (Border); Charity Orls Wood (Border); Little Corras Wood (Border); Benarth Dingle; Callow Hill Wood (border); Gwern Snell Wood (border); Castlefield Wood (border)	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAI's within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	There are no AONB's within the Parish	N
Conservation Areas	0	There are no Conservation Areas within the Parish	N
European Sites	0	There are no SAC's within the Parish	N
Flood Areas		Flood Zones 2 and 3 run along the southern and western boundaries of the Parish, and also run up to just past Kentchurch Court	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous listed buildings throughout the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCs/RIGS)	9 (SWS)	Woodlands around Gwern-Gounsell; Kentchurch Churchyard; River Monnow; Castlefield and Little Corras Wood; Callow Hill Wood (border); Burnt House Wood (border); Merryvale Wood (border); Hondy Wood (border); Garway Hill Common (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	1	Herefordshire Trail	Y
Mineral Reserves	0	There are no Minerals Sites within the Parish	N
National Nature Reserve	0	There are no NNR's within the Parish	N
Registered & unregistered parks and gardens	1 Registered 1 Unregistered	Registered: Kentchurch Court. Unregistered: Pontrilas Court	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	2	Motte Castle 280m south of New Buildings Farm, Churchyard Cross in St Mary's Churchyard	Y

Sites of Special Scientific Interest	0	There are no SSSI's within the Parish	N
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**Decision Notification:**

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Ewyas Harold, Abbeydore and Bacton and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area:

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

**Assessment date: 17/05/2013**

**Assessed by: James Latham**

## Appendix 1: European Sites

The table below provides the name of each European Site, which has been screened in for the purposes of neighbourhood planning in Herefordshire; includes their site features of integrity; and vulnerability data. This is based on the sites individual features of integrity and their vulnerabilities, which could include distance criteria. This has been used in identifying which parishes are likely to require a full HRA Screening of their future Neighbourhood Development Plan, to establish if their plan might have Likely Significant Effects on a European Site.

<b>Downton Gorge</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> 10km for air quality associated with poultry units or other intensive agricultural practices.
<b>River Clun</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Water quality is important to maintain the site feature. Parishes either side of the River Clun will be affected.
<b>River Wye</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation. Transition mires and quaking bogs. White-clawed (or Atlantic Stream) crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> . Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> . Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> . River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> . Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> . Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> . Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> . Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> . Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Proximity: Developments should not be within 100m of the designated bank. Some developments beyond 100m may also have impacts based on proximity and these issues should be addressed where possible when developing NDP policy and choosing site allocations. Water Quality: Within the whole catchment of the River Wye, which includes the River Lugg, mains drainage issues with regards to water quality are being resolved through the Core Strategy / Local Plan and development of a Nutrient Management Plan. Welsh Water should be consulted to ensure that the proposed growth will be within the limit of their consents. Otters: "An otter will occupy a 'home range', which on fresh waters usually includes a stretch of river as well as associated tributary streams, ditches, ponds, lakes and woodland. The size of a home range depends largely on the availability of food and shelter, and the presence of neighbouring otters. On rivers, a male's home range may be up to 40km or more of watercourse and associated areas; females have smaller ranges (roughly half the size) and favour quieter locations for breeding, such as tributary streams. Otters without an established home range are known as 'transients'. They are mostly juveniles looking for a territory of their own, or adults that have been pushed out of their territories. Transient otters may use an area for a short while, but they will move on if conditions are not suitable or if they are driven away by resident otters. Transients will have been important in extending the range of otters, but they are very difficult to identify from field signs. Within a home range an otter may use many resting sites. These include above-ground shelters, such as stands of scrub or areas of rank grass, and underground 'holts' – for example, cavities under tree roots and dry drainage pipes." (Source: EA website: <a href="http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf">http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf</a> accessed 09/04/2013)

### Usk Bat Site

**Site Features:** Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection: European dry heaths, Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration, Blanket bogs, Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation, Caves not open to the public, *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines. Annex II species of primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, UK population 5%, although it is suggested this is an underestimate.

**Vulnerability data:** Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues.

### Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites

**Site Features:** Annex II species that are a primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*. Greater horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*

**Vulnerability data:** Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues.

Greater Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 20-30km between their summer and winter roosts.

NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider:

Woodland habitat buffer.

Lesser Horseshoe Bat: Old buildings; woodland locations; sheltered valleys, extensive deciduous woods or dense scrub, close to roost sites. In areas of fragmented habitats, linear habitats such as hedgerows are important corridors. Vulnerable to loss or disturbance of both summer and winter roosts and removal of linear habitat.

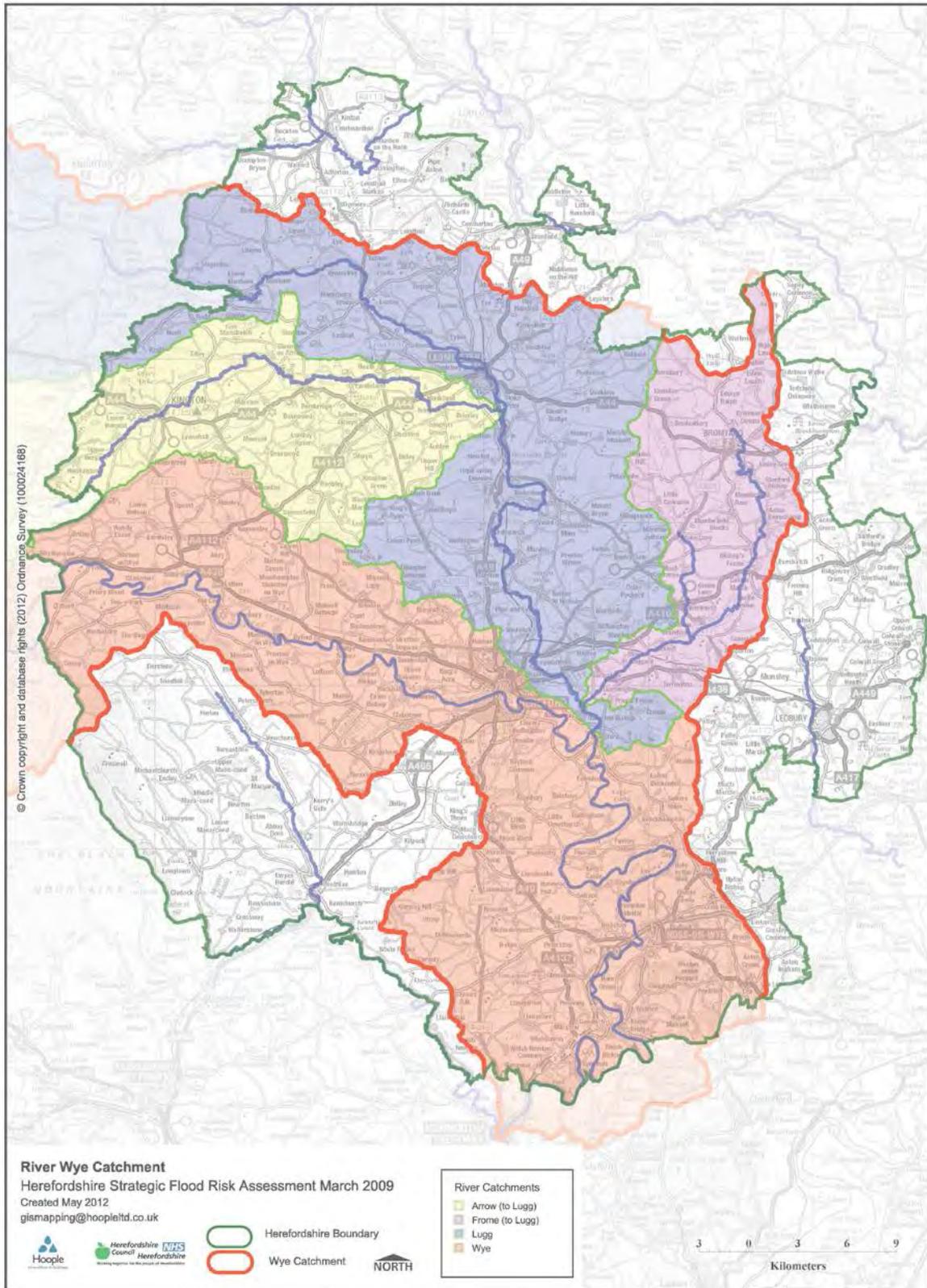
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation. A system/series of sites required. Vulnerable to loss of insect food supply, due to insecticide use, changing farming practices and loss of broad-leaved tree-cover and loss / disturbance of underground roosts sites.

### Wye Valley Woodlands

**Site Features:** Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for site selection: Beech forests *Asperulo-Fagetum*, *Tilio-Acerion* forests of slopes, screes and ravines, *Taxus baccata* woods of the British Isles. Annex II species present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for site selection: Lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros*, 51-100 residents

**Vulnerability data:** Lesser Horseshoe bats are known to migrate between 5km and 10km between their summer and winter roosts. The Lesser Horseshoe Bat is vulnerable to disturbance; light pollution; and habitat loss. Check with the planning ecologist for other issues. NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider: Woodland habitat buffer. Lesser Horseshoe Bat: Old buildings; woodland locations; sheltered valleys, extensive deciduous woods or dense scrub, close to roost sites. In areas of fragmented habitats, linear habitats such as hedgerows are important corridors. Vulnerable to loss or disturbance of both summer and winter roosts and removal of linear habitat.

## Appendix 2: Wye Catchment Map

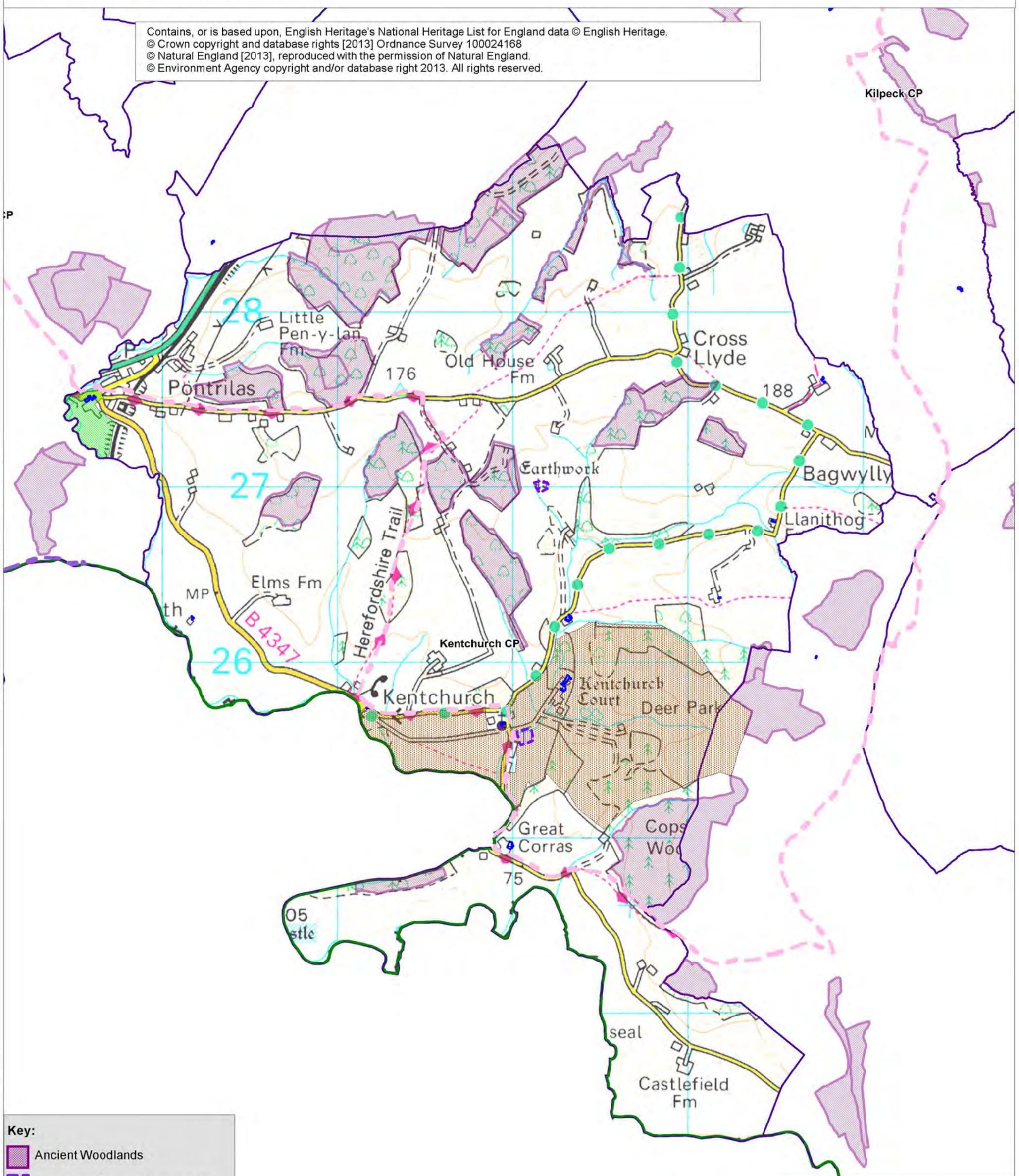


# Kentchurch SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:20,000



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**Key:**

- Ancient Woodlands
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Registered Parks and Gardens
- Unregistered Parks and Gardens
- Monnow Valley Walk
- Herefordshire Trail
- Listed Buildings
- Parish Boundaries

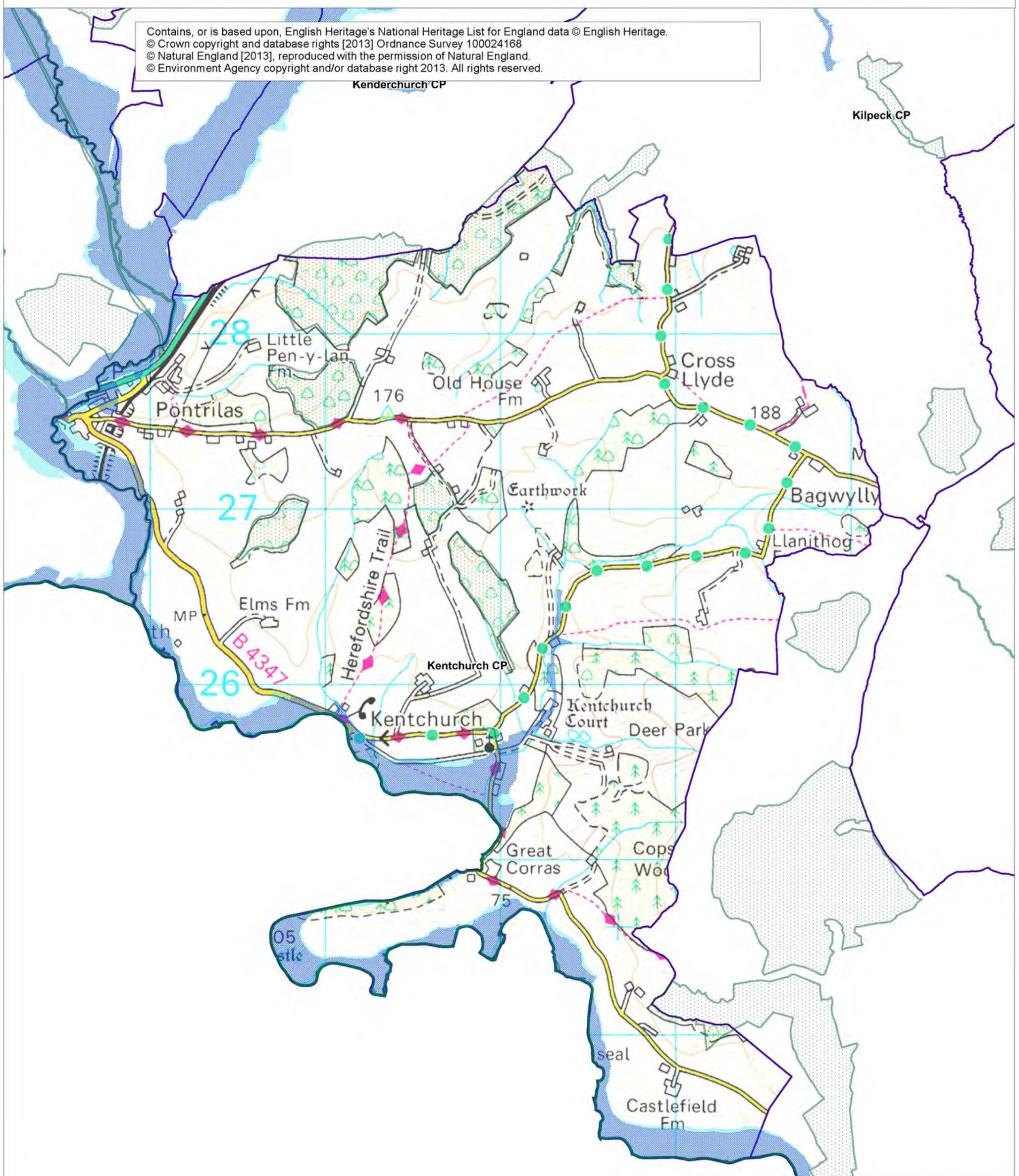
**Herefordshire Council**

# Kentchurch SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:20,000



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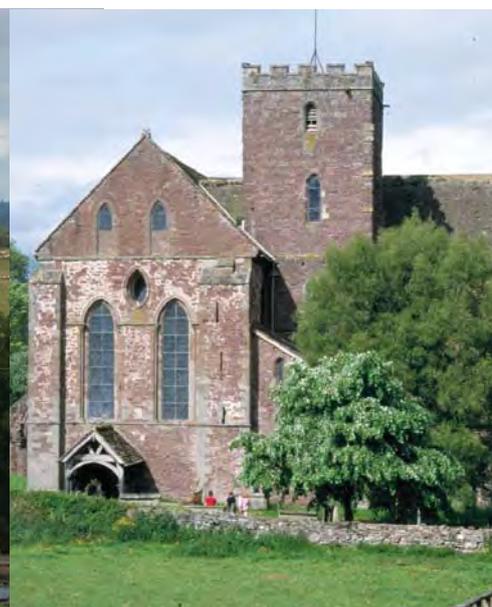
**Key:**

- Special Wildlife Sites
- Flood Zone 2
- Flood Zone 3
- Parish Boundaries

**Herefordshire Council**

# Appendix 2

# Strategic Environmental Assessment



## Ewyas Harold Group, Abbeydore & Bacton Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Area

**Scoping Report**

October 2014

## Consultation on the Scoping Report

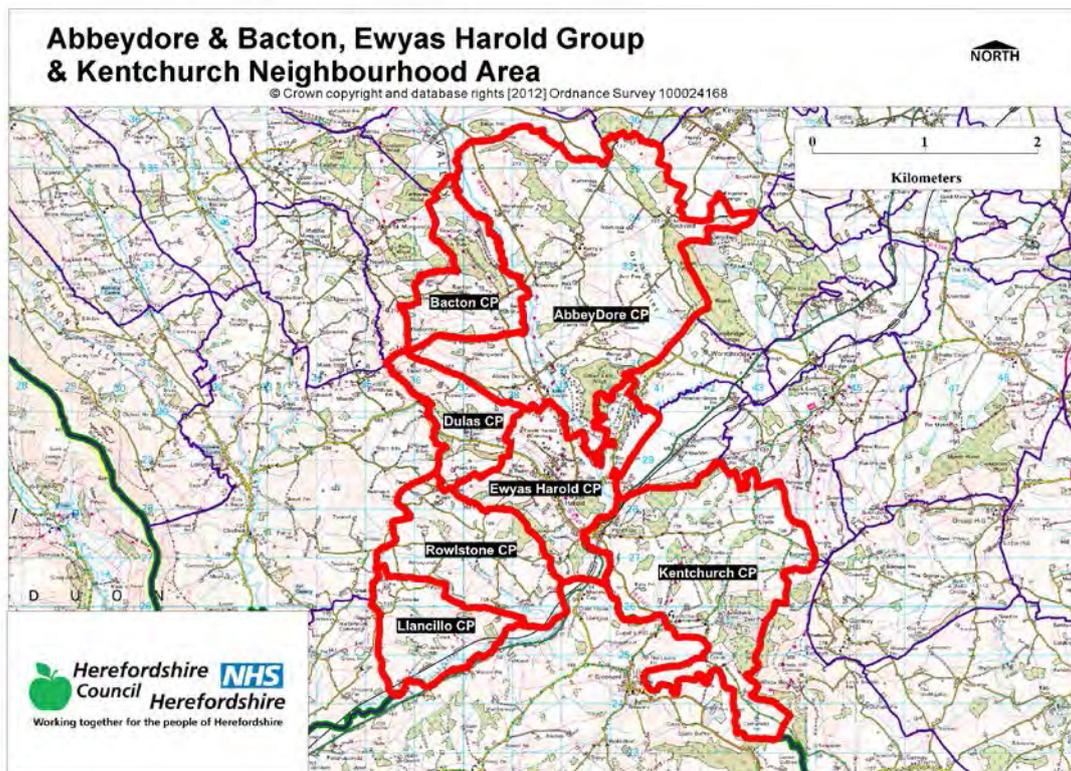
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

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

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

The three consultation bodies are as follows:

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



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

**Parish Council Name:** Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Parish Councils

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name:** Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch Plan

**Date completed:** August 2014

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

<sup>1</sup> 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) <sup>1</sup>	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"> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	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"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	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"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)	Domestic Legislation	2006	Designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering Government policy.	Provides that any public body or statutory undertaker in England and Wales must have regard to the purpose of conservation of biological diversity in the exercise of their functions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Soil</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	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.	Recognises the need to gradually change current unsustainable consumption and production patterns and move towards a better integrated approach to policy making. The Strategy sets overall objectives, targets and concrete actions for seven key priority challenges, predominantly environmental: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate change and clean energy;</li> <li>• Sustainable transport</li> <li>• Sustainable production and consumption;</li> <li>• Public health threats;</li> <li>• Better management of natural resources;</li> <li>• Social inclusion, demography and migration;</li> <li>• Fighting global poverty.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The Neighbourhood Plan should take into account the objectives of the strategy. The aim of sustainable development should be implicit in its approach.
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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> </ul>	The NDP should take into account the relevant policies set within the NPPF.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	
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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The NDP should take into account the planning guidance provided within these documents.
Herefordshire Core Strategy, Pre-submission document 2011-2031	Development Plan Document (DPD)	2013	Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.	<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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<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>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community</li> <li>• To improve access to services in rural areas</li> <li>• To strengthen the economic viability of the villages and their rural hinterlands</li> <li>• To achieve sustainable communities and protect the environment</li> <li>• To conserve, promote, utilise and enjoy our natural, built, historic and cultural assets for the fullest benefit of the whole community.</li> </ul> <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> <p>Seeks proportional growth of up to 12% in Ewyas Harold. (Golden Valley HMA) over the plan period. Pontrilas falls within the (Ross on Wye HMA) this area seeks proportionate growth up to 14%.</p>		<p>The Core Strategy highlights that Ewyas Harold and Pontrilas are classified as RA1 village and should adhere to the criteria set within this policy.</p> <p>This equates to approx 55 dwellings to be delivered within the settlement of Ewyas Harold and 8 in Pontrilas in accordance with the Rural Housing Background Paper March 2013, unless there is robust and sound evidence to demonstrate a more accurate existing built form figure or the existence of unavoidable constraints on site delivery.</p> <p>Abbeydore; Bacton and Rowstone are classified as RA2 villages. Therefore housing development will be restricted to market homes which meet the</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
						<p>needs of people with local connections or affordable housing.</p> <p>Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch are within the Golden Valley Housing Market Area. Pontrilas falls within the Ross on Wye HMA.</p>
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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The LTP does not explore current transport issues in the Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch Plan neighbourhood area, but any new development proposed through the NDP should seek to reduce the environmental impacts of transport.

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<b>Plans and Programmes</b>	<b>Type of document</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Overview</b>	<b>Key message, target/objective/indicator</b>	<b>SEA topic(s)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Implications for the NDP and SEA</b>
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) <sup>1</sup>	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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch 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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch Plan Neighbourhood Area is not within or adjacent to the Wye Valley AONB.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016	Corporate	2011	Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to support business growth up to 2016.	<p>The document outlines the path and direction to foster economic vitality within Herefordshire. Key objectives therefore include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustaining business survival and growth</li> <li>• Increasing wage levels, range and quality of jobs</li> <li>• Having a skilled population to meet future work needs</li> <li>• Developing the county's built infrastructure so enterprise can flourish.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	None of merit.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Employment Land Study	Evidence	2012	Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.	<p>This study covers existing employment sites in Hereford, the five market towns and their rural hinterlands.</p> <p>The study highlights that there are two moderate sites of employment land in Pontrilas (Pontrilas Depo and Pontrilas timber yard). Within Ewyas Harold there is one site classified as moderate (32 Westwood Industrial estate) and two sites classified as good (Unit 1 Longmeadow Industrial and 30 Longmeadow Industrial estate-this in particular is rated as one of the best employment sites within Herefordshire.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	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.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Evidence	2009	<p>The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development</li> <li>Assessing sites for their housing potential; and</li> <li>Predicting when a site could be developed for housing.</li> </ul>	<p>In terms of Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch the SHLAA identifies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ewyas Harold had an SHLAA undertaken, 13 sites have been identified for development; 3 of which had minor constraints. The 10 remaining had no potential to develop over the plan period.</li> <li>Pontrilas had a SHLAA study undertaken this identified 6 sites for potential development. 1 site had low/ minor constraints and 5 had no potential to develop over the plan period.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Climate factors</li> <li>Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>Flora and fauna</li> <li>Population and human health</li> <li>Soil</li> <li>Water</li> </ul>	<p>The SHLAA assesses the potential availability of land for housing in Ewyas Harold and Pontrilas.</p> <p>Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch NDP should be informed by the findings of the SHLAA.</p> <p>The villages of Abbeydore, Bacton, and Kentchurch did not have a SHLAA assessment undertaken, therefore a local site assessment exercise should be undertaken.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	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>Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch fall within the Golden Valley HMA. Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 56% of households are unable to afford market housing.</li> <li>• There is an annual requirement for 16 affordable dwellings between 2012 and 2017.</li> </ul> <p>The study identifies that, in the Golden Valley HMA, there is a need (2011-2031) for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 198 market houses</li> <li>• 106 affordable houses.</li> </ul> <p>The study highlights that within the Golden Valley HMA the overall estimated housing need by size 2012-2017 is as follows:</p> <p>1 Bed- 61.6%, 2 bed- 5.0%, 3 bed- 37.8%, 4 bed- 5.6%.</p> <p>Pontrilas falls within the (Ross on Wye HMA. The study indicates that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 55% of households are unable to afford market housing.</li> <li>• There is an annual requirement for 58 affordable dwellings between 2012 and 2017.</li> </ul> <p>The study identifies that, in Ross-on-Wye HMA, there is a need for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 690 market houses</li> <li>• 490 affordable houses.</li> </ul> <p>The study highlights that within the Ross-on-Wye HMA the overall estimated housing need by size 2012-2017 is as follows:</p> <p>1 Bed - 54.4%, 2 bed - 18.4%, 3 bed - 28.2%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>The LHMA provides an indication of housing needs and affordability within the Golden Valley HMA and the Ross 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) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study	Evidence	2012	Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.	<p>The delivery of 5,300 homes in the rural areas would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support growth in the rural population by 6%</li> <li>• Increase the number of households by 14.5%</li> </ul> <p>Forecasts also predict that growth in the population of the rural areas is likely to be primarily through an increase in those aged over 75.</p> <p>Moderate growth is expected in the 30-44 and 60-74 age brackets.</p> <p>The Local Housing Requirements Study therefore anticipates continuing improvements in life expectancy; significant growth is expected of those in their 80s, with the existing population in their 40s and 50s moving into retirement. As a consequence, the rural areas will face an increasing urgency to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>This study provides an indication of housing requirements in the rural areas and the Golden Valley and Ross HMAs.</p> <p>This evidence can be used to inform the content of the Abbey Dore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch 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) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				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 Ewyas Harold and Pontrilas are classified as RA1 settlements, which mean it is considered a sustainable location for proportional growth of up to 12%. Pontrilas falls within the (Ross on Wye HMA) this area seeks proportionate growth up to 14%.</p> <p>Abbeydore, Bacton and Rowlestone are listed as RA2 Settlements. Therefore housing development must meet the needs of people with local connections or affordable housing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch. NDP will need to be in conformity with the provisions of Policy RA1 and RA2.

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Evidence	2007	Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.	Integrating biodiversity objectives with other environmental, social and economic needs can provide a sustainable living and working environment that benefits both people and nature.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>	The 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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	There is a lack of information about rural areas which means it will be necessary to gather and assess existing biodiversity and geodiversity data, in order to ensure that the Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch 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) <sup>1</sup>	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"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch 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"> <li>• Electrical: 731 GWh/yr</li> <li>• Heat: 1,810 GWh/yr</li> <li>• Total: 2,541 GWh/yr</li> </ul> <p>There is scope for all types of renewable energy production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	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 Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch parishes, the study reveals that there are:</p> <p>2.09 playing pitch area with secured community access –this is Eywas Harold Recreation ground-consisting of 1 senior football pitch and 1 cricket pitch.</p> <p>0.86 is not open for community use and has 2 junior football grounds (Ewyas Harold primary).</p> <p>Abbeydore , Bacton and Kentchurch have no playing pitches to be assessed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	<p>The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch 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 Parishes.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Open Spaces Study	Evidence	2006	The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snapshot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.	<p>Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch falls within the Golden Valley Area, there are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No parks or gardens, within Golden Valley area. As it is quite a rural area.</li> <li>• 2.92 ha of amenity green space provision within the Golden Valley area. And has the lowest levels of amenity green space in the county.</li> <li>• Extensive over provision of natural and semi natural Greenspace.</li> <li>• Extensive under provision of parks and gardens and outdoor sport.</li> <li>• Under provision of amenity green space.</li> <li>• Average provision for children and young people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The open space audit and assessment of does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Play Facilities Study	Evidence	2012	The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.	In terms of Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch.itself, the study reveals that the  Ewyas Harold has one play area, it is currently in a good condition and does not require refurbishment. Abbeydore, Bacton and Rowlstone falls under Ewyas Harold primary school catchment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study	Evidence	2009	<p>The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development.</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.</p>	<p>Abbeydore and Bacton fall within the Upper Monnow catchment. This is regarded as one of the highest general risk of hazard flooding zones in the county.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Upper Monnow catchment has a 30-35% standard run percentage run off by sub catchment. This is potentially moderately unsuitable for infiltration source control</li> <li>The Upper Monnow has a very rapid response (Tp-time to peak) time at around 5 hours.</li> <li>The WCS states that parishes within Longtown group are more susceptible to surface water flooding and climate change.</li> </ul> <p>Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch fall within the Lower Monnow catchment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has a very slow response (time to peak) at around 11 or more hours.</li> <li>The Lower Monnow sub catchment has a 35-40%, which make it potentially highly unsuitable for infiltration source control.</li> </ul> <p>The WCS states that the river Monnow in general has an overall poor ecological status.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Climate factors</li> <li>Material assets</li> <li>Population and human health</li> <li>Water</li> </ul>	<p>New development proposed through the Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch.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 Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch.NDP.</p>

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**Appendix A2** – Baseline information for Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch

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

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</i>							
13. Value, maintain, restore 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>Within Abbeydore and Bacton there are 2 SSSI's, both are rated as favourable .Wormbridge Common (Border) and Chanstone Wood (border).</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	% 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 July 2014

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

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
				from 4% to 1%.			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through 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.	<b>This indicator would not apply to this Neighbourhood Area, as the parish falls outside the catchment area for the River Wye SAC. It is within the sub catchment areas of the upper and lower parts of the river Monnow.</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	<p>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire.</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i></p>	<p>There are no formal records of any unacceptable adverse impacts on habitats or protected species.</p> <p>Originally 156 Priority Species were identified for inclusion in Herefordshire's LBAP.</p> <p>Similarly Herefordshire's LBAP covered 23 habitats with Action Plans.</p>	No specific targets identified.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
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.	Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch has:  SSSI: 2 SWS: 46  Ancient woodlands: 57  Registered parks and gardens: 2 (Whitfiled and Kentchurch Court)  Unregistered parks and gardens: 8  There are no SACs, NNRs, SINC 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 2013

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
SEA Topic covered by objectives: <i>Material assets</i>							
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.  <i>Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there are numerous scheduled monuments in Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch according to the latest version of the register.17 are Scheduled Ancient</i>	-	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 August 2014).

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
			Monuments.				
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)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Population, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</i>							

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
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.	-

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
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 the 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 locally important buildings within Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch at present.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings. There are no conservation areas within Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.	Current status must be verified by Development Management and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Development management records (searched August 2014)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Climatic Factors</i>							

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate change.	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 <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate change.	Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	To contribute towards the national target.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate	Total CO2 emissions per capita	Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO <sub>2</sub> )  <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 increased by 5% the same as across the UK (+5%).	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions produced are decreasing.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water</i>							
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public wellbeing, the economy and the environment.	Natural environment	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.  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 higher) lost to development.	<i>Within Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch the majority of the land is grade 3 and 4 (good to poor). To the north of Abbeydore there is a small strip of grade 1 land (excellent).</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	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 <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	Natural environment	Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive	Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84%  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Figure steadily improved before going into decline:  Herefordshire 1999 85.9%, 2000 89.5%, 2001 92.2%, 2002 91.8%	To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality.	None identified.	The State of Herefordshire (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)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Housing densities in urban and rural areas	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
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>							

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
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 17 SAMs. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.	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.	None of Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch listed buildings or SAMs are considered to be at risk at present.	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; search August 2014)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
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 the 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 outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets locally important buildings within Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch at present.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important building.  There are no conservation areas within Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch at present.	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 Development Management records (searched August 2014)

**Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch Group baseline**

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

SEA Topic		Environmental issue	SA objectives
1	Air	High reliance upon the private car causing high levels of air pollution and in Hereford in particular	Objective 16
		Need to reduce carbon emissions by encouraging 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	Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch Group has 17 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

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

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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: Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch**

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch Group Plan**

**Date completed: August 2014**

<b>SEA Topics</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b> (These objectives are strategic overall SEA objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)</b> (These sub-objectives are strategic overall SEA sub-objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Indicators</b> (Insert indicators, based on evidence, to test and monitor whether your NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives and be taken from Template A2)	<b>Targets</b> (Insert targets, based on evidence, to monitor whether the NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives indicators and be taken from Template A2)
Nature Conservation (Biodiversity, flora and fauna)	To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve and enhance natural / semi-natural habitats</li> <li>• Conserve and enhance species diversity</li> <li>• Avoid harm to protected species</li> <li>• Avoid damage to wildlife and geological sites designated for their conservation interest</li> <li>• Maintain and enhance woodland cover and management</li> <li>• Maintain biodiversity, avoiding irreversible losses</li> <li>• Restore the full range of characteristic habitats and species to viable levels</li> <li>• Reverse the long term decline in farmland birds</li> <li>• Ensure the sustainable management of key wildlife sites and the ecological processes on which they depend</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for people to come into contact with and appreciate wildlife and wild place</li> </ul>	<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>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p>

<b>SEA Topics</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b> (These objectives are strategic overall SEA objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)</b> (These sub-objectives are strategic overall SEA sub-objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Indicators</b> (Insert indicators, based on evidence, to test and monitor whether your NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives and be taken from Template A2)	<b>Targets</b> (Insert targets, based on evidence, to monitor whether the NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives indicators and be taken from Template A2)
Landscape	<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"> <li>• Protect and enhance the landscape everywhere and particularly in designated areas</li> <li>• Value and protect diversity and local distinctiveness</li> <li>• Improve landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside</li> <li>• Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space</li> <li>• Improve satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live</li> <li>• Decrease litter and graffiti in towns and countryside</li> <li>• Result in the loss of open space</li> </ul>	<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>
Heritage	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment , heritage assets and culture heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve, protect and enhance heritage assets including conservation areas, historic buildings, archaeological sites and other culturally important features in both urban and rural settings</li> <li>• Create places, spaces and buildings that work well, wear well and look well</li> </ul>	<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>

<b>SEA Topics</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b> (These objectives are strategic overall SEA objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)</b> (These sub-objectives are strategic overall SEA sub-objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Indicators</b> ( <i>Insert indicators, based on evidence, to test and monitor whether your NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives and be taken from Template A2</i> )	<b>Targets</b> ( <i>Insert targets, based on evidence, to monitor whether the NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives indicators and be taken from Template A2</i> )
Air and Climate	<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"> <li>• Limit air pollution, including greenhouse gas emissions and ozone depleting substances</li> <li>• Improve air quality</li> <li>• Reduce the need to travel</li> <li>• Reduce traffic volumes and congestion</li> <li>• Reduce road traffic accidents</li> <li>• Reduce commuting and improve accessibility by public transport walking and cycling</li> <li>• Increase proportion of journeys using modes other than the car</li> <li>• Reduce the effects of heavy goods traffic (freight) on people and the environment</li> <li>• Reduce respiratory illnesses</li> <li>• Reduce energy consumption and improve energy efficiency</li> <li>• Increase proportion of energy needs being met from renewable sources</li> <li>• Reduce vulnerability to the effects of climate change e.g. flooding, disruption to travel by extreme weather</li> </ul>	<p>Transport patronage by mode</p> <p>Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.</p> <p>Total CO2 emissions per capita</p>	<p>To encourage the take up of lesser polluting form of transport</p> <p>To contribute towards the national target.</p> <p>To reduce the overall carbon emissions.</p>

<b>SEA Topics</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b> (These objectives are strategic overall SEA objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)</b> (These sub-objectives are strategic overall SEA sub-objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Indicators</b> (Insert indicators, based on evidence, to test and monitor whether your NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives and be taken from Template A2)	<b>Targets</b> (Insert targets, based on evidence, to monitor whether the NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives indicators and be taken from Template A2)
Water	<p>To improve water quality</p> <p>To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the quality of inland water: rivers, lakes and ponds</li> <li>• Limit water pollution</li> <li>• Maintain water abstraction, run-off and recharge within carrying capacity (including future capacity)</li> <li>• Reduce water consumption and improve water efficiency</li> <li>• Minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property</li> <li>• Minimise risk of subsidence</li> <li>• Reduce risk of damage to property from storm events</li> </ul>	<p>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.</p> <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 have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.</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>To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce contamination, and safeguard soil quality and quantity</li> <li>• Minimise loss of greenfield land / maximise development on brownfield land</li> <li>• Reduce the amount of derelict and underused land</li> <li>• Minimise waste generation and increase re-use or recovery through recycling, composting or energy recovery</li> <li>• Maximise the amount of waste diverted from landfill through recovery and recycling</li> <li>• Reduce household waste going to landfill</li> <li>• Reduce hazardous waste</li> <li>• Reduce waste in the construction of developments</li> </ul>	<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>No specific targets identified.</p>

<b>SEA Topics</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b> (These objectives are strategic overall SEA objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)</b> (These sub-objectives are strategic overall SEA sub-objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Indicators</b> ( <i>Insert indicators, based on evidence, to test and monitor whether your NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives and be taken from Template A2</i> )	<b>Targets</b> ( <i>Insert targets, based on evidence, to monitor whether the NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives indicators and be taken from Template A2</i> )
Population and Human Health	To improve health of the population  To reduce crime and nuisance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create conditions to improve health and reduce health inequalities in those areas most affected</li> <li>• Promote healthy living and lifestyles</li> <li>• Reduce death rates</li> <li>• Protect and enhance human health</li> <li>• Reduce and prevent crime, reduce fear of crime</li> <li>• Decrease noise and vibration</li> <li>• Increase opportunities for indoor recreation and exercise</li> </ul>	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design standards.	No specific targets identified.
Material Assets	To conserve natural and manmade resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect built assets, property, infrastructure and services</li> <li>• Increase proportion of building materials from sustainable sources</li> <li>• Promote the development of a sustainable settlement pattern and physical infrastructure</li> <li>• Promote the efficient use of land and resources</li> <li>• Reduce consumption of materials and resources</li> </ul>	<p>Agricultural land usage by quality</p> <p>Housing densities in urban and rural areas</p> <p>Level of development in urban areas compared to rural.</p>	<p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>N/A</p>

# Appendix 3

Date: 21 November 2014  
Our ref: Various  
Your ref: Neighbourhood Area SEA Scoping



Mr J. Latham  
Technical Support Officer  
Neighbourhood Planning, Strategic Planning & Conservation teams  
Herefordshire Council  
Planning Services,  
Blueschool House,  
Blueschool Street  
Hereford,  
HR1 2ZB

Customer Services  
Hornbeam House  
Crewe Business Park  
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CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

## BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Latham

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

**Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch (NE ref:133596)**  
**Bodenham (NE Ref:133598)**  
**Colwall (NE Ref: 133599)**  
**Cusop (NE Ref: 133600)**  
**Dinedor (NE Ref:133602)**  
**Llangarron (NE Ref: 133603)**  
**Lower Bullingham (NE Ref:133604)**  
**Much Marcle (NE Ref:133605)**  
**Ross on Wye & Ross Rural (NE Ref:133606)**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 03 October 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

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

All

- [Natural Environment White Paper](#)
- [Biodiversity 2020](#)



Bodenham

Colwall

Cusop

- The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations
- The EC Water Framework Directive
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)
- The Countryside and Right of Ways Act (2000)
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)
- Understanding Herefordshire Report
- Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan

Dinedor

Lower Bullingham

Much Marcle

- Wye Valley AONB Management Plan 2009-2014

We also note the following:

Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch

Bodenham

Llangarron

- The date for Herefordshire Core Strategy, Presubmission document 2011-2031, is 2013. The presubmission document has been updated since.

Bodenham,

- In the key messages, target/ objective/indicator of Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) it needs to be clearer how many sites are affected rather than stating ??.

## **Appendix A2 – Baseline information**

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

Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch

Under 13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity- Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire, it states that Wormbridge Common SSSI and Chanstone Wood SSSI are within the Abbeydore and Bacton but they are not within these parish boundaries though they are within 1km of the Neighbourhood plan area.

Bodenham

Colwall

Cusop

Llangarron

Lower Bullingham

Ross on Wye and Ross Rural

Under the proposed indicator “*Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan*”, we advise an additional 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](http://www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk)).

### Lower Bullingham

### Lower Marcle

### Ross on Wye and Ross Rural

Baseline information on the proposed indicator Changes to Protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan needs to be included and we advise you could refer to the Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11).

### All

Baseline information on the landscape and open spaces needs to be included under SA objective 15: “Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces”. We would welcome a reference to the Historic Landscape Characterisation for Hereford and also reference could also be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment.

## **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.

### Dinedor

### Llangarron

### Lower Bullingham

In topic “Water, air, soil, material assets”- 18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources, a distinction should be made between soil Grade 3a and 3b. The best and most versatile land is defined as Grades 1, 2 and 3a by policy guidance (see Annex 2 of NPPF).

## **Soil**

### All

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

To assist in understanding agricultural land quality within the plan area and to safeguard ‘best and most versatile’ agricultural land in line with paragraph 112 of the National Planning Policy Framework, strategic scale Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) Maps are available. Natural England also has an archive of more detailed ALC surveys for selected locations. Both these types of data can be supplied digitally free of charge by contacting Natural England. Some of this data is also available on the [www.magic.gov.uk](http://www.magic.gov.uk) website. The planning authority should ensure that sufficient site specific ALC survey data is available to inform decision making.

## **Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the baseline**

### All

Natural England welcomes the environmental issues identified.

## **Appendix A4 – SEA Framework**

### All

Under the SEA topic “ Nature Conservation” we would welcome the inclusion of an indicator/target around the impact/benefit to ecological networks (NPPF paragraph 109, 113 and 117). We note that no targets have been identified against the indicator “After use of mineral sites especially wildlife

*habitat creation*”; we suggest that perhaps the percentage of opportunities taken could be monitored.

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

Dinedor

Lower Bullingham

Ross on Wye and Ross Rural

Under the SEA topic “*Nature Conservation*” we would welcome the inclusion of sub objective “*value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB’s, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings*” but note that no indicators or targets have been identified.

Abbeydore & Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group & Kentchurch

Bodenham

Colwall

Cusop

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.

### **Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening**

We would remind you of one of the basic conditions that a draft neighbourhood plan or Order must met, 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’.

Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch

Colwall

We welcome this initial assessment and agree that a full Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening is not required.

Bodenham

Cusop

Dinedor

Lower Bullingham

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

Llangorran

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

Much Marcle

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

Ross on Wye and Ross Rural

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

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

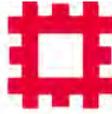
For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Gillian Driver on 0300 060 4335. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

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

Yours sincerely

*Gillian Driver*

Miss Gillian Driver  
Planning Adviser  
South Mercia Team



ENGLISH HERITAGE

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

Neighbourhood Planning Team  
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PO Box 230  
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Our ref:  
Your ref:

Telephone 0121 625 6887  
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27 October 2014

Dear Sir or Madam

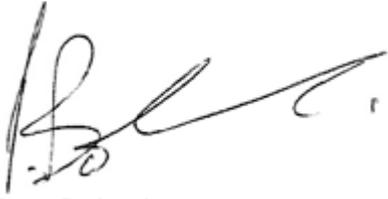
**CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS IN: Abbeydore & Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group & Kentchurch; Bodenham; Colwall; Cusop; Dinedor; Llangarron; Lower Bullingham; Much Marcle; Ross on Wye and Ross Rural.**

Thank you for your e-mails and the invitation to comment on the SEA Scoping Reports for the Neighbourhood Plans listed above. We have no substantive objection to the contents of the documents. 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 fifth 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?

I hope this is helpful.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pete Boland', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Pete Boland

Historic Places Adviser

E-mail: [peter.boland@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:peter.boland@english-heritage.org.uk)

# Appendix 4

**Template B1: Draft Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan (October 2014 version) Objectives review against SEA objectives**

**Parish Council Name: Abbeydore and Bacton Group Parish Council, Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council and Kentchurch Parish Council (joint)**

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan**

**Date completed: December 2014**

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

**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				
<p>Abbeydore and Bacton objective 1;</p> <p>To ensure that the housing and employment needs of the local community are met in such a way that minimises the impact of development on the rural nature of the parishes.</p>	O	+	+	+	+	O	?	?	O	?	?	O	X	X	X	+	<p>This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. Policy safeguards exist within both the Core Strategy and neighbourhood plan to mitigate any impacts.</p>	None	<p>This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.</p>	<p>Deliver minimal housing and employment growth in the Abbeydore and Bacton area with minimal impact on the rural surroundings.</p>
<p>Objective 2;</p> <p>To control and guide how new development is designed and integrated into the existing fragile rural setting of Abbeydore and Bacton.</p>	?	+	+	+	X	X	+	X	?	?	+	O	?	X	X	+	<p>This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. Policy safeguards exist within both the Core Strategy and neighbourhood plan to mitigate any impacts.</p>	<p>Some consideration should be given to the use of the word 'manage' rather than 'control'. National planning policy now refers to the management of development rather than controlling it.</p>	<p>This objective meets the SMART objectives. However some consideration should be given to the wording to 'manage' rather than 'control'</p>	<p>Deliver minimal housing and employment growth in the Abbeydore and Bacton area with minimal impact on the rural surroundings.</p>
<p>Ewyas Harold objective 1;</p> <p>To ensure local housing needs are met in Ewyas Harold and to permit housing development in line with the Core Strategy taking into account current planning commitments and windfalls.</p>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	O	+	?	X	X	?	<p>This objective refers to development being in line with the Core Strategy policies. Therefore sufficient safeguards exist to ensure mitigation</p>	<p>Some reference to the environment may strengthen the objective</p>	<p>This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.</p>	<p>Deliver proportional growth with Ewyas Harold in line with the Core Strategy.</p>
<p>Objective 2;</p> <p>To permit housing</p>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	X	X	X	<p>This objective is generally compatible with the SEA</p>	None	<p>This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be</p>	<p>Deliver minimal housing growth for local needs in line with the Core Strategy policy with minimal impact on the rural</p>

development in Dulas, Lancillo and Rowlestone that meets purely local needs; does not compromise the quiet rural nature of the parish and complies with Policy RA3																	objectives. Policy safeguards exist within both the Core Strategy and neighbourhood plan to mitigate any impacts.		attainable, achievable and realistic.	surroundings.
Objective 3; To promote the Ewyas Harold Design Statement objectives and to encourage all development to be appropriate, and of high quality design; achieving the best sustainable development standards available at the time	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	X	+	X	X	+	X	X	+	This objective is compatible with the SEA objectives.	None	This objective meets all the SMART objectives	Deliver appropriately designed and sustainable developments.
Objective 4; To improve service provision and develop Ewyas Harold as the main service provider in south west Herefordshire. This will include (but not limited to) developing health and well-being services; bus and transport services; encouraging shops and commercial businesses; assisting B&B and other tourist provision	?	?	+	?	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	?	X	+	X	X	The objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. Other policy safeguards exist within both the Core Strategy and the neighbourhood plan to ensure mitigation.	The objective could be strengthened by the inclusion of enabling policies within the neighbourhood plan related to tourism and health provision.	This objective meets all the SMART objectives but could be strengthened by the inclusion of enabling policies for tourism and health related proposals	Improve access to services within the village of Ewyas Harold creating a more sustainable community.

Objective 5; To redevelop the former Catholic Church of St John Kemble for use as community health and wellbeing centre	X	+	+	+	O	O	O	X	X	X	X	+	X	+	X	+	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. It is aiming to reuse an existing building, increase access to local health services. This could reduce the need to travel locally but increase travel to the village from other areas.	There is no associated policy with this objective within the plan, in order to make the objective meet its SMART objectives.	Although this objective is specific, and measurable there is no policy within the plan to aid delivery or indication of timescales. Therefore this objective requires a policy within the plan to make the objective realistic and achievable	
Objective 6; On the Catholic Church site, offer parking facilities for users of the adjacent doctors' surgery, thus reducing congestion in Ewyas Harold village centre	X	+	+	+	O	+	O	X	X	X	X	+	X	+	X	+	This objective is aiming to reduce impacts of cars within the village and is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. This objective is not supported by a specific proposal within the plan.	The objective is compatible with the SEA objectives but is not currently supported by a direct proposal within the neighbourhood plan	Although this objective is specific, and measurable there is no policy within the plan to aid delivery or indication of timescales. Therefore this objective requires a policy within the plan to make the objective realistic and achievable	Improve car parking facilities and reduce congestion within the village
Objective 7; To use development agrees/funding to finance the improvement of Trappe House corner on the Abbeydore Road. This will provide a safe pedestrian crossing, with adequate pavement on all sides and appropriate traffic calming measures	?	?	?	O	?	?	X	X	X	X	X	?	X	X	X	?	Further details would be required in order to fully assess the compatibility with SEA objectives. This objective is not support by a policy within the plan,	Further details and information would be required to understand the implications on the SEA objectives.	Although this objective is specific, there is no information regarding the impact study or feasibility of this traffic measure and therefore where it is achievable, deliverable or realistic within the timeframe of the neighbourhood plan.	Improve highway safety and improve pedestrian links
Objective 8; To install a	?	?	?	?	?	?	X	X	X	X	X	?	X	X	X	?	Further details would be required in	Further details and information would be required to understand the	Although this objective is specific, there is no evidence or information regarding how achievable,	Improve highway safety and improve pedestrian links

pedestrian road bridge across the A465 to link Ewyas Harold and Pontrilas villages or (as an alternative) provide a suitable foot crossing to improve traffic calming measures.																		order to fully assess the compatibility with SEA objectives. This objective is not supported by a policy within the plan.	implications on the SEA objectives.	deliverable or realistic this major infrastructure project is within the timeframe of the neighbourhood plan.	
Objective 9; To work with Herefordshire Council to improve the vehicular turning on/off the A465 at the junction with the Rowlestone Road	?	?	?	?	?	?	X	X	X	X	X	?	X	X	X	?		Further details would be required in order to fully assess the compatibility with SEA objectives. This objective is not support by a policy within the plan,	Further details and information would be required to understand the implications on the SEA objectives.	Although this objective is specific, there is no information is included regarding how achievable, deliverable or realistic within the timeframe of the neighbourhood plan this road project is.	Improve highway safety
Objective 10; To improve road, cycleway and pavement facilities to a standard that enables children to walk and cycle safely to school, thus safeguarding the system for the use of the whole community	O	O	+	?	+	O	+	X	X	X	X	?	X	X	X	?		This objective is generally compatible, some objectives will be natural depending on the location and impact of installing the new facilities.	None	This objective is specific and can be measurable, Inclusion within the community infrastructure will aid it deliverability within the timeframe.	Improve sustainable transport opportunities by increasing walking and cycling provision.
Objective 11; To improve facilities for families with young people and children in Ewyas Harold to encourage young families to live in the village	?	?	+	?	+	O	+	X	X	X	X	?	X	X	X	?		At this stage no detailed proposal or policies exist within then plan to specifically encourage young people in order to assess the SEA objectives.	None	Some policies have been included within the neighbourhood plan to make this objective achievable and realistic in relation to the school and the local centre and choice of housing stock, however this are not exclusively specific to young people.	Improve facilities for families within the village, creating a sustainable community.
Kentchurch objective 1;	O	+	+	+	+	O	?	?	O	?	?	O	X	X	X	+		This objective is generally compatible with	None	This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be	Deliver minimal housing and employment growth in the Kentchurch area with minimal

To ensure that the housing and employment needs of the local community are met in such a way that minimises the impact of development on the rural nature of the parishes																	the SEA objectives. Policy safeguards exist within both the Core Strategy and neighbourhood plan to mitigate any impacts.		attainable, achievable and realistic.	impact on the rural surroundings.
Objective 2; To control and guide how new development is designed and integrated in accordance with the wishes of the local community and clearly highlighted all areas where special consideration needs to be given	?	+	+	+	X	X	+	X	?	?	+	O	?	X	X	+	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. Policy safeguards exist within both the Core Strategy and neighbourhood plan to mitigate any impacts.	Some consideration should be given to the use of the word 'manage' rather than 'control'. National planning policy now refers to the management of development rather than controlling it.	This objective meets the SMART objectives. However some consideration should be given to the wording to 'manage' rather than 'control'	Deliver minimal housing and employment growth in the Kentchurch area with minimal impact on the rural surroundings.

**Template B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP options and alternatives - Draft Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan (October 2014 version) options and alternatives review against SEA objectives**

**Parish Council Name: Abbeydore and Bacton Group Parish Council, Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council and Kentchurch Parish Council (joint)**

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan**

**Date completed:** December 2014

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

<b>SEA Objectives</b>	<b>Baseline carried over from Stage A</b>
1- To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	1-The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. Within Abbeydore and Bacton there are 2 SSSI's, both are rated as favourable .Wormbridge Common (Border) and Chanstone Wood (border).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. There are SSSI: 2, SWS: 46, Ancient woodlands: 57, Registered parks and gardens: 2 (Whitfield and Kentchurch Court), Unregistered parks and gardens: 8, no SACs, NNRs, SINCs and LNRs within the parish.
2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	2-There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch and there is no conservation area.
3- To improve quality of surroundings	3-,The study reveals that Ewyas Harold has one play area, it is currently in a good condition and does not require refurbishment. The study also highlighted that 2 .09 playing pitch area with secured community access –this is Ewyas Harold Recreation ground-consisting of 1 senior football pitch and 1 cricket pitch. 0.86 is not open for community use and has 2 junior football grounds (Ewyas Harold primary).Abbeydore , Bacton and Kentchurch have no playing pitches to be assessed.
4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	4-Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there is 17 scheduled monuments in the joint parishes, according to the latest version of the register.
5- To improve air quality	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.
6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	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%.
7- To reduce contributions to climate change	7-Herefordshire latest figure of CO2 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO <sup>2</sup> )
8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change	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.
9- To improve water quality	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%.
10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	10-The joint parishes falls into the Herefordshire Conjunctive Use Water Resource Zones (WRZs), one of 6 zones covering Herefordshire. 39% of demand is from non-household use.
11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	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. Abbeydore and Bacton fall within the Upper Monnow catchment. This is regarded as one of the highest general risk of hazard flooding zones in the county. Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch fall within the Lower Monnow catchment
12- To conserve soil resources and quality	12-. Within Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch the majority of the land is grade 3 and 4 (good to poor). To the north of Abbeydore there is a small strip of grade 1 land (excellent). Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.2010/11: 67%2011-13: 57%.
13- To minimise the production of waste	13- There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 17 SAMs. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch parishes at present. .The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Principal settled farmlands, enclosed settled commons, riverside meadows, unenclosed commons and ancient timbered farmland.
14- To improve health of the population	
15- To reduce crime and nuisance	
16- To conserve natural and manmade resources	

NDP Options and alternatives	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy in terms of SEA
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
<b>Baseline</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA	NA	NA	13			
<b>Option 1</b> Do nothing	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
<b>Option 2</b> Allocate sites for housing	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+	+++	+++	+++	+	+++	+				+++	Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. This option could have a positive effect on the baseline.	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within Eywas Harold and Pontrilas , where proportional growth is expected. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
<b>Option 3</b> Manage future housing using a settlement boundary	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	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 with be adjudged by criteria based policy.	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.
<b>Option 4</b> Allocate sites and identify a settlement boundary	+++	+++	+++	+++	+++	+	+++	+++	+++	+	+++	+				+++	Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside This option could	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within Eywas Harold and Pontrilas, where proportional growth is expected. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

																	have a positive effect on the baseline.	policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.	
Option 5 Manage future housing through a development management policy	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	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

**Template B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP policies - Draft Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan (October 2014 version) Objectives review against SEA objectives**

**Parish Council Name: Abbeydore and Bacton Group Parish Council, Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council and Kentchurch Parish Council (joint)**

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan**

**Date completed:** December 2014

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

<b>SEA Objectives</b>	<b>Baseline carried over from Stage A</b>
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	1-The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. Within Abbeydore and Bacton there are 2 SSSI's, both are rated as favourable .Wormbridge Common (Border) and Chanstone Wood (border).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. There are SSSI: 2, SWS: 46, Ancient woodlands: 57, Registered parks and gardens: 2 (Whitfield and Kentchurch Court), Unregistered parks and gardens: 8, no SACs, NNRs, SINCs and LNRs within the parish. 2-There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch and there is no conservation area. 3-,The study reveals that Ewyas Harold has one play area, it is currently in a good condition and does not require refurbishment. The study also highlighted that 2 .09 playing pitch area with secured community access –this is Eywas Harold Recreation ground-consisting of 1 senior football pitch and 1 cricket pitch. 0.86 is not open for community use and has 2 junior football grounds (Ewyas Harold primary).Abbeydore , Bacton and Kentchurch have no playing pitches to be assessed. 4-Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there is 17 scheduled monument in the joint parishes, according to the latest version of the register. 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. 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%. 7-Herefordshire latest figure of CO2 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO <sup>2</sup> ) 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. 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%. 10-The joint 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. 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. Abbeydore and Bacton fall within the Upper Monnow catchment. This is regarded as one of the highest general risk of hazard flooding zones in the county. Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch fall within the Lower Monnow catchment 12-. Within Abbeydore, Bacton, Ewyas Harold and Kentchurch the majority of the land is grade 3 and 4 (good to poor). To the north of Abbeydore there is a small strip of grade 1 land (excellent). Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.2010/11: 67%2011-13: 57%. 13- There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 17 SAMs. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch parishes at present. .The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Principal settled farmlands, enclosed settled commons, riverside meadows, unenclosed commons and ancient timbered farmland.

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy in terms of SEA
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
<b>Baseline</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA	NA	NA	13			
<b>General Policy G1</b> New homes in the countryside	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0				+	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. There are some unknown locational issues at the stage however other safeguarding policies exist within both the Core Strategy and Neighbourhood Plan to provide adequate mitigation.	This policy will enable the proportional growth as indicated within Core Strategy policy RA2  Recommendations - None	This policy does not go beyond that within the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
<b>General Policy G2</b> Rural exception housing	?	?	?	?	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?				?	The policy does not continue any location element or environmental criteria. However, other safeguarding policies existing both the Core Strategy and neighbourhood Plan to provide adequate mitigation.	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental issues	This policy does not go beyond that within the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
<b>General Policy G3</b> Protecting and enhancing the landscape of the Golden Valley	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This policy is compatible with the baseline.	The aim of this policy is protect the landscape of the Golden Valley  Recommendations - None	This policy goes beyond the protection with the Core strategy but is in line with the SEA objectives
<b>General Policy G4</b> Design	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This policy is compatible with the baseline.	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to guide design aspects of proposals  Recommendations - None	This policy does not go beyond that within the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
<b>General Policy G5</b> Flooding	?	X	X	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				?	This policy is compatible with the baseline	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues  Recommendation - None	This policy does not go beyond that within the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
<b>General Policy G6</b> Tourism	+	+	+	+	?	0	0	+	+	?	?	?				+	Tourism can generate additional trips to the area and thus affect issues around climate change. However, there are sufficient safeguarding policies within the Core Strategy and neighbourhood plan to mitigate.	Recommendation - None	This policy does not go beyond that within the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
<b>General Policy G7</b> Golden Valley green infrastructure	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	X	+	+				+	This policy is compatible with the baseline	The aim of this policy is to promote the inclusion and retention of green infrastructure.  Recommendation - None	This policy does not go beyond that within the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA
<b>General Policy G8</b> Highways and	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	X	X	?	X				X	This policy is compatible with the baseline, some additional information regarding criteria c and links to surface water run off would strengthen the policy in terms of SEA objectives and baseline.	Policy could be strengthen by reference to reducing surface water runoff in criteria c	This policy does not go beyond that within the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA



<b>Ewyas Harold Policy EH5</b>  Ewyas Harold Local Centre	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+				+	This proposal is compatible with the baseline.		
<b>Kentchurch Policy K1</b>  Housing in the village of Pontrilas	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?				?	There are some unknown issues with the policy as written as reference to a settlement boundary in criteria I is not supported with a designation. The policy refers to 'within' the village and 'beyond' the village without clarity. Therefore effects on the baseline is unclear.	This policy will lead to small scale development within Pontrilas in line with Core Strategy policy RA2. However policy reference to the settlement boundary is not confirmed by an associated designation which could impact on some of the SEA objectives being met particularly with regards to objectives 1 -4	This policy does not go beyond the Core Strategy in terms of SEA, however it may not be compatible with some objectives

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

**Parish Council Name:** Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Parish Councils

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name:** Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan

**Date completed:** December 2014

**Key:**

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- - Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	N/A No relationship
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### ***General Policy G1 – New homes in the countryside***

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	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core	

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fauna)				Strategy.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core	

				Strategy.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	

To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy compliments policy RA3 of the Core Strategy and would only lead to very small scale development. Policy safeguarding exists to ensure that environmental considerations are taken into account.				

***General Policy G2 – Rural exemption housing***

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 in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential locations of such developments which could have an impact on the natural environment.	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential locations of such developments which could have an impact on the quality of the surroundings.	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria
To improve quality of surroundings	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential locations of such developments which could have an impact on the quality of the surroundings.	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential locations of such developments which could have an effect the	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria

				historic and culture environment.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. The policy includes reference to reducing traffic congestion.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. The policy includes reference to reducing traffic congestion.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential locations of such developments.	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential locations of such developments.	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria
To improve water quality	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria

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				locations of such developments.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential locations of such developments.	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential locations of such developments.	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential locations of such developments.	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	

To conserve natural and manmade resources	?	?	?	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. However, there is lack of clarity regarding the potential locations of such developments which could affect resources.	Policy could be strengthened with reference to environmental criteria
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	The policy does not include any locational or environmental criteria. Other policy safeguards exist within the plan to mitigate however the policy could be strengthened by the inclusion of additional criteria.				

***General Policy G3 – Protecting and enhancing the landscape of the Golden Valley***

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 would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	

To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	

To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. The policy does go over and above the Core Strategy however is in line with the SEA objectives.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the housing design criteria. The policy is over and above the Core Strategy however is compatible with the SEA objectives. Policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid and mitigate against significant harm.				

*General Policy G4 – Design*

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 would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	

To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	

To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	

To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria. The policy does not over and above the Core Strategy.	

<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the housing design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid and mitigate against significant harm.
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*General Policy G5 – Flooding*

<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Assessment of effect</b> (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			<b>Summary Explanation</b>	<b>Enhancement and mitigation opportunities</b>
	<b>Short term</b> (1 – 5 years)	<b>Medium term</b> (6 – 10 years)	<b>Long term</b> (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	?	+	+	The intention of this policy is reduce the risk of surface water flooding. This could have	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	X	X	X	No relationship	

To improve quality of surroundings	X	X	X	No relationship	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The intention of this policy is reduce the risk of surface water flooding.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The intention of this policy is reduce the risk of surface water flooding.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	The intention of this policy is reduce the risk of surface water flooding.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	The intention of this policy is reduce the risk of surface water flooding.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The intention of this policy is reduce the risk of surface water flooding.	

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To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The intention of this policy is reduce the risk of surface water flooding.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The intention of this policy is reduce the risk of surface water flooding.	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	The intention of this policy is reduce the risk of surface water flooding.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy encourages issues around flooding and surface water flooding to be taken into consideration but all new development. This will assist meeting the impacts of climate change.				

General Policy G6 – Tourism

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)	+	+	+	Additional tourism visitors and facilities could have an effect on the natural environment. Policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	Additional tourism visitors and facilities could have an effect on the natural environment. Policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	Additional tourism visitors and facilities could have an effect on the natural environment. Policy	

				safeguards within the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	Additional tourism visitors and facilities could have an effect on the natural environment. Policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment.	
To improve air quality	0	0	+	Additional tourism facilities could increase visitor numbers; equally it could provide services for visitor who are already coming to the area by car. However criteria has been added to reduce the impact of congestions and parking.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	Additional tourism facilities could increase visitor numbers; equally it could provide services for visitor who are already coming to the area by car. However criteria has been added to reduce the impact of congestions and parking.	

To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	Additional policy safeguards are in place within the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid and mitigate flood risk areas	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	Additional policy safeguards are in place within the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid and mitigate flood risk areas	
To improve water quality	?	?	?	Additional tourism visitors and facilities could have an effect on the natural environment. Policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	?	?	?	Additional tourism visitors and facilities could have an effect on the natural environment. Policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	?	?	?	Additional tourism visitors and facilities could have an effect on the natural environment. Policy safeguards within the Core	

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				Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	Additional visitor numbers could have an impact on the use and quality of surrounding land due to increasing in walking and recreation. However sufficient policy criteria safeguards exist to ensure impact on the natural environment will be mitigated against where possible.	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	Additional tourism visitors and facilities could have an effect on the natural environment. Policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment.	
<b>Overall commentary</b>	Additional tourism visitors and facilities could have an effect on the natural environment. Policy safeguards				

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<b>and any cumulative effects</b>	within the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan to avoid or mitigate against impacts on the environment.
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*General Policy G7 – Golden Valley green infrastructure*

<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Assessment of effect</b> (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			<b>Summary Explanation</b>	<b>Enhancement and mitigation opportunities</b>
	<b>Short term</b> (1 – 5 years)	<b>Medium term</b> (6 – 10 years)	<b>Long term</b> (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This policy aims to protect and improve green infrastructure in the area which could have a positive impact on nature conversation.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy aims to protect and improve green infrastructure in the area which could have a positive impact the quality of the landscape and townscape.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy aims to protect and improve green infrastructure in the area which could have a positive	

				impact on the surroundings.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy aims to protect and improve green infrastructure in the area which could have a positive impact the historic environment	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Improved green infrastructure could have a positive effect on air quality.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	Improved green infrastructure could have a positive effect on air quality.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	Improved green infrastructure could have provide additional flood storage areas	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Improved green infrastructure could have provide additional flood storage areas	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	

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To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Improved green infrastructure could have provide additional flood storage areas	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	Additional and increased green areas will have a positive effect on conserving soil quality.	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	Improvements and protection for green infrastructure will contribute to conserving natural resources	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Additional green infrastructure is compatible with the SEA objectives.				

General Policy G8 – Highway and Transport

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 would not lead to development itself but includes the criteria regarding highway safety and provision. Provision of additional off road car parking could have an effect on biodiversity depending on location.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but includes the criteria regarding highway safety and provision. Provision of additional off road car parking could have an effect on landscape and townscape depending on location.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but includes the	

				criteria regarding highway safety and provision. Provision of additional off road car parking could have a positive effect on the surrounding by reducing on street parking and congestion.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but includes the criteria regarding highway safety and provision. Provision of additional off road car parking could have a positive effect on the surrounding by reducing on street parking and congestion.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The policy includes criteria to encourage more footpaths and walking provision to local public transport., thus reducing the reliance on the private car.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The policy includes criteria to encourage more footpaths and walking provision to local public transport, thus reducing the reliance on the private car. Provision of additional off road car parking could have a positive effect on the surrounding by reducing on	

				street parking and congestion.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The policy includes criteria to encourage more footpaths and walking provision to local public transport, thus reducing the reliance on the private car. Provision of additional off road car parking could have a positive effect on the surrounding by reducing on street parking and congestion.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	?	+	Criteria 'c' references inappropriate hard standing but it not clear if this in relation to appearance or surface water drainage.	Criteria C would benefit from clarity regarding surface water runoff
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	?	?	?	Criteria 'c' references inappropriate hard standing but it not clear if this in relation to appearance or surface water drainage.	Criteria C would benefit from clarity regarding surface water runoff

To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	X	X	X	No relationship	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	The policy in general meets the Sea objectives, however the policy could be strengthened by reviewing the impact of hard standing off street parking criteria to take account of surface water runoff.				

*General Policy G9 – Rural environment and tranquillity*

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 is not a policy which will directly result in development but a criteria policy to manage the impact of the development.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This is not a policy which will directly result in development but manage the environmental effects. This is compatible with this SEA objective.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This is not a policy which will directly result in development but manage the environmental effects. This is compatible with this SEA objective.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This is not a policy which will directly result in development but manage the environmental effects. This is compatible with this SEA objective.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	The policy is to manage essential noise generated from development rather than air pollution issues.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the	X	X	X	No relationship	

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environment					
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	

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To conserve natural and manmade resources	X	X	X	No relationship	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This is not a policy which will directly result in development but manage the environmental effects.				

*General Policy G10 – Dark Skies*

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	No relationship	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to reduce unnecessary lighting in countryside areas. This could have a positive effect on the quality of the	

				landscape and townscape.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to reduce unnecessary lighting in countryside areas. This could have a positive effect on the quality of the village surroundings.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to reduce unnecessary lighting in countryside areas. This could have a positive effect on the historic environment.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship	

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy will help to reduce lighting and as a result reduce the energy used.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is seeking to reduce unnecessary lighting in countryside areas. This could have a positive effect on a number of SEA objectives.				

*General Policies G11 – Rural businesses and homeworking*

<b>SEA Objective</b>	<b>Assessment of effect</b> (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and	<b>Summary Explanation</b>	<b>Enhancement and mitigation</b>
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	magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)				<b>opportunities</b>
	<b>Short term</b> (1 – 5 years)	<b>Medium term</b> (6 – 10 years)	<b>Long term</b> (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policy E3. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the landscape and built environment.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policy E3. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the landscape and built environment.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policy E3. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the landscape and built environment.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance	+	+	+	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy	

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the historic environment and cultural heritage				policy E3	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Increased opportunities to work locally and from home will assist in reducing the need to travel by private car, in turn improving air quality.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	Increased opportunities to work locally and from home will assist in reducing the need to travel by private car	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To improve water quality	O	+	+	Increase opportunities to work from home or additional employment could have a minor impact on the demand and use of water. Policy safeguards exist to help avoid and mitigate any effect.	
To provide for sustainable sources of	+	+	+	The principle of the policy is compatible with the objective and	

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water supply				policy safeguards exist to mitigate.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the natural environment.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The principle of the policy is compatible with the objective and policy safeguards exist to mitigate.	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	The principles of this policy are compatible with Core Strategy policy E3. Policy safeguards exist which will help avoid or mitigate against impacts on the natural and built environment.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Principles are compatible with Core Strategy policy E3. Policy safeguards exist to mitigate against any environmental impacts.				

*Abbeydore A1 – New housing development in Abbeydore and Bacton village*

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 in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core	

				Strategy.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	

To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	

To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to very small scale development in line with Policy RA2 within the Core Strategy.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy compliments policy RA2 of the Core Strategy and would only lead to very small scale development. Policy safeguards exist to ensure that environmental considerations are taking into account.				

*Ewyas Harold EH1 – Housing in the village of Ewyas Harold*

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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 in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure nature conservation is taken into consideration.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure landscape and townscape features are taken into	

				consideration.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure historic and cultural heritage features are taken into consideration.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. This will not have a significant effect on air quality.	

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Some margin increase in traffic could occur but this would be balanced by the increase in live/work employment opportunities locally.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Some margin increase in traffic could occur but this would be balanced by the increase in live/work employment opportunities locally.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	

To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	

To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Proportional growth requirements for Ewyas Harold is small scale. .Therefore there could be small minimal impact on air quality and traffic generation. Policy criteria safeguards are in place to avoid or mitigate against detrimental effects on the natural, heritage or cultural environment.				

*Ewyas Harold Policy EH2 – Housing design in Ewyas Harold and Rowlestone*

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 would not lead to development itself but contains the housing design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the housing design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the housing design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the housing design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship	

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To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship	
To improve water quality	X	X	X		
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the housing design criteria. The policy is not over and above the	

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				Core Strategy.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the housing design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.				

*Ewyas Harold Policy EH3 – Development affecting highways and streetscapes*

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 would not lead to development itself but contains the highway design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the highway design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	

To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the highway design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the highway design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the highway design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the highway design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the highway design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	

To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the highway design criteria. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the highway design criteria. The	

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				policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the criteria to guide highway and streetscape design. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.				

*Ewyas Harold EH4 – Ewyas Harold EH4 – Ewyas Harold Primary school*

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)	O	-	-	This policy identifies a site proposal for a new school in proximity to the Dulas Brook; a SWS. There is no criteria or mitigation with the policy as currently rewritten.	Consideration should be given to the impact of the development proposal on the Dulas Brook (SWS)
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	O	+	+	Criteria is include to encourage a high quality and sustainable design.	

To improve quality of surroundings	O	+	+	Criteria is include to encourage a high quality and sustainable design	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	O	+	+	Criteria is include to encourage a high quality and sustainable design	
To improve air quality	O	+	+	Potential improvements in traffic movements in comparison to the existing school location could have a positive effect on air quality in the village.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	O	+	+	Relocation has the potential to improve the current traffic impact on the environment. Sustainable transport measures are included within the policy criteria.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	O	O	O	The policy included elements of sustainable design and transport measures. However, no mitigation is mentioned with regards to the potential flooding on site.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	O	-	-	Site proposal is within flood zone 2 and 3. There is no evidence supplied of a sequential approach to site selection or mitigation	Evidence of a sequential approach to site selection is required to ensure conformity with

				measures being included within the policy.	Core Strategy Policy SD3. Mitigation should also be included within the policy regarding fluvial and surface water flooding.
To improve water quality	O	-	-	Site proposal is within flood zone 2 and 3. There is no evidence supplied of a sequential approach to site selection or mitigation measures being included within the policy.	Evidence of a sequential approach to site selection is required to ensure conformity with Core Strategy Policy SD3. Mitigation should also be included within the policy regarding fluvial and surface water flooding.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	O	?	?	Policy safeguards existing within the Core Strategy	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	O	-	-	Site proposal is within flood zone 2 and 3. There is no evidence supplied of a sequential approach to site selection or mitigation measures being included within the policy.	Evidence of a sequential approach to site selection is required to ensure conformity with Core Strategy Policy SD3. Mitigation should also be included within the policy regarding

					fluvial and surface water flooding.
To conserve soil resources and quality	O	+	+	Site proposal is in close proximity to the existing village built form. ALC within the area is grade 3 and 4.	
To minimise the production of waste				n/a	
To improve health of the population				n/a	
To reduce crime and nuisance				n/a	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	O	+	+	The policy included elements of sustainable design and transport measures. The criteria also highlights the multiple use of the buildings for the community.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Evidence of a sequential approach to site selection is required to ensure conformity with Core Strategy Policy SD3. Mitigation should also be included within the policy regarding fluvial and surface water flooding. Consideration should be given to the impact of the development proposal on the Dulas Brook (SWS). This policy is currently not compatible with a number of SEA objectives.				

*Ewyas Harold EH5 – Ewyas Harold Local Centre*

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)	+	+	+	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any conflicts from new development.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any conflicts from new development.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any conflicts from new development.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and	+	+	+	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any	

cultural heritage				conflicts from new development.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Policy encourages the retention of services within the village and reducing the need to travel to other areas for services and facilities.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	O	O	O	Policy encourages the retention of services within the village and reducing the need to travel to other areas for services and facilities. Some increase in traffic could occur from other areas as Ewyas Harold forms a service centre for the rural hinterland.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X		
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any conflicts from new development.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any conflicts from new development.	

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To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any conflicts from new development.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any conflicts from new development.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any conflicts from new development.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any conflicts from new development.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	Policy seeks to retain existing facilities. Safeguarding policies and criteria exist to mitigate any conflicts from new development. Policy is compatible with SEA objectives.				

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*Kentchurch policy k1 – Housing in the village of Pontrilas*

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)	?	?	?	The policy requires clarity in order to assess against the SEA objectives. The policy refers to a settlement boundary in criteria L but a settlement boundary has not been designated. It also refers to 'within' and 'beyond' the village with no clear definition of where the distinction is. The effects on the natural environment is unclear.	Review of the policy criteria and definition is require to add clarity to 'within' and beyond' if a settlement boundary is not being defined.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	?	?	?	The policy requires clarity in order to assess against the SEA objectives. The policy refers to a settlement boundary in criteria L but a settlement boundary has not	Review of the policy criteria and definition is require to add clarity to 'within' and beyond' if a settlement boundary is

				been designated. It also refers to 'within' and 'beyond' the village with no clear definition of where the distinction is. Effects on the landscape and townscape are unclear.	not being defined.
To improve quality of surroundings	?	?	?	The policy requires clarity in order to assess against the SEA objectives. The policy refers to a settlement boundary in criteria L but a settlement boundary has not been designated. It also refers to 'within' and 'beyond' the village with no clear definition of where the distinction is	Review of the policy criteria and definition is require to add clarity to 'within' and beyond' if a settlement boundary is not being defined.
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	Policy includes criteria to safeguard the character, design and heritage assets.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Policy criteria includes reducing traffic congestions which can have a positive effect on air quality.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	Policy criteria includes reducing traffic congestions which can have a positive effect on traffic on the	

				environment.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	Policy would lead to small scale development in accordance with policy RA2 of the Core Strategy	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	Policy would lead to small scale development in accordance with policy RA2 of the Core Strategy	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Policy would lead to small scale development in accordance with policy RA2 of the Core Strategy	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	Policy would lead to small scale development in accordance with policy RA2 of the Core Strategy	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	0	?	Flood criteria is included for proposal 'within' the village but not for those 'beyond'. This could make the impact on managing flood risk unclear.	Review the flood criteria policy for 'beyond' the village as the definition of 'beyond' is unclear, it is not possible to assess the effect on the SEA objective.
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	The policy requires clarity in order to assess against the SEA objectives.	Review of the policy criteria and definition is require to add clarity to 'within' and beyond' if a

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					settlement boundary is not being defined.
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	?	?	?	The policy requires clarity in order to assess against the SEA objectives.	Review of the policy criteria and definition is require to add clarity to 'within' and beyond' if a settlement boundary is not being defined.
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	The policy requires clarity in order to assess against the SEA objectives. The policy refers to a settlement boundary in criteria L but a settlement boundary has not been designated. It also refers to 'within' and 'beyond' the village with no clear definition of where the distinction is. Therefore the cumulative effect of this policy is unclear with regards to a number of SEA objectives.				

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

**Parish Council Name:** Abbeydore and Bacton group Parish Council, Ewyas Harold Group Parish Council and Kentchurch Parish Council

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name:** Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan (October 2014 version)

**Date completed:** December 2014

### Key:

<b>++</b> Move towards significantly	<b>+</b> Move towards marginally	<b>--</b> Move away Significantly	<b>-</b> Move away marginally	<b>0</b> Neutral	<b>?</b> Uncertain	<b>X</b> No relationship
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<b>SEA Objective / Policy</b>	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
Policy G1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0				+
Policy G2	?	?	?	?	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?				?
Policy G3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy G4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy G5	?	X	X	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				?
Policy G6	+	+	+	+	?	0	0	+	+	?	?	?				+
Policy G7	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	+	+	X	+	+				+
Policy G8	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	X	X	?	X				X
Policy G9	X	+	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
Policy G10	X	+	+	+	X	X	+	X	X	X	X	X				+
Policy G11	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+				+
AB objective 1	0	+	+	+	+	0	?	?	0	?	?	0				+
AB Objective 2	?	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	?	?	+	0				+
Policy AB1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+

EH Objective 1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	o	+				?
EH Objective 2	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?				x
EH Objective 3	+	+	+	+	x	x	+	+	x	+	x	x				+
EH Objective 4	?	?	+	?	+	+	x	x	x	x	x	?				x
EH Objective 5	x	+	+	+	o	o	o	x	x	x	x	+				+
EH Objective 6	x	+	+	+	o	+	o	x	x	x	x	+				+
EH Objective 7	?	?	?	o	?	?	x	x	x	x	x	?				?
EH Objective 8	?	?	?	?	?	?	x	x	x	x	x	?				?
EH Objective 9	?	?	?	?	?	?	x	x	x	x	x	?				?
EH Objective 10	o	o	+	?	+	o	+	x	x	x	x	?				?
EH Objective 11	?	?	+	?	+	o	+	x	x	x	x	?				?
Policy EH1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy EH2	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				+
Policy EH3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	x	x	x	x	+				+
Policy EH4	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	?	-	+				+
Policy EH5	+	+	+	+	+	+	o	+	+	+	+	+				+
K Objective 1	o	+	+	+	+	o	?	?	o	?	?	o				+
K Objective 2	?	+	+	+	x	x	+	x	?	?	+	o				+
Policy K1	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?				?
<b>Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
	On balance the plan aiming to converse and enhance the natural environment. There are some concerns about the impact of Policy ED4	On balance the plan aims to protect and enhance the environment around the Golden Valley and the setting and character of its villages	The plan aims improve the quality of the surroundings and encourage additional facilities	The plan aims to protect and enhance the environment around the Golden Valley and the setting and character of its villages	The plan conforms to the aims of the Core Strategy to reduce the need to travel by private car and	The plan includes provision for additional car parking, cycle and walking facilities to help reduce the impact of	Policies include provisions to reduce the contributions to climate change such as design and sustainable transport options.	Policies are include to reduce the risks of flooding, Some concerns existing regarding the potential flooding	Policies are in conformity with the requirements of the Core Strategy.	Policies are in conformity with the requirements of the Core Strategy.	Policies are include to reduce the risks of flooding, Some concerns existing regarding the potential	Policies aim to conform to the locational policies within the Core Strategy. Proportional growth will primarily be in area of grade 3 and				Policies exist to conserve or reuse existing resources.

	on the SWS adjacent to the site.				thus improve air quality.	traffic on the area.		issues related to Policy EH4			flooding issues related to Policy EH4	4 ALC				
<b>Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...)</b>	Overall the Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch Neighbourhood Plan will contribute to meeting the SEA objectives and having a positive impact on the baseline. Policies have been drafted in general conformity with the Core Strategy objectives and contain many policy safeguards to ensure that the effects on environmental assets can be avoided or mitigated against. None of the policies are over and above those already assessed for the Core Strategy. Some minor amendments to highlighted policies will increase the level of mitigation and safeguards particularly around flooding issues.															
<b>Commentary for significant cumulative effects</b>	Some area of the plan as currently worded would benefit from some revaluation to take into account possible avoidance or mitigation criteria. This is particularly the case with policy EH4 currently does not make reference to the proximity of the SWS and the potential flooding resulting in the policy having a negative effect on a number of SEA objectives. General Policies G2 and G8 would also be strengthened by additional reference to environmental issues.  Once these issues have been addressed, the Abbeydore and Bacton Group, Ewyas Harold Group and neighbourhood plan is unlikely to have any significant cumulative effects on the SEA objectives.															

# Appendix 5

Objectives and context	Where referenced in NDP/SEA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Neighbourhood Development Plan's purpose and objectives are made clear.</li> <li>• The Neighbourhood Area's environmental issues and constraints, including acknowledgement of those in the Local Plan (Core Strategy) SA, where relevant, and local environmental protection objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets.</li> <li>• SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate.</li> <li>• Links with other locally related plans, programmes and policies are identified, explained and acknowledgement for those set out in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant.</li> <li>• Conflicts that exist between SEA and Neighbourhood Development Plan objectives; and between SEA objectives and other local plan objectives are identified and described.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 1 (paras 1.09 – 1.17).</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 3; and Tables A2 and A3</li> <li>• Section 3 (para 3.5).</li> <li>• Section 3 (para 3.1).</li> <li>• Section 3 (paras 3.14 – 3.16)</li> </ul>
Scoping	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory Consultees are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report.</li> <li>• The assessment focuses on significant issues.</li> <li>• Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 2 (paras 2.6 – 2.9) and Appendix 3</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 4</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 4</li> </ul>

<b>Alternatives</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Realistic alternatives are considered for key issues, and the reasons for choosing them are documented.</li> <li>Alternatives include 'do minimum' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios wherever relevant.</li> <li>The environmental effects (both adverse and beneficial) of each alternative are identified and compared.</li> <li>Inconsistencies between the alternatives and other relevant local plans, programmes or policies are identified and explained.</li> <li>Reasons are given for selection or elimination of alternatives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5 (5.1 to 5.8)</li> </ul>
<b>Baseline information</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant aspects of the current state of the local, neighbourhood area environment and their likely evolution without the Neighbourhood Development Plan are described. Acknowledgement to the information in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant.</li> <li>Environmental characteristics of the local, neighbourhood area, likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the designated neighbourhood area, where it is likely to be affected by the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> <li>Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1 and 4.</li> <li>Initial screening report and Section 1.</li> <li>Section 2.</li> </ul>

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

<b>The Environmental Report</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation.</li> <li>• Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms.</li> <li>• Uses maps and other illustrations, where appropriate.</li> <li>• Explains the methodology used.</li> <li>• Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used.</li> <li>• Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion.</li> <li>• Contains a non-technical summary covering the overall approach to the SEA, the objectives of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, the main options considered, and any changes to the Neighbourhood Development Plan resulting from the SEA.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• N/A</li> <li>• Section 2</li> <li>• Section 2</li> <li>• Section 2</li> <li>• Included at page 1</li> </ul>
<b>Consultation</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SEA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> <li>• Consultation Bodies and the public likely to be affected by, or having an interest in, the Neighbourhood Development Plan are consulted in ways and at times, which give them an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions on the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan and Environmental Report.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 2 (paras 2.4 – 2.5)</li> <li>• Section 6</li> </ul>

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