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Herefordshire Core Strategy

Sustainability Appraisal including Strategic Environmental Assessment

Final Report
Prepared by LUC
March 2013

Project Title: Herefordshire Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal

Client: Herefordshire Council

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Sustainability Appraisal Report has been prepared by LUC, on behalf of Herefordshire Council (the Council) as part of the integrated Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Herefordshire Core Strategy.
- 1.2 This report relates to the Draft Herefordshire Core Strategy 2011-2031 (March 2013) and it should be read in conjunction with that document.

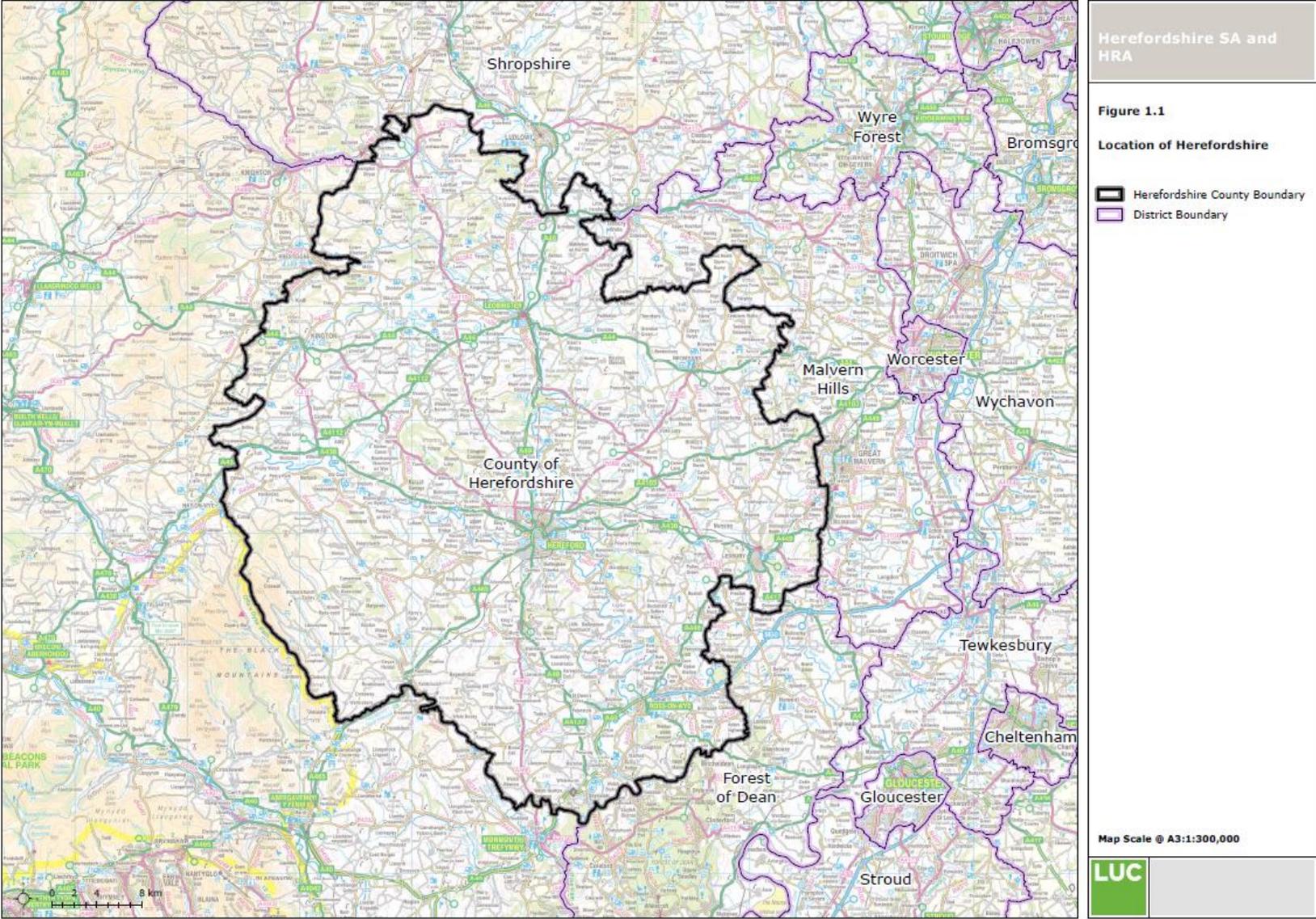
Context for the Herefordshire Core Strategy

- 1.3 Herefordshire County covers approximately 217,973 ha, and borders Gloucestershire to the south, Worcestershire to the east, Shropshire to the north and Wales to the west (see **Figure 1.1** overleaf). It is a predominantly rural county with a landscape of rolling hills and wide river valleys interspersed with small villages. The eastern edge of the county runs along the line of the Malvern Hills, which rise to over 400 metres above sea level. The Black Mountains in the south west of the county form another elevated area. The River Wye runs through the county and Hereford City from the west down to the south, and is designated at European and national level for its nature conservation value.
- 1.4 The most recent estimate of the population of Herefordshire is 183,477¹; with the City of Hereford accommodating just under a third of the population and the major centre for administration, health, education and leisure facilities, shopping and employment. Just over a fifth of Herefordshire's population live in the five market towns surrounding Hereford at about 10-15 miles distance: Leominster to the north, Bromyard to the north east, Ledbury to the east, Ross-on-Wye to the south east and Kington to the west. The remaining half of the population lives in the rural areas of the county. Herefordshire has become a popular destination for the retired, for holiday homes and second homes and, in some areas, for out-of-county commuting. The county's population has a considerably older age profile than that for England and Wales.
- 1.5 The county's rural areas and countryside and high quality of life have contributed to its housing demand, reflected in high house prices, particularly relative to earnings. The county's economy is relatively low value and this contributes to affordability problems for housing. There is a high proportion of detached housing and lower levels of social housing than in the rest of the West Midlands, and the supply of properties which younger households might be able to afford to buy is limited².
- 1.6 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires local planning authorities such as Herefordshire Council to prepare Local Plans that will address the spatial implications of economic, social and environmental change within the plan area over an appropriate time period (preferably 15 years). Local Plans should set out the opportunities for development and clear policies on what will or will not be permitted and where.

¹ <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/index.html>

² GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment 2012 Update: Draft Report

Figure 1.1 Location of Herefordshire



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LUC LON 4939-01_001_LocationPlan 25/02/2013

Source:

Herefordshire Core Strategy

- 1.7 The Herefordshire Core Strategy will form part of the Local Plan for Herefordshire along with the Hereford Area Plan, other development plan documents and neighbourhood development plans. The Herefordshire Core Strategy proposes to help deliver 16,500 homes over the 2011-31 plan period, which is above the Government's latest 2008 trend-based demographic projections for household growth (14,500 homes between 2011-31). The Council has determined that a figure of around 16,500 dwellings would meet growth aspirations for housing and growth in the local economy and is deliverable. Such a level would go towards addressing the imbalance in the population structure of the county by encouraging the building of new homes for people of working age and younger families to come to the county and support some growth in the economy of around 3%.
- 1.8 Strategic housing allocation sites have been identified around Hereford and the five market towns, with provision also for almost a third of all housing to be directed to the rural areas to help to sustain local services, generate new ones and support local housing provision for local communities. In addition to the housing allocations, the Herefordshire Core Strategy provides for a continuous supply of 37 ha of readily available employment land to be made available over a 5 year period, with an overall target of 148 ha of employment land over the plan period. New strategic employment sites are identified at Hereford (15ha); Leominster (up to 10 ha), Ledbury (12 ha) and Bromyard (5ha).
- 1.9 The Herefordshire Core Strategy has been through a number of stages in its development, and these are described in the next chapter of this report along with the corresponding SA stages. The current version of the Herefordshire Core Strategy (March 2013) is a draft plan published for public consultation, before the formal consultation on the 'soundness' of the Pre-submission version of the plan (i.e. Regulation 19 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012³).
- 1.10 The Core Strategy includes a **Vision** for social progress, economic prosperity and environmental quality in Herefordshire and 12 strategic objectives under those same three themes, which set the framework for the spatial strategy and policies in the rest of the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy document is then divided into chapters, as follows:
- **Spatial strategy**, including policies for:
 - Sustainable development
 - Housing distribution
 - Release of housing
 - Movement and transportation
 - Employment provision
 - Climate change
 - **Place-shaping policies**, including policies with housing and employment allocations for:
 - Hereford
 - Bromyard
 - Leominster
 - Ledbury
 - Ross on Wye
 - Kington
 - Rural Areas

³ Statutory Instrument 2012 No. 767

- **General policies**, including development management policies for:
 - Housing
 - Social and community facilities
 - Open space, sport and recreation
 - Traffic management
 - Employment
 - Tourism
 - Retail
 - Local distinctiveness
 - Sustainable design
 - Minerals
 - Waste
- **Delivery, implementation and monitoring**, covering:
 - Infrastructure delivery policy
 - Implementation of the Core Strategy
 - Monitoring of Core Strategy policies

Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

- 1.11 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is a statutory requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. It is designed to ensure that the Development Plan Document (DPD) preparation process maximises the contribution that a plan makes to sustainable development and minimises any potential adverse impacts. The SA process appraises the likely social, environmental and economic effects of the strategies and policies within a DPD (in this case the Herefordshire Core Strategy) from the outset of its development.
- 1.12 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is also a statutory assessment process, required under the SEA Directive⁴, transposed in the UK by the SEA Regulations (Statutory Instrument 2004, No 1633). The SEA Regulations require the formal assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment, and set the framework for future consent of projects requiring Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)⁵. The purpose of SEA, as defined in Article 1 of the SEA Directive is *'to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans....with a view to promoting sustainable development'*.
- 1.13 **Table 1.1** signposts how the requirements of the SEA Directive have been met within this SA report.

⁴ SEA Directive 2001/42/EC

⁵ Under EU Directives 85/337/EEC and 97/11/EC concerning EIA.

Table 1.1: Requirements of the SEA Directive and where these have been addressed in this SA Report

SEA Directive Requirements	Where covered in this SA report
Preparation of an environmental report in which the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme, and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan or programme, are identified, described and evaluated. The information to be given is (Art. 5 and Annex I):	
a) An outline of the contents, main objectives of the plan or programme, and relationship with other relevant plans and programmes	Chapter 1 and Appendix 1.
b) The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme	Chapter 3.
c) The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected	Chapters 3 and 4.
d) Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC and 92/43/EEC.	Chapter 3.
e) The environmental protection, objectives, established at international, Community or national 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	Appendix 1.
f) The likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors. (Footnote: These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects)	Chapter 4 and Appendices 4, 5 and 6.
g) The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme;	Chapter 4 and Appendices 4, 5 and 6.
h) An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information;	Chapter 2 and Appendix 2.
i) a description of measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Art. 10;	Chapter 5.

SEA Directive Requirements	Where covered in this SA report
j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings	A separate non-technical summary document has been produced to accompany this SA report.
The report shall include the information that may reasonably be required taking into account current knowledge and methods of assessment, the contents and level of detail in the plan or programme, its stage in the decision-making process and the extent to which certain matters are more appropriately assessed at different levels in that process to avoid duplication of the assessment (Art. 5.2)	Addressed throughout this SA report.
Consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> authorities with environmental responsibility, when deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information which must be included in the environmental report (Art. 5.4) 	Consultation on the SA Scoping Report for the Herefordshire LDF was undertaken in 2007.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> authorities with environmental responsibility and the public, shall be given an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinion on the draft plan or programme and the accompanying environmental report before the adoption of the plan or programme (Art. 6.1, 6.2) 	Consultation has been undertaken in relation to each stage of the Core Strategy preparation, accompanied by SA reports and notes as described in Chapter 2.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> other EU Member States, where the implementation of the plan or programme is likely to have significant effects on the environment of that country (Art. 7). 	N/A
Taking the environmental report and the results of the consultations into account in decision-making (Art. 8)	
Provision of information on the decision: When the plan or programme is adopted, the public and any countries consulted under Art.7 must be informed and the following made available to those so informed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the plan or programme as adopted a statement summarising how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report of Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant to Art. 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Art. 8, and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with; and the measures decided concerning monitoring (Art. 9) 	To be addressed after the Core Strategy is adopted.
Monitoring of the significant environmental effects of the plan's or programme's implementation (Art. 10)	To be addressed after the Core Strategy is adopted.
Quality assurance: environmental reports should be of a sufficient standard to meet the requirements of the SEA Directive (Art. 12).	This report has been produced in line with current guidance and good practice for SEA/SA and this table demonstrates where the requirements of the SEA Directive have been met.

1.14 SEA and SA are separate processes but have similar aims and objectives. Simply put, SEA focuses only on the likely environmental effects of a plan whilst SA includes a wider range of considerations, extending to social and economic impacts. The Government's Plan Making

Manual⁶ shows how it is possible to satisfy both requirements by undertaking a joint SA/SEA process, and to present an SA report that incorporates the requirements of the SEA Regulations.

Aim and structure of the report

- 1.15 This report is the SA/SEA report for the Draft Herefordshire Core Strategy (March 2013). It has been prepared in the spirit of the integrated approach to SEA and SA, and throughout the report, the abbreviation 'SA' should therefore be taken to refer to 'SA incorporating the requirements of SEA'.
- 1.16 This chapter provides an introduction to the SA of Herefordshire Core Strategy. The remainder of this report is structured into the following chapters:
- **Chapter 2 – Methodology**, describes the stages of the SA process, the approach used for the specific SA tasks, including the sustainability framework used in the appraisal.
 - **Chapter 3 – Sustainability context for development in Herefordshire**, summarises the Core Strategy's relationship with other relevant plans, policy and strategies, summarises the social, economic and environmental characteristics of Herefordshire, and identifies the key of sustainability issues relating to development within Herefordshire.
 - **Chapter 4 – Sustainability Appraisal findings**, sets out the main findings from the SA of the Herefordshire Draft Core Strategy Vision, Objectives and Policies. It draws conclusions from the findings of the appraisals and makes some recommendations for the Core Strategy to maximise the benefits of the plan and minimise any adverse effects.
 - **Chapter 5 – Monitoring**, makes recommendations regarding the approach to monitoring the significant sustainability effects of implementing the Core Strategy.
 - **Chapter 6 –Conclusions**, summarises the key findings from the SA in terms of any significant sustainability effects predicted (positive or negative) from implementing the Herefordshire Core Strategy.

⁶ Hosted on the Planning Advisory Service's website: www.pas.gov.uk

2 Methodology

- 2.1 In addition to complying with legal requirements, the approach taken to the SA of the Herefordshire Core Strategy is based on current best practice and the following guidance:
- Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (November 2005). *Note this guidance was used for earlier stages of the SA, but is no longer relevant for local plan preparation.*
 - Practical Guide to the SEA Directive, Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (September 2005).
 - Sustainability Appraisal guidance included in DCLG's Plan Making Manual, Planning Advisory Service website (last updated September 2009).
- 2.2 The government guidance hosted by the Planning Advisory Service website introduces the SA process and explains how to carry out SA as an integral part of the plan-making process. **Table 2.1** sets out the main stages of the plan-making process and shows how these correspond to the SA process.

Table 2.1 Corresponding stages in plan making and SA

Local Plan Step 1: Pre-production - Evidence Gathering
SA stages and tasks
<p>Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives • A2: Collecting baseline information • A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems • A4: Developing the SA Framework • A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA
Local Plan Step 2: Production
SA stages and tasks
<p>Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B1: Testing the Plan objectives against the SA Framework • B2: Developing the Plan options • B3: Predicting the effects of the Plan • B4: Evaluating the effects of the Plan • B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects • B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Plans
<p>Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C1: Preparing the SA Report
<p>Stage D: Consulting on the Draft Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal Report</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D1: Public participation on draft Plan and the SA Report • D2(i): Appraising significant changes
Local Plan Step 3: Examination
SA stages and tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D2(ii): Appraising significant changes resulting from representations
Local Plan Step 4 & 5: Adoption and Monitoring
SA stages and tasks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D3: Making decisions and providing information
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring • E2: Responding to adverse effects

- 2.3 The methodology set out below describes the SA work that has been undertaken to date for the Herefordshire Core Strategy and provides information on the subsequent stages of the process.

Stage A: Scoping

- 2.4 The SA process began in 2007 with Herefordshire Council producing a Scoping Report for its Local Development Framework (LDF). The scoping stage of the SA includes compiling and understanding the social, economic and environmental baseline for the plan area as well as the sustainability policy context and key sustainability issues, and the accompanying report involved the following tasks and outputs:
- Policies, plans and programmes (PPP) of relevance to the LDF were identified and the relationships between them were considered, enabling any potential synergies to be exploited and any potential inconsistencies and incompatibilities to be identified and addressed.
 - In line with the SEA Directive requirements, baseline information was collected on the following 'SEA topics': biodiversity, flora and fauna; population and human health; water; soil; air; climatic factors; material assets; cultural heritage and the landscape. Data on social and economic issues were also taken into consideration. This baseline information provides the basis for predicting and monitoring the likely effects of the plan and helps to identify alternative ways of dealing with any adverse effects identified.
 - Drawing on the PPP review and the baseline information gathered, key sustainability issues were highlighted (including environmental problems, as required by the SEA Directive).
 - A Sustainability Appraisal framework was then developed, setting out the SA objectives against which Core Strategy options initially, and subsequently policies, would be appraised. The SA Framework provides a way in which the impacts on sustainability of the implementation of a particular document in the LDF e.g. the Core Strategy, can be described, analysed and compared. The SA Framework is designed to set out a series of sustainability objectives and associated questions that can be used to "interrogate" options and policies drafted during the LDF process. These SA objectives define the long-term aspirations of the county with regard to social, economic and environmental considerations. Under the SA, the performances of the plan policies and options are assessed against these SA objectives and appraisal questions.

- 2.5 The PPP review and baseline information has been updated as necessary at different stages during the SA, and the most up to date versions are now included in **Chapter 3** and **Appendix 1** of this SA Report.
- 2.6 **Table 2.1** shows the 20 main SA objectives in the SA Framework along with their associated questions, and how all of the SEA topics have been covered by the SA objectives. Note that when independent consultants (LUC) were commissioned in 2009 to take over the SA work for the Herefordshire Core Strategy, they grouped the SA objectives into six themes to enable related sustainability issues to be considered together during the appraisal. The six themes are as follows:
- 1 Education and employment.
 - 2 Healthy and prosperous communities.
 - 3 Transport and access.
 - 4 Built environment.
 - 5 Resource consumption and climate change.
 - 6 Natural environment.
- 2.7 **Table 2.1** shows the SA objectives considered within each theme. Note that the sub-objectives (appraisal questions) for SA headline objectives 7 and 18 are divided into more than one theme, according to the issues that they address.

Table 2.1: SA Framework for the Herefordshire Core Strategy

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SEA Topic covered by objective
Education and Employment		
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	Material Assets ⁷
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	Material Assets, Population
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector.	Material Assets

⁷ 'Material assets' is listed as one of the topics to be considered in the SEA, but there is no clear definition of what this topic should cover in the SEA Directive or Regulations, and it has been variously defined in different SEA reports as relating to natural resources, e.g. minerals, or built infrastructure, e.g. transport infrastructure. For the purposes of this SEA, the material assets topic is assumed to include resources such as water, minerals and waste, as well as built infrastructure, including transport and waste infrastructure, but also economic and employment infrastructure and interests.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SEA Topic covered by objective
	<p>3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example.</p> <p>3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.</p>	
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p>	Material Assets
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	Material Assets, Population
Healthy and Prosperous Communities		
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	Population, Human Health
7. Sustainable regeneration	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.	Material Assets, Population
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	Population
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	Population, Human Health
Transport and Access		
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p>	Material assets

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SEA Topic covered by objective
journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	Material assets, Population
7. Sustainable regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource-efficient designs.	Material assets, Population
The Built Environment		
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	Population, Material assets
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.	Soil
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings. 20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. 20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place? 20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.	Cultural Heritage
Resource Consumption and Climate Change		

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SEA Topic covered by objective
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc. including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	Material assets
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	Material assets
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.	Climatic Factors
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.	Material assets, Water
The Natural Environment		
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance. 13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species. 13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces. 13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value. 13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.	Biodiversity, Fauna, Flora
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings. 15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management. 15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. 15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.	Population, Biodiversity, Fauna, Flora
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the	17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.	Water

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SEA Topic covered by objective
resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems. 17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.	
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.	Water, Air, Soil

- 2.8 Public and stakeholder participation is an important element of the SA and wider plan-making processes. It helps to ensure that the SA reports are robust and have due regard for all appropriate information that will support the plan in making a contribution to sustainable development. The SA Scoping Report for the LDF was published in June 2007 for a five week consultation period with the statutory consultees (Natural England, the Environment Agency and English Heritage) as well as an extensive number of additional stakeholders (see Appendix C1 in the Scoping Report for a list of consultees who commented on the report). The Scoping Report was also made available online in order to enable members of the public to participate in the consultation more easily.

SA Stage B: Developing and Refining Options and Assessing Effects

- 2.9 Developing options for a plan is an iterative process usually involving a number of consultations with public and stakeholders. Consultation responses and the SA can help to identify where there may be other 'reasonable alternatives' to the options being considered for a plan.
- 2.10 Regulation 12 (2) of the SEA Regulations requires that:
- "The (environmental or SA) report must identify, describe and evaluate the likely significant effects on the environment of—*
- (a) implementing the plan or programme; and*
- (b) reasonable alternatives, taking into account the objectives and the geographical scope of the plan or programme"*
- 2.11 It should be noted that any alternatives considered to the plan need to be "reasonable". This implies that alternatives that are "not reasonable" do not need to be subject to appraisal. Examples include alternatives that do not meet the objectives of the plan or national policy (e.g. the NPPF), or are not within the geographical scope of the plan. In addition, the SEA Regulations do not require all reasonable alternatives to be subject to appraisal, just "reasonable alternatives".
- 2.12 It also needs to be recognised that the SEA and SA findings are not the only factors taken into account when determining a preferred option to take forward in a plan. There will often be an equal number of positive or negative effects identified for each option, such that it is not possible to 'rank' them based on sustainability performance in order to select a preferred option. Factors such as public opinion, deliverability, conformity with national policy will also be taken into account by plan-makers when selecting preferred options for their plan.

Alternatives considered in the preparation of the Herefordshire Core Strategy

- 2.13 The options or reasonable alternatives considered during development of Herefordshire's Core Strategy included the overall spatial strategy for the county, potential strategic areas for new housing and employment development within Hereford and the market towns, strategic transport infrastructure, and alternative policy approaches for the strategic policies and general development management policies. There have been a number of stages in developing and refining the plan options as summarised below. **Appendix 2** sets out in more detail the audit trail of the reasonable alternatives considered and discounted by Herefordshire Council for each policy area in the Core Strategy at each stage in its development, along with a summary of how the alternatives were subject to SA and where this is recorded.

Developing Options Paper (June 2008), accompanied by SA Report (June 2008) and SA Addendum (March 2009)

- 2.14 The Developing Options Paper consultation took place between 16 June and 8 August 2008. This paper set out options for dealing with the issues identified through the Issues Consultation which took place in Autumn 2007. The Developing Options Paper included a proposed Vision and ten Strategic Objectives for the Core Strategy, and asked for comments on whether they were appropriate. It was working within the context of the higher housing requirements for Herefordshire being proposed at the time in the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (January 2008 Phase 2 Revisions Preferred Option) of 16,600 (830 per annum) net new homes to be built between 2006 and 2026, half of which i.e. 8,300 targeted in Hereford. There were also targets for employment land of 111 hectares with a rolling 5 year reservoir of 37 hectares.
- 2.15 Following the Vision and Strategic Objectives, the Developing Options Paper then set out a series of options to help achieve this level of growth for Herefordshire covering:
- The **Spatial Strategy** (four options A – D for whether to focus the direction of new growth on the economy, society, environment or a new or expanded settlement respectively).
 - **Shaping our Place:**
 - Options for **Hereford's** role, direction for growth, type of employment, improvements to the city centre, range of shops, new transport infrastructure (including an outer distributor road to the east or west of the city).
 - Options for the role of the **Market Towns**, directions for growth at Bromyard, Kington, Ledbury, Leominster, Ross-on-Wye, and how to protect shops in the Market Towns.
 - Options for balancing growth between the Market Towns and **Rural Areas**, whether development in Rural Areas should be limited to brownfield land within settlements or enabled on greenfield land, how to encourage diversification of the rural economy, and how to protect rural facilities.
 - **Policy areas**, options for each of the following:
 - Renewable energy usage
 - Waste management
 - Minerals usage
 - Development in flood risk areas
 - Water usage and quality
 - Design and sustainable construction
 - Provision of employment sites
 - Protection of existing employment land
 - Improving the skills base
 - Tourism and culture
 - Affordable housing
 - Settlement boundaries
 - Housing density
 - Type and mix of housing
 - Needs of gypsies and travellers
 - Health care provision
 - Open space provision
 - Green space protection and enhancement

- Locally distinctive features and assets protection and enhancement
 - Finally, a list of actions was also presented for how Herefordshire Council proposed to deliver the land required to meet the Core Strategy policies.
- 2.16 The audit trail table in **Appendix 2** of this SA Report lists the individual options considered within the Developing Options Paper, and explains how they were appraised as part of the SA process, as well as why certain options were taken forward as preferred policy approaches in the Place Shaping Paper (see below), and reasons for discounting the other options considered.
- 2.17 In summary, an SA Report for the Developing Options Paper was published in June 2008⁸, which updated the PPP review and baseline information from the SA Scoping Report, and appraised the plan objectives and the four overall spatial strategy options only (see Appendix B3 of that report). The SA was undertaken by an internal group of Herefordshire Council officers during a series of workshops (held in June 2007, January and April 2008), which appraised firstly the compatibility between the plan objectives and some of the SA objectives, and secondly, how well the strategy options performed in broad economic, social and environmental terms (rather than using the full set of SA objectives). The SA found that overall each of the four options would be 'moving towards sustainability', although there were differences between the extent of their social, economic and environmental impacts, but no one option was identified as being the most sustainable. The SA Report also made some recommendations about issues that should be considered by plan-writers if each option were taken forward into the Core Strategy.
- 2.18 An SA Addendum for the Developing Options Paper was also published in March 2009⁹, which described the findings of the SA of the Strategic Objectives, Place-Shaping Options and Policy Options included in the Developing Options Paper. The appraisal process was undertaken in the same way as the first SA Report (i.e. considering broad economic, social and environmental effects rather than effects against each SA objective) by Herefordshire Council officers via a combination of individual officer appraisal of the options, consultation with other internal council departments on the findings of the SA of the place-shaping options, and a workshop with development management officers to help predict the effects of the policy options. All comments from the SA were forwarded to the Plan writers who integrated the recommendations into the emerging plan policy approaches, along with the consultation responses and currently available evidence base.

Place Shaping Paper (January 2010), accompanied by SA and HRA Report (January 2010)

- 2.19 The consultation on the Place Shaping Paper took place between 18 January and 12 March 2010. The Place Shaping Paper combined the consultation on three plans for Herefordshire:
- Core Strategy – including a preferred strategy and further options for Hereford, the market towns and rural areas and a number of general policy directions.
 - Hereford Area Plan – the 'Issues' stage.
 - Market Towns and Rural Areas Plan – the 'Issues' stage.
- 2.20 Note that the Hereford Area Plan has not progressed since this consultation stage, as the focus has been on the Core Strategy. In addition, the Market Towns and Rural Areas Plan is no longer being progressed due to the changes introduced by the Localism Act 2011 and the NPPF.
- 2.21 Between the Developing Options stage in 2008 and the Place Shaping stage in January 2010, the Panel Report for the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) Examination was published with a recommendation for further increasing the housing target for Herefordshire from 16,600 to 18,000 dwellings to address issues of rural affordable housing. This new amount was incorporated into the overall housing target in the Place Shaping Paper (given the then requirement for the development plan to accord with the RSS), by considering an increase in the number of houses to be delivered in the rural areas. An assessment of the increase was covered in the SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper, which found that the option would be 'marginally moving away from sustainability' due to the assumption that dispersed development within the rural areas will generally tend to result in more journeys to Hereford and the market towns,

⁸ Herefordshire Council (June 2008) Core Strategy: Developing Options Paper Sustainability Appraisal

⁹ Herefordshire Council (March 2009) Core Strategy: Developing Options Paper Sustainability Appraisal Addendum

increasing air pollution. In addition, sustainable patterns of transport were not directly being promoted in the additional housing option, and all development would increase waste production (see pages 15 and Appendix B3-12 of that report). The SA recommended that appropriate wording in other policies in the Core Strategy would be needed to mitigate these effects (e.g. on housing, transport and waste). It recommended policy wording to:

- Ensure that transport access is focussed on the Rural Service Centres to improve rural public transport;
- Identify the type of community facilities needed and allocate an appropriate portion of housing to support the need;
- Ensure good design, affordability etc., to improve housing quality;
- Address waste issues and require waste management plans;
- Consider carbon neutrality;
- Ensure development avoids high flood risk areas; and
- Design should include layout, landscaping and landshaping.

2.22 The Place Shaping Paper included an expanded Vision and 12 (rather than ten) Strategic Objectives. It then set out refined options from the Developing Options Paper (and some additional alternatives) for the following topics:

- **Spatial Strategy** (a preferred strategy based on a combination of elements from Options A, B and C as set out in the Developing Options Paper (June 2008). Option D was not taken forward).
- **Place-Shaping Options:**
 - **Hereford** (four refined urban expansion options all including a relief road along an eastern or western corridor (north west focus, south west focus, north-south focus, or dispersed), plus three options for an increasing range of sustainable transport provision in combination with the relief road). The no-road option was discounted at this stage in consideration of the housing options because the scale of development proposed for Hereford would cause significant additional traffic congestion if there were no substantial improvements to the city's transport infrastructure. Analysis of the impacts of the no-road scenario (2009 MMM study) against the proposed development options indicated a significant detrimental effect on the operation of Hereford's highway network with many junctions forecast to be operating beyond their capacity, reduced journey speeds and delays commonplace..
 - **Bromyard** (three refined urban expansion options)
 - **Kington** (no new options put forward, as any further development for Kington was to be identified within the Market Towns and Rural Areas Plan (MTRAP)).
 - **Ledbury** (two refined urban expansion options)
 - **Leominster** (only one refined option taken forward)
 - **Ross-on-Wye** (two refined urban expansion options)
 - **Rural Areas** (preferred approach of defining Rural Service Centres/Hubs and lists the Tier 1 settlements (rural service centres and hubs) within the county and gives a definition of Tier 2 settlements (local centres), plus two options for development in the local centres, preferred approach for development in areas outside of Tiers 1 and 2).
- **General core policies** under the following themes (some included just one preferred policy approach from the Developing Options stage, others included refined versions of the options from the Developing Options stage):
 - Enabling sustainable communities
 - Renewable energy/energy efficiency
 - Managing flood risk
 - Water resources

- Local distinctiveness
 - Design
 - Movement in Herefordshire
 - Rural services and facilities
 - Infrastructure delivery
- Minerals and waste
 - Waste
 - Minerals
- Diversifying and strengthening the local economy
 - Maintaining supply
 - Employment land provision
 - Education and skills
 - Tourism, culture and leisure
- Providing new homes
 - Density
 - Type and mix
 - Affordable housing
 - Gypsies and Travellers
 - Open space, sport and recreation
- Ensuring better health and wellbeing
 - Green infrastructure
 - Health
- Implementation and monitoring

- 2.23 The audit trail table in **Appendix 2** of this SA Report shows how and why the options considered within the Developing Options Paper for the relevant topics were refined and taken forward (or discounted) in the Place Shaping Paper, and explains how they were appraised as part of the SA process, in the SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper (January 2010). The Place Shaping Paper itself also includes a summary of the reasons for discounting particular options, and a summary of the SA findings.
- 2.24 Section 6 of the SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper explains how the appraisal was undertaken by selecting a list of representative SA objectives and questions (from the SA framework – see **Table 2.1** above) to evaluate the Core Strategy preferred, refined, significantly changed and newly emerged Place Shaping Options and Policy Directions. The selected SA questions allowed the evaluation of the options to incorporate the main themes of sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) at an appropriate level, without having to do a detailed assessment of each option against all 20 SA objectives and questions. However, the Preferred Spatial Strategy for Herefordshire was appraised against at least one question for all of the 20 SA objectives in **Table 2.1**, because it is the overriding spatial strategy for the whole of the county. The SA results were recorded on a scale of whether the plan options were:
- Significantly moving towards sustainability;
 - Marginally moving towards sustainability;
 - Neutral;
 - Marginally moving away from sustainability;
 - Significantly moving away from sustainability; or
 - Unknown - more information needed.
- 2.25 Again, SA workshops were organised involving Herefordshire Council officers with expertise in a variety of areas, for example Economic Development, Housing, Education and Development Management as well as external organisations including the Environment Agency, Natural England, English Heritage and a member of the Youth Council. The results of the separate workshops were combined and considered in the assessment of the options reported in the SA

Report. Some limitations of this approach were also described in section 9 of the SA Report (e.g. that it was not possible to reach a consensus about impacts, or where some of the workshop comments recorded were not specific or relevant to the SA objective/question).

2.26 Section 8 of the SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper states that not all of the Place Shaping Options and Policy Directions were assessed at this SA stage. This was generally because no significant changes to the options were made since the Developing Options Paper, and therefore the SA findings in the SA Report (June 2008) and SA Addendum (March 2009) for the Developing Options were still valid. The options/preferred options set out in the Place Shaping Paper, which were not assessed at this stage as they had been previously assessed, and were noted as requiring a final assessment at the later Submission stage (when the wording for the policies were worked up) for the Core Strategy were:

- Transport options for Hereford (see below).
- Kington options (will be determined through lower tier plans)
- Managing flood risk (when policy wording drafted)
- Design (when policy wording drafted)
- Infrastructure delivery (when policy wording drafted)
- Waste (when policy wording drafted)
- Maintaining supply (when policy wording drafted)
- Tourism, culture and leisure (when policy wording drafted)
- Type and mix (when policy wording drafted)
- Open space, sport and recreation (when policy wording drafted)
- Green infrastructure (when policy wording drafted)

2.27 The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper notes on page 25 that the western and eastern corridor route options were not subject to further appraisal since the Developing Options stage because the environmental evidence base was not fully available, and that the most appropriate time for the appraisal to take place would be following the publication of the 'Study of Options for the Hereford Relief Road' report prepared by Amey, which was due in Summer 2010. The alternative western and eastern route options for the Hereford relief road were appraised with reference to the 2010 Amey Study of Options report, during the Preferred Options stage later in 2010 (see below). The appraisal took into account the potential impacts of the alternative relief road options in combination with the growth proposed for Hereford at the locations set out in the Preferred Options (following the dispersed option from the Place Shaping Paper).

2.28 The remainder of the Place Shaping Paper options listed above that were not appraised in the SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper have been appraised during one or all of the subsequent SA stages, as described below.

Preferred Options (Summer-Autumn 2010), accompanied by six SA Notes (August, September and November 2010)

2.29 Following advice from a Critical Friend Review from POS Enterprises, Herefordshire Council decided to carry out a 'portfolio approach' to consulting on Preferred Options that had not been considered and consulted upon previously at Place Shaping stage (i.e. those elements of the Place Shaping Paper where options were still being considered, rather than a single preferred policy approach). The overall level of growth for Herefordshire set out in the Place Shaping Paper was not proposed to change. During summer-autumn 2010, the Council published separate Preferred Options Papers for the Core Strategy as follows:

- **Preferred Options: Hereford paper**, included (based on the fourth 'dispersed' option from the Place-Shaping Paper):
 - H1: Hereford City Centre Policy
 - H2: Hereford Movement Policy (including the Hereford relief road)
 - H3: Growth Distribution Policy
 - H4: Northern Expansion Policy

- H5: Western Expansion Policy
- H6: Southern Expansion Policy
- **Preferred Options: Market Towns (Bromyard, Ledbury, Ross-on-Wye)** paper, included:
 - One preferred 'spatial option' (or policy approach) for Bromyard, Ledbury, Ross-on-Wye (Leominster was set out as a Preferred Option at Place Shaping stage)
- **Preferred Options: Rural Areas** paper, included preferred policy approaches on:
 - RA.1: Housing Allocation
 - RA.2: Rural Service Centres / Hubs
 - RA.3: Other Settlements Outside of the RSCs and Hubs
 - RA.4: Open Countryside
 - RA.5: Rural Economy
- **Preferred Options: General Policies** paper, included policies relating to:
 - The Natural and Historic Environment
 - Green Infrastructure
 - Open Space, Sport and Recreation
 - Affordable Housing
 - Gypsy and Traveller Sites
 - Social and Community Infrastructure
 - Employment
 - Movement
 - Waste
 - Minerals
- **Preferred Options: General Policies 2nd Tranche** paper, including policies relating to:
 - The Economy
 - Sustainable Strategic Design
 - Sustainable Water Management
 - Renewable Energy
 - Infrastructure Contributions

2.30 Herefordshire Council commissioned external consultants (LUC) in May 2010 to continue the SA (and Habitats Regulations Assessment) work for the Core Strategy begun by the Council. As the Preferred Options stage was considering separate elements of the Core Strategy, and not the whole Core Strategy, LUC prepared SA Notes to accompany each of the Preferred Options papers, rather than a full SA Report at this stage. It was agreed with the Council that the full SA Report would be prepared at the following stage of plan preparation when all the policies in the Core Strategy were published as one full draft plan. The SA Notes prepared by LUC and published alongside the Preferred Options Papers were as follows:

- Preferred Options: Hereford – Sustainability Appraisal Note (September 2010)
- Preferred Options: Bromyard, Ledbury, Ross-on-Wye – Sustainability Appraisal Note (August 2010)
- Preferred Options: Rural Areas – Sustainability Appraisal Note (August 2010)
- Preferred Options: General Policies – Sustainability Appraisal Note (August 2010)
- Preferred Options: General Policies 2nd Tranche – Sustainability Appraisal Note (November 2010)
- Herefordshire Core Strategy Preferred Options – Sustainability Appraisal Note: Cumulative Impacts (November 2010)

2.31 The SA process involved assessing each of the preferred policy approaches in the Preferred Options Papers against the SA framework that was developed in the SA Scoping Report (see **Table 2.1** above). However, as explained earlier, LUC grouped the SA objectives into six themes for the appraisal, in order to enable related sustainability issues to be considered together:

- 1 Education and Employment

- 2 Healthy and Prosperous Communities
- 3 Transport and Access
- 4 Built Environment
- 5 Resource Consumption and Climate Change
- 6 Natural Environment.

2.32 Appraisal matrices were used to score each option against each theme/group of SA objectives, using the following symbols:

++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on the SA objective(s).
+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on the SA objective(s).
0	The policy is likely to have a negligible or no impact on the SA objective(s).
+/-	The policy is likely to have a mixture of positive and negative impacts on the SA objective(s).
-	The policy is likely to have a negative impact on the SA objective(s).
--	The policy is likely to have a significant negative impact on the SA objective(s).
?	It is uncertain what effect the policy will have on the SA objective(s), due to a lack of data.

- 2.33 A stakeholder workshop was held in Hereford on 4th August 2010 to discuss the findings of the initial appraisal for the first three Preferred Options Papers prepared (Market Towns, Rural Areas and General Policies 1st tranche). The workshop was facilitated by LUC and attended by Herefordshire Council officers from a number of internal departments, as well as representatives from the Environment Agency, Natural England, Countryside Council for Wales and Dwr Cymru Welsh Water. The workshop was an opportunity to update stakeholders on progress with the SA, discuss the emerging SA findings and for stakeholders to influence the evidence used, SA judgements and recommendations made. The workshop also considered the emerging findings of the Habitats Regulations Assessment work as well, but that is described in the separate HRA Report for the Core Strategy.
- 2.34 The Hereford and General Policies 2nd Tranche Preferred Options Papers were produced after the other three Papers, and taking on board consultation comments received during consultation on the earlier SA notes and during the workshop, the policies in these later two Papers were appraised against all 20 of the SA objectives, rather than the six themes above.
- 2.35 For each Preferred Options Paper, the appraisal was initially carried out for the draft policy preferred options prepared by the Council and recommendations for improvements were set out in appraisal matrices and sent to the Council. The Council then produced a finalised set of policy preferred options, which had been amended in light of the SA recommendations made. In order to clarify where changes were made by the Council, the appraisal was updated where relevant with a second row of scores, showing where changes to the scoring resulted from amendments made to the policies. In addition, notes were added in *italics* underneath each recommendation, explaining whether and how the policy preferred option was amended by the Council.
- 2.36 **Appendix 2** to this SA Report shows how the preferred policy approaches set out in the Preferred Options Papers evolved from the options considered at the Developing Options and Place Shaping Paper stages, and why certain options were discounted.
- 2.37 With respect to the Preferred Options paper for Hereford, some reasonable alternatives to the six preferred policies were also appraised, because they had either been raised during consultation as an alternative to the options in the Place Shaping Paper (one alternative to the Hereford City Centre Policy (H1) and two alternatives for the Growth Distribution Policy (H3)) or were identified at the Developing options stage (the western and eastern routes for the relief road – relating to the Hereford Movement Policy (H2)) The additional alternatives appraised were:
- Policy H1: Retail expansion in historic core and leisure and housing (affordable) on ESG area

- Policy H2: Relief Road – Western Route
- Policy H2: Relief Road – Eastern Route
- Policy H3: Develop land over two plan periods and increase the total amount of homes
- Policy H3: Development predominantly in the south

- 2.38 Additional alternative options referred to on pages 42-45 of the Hereford Preferred Options Paper were either considered unrealistic and therefore not reasonable alternatives, or had already been appraised at the Place Shaping Stage. It should be noted that the three alternatives above for policies H1 and H3 were described only as stated above. They did not have any more spatial definition or further criteria to characterise how they would be delivered, and this is reflected in the broader approach to the sustainability appraisal for these alternatives presented in the SA Note for Hereford.
- 2.39 With respect to the Relief Road options, the SA drew on the findings of the 2010 Amey Study of Options for the Relief Road report. The Study of Options report describes the further technical assessment work on the relief road and sustainable transport options undertaken since the Place Shaping consultation, from which an inner western and inner eastern corridor routes emerged as the favoured options based on the detailed engineering and environmental assessment undertaken. The outer western and outer eastern route corridor options that were considered as part of the 2010 Study of Options were not considered reasonable alternatives because of their greater adverse environmental impact than the inner route corridor options and were not taken forward. While the Hereford Preferred Option Policy H2 proposed the western inner corridor route as the preferred route for the relief road, the eastern inner corridor route was considered to be a reasonable alternative as it was as popular in consultation responses as the western route corridor at Place Shaping stage and performed as well in terms of traffic delay reductions in Hereford City. Thus both of these options were subject to sustainability appraisal at this stage. The SA of the two Relief Road options considered the effects of either route in combination with existing development and proposed development in and around Hereford (based on the preferred dispersed spatial option as set out in the other policies of the Hereford Preferred Option Paper).
- 2.40 The SA findings were very similar for either route, but reflecting the environmental assessment undertaken as part of the Study of Options report for the relief road, concluded that the eastern route would have more of a significant negative effect on biodiversity assets than the western route as it would encroach on the floodplain of the River Lugg which is a Special Wildlife Site and a SSSI, and a major tributary of the River Wye SAC (but acknowledged that a Habitats Regulations Assessment was underway for the relief road options). There was also a higher risk of flooding associated with the eastern route. However, more potential for significant negative effects on the landscape were identified for the western route, as well as impacts on housing as the Study of Options found that the western route would necessitate the demolition of at least two residential properties to the west of Hereford, whereas there would be no loss of residential properties with the eastern route. In terms of reducing traffic in the city centre, and also improving access for residents to services and employment opportunities, construction of the western route would mean that the relief road would pass within close proximity to the new developments at Holmer West, Three Elms and Whitecross proposed under the Preferred Options for Hereford. As such, residents of these areas would be better able to access the road and make use of it to avoid the congested city centre than under the eastern route, having more of a significant positive effect. The road would pass within close proximity of the proposed development sites at Bullinghope and Holmer East under either the western or eastern option. The effects on the remaining SA objectives were the same irrespective of whether the relief road route was to the west or east of Hereford.
- 2.41 Finally, a separate SA Note was prepared once all of the Preferred Options Papers had been appraised to consider the potential cumulative sustainability effects of all the Core Strategy Preferred Options taken together. The cumulative impacts of all the Preferred Options were generally minor or significant positive in terms of the **education and employment**, and **health and prosperity** themes due to the measures included within a number of the Preferred Options to facilitate job creation within Herefordshire and encourage healthy lifestyles and increased levels of activity of within the local population. For **transport and access**, the cumulative impact was considered to be a mixture of negative and some positive impacts. The negative effects mainly related to a number of the Preferred Options having the potential to encourage car use by

increasing the attractiveness of this transport mode, for example through the provision of car parking facilities in new developments or by proposing improvements to the road network, whereas the cumulative positive effects would be achieved through increased provision of sustainable transport proposed in some of the Preferred Options. The **built environment** theme includes SA objectives relating to the quality of the built environment, as well as provision of decent homes, and the efficient use of brownfield versus greenfield land. Therefore, the cumulative impact of all the Preferred Options was mixed. This was due to the cumulative positive impact on the built environment of several of the Preferred Options specifically aiming to improve the quality of the built environment, the cumulative significant positive impact on housing provision due to the extensive provision made for both market value and affordable housing through the Preferred Options, but the cumulative mixed effect on the historic environment and loss of greenfield land arising from a number of the urban expansion Preferred Options and the relief road. The cumulative impact on the **resource consumption and climate change** theme was mostly negative due to the resource use and increased traffic emissions associated with development at Hereford and the proposed Hereford relief road, as well as development in rural areas, which may encourage ongoing car use and would therefore maintain levels of emissions from road traffic. Some cumulative positive impacts were predicted though in relation to the general policy Preferred Options seeking to protect water resources and encourage use of renewable energy thus reducing contributions to climate change. Finally, the cumulative impact on the **natural environment** theme was mixed or negative, with some significant negative effects having been highlighted, all of which related to the options for development at Hereford or the construction of the Hereford relief road (due to the potential for adverse impacts on the qualifying features of the River Wye SAC (i.e. otters, fish and other freshwater species). However, cumulative positive effects were also identified in relation to the Preferred Options for landscape, biodiversity and green infrastructure, which specifically aim to conserve and enhance the quality of the natural environment.

- 2.42 The potential cumulative sustainability impacts of the Draft Core Strategy have been reassessed in this current SA Report, and are set out at the end of **Chapter 4**.

Revised Preferred Options for Herefordshire (September 2011), accompanied by the Revised Preferred Options SA Note (July 2011)

- 2.43 The outcomes of the Preferred Options consultation undertaken in summer-autumn 2010 indicated that there was considerable opposition to the scale of housing development proposed in Herefordshire. As a result of this, new evidence and various other factors (discussed below), the Council revised certain aspects of the preferred options for the Core Strategy, and published a leaflet setting out the revised preferred options 'Help Plan the Future of Herefordshire' (September 2011) for consultation between October-November 2011. These revisions were subject to SA as they were prepared, and the SA work was presented in the Revised Preferred Options SA Note (July 2011) prepared by LUC. Note that the consultation comments relating specifically to the SA Notes for the Preferred Options were taken into consideration and are summarised in **Appendix 3**.
- 2.44 The reasons for the revision of the preferred options are described in the Herefordshire LDF Core Strategy Revised Preferred Options Background Paper produced by Herefordshire Council (October 2011) and include:
- The impact of the recession and the downturn in the housing market.
 - Publication of the latest Government Household Projections, which indicate a smaller increase in the number of households likely to exist in the county in the future than previous projections.
 - The requirement for the Core Strategy to set out proposals for housing delivery over a 15 year period – as a result of delays in advancing the Core Strategy this would no longer be possible without extending or re-basing the plan period.
 - Consultation responses received in 2010 in relation to the emerging preferred options, which showed significant opposition to the scale of new housing development proposed, the city centre policy and the western relief road.

What the Revised Preferred Options included

- 2.45 The changes that were made to the Core Strategy preferred options as a result of these factors are summarised below:
- The plan will cover the period 2011-2031 instead of 2006-2026.
 - The housing target for the county as a whole over the plan period has been reduced from 18,000 to 16,500.
 - The housing allocation for Hereford has been reduced by 2,000 dwellings, mainly through the reduced housing allocation for the Holmer West urban extension and the removal of the housing allocation for Whitecross.
 - The retail floorspace requirement for Hereford has been increased from 40,000sqm to 46,000sqm.
 - The employment site allocation at Holmer East has been removed.
 - The proposed new 420 place primary school at Whitecross will now be provided at the Three Elms site instead, and the existing school facilities at Holmer West will be improved instead of providing a new school there.
 - The preferred option for the Hereford relief road remains broadly as set out in the 2010 preferred option, for a western route. However, minor amendments have been made to the route corridor (between the A465 Abergavenny and A49 Ross roads) to avoid residential properties and lessen landscape impacts.
 - The housing distribution in the rural areas has increased by 800.
 - The allocations for the market towns have been retained as similar to the 2010 preferred options, although the housing requirement for Ross-on-Wye has decreased slightly, from 1,000 to 900 new homes over the plan period, and the housing allocation for Leominster has been reduced by 200. There is also a new allocation for 5ha of employment land at Leominster's urban extension.

Discounted options

- 2.46 In deciding the revisions to individual elements of the Core Strategy preferred options, the Council also considered and discounted alternative approaches to the revisions and the overall spatial strategy as follows:
- Continue current spatial strategy as directed by the regional plan of focussing majority of development to Hereford with a plan period up to 2026 (i.e. don't make any changes to the 2010 Preferred Options).
 - Change the plan period to 2011-2031, but don't make any other changes to the current spatial strategy, scale and distribution of houses.
 - Reduce the level of housing in Hereford by 2,000 (from 8,500 to 6,500) and redistribute these 2,000 homes to the rural areas with an extended plan period to 2031 and retain the overall 18,000 total housing allocation.
 - Reduce the amount of new homes to be built in Hereford, but build some or all of them in the market towns instead.
 - Change the plan period and increase the amount of new homes in the county above the regional plan target of 18,000.
 - Other options for changing the distribution of new homes in Hereford – this option would have involved all strategic sites being reduced by a smaller, but unspecified, amount.
 - Build a partial eastern relief road instead of a western route corridor.
- 2.47 These discounted options were also subject to SA and the findings were summarised in Section 3 of the Revised Preferred Options SA Note (July 2011).

What was subject to SA in the Revised Preferred Options SA Note (July 2011)

- 2.48 The 2011 Revised Preferred Options were not described as detailed policies in the same way that the 2010 Preferred Options were, but were summarised as broad changes to the 2010 Preferred Options in the consultation leaflet 'Help Plan the Future of Herefordshire' (September 2011). The relevant 2010 policies affected by the proposed revisions, and which therefore needed to be subject to the revised SA, were:
- Rural Areas - Policy RA1 (the revised preferred option increased the housing numbers in rural areas and market towns by 800).
 - Rural Areas - Policy RA5 (the revised preferred option created more local jobs).
 - Market Towns - Ross-on-Wye policy (the revised preferred option reduced the total number of homes to be provided over the plan period from 1,000 to 900 and the number in the Hildesley urban extension from 350 to 200).
 - Hereford - Policy H1: City Centre (the revised preferred option increased the amount of retail floorspace from 40,000sqm to 46,000sqm).
 - Hereford – Relief Road Option (the route for the western relief road had been slightly amended). *Note that this proposal comprised part of 'Policy H2: Movement' in the 2010 Preferred Options consultation, but at that stage the relief road was subject to SA separately from the other components of policy H2. In addition, the discounted eastern relief road option was appraised in the 2010 Preferred Options SA Note. For the Revised Preferred Options SA Note, the SA matrix for the western relief road option was updated, while the matrix which sets out the appraisal of the rest of policy H2 remained unchanged. Because the 2010 SA matrix for the western relief road option included SA scores for the discounted eastern relief road option, it remained in the SA matrix in the Revised Preferred Options SA Note. However, the eastern relief road was not appraised again at this stage.*
 - Hereford - Policy H3: Growth Distribution (the revised preferred option reduced the overall amount of new homes to be built in Hereford by 2,000, mainly as a result of reduced housing allocations at Holmer West and Whitecross. It also removes the employment site at Holmer East).
 - Hereford - Policy H4: Northern Urban Expansions (the revised preferred option reduced the number of homes at Holmer West and removes the employment site at Holmer East. The allocation for a new primary school at Holmer West had also been removed).
 - Hereford - Policy H5: Western Urban Expansions (the revised preferred option removed the housing allocation at Whitecross and the primary school previously planned at Whitecross would now be built at Three Elms instead).
 - Leominster: The revisions that were made to the preferred options also included changes to the proposal for Leominster (as described above, the housing allocation for the town was reduced by 200 and a new allocation was made for 5ha of employment land at the urban extension). However, the preferred option for Leominster was decided upon at the Place Shaping Paper stage, and was not reproduced as a policy at the 2010 Preferred Options stage. Therefore, the proposal for Leominster was newly appraised, rather than updating an existing appraisal.

Findings of the SA of the Revised Preferred Options

- 2.49 The revisions that were proposed in the 2011 Revised Preferred Options generally only affected one or two elements of each policy, therefore a lot of the SA findings remained unchanged from the 2010 Preferred Options SA Notes. All of the SA scores for the following policies remained unchanged from the 2010 Preferred Options appraisal:
- RA1: Rural Areas Policy
 - RA5: Rural Areas Policy
 - Ross-on-Wye Policy
 - H1: Hereford City Centre Policy
 - Hereford Relief Road Option

- 2.50 The only changes made to the SA scores as a result of the Revised Preferred Options were for the remaining policies:
- H3: Growth Distribution Policy – the score for the Education and Employment theme was reduced from a significant positive (++) to a minor positive (+), mainly as a result of the removal of the Holmer East employment site allocation from the preferred option.
 - H4: Northern Urban Expansion – the score for the Education and Employment theme was changed from an uncertain significant positive (++?) to an uncertain minor positive (+?) effect, mainly due to the removal of the Holmer East employment site allocation from the preferred option, but also as a result of the fact that the new primary school at Holmer West is no longer being provided there and the extent to which expanding existing schools will meet need is uncertain.
- 2.51 Most of the revisions to the preferred options related to revised housing allocations. Although the overall housing allocation for Herefordshire had been reduced from 18,000 to 16,500, it was considered that this would be adequate to meet housing need in the county up to 2031 based on the evidence available (including Government housing projections and the draft Herefordshire housing needs study¹⁰), and therefore the SA scores relating to housing provision (SA objective 11) remained positive on that basis. Where potential environmental effects were identified through the SA as a result of the housing allocations, these remained unchanged as the reduced allocations were not considered likely to reduce the potential for these effects to such an extent that the SA scores would change.
- 2.52 In addition, evidence¹¹ available at the time showed that there is significant need for affordable housing provision within Herefordshire - the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (2008) estimated a net annual affordable housing need in Herefordshire of 1,113 dwellings per annum. This is more than 100% of the total housing requirements that were set out in the West Midlands RSS at that time. The affordable housing targets set out in the 2011 Revised Preferred Options may not fully provide for the estimated need, however, it is recognised that the targets should go a long way towards meeting needs in the county. Herefordshire Council had increased the affordable housing target in areas experiencing particularly high need, such as Ledbury and Bromyard. Therefore, the SA found that there should still be a positive effect on provision of affordable housing within the county, even though need will not be fully met.
- 2.53 The main revision to the preferred options which had an effect on the SA scores was therefore the removal of the allocation for an employment site at Holmer East in the Hereford Northern Expansion policy.
- 2.54 In addition to the revisions to the SA scores from the 2010 Preferred Options stage, the findings of the appraisal of the preferred option for Leominster (originally set out in the Place Shaping Paper, January 2010, and revised in the July 2011 Revised Preferred Options SA Note) were also a consideration. In general, the measures set out in the revised preferred option for Leominster were found to have positive effects in relation to the provision of homes and employment opportunities, and there should be good opportunities for sustainable transport use. However, the revised preferred option also proposed the development of a southern relief road for the town, with which a number of potential negative effects were associated, including ongoing high levels of car use and associated emissions. There was also the potential for significant negative effects on the natural environment and landscape, as the urban extension was considered to be proposed in a sensitive location; however, it was recognised that there are some measures in the revised preferred option for Leominster that may help to mitigate adverse environmental impacts, such as the provision of additional green infrastructure and natural open space. It was recommended that a specific target for affordable housing be included in any further revised policy for Leominster, as it was unclear in the Revised Preferred Option leaflet what the percentage of affordable housing will be.

¹⁰ GL Hearn (June 2011) DRAFT Local Housing Requirements Study for Herefordshire Council.

¹¹ Three Dragons with Roger Tym and Partners (February 2010) Herefordshire Council Local Development Framework Viability Study: Report of Study

Overall spatial strategy

2.55 The overall spatial strategy for development across Herefordshire proposed in the 2011 Revised Preferred Options was to:

- **Reduce the level of housing in Hereford by 2,000 (from 8,500 to 6,500) and redistribute 800 of these homes to the rural areas. Reduce the number of homes to be provided in Leominster by 200 and in Ross-on-Wye by 100. This will result in a reduced overall housing allocation of 16,500 (from 18,000). The time period of the plan will now be from 2011-2031** – This approach was found to have positive effects in relation to housing provision, as the total allocation is still considered adequate to meet projected need across the County within the revised plan period. Positive effects in the rural areas were also likely in relation to socio-economic issues, as focussing more development outside of the main urban centres should help to stimulate economic activity in rural areas and retain their viability and vitality. However, there were negative effects associated with this approach in relation to sustainable transport and climate change issues, as it is less likely that sustainable transport links would be as easily provided or used in rural areas in comparison to Hereford and the market towns. The fact that a significant amount of development is still focused within Hereford, despite the reduced housing allocation for the city, meant that there were still likely to be negative effects associated with the natural environment, in particular the effects on the River Wye.

Discounted options for overall spatial strategy

2.56 In deciding on the overall spatial strategy for development across Herefordshire, a number of other options were considered and rejected by the Council. The findings of the broad appraisal of the likely sustainability effects of each of these discounted options is set out below. As described earlier, the discounted options were not set out in enough detail to enable a detailed appraisal of their likely effects on each SA objective/theme.

- **Continuing the current spatial strategy (as directed by the regional plan) of focussing the majority of development in Hereford with a plan period up to 2026 (i.e. not making any changes to the 2010 Preferred Options)** – this would have resulted in the same sustainability effects detailed in the SA notes for the 2010 Preferred Options.
- **Changing the plan period to 2011-2031, but not making any other changes to the current spatial strategy, scale and distribution of houses** – this would have resulted in broadly the same effects as the 2010 Preferred Options. However, the housing allocations would be higher than the current predicted level of need between 2011-2031 (the allocations were reduced to take into account revised estimates of housing need, and so keeping the numbers the same as in 2010 would not address this); therefore there may be some negative effects arising in relation to the economy and social effects of unoccupied housing. In addition, the adverse environmental impacts of housing development e.g. in relation to water quality and the landscape may have been increased.
- **Reducing the level of housing in Hereford by 2,000 (from 8,500 to 6,500) and redistributing those 2,000 homes to the rural areas with an extended time period of the plan to 2031, while retaining the overall 18,000 total housing allocation** – this would have again resulted in higher levels of house building than the current predicted level of need over the plan period. As such, there may have been some negative effects arising in relation to the economy and social effects of unoccupied housing. In addition, the adverse environmental impacts of housing development e.g. in relation to water quality and the landscape may have been increased.
- **Reducing the amount of new homes in Hereford but building some or all of them in the market towns instead** – this approach would again have resulted in higher levels of house building than the current predicted level of need over the plan period. As such, there may have been some negative effects arising in relation to the economy and social effects of unoccupied housing. In addition, the adverse environmental impacts of housing development e.g. in relation to water quality and the landscape may have been increased. The effects of concentrating the redistributed housing development in the market towns rather than in the rural areas may have been more positive in that there would have been better potential for realising opportunities for using sustainable transport links rather than travelling by car.

- **Changing the plan period to 2011-2031 and increasing the amount of new homes in the county above the regional plan target of 18,000** – this would again have most likely resulted in more housing development than needed within the plan period, which may have increased the potential adverse environmental impacts of the housing development such as impacts on water quality and the landscape, and may have also resulted in adverse social and economic effects, for example relating to unoccupied housing.
- **Other options for changing the distribution of new homes in Hereford** – this option would have involved all strategic sites being reduced by a smaller, but unspecified, amount. It was not possible to appraise the likely impacts of this approach without more information about the extent to which housing numbers would be reduced. Given the varying nature of each strategic site, it was considered more appropriate to reduce housing numbers in a targeted way rather than this generalised approach in order to allow for the particular sensitivities of each site to be addressed where necessary. In addition, if the housing provision at all strategic sites were reduced, there may be implications for the viability of providing community facilities at any of the sites to the extent currently planned.
- **Build a partial eastern relief road** – this approach would have delivered some of the same impacts (both positive and negative) of a full western relief road, for example ongoing car use may be encouraged by the provision of a more convenient road network; however congestion in the city centre would be reduced. Such effects would not, however, be experienced to the same extent as if a full relief road were to be provided to the west of the city. In addition, the Revised Preferred Options Background Paper (July 2011) states that the partial relief road would not enable the sustainable transport measures resulting from A49 detrunking through the city of Hereford. It was not possible to accurately assess the likely impacts of a partial eastern relief road without more information about where exactly it would be located. However, the eastern side of Hereford is more sensitive in terms of biodiversity than the western side; therefore it is likely that there would be negative effects in this sense. In particular, the eastern route would cross the Lugg Meadows and so may have an adverse impact on the River Wye and Lugg Special Area of Conservation.

2.57 Finally, an updated assessment of the cumulative impacts of the Revised Preferred Options considered all together was also set out in the SA Note (July 2011). However, because only a few changes to the SA scores were made as a result of the 2011 revisions to the preferred options, which affected relatively few of the policies, the overall cumulative impacts of the 2011 Revised Preferred Options for the Core Strategy were broadly very similar to the 2010 Preferred Options.

Draft Core Strategy (March 2013), accompanied by this full SA Report (March 2013)

- 2.58 The consultation on the Revised Preferred Options for Herefordshire generated a significant response. (Note that the consultation comments relating specifically to the SA Note for the Revised Preferred Options were taken into consideration during this stage of the SA and are summarised in **Appendix 3**.) The wider responses received on the Revised Preferred Options covered most aspects of the emerging plan and were not only confined to references to the specific changes being proposed through the Revised Preferred Option. The highest level of comment received made reference to the proposals for Hereford. Since the Revised Preferred Options consultation in 2011, the NPPF was published, and the Localism Act introduced the intention to revoke the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy, as well as introducing the Neighbourhood Planning agenda, all of which had implications for the Herefordshire Core Strategy by changing the prevailing policy context for the plan and refining the policies for the rural areas, having considered the alternatives of no change or unrestricted development.
- 2.59 In addition, further technical studies to inform the Local Plan evidence base were undertaken. In particular, further transport assessment studies were commissioned to assess the environmental and amenity issues associated with the southern corridor of the proposed relief road taking into account various consultation responses, as well as an update of the Amey 2010 Study of Options report based on the revised (lower) allocations for housing and employment development. Reports considering the engineering, environmental and traffic impacts as well as economic and wider social impacts of an additional Eastern Link to the proposed Enterprise Zone were also undertaken. The demographic implications of providing 16,500 additional homes in the County by 2031 were examined by GL Hearn and they have confirmed that this would result in an increase in the population of working age. The Strategic Housing Land Availability Report was also updated,

and coupled with production of the 2011 Annual Monitoring Report, confirmed the absence of a 5-year housing supply within the County.

- 2.60 Therefore, Herefordshire Council decided to update proposals for the Herefordshire Core Strategy into a full Draft Core Strategy and make it available for a further round of consultation prior to Submission of the plan to the Secretary of State. The Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) was provided to LUC in an early draft form for appraisal, and the findings of the draft version of the SA report were considered by the Council when finalising the Draft Core Strategy ready for consultation. A number of recommendations were made in the draft version of the SA report in relation to the policies for Bromyard and Leominster and these were addressed by the Council as it finalised the Draft Core Strategy for public consultation. These recommendations are summarised below (note that the findings of this SA Report, which are described in **Chapter 4** and **Appendices 4, 5 and 6** of this SA Report) have been updated since the draft version to reflect the amended policies..
- 2.61 The following recommendations for strengthening policy wording were made in the draft version of this SA Report with respect to some policies in the early draft version of the Draft Core Strategy, in order to help to mitigate potentially negative sustainability effects identified:
- Policy BY2 had the potential for effects on the historic environment as the issue was not addressed directly within the criteria in the policy itself, and the supporting text indicated that potential impacts on archaeological remains could be of concern. As such, it was recommended that this issue should be addressed within the wording of policy BY2, for example by requiring that further archaeological field evaluation should take place to inform the detailed development proposals. **This recommendation has now been addressed, and the policy now requires an evaluation of the archaeological importance of the area in order to ensure appropriate protection of heritage assets and inform the detailed development proposals.**
 - Policy LO2 was also found to potentially have a negative effect on the quality of the built environment as it did not make any provision for the protection of heritage assets at the urban extension site, despite the supporting text recognising the potential high archaeological value of the site. It was therefore recommended that this issue should also be addressed directly through the policy itself. **This recommendation has now been addressed, and the policy now also requires an evaluation of the archaeological importance of the area in order to ensure appropriate protection of heritage assets and inform the detailed development proposals.**
 - Policy LO1 and LO2 did not make particularly good provision for ensuring that the specific development proposed is energy efficient and sustainable, as the policies for other places (such as Hereford and Ledbury) did. It was therefore recommended that incorporating the same wording (i.e. relating to contributing towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy) in the Leominster policies would improve their effects. **This recommendation has now been partially addressed, and policy LO2 now specifically aims to bring forward development that is sustainable in terms of its construction materials and methods, use of energy, water and other resources and contributes towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include the use of renewable and low carbon energy sources.**
- 2.62 The Draft Core Strategy still contains a Vision and 12 Strategic Objectives, and is still making provision for 16,500 homes in the plan period to 2031. The policies in the Core Strategy are then set out as follows:
- **Spatial Strategy** – includes six overarching policies covering sustainable development, housing distribution, release of land for residential development, movement and transportation, employment provision and climate change.
 - **Place-Shaping Options:**
 - **Hereford** – includes six policies covering development in the city centre, northern, western and southern expansion, movement (including the relief road) and employment provision.

- **Bromyard** – includes two policies for development in and around Bromyard, including strategic allocation sites for housing and employment.
- **Leominster** – includes two policies for development in and around Leominster, including strategic allocation sites for housing and employment.
- **Ledbury** – includes two policies for development in and around Ledbury, including strategic allocation sites for housing and employment.
- **Ross-on-Wye** – includes two policies for development in and around Ross-on-Wye, including strategic allocation sites for housing and employment.
- **Kington** – includes one policy for an amount of development at Kington, but no strategic sites are allocated.
- **Rural Areas** – includes six policies covering the rural strategy for development in the rural areas, within and outside of the villages, criteria for agricultural, forestry and rural enterprise dwellings, as well as re-use of rural buildings, and the rural economy.
- **General policies** under the following themes:

Social Progress

- Housing
 - Affordable housing
 - Rural exceptions sites
 - Appropriate range and mix
 - Travellers sites
- Social and community facilities
 - Social and community facilities
- Open space, sport and recreation
 - Requirement for open space, sports and recreation facilities
 - Meeting open space, sports and recreation needs
 - Loss of open space, sports or recreation facilities
- Traffic management
 - Traffic management, highway safety and promoting active travel

Economic Prosperity

- Employment
 - Employment provision
 - Redevelopment of existing employment land and buildings
 - Home Working
- Tourism
 - Tourism, culture and leisure
- Retail
 - Town centres
 - Primary and secondary shopping frontages

Environmental Quality

- Local distinctiveness
 - Local distinctiveness
 - Landscape/townscape
 - Green infrastructure
 - Historic environment and heritage assets
- Sustainable design
 - Sustainable design and energy efficiency

- Renewable and low carbon energy
- Sustainable water management and resources
- Waste water treatment and river water quality
- Natural resources: Minerals
 - Minerals safeguarding areas
 - Annual apportionments for aggregate provision
 - Criteria for the assessment of minerals related development
 - Small Scale non-aggregate building stone and clay production
 - Secondary (reused and recycled) aggregates
 - Moreton on Lugg railhead
- Waste
 - Waste streams and targets
 - Location of new waste management facilities
 - Existing and permitted waste treatment Sites
 - Technologies for biological treatment of waste
 - Waste minimisation and management in new developments
 - Minerals
- Implementation and monitoring – includes a policy on Infrastructure Delivery

2.63 **Appendix 2** to this SA Report shows the evolution of the draft policies set out in the Draft Core Strategy from the options considered at the Developing Options, Place Shaping Paper, Preferred Options and Revised Preferred Options stages, and why options were preferred or discounted at each stage.

SA Stage C: Preparing the sustainability appraisal report

- 2.64 This SA Report describes the process undertaken to date in carrying out the SA of the Herefordshire Core Strategy. It sets out the findings of the appraisal, highlighting any likely significant effects (both positive and negative, and taking into account the likely secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term and permanent and temporary effects), making recommendations for improvements and clarifications that may help to mitigate negative effects and maximise the benefits of the plan, and outlining proposed monitoring measures.
- 2.65 Each policy in the Draft Core Strategy was assessed against each SA objective, and a judgement was made with regards to the likely effect that the option would have on that objective. These judgements were recorded as a colour coded symbol, as shown below in **Figure 2.1**. The sustainability effects are presented in a matrix for each policy, in **Appendices 4, 5 and 6**, along with a brief justification of the judgement made.

Figure 2.1 Key to symbols and colour coding used in the SA of the Draft Core Strategy

++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on the SA objective(s).
+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on the SA objective(s).
0	The policy is likely to have a negligible or no impact on the SA objective(s).
-	The policy is likely to have a negative impact on the SA objective(s).
--	The policy is likely to have a significant negative impact on the SA objective(s).
?	It is uncertain what effect the policy will have on the SA objective(s), due to a lack of data.
+/-	The policy is likely to have a mixture of positive and negative impacts on the SA objective(s).

- 2.66 The SA findings for the Draft Core Strategy are summarised in **Chapter 4**, including an updated assessment of the potential cumulative impacts of the Draft Core Strategy as a whole.

SA Stage D: Consultation on the Herefordshire Core Strategy and this SA Report

- 2.67 Herefordshire Council is inviting comments on the Draft Core Strategy and this SA Report in advance of the formal consultation stage under Regulations 19 and 20 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (Statutory Instrument 2012 No. 767).

SA Stage E: Monitoring Implementation of the DPD

- 2.68 This SA Report sets out recommendations for monitoring the social, environmental and economic effects of implementing the Herefordshire Core Strategy. These monitoring proposals should be considered within the context of the broader monitoring framework for the Core Strategy and the data collection for the Herefordshire Council Annual Monitoring Report.

Next Steps

- 2.69 Following the consultation on the Draft Core Strategy, any changes that HCC proposes to make to the Core Strategy policies prior to Pre-Submission will be reviewed, to determine in the first instance whether the changes will make the policies significantly different to those that have already been appraised. Depending on the extent of any changes made to the policies, they will be re-appraised against the SA framework and a revised SA report will be produced for the 'soundness' consultation alongside the Pre-Submission version of the Core Strategy (this will be a further iteration of Stages B-D in the SA process). There may then be a final iteration of changes to the Core Strategy (depending on the extent to which representations found the Core Strategy to be sound or not). If any of the changes to the Core Strategy are significant, then a further iteration of the SA will also be needed and an updated SA Report or SA Annex will be produced to accompany the Core Strategy when it is submitted to the Secretary of State.

3 Sustainability context for development in Herefordshire

Review of Plans, Policies and Programmes

- 3.1 The Herefordshire Core Strategy is not prepared in isolation, being greatly influenced by other plan, policies and programmes and by broader sustainability objectives. It needs to be consistent with international and national guidance and strategic planning policies and should contribute to the goals of a wide range of other programmes and strategies, such as those relating to social policy, culture and heritage. It must also conform to environmental protection legislation and the sustainability objectives established at an international, national and regional level.
- 3.2 A review has been undertaken of the other plans, policies and programmes that are relevant to the Core Strategy. This review reflects recent changes in policy and the full updated review of relevant plans, policies and programmes can be seen in **Appendix 1**.
- 3.3 The most significant development in terms of the policy context for the Core Strategy has been the 2012 publication of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which replaced the suite of Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) and Planning Policy Guidance (PPGs). The NPPF is intended to streamline national planning policy, having reduced over a thousand pages of policy down to 65 pages. The Herefordshire Core Strategy must be consistent with the requirements of the NPPF, which sets out information about the purposes of local plan-making. It states that:
- 3.4 *"Local Plans must be prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. To this end, they should be consistent with the principles and policies set out in this Framework, including the presumption in favour of sustainable development."*
- 3.5 As the emerging Core Strategy is to be eventually adopted as part of the Local plan for Herefordshire, the Core Strategy will comply with the NPPF's requirements for local-plan making. The NPPF also requires Local Plans to be 'aspirational but realistic'. This means that opportunities for appropriate development should be identified in order to achieve net gains in terms of sustainable social, environmental and economic development; however significant adverse impacts in any of those areas should not be allowed to occur.
- 3.6 The NPPF requires local planning authorities to set out the strategic priorities for the area in the Local Plan. This should include strategic policies to deliver:
- the homes and jobs needed in the area;
 - the provision of retail, leisure and other commercial development;
 - the provision of infrastructure for transport, telecommunications, waste management, water supply, wastewater, flood risk and coastal change management, and the provision of minerals and energy (including heat);
 - the provision of health, security, community and cultural infrastructure and other local facilities; and
 - climate change mitigation and adaptation, conservation and enhancement of the natural and historic environment, including landscape.
- 3.7 In addition, Local Plans should:
- plan positively for the development and infrastructure required in the area to meet the objectives, principles and policies of this Framework;
 - be drawn up over an appropriate time scale, preferably a 15-year time horizon, take account of longer term requirements, and be kept up to date;

- be based on co-operation with neighbouring authorities, public, voluntary and private sector organisations;
- indicate broad locations for strategic development on a key diagram and land-use designations on a proposals map;
- allocate sites to promote development and flexible use of land, bringing forward new land where necessary, and provide detail on form, scale, access and quantum of development where appropriate;
- identify areas where it may be necessary to limit freedom to change the uses of buildings, and support such restrictions with a clear explanation;
- identify land where development would be inappropriate, for instance because of its environmental or historic significance; and
- contain a clear strategy for enhancing the natural, built and historic environment, and supporting Nature Improvement Areas where they have been identified.

Baseline Information

- 3.8 Baseline information provides the context for assessing the sustainability of proposals in the Core Strategy and it provides the basis for identifying trends, predicting the likely effects of the plan and monitoring its outcomes. The requirements for baseline data vary widely, but it must be relevant to environmental, social and economic issues, be sensitive to change and should ideally relate to records which are sufficient to identify trends.
- 3.9 Annex 1(f) of the SEA Directive requires data to be gathered on biodiversity, population, human health, flora, fauna, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the inter-relationship between the above factors. As an integrated SA and SEA is being carried out, baseline information relating to other 'sustainability' topics has also been included; for example information about housing, social inclusiveness, transport, energy, waste and economic growth.
- 3.10 The baseline information is presented below under the six themes that the SA framework has been grouped into (for ease of appraisal):
- 1 Education and employment.
 - 2 Healthy and prosperous communities.
 - 3 Transport and access.
 - 4 Built environment.
 - 5 Resource consumption and climate change.
 - 6 Natural environment.
- 3.11 The data and summary of baseline conditions in Herefordshire relating to each topic area draws on and updates those reported in the General Scoping Report for the Herefordshire LDF prepared in 2007 and have been taken from Herefordshire Council's Annual Monitoring Report 2010/11 (published March 2012) unless otherwise referenced. In a number of places, data for Herefordshire are compared to data for the West Midlands region, because similar data were available on a regional basis before the abolition of the regional assemblies and regional development agencies.

Education and Employment

Income and Employment

- 3.12 In February 2012 the unemployment rate in Herefordshire stood at 2.5%¹² compared with 4.7% in the region and 3.8% nationally. Land based industries have remained a prominent part of the Herefordshire economy throughout the process of industrialization. Primary food production and

¹² <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/index.aspx>

processing (food and drink manufacture) are still important in Herefordshire, although as with other areas, service industries have increased and manufacturing has diversified. Hereford and the market towns have seen continued diversification into more specialised manufacturing and service sectors (including wholesale retail and repair services and health and social work) these are now the sectors employing the most people in Herefordshire.

- 3.13 The business size profile is characterised by a few large employers (over 50 employees - 2% of businesses), some medium sized enterprises (11-49 employees - 11%) and a great number of small firms (10 or less employees - 86%).
- 3.14 In 2011-12, 15% of the working population of Herefordshire aged 16-64 was self-employed which is equal to the national average but higher than the West Midlands regional average of 8%. Of the remaining 85% of workers, 18% are employed in wholesale and retail trade. A further 16% are in manufacturing and 15% in human health and social work.
- 3.15 In 2011, Herefordshire had annual gross median work-based earnings of £20,080, lower than the West Midlands region (£24,538) and England (£26,447) despite the fact that employees in the County work longer hours than the regional and national averages.
- 3.16 From the 2001 Census data, 14.6% of the Herefordshire resident workforce worked outside of the county while 10.3% of county jobs were taken by people living outside of Herefordshire. Therefore, net out-commuting amounted to nearly 4,000 people, primarily to adjoining counties and districts.¹³

Education and Skills

- 3.17 The proportion of pupils achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs including English and Maths was 57.5% in 2011 which is below the national average of 58.4%. In 2009 and 2010 however, pupils in Herefordshire performed better than national averages at GCSEs¹⁴. Although Herefordshire performs reasonably well at GCSE level, there are relatively few people in the workforce with higher-level skills when compared to the national average and there is a limited higher education provision in the county.
- 3.18 The proportion of people in Herefordshire with 'low' or worse levels of numeracy (as categorised by the Basic Skills Agency) is roughly in line with the national average at 23.8% compared to the England average of 24%. However, 25.5% of the county's population score poorly in terms of literacy, compared to the national average of 24%.

Healthy and Prosperous Communities

Population

- 3.19 Herefordshire's resident population in 2011 stood at 183,600, representing an increase of approximately 9,000 people since the 2001 census¹⁵. Population increases in Herefordshire have experienced lower growth rates (4.9%) than the national average since the 2001 census (7.1% in England and Wales), although increases in the over 65 age group have been larger than elsewhere.
- 3.20 Broken down, the local area population levels within the county¹⁶ were:
- Hereford 58,900
 - Leominster 11,700
 - Ross-on-Wye 10,600
 - Ledbury 9,600
 - Bromyard 4,500
 - Kington 3,200

¹³ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

¹⁴ <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/index.aspx>

¹⁵ <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/index.html>

¹⁶ <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/index.aspx>

- 3.21 85,000 (46%) of the population live in other areas of Herefordshire, which highlights the rural nature of the county.

Recreation and Leisure

- 3.22 Until recently, Herefordshire Council used the Green Flag standards as a method of rating its managed open spaces. At the last assessment, approximately half (51%) of the County's 1,463ha of open space were managed to Green Flag standard. In terms of access to open spaces, in 2006 approximately 70% of the County's population lived within 20 minutes of a range of three different sports facilities (20 minute walk in urban areas and 20 minute drive in rural areas).
- 3.23 According to Herefordshire's 2008 Green Infrastructure Study¹⁷, the Central Herefordshire area has shown signs of recreation pressure and conflict, which has led to environmental degradation and a reduction in biodiversity interest.

Crime

- 3.24 Crime remains low in the county with a 13% reduction in total crimes over the three years to March 2011. Anti-social behaviour and criminal damage offences have also reduced, although rural crime, in particular theft of metal and fuel, has become an issue. Alcohol is a contributing factor in a number of crimes and there has been a small but steady increase in alcohol-related violent offences since 2008. Alcohol-related assaults generally occur near to licensed premises¹⁸.
- 3.25 Despite low crime levels in the county there is still a need to focus on particular areas such as Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Leominster and Ledbury where crime is higher. There is also a need to continue to improve engagement with those areas that experience higher than average fear of crime, such as Belmont, St Martin's and Hinton, Three Elms wards and Ross town centre¹⁹.

Quality of Life and Community Involvement

- 3.26 The percentage of people in Herefordshire who are satisfied with their local community as a place to live has increased slightly between 2008 and 2012, from 87% to 91%²⁰. Volunteering at least once a month through clubs and organisations has increased to 34% from 29% in 2008²¹, whereas the number of respondents who felt that they can influence decisions affecting their local area dropped from 29% in 2008 to 26% in 2012²².
- 3.27 Life expectancy in the county in 2008/10 was 79.3 for males and 83.6 for females, compared to the national averages of 78.6 for males and 82.6 for females²³.
- 3.28 Herefordshire's mortality rates are consistently lower than nationally (9%) and comparator PCTs (5%). The premature mortality rate (under 75 years) is 10% below the average rate for England and Wales. The three main disease groups of circulatory diseases, cancers and respiratory diseases account for almost 80% of all mortality in the county²⁴.

Deprivation

- 3.29 When looking at the overall 2010 Indices of Deprivation there are 8 SOAs in Herefordshire within the 25% most deprived in England; five of which are in Hereford, two in Leominster and one in Ross-on-Wye. One of the areas in Hereford City (Golden Post - Newton Farm) also falls within the 10% most deprived in England²⁵.

¹⁷ Amey (2008) Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Study

¹⁸ Understanding Herefordshire 2012: An Integrated Needs Assessment

¹⁹ Understanding Herefordshire 2012: An Integrated Needs Assessment

²⁰ Herefordshire quality of life survey 2012 – Full report

²¹ Herefordshire quality of life survey 2012 – Full report

²² Herefordshire quality of life survey 2012 – Full report

²³ <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/index.aspx>

²⁴ <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/1331.aspx>

²⁵ <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/index.aspx>

Transport and Access

Public Transport

- 3.30 There are a lack of transport options for many rural communities due to the lack of public transport resulting in high car ownership and dependency²⁶. For example, Hereford City and the market towns have significant proportions of residents who travel to work by car despite living less than 5km from work and there is also significant use of the car for school journeys particularly at primary level. Both these factors contribute to high vehicle demand in the city causing congestion, journey time delays and air pollution²⁷. Population growth is likely to increase the requirement for public and community transport services, and there are potential economies of scale through the integration of transport for health, social services and education, particularly for dispersed populations. Road traffic is expected to increase in the future, although more efficient vehicles are expected to reduce average driving costs and emissions²⁸.
- 3.31 However, there is evidence that public transport use is increasing - during 2008-09, bus usage increased by 9.3% from the previous year to its higher level since 2003-04, with the largest increase (12.9%) occurring in rural areas. Usage of rail stations in Herefordshire increased by 28% between 2004-05 and 2007-08²⁹.

Traffic Congestion

- 3.32 The ongoing high levels of car use create congestion problems in the county. This is recognised in the Sustainable Community Strategy³⁰ through the targeted outcome of 'reducing traffic congestion and improving health through co-ordinated transport, including the opportunity for maximising cycling, walking and public transport'.
- 3.33 The number of people killed or seriously injured on Herefordshire's roads has generally been decreasing although there has been a slight increase in 2011 to 75 adults and 3 children (which is still 76% lower than our 1994-98 baseline). Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service still attend the equivalent of four road traffic collisions each week in the county. Road safety is a key concern for Herefordshire residents, particularly speeding traffic which is seen as anti-social behaviour by local communities. The number of fatal incidents involving young road users is a concern, along with the increase in "drink drive" related accidents³¹.

Access to Services

- 3.34 Access to services is recognised as a key issue within the Sustainable Community Strategy. The proportion of rural households in Herefordshire with access to key services within set distances is generally lower than proportions across the West Midlands region. In 2008, 12% found it difficult to access local shops, and 21% found it difficult to access public transport facilities³²

The Natural Environment

Landscape Quality

- 3.35 Herefordshire is considered to be the West Midlands' most rural county and 'boasts a quality of landscape that is nationally acclaimed'. The landscape is one of rolling hills and wide river valleys interspersed with small villages. There are two landscape areas of national significance, the Wye Valley Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) in the south, and the Malvern Hills AONB in the east.
- 3.36 The Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis³³, which looks at landscape sensitivity in areas surrounding Hereford and the market towns of the county, concludes that much of the landscape on the fringes of Hereford and the market towns is of high value, and that none of the landscape zones around any of the towns were assessed as being in the lowest category of landscape sensitivity,

²⁶ Understanding Herefordshire 2012 – An Integrated Needs Assessment.

²⁷ <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/2033.aspx>

²⁸ Understanding Herefordshire 2012: An Integrated Needs Assessment

²⁹ <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/index.aspx>

³⁰ The Herefordshire Partnership 2010-11 Sustainable Community Strategy

³¹ Understanding Herefordshire 2012 – An Integrated Needs Assessment.

³² <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/index.aspx>

³³ Herefordshire (2010) Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis: Hereford and the Market Towns

which suggests tensions between landscape quality and the need to deliver housing and employment growth in Herefordshire.

Environmental Assets

- 3.37 Herefordshire has 31% of the Region’s ancient semi-natural woodland. The ash and lime woods of the Wye Valley are of international importance, and the County has a strong hedgerow pattern associated with ancient landscapes, and many historically important veteran trees. It additionally has a valued resource of ponds, traditional orchards and parkland. The dominant habitat types in Herefordshire are arable farmland (41%), improved grassland (33%), and woodland or scrub (14%).
- 3.38 The County’s designated environmental assets are summarised as follows:

Table 3.1: Conservation Designations in Herefordshire

Number	Designation
4	Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Downton Gorge (69ha)</i> • <i>River Clun (15ha)</i> • <i>River Wye / Afon Gwy (2,235ha - approx. 40% within Herefordshire)</i> • <i>Wye Valley Woodlands/ Coetiroedd Dyffryn Gwy (916ha – approx. 15% within Herefordshire)</i>
77	Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)
3	National Nature Reserves (NNRs)
773	Local Wildlife Sites (LWSs)
7	Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)
117	Local Geological Sites

- 3.39 The River Wye SAC is the largest European designated conservation in Herefordshire, and is currently under pressure from phosphate levels³⁴. The Environment Agency and Natural England have committed to prepare a Nutrient Management Plan aimed to control and reduce phosphate within the River Wye SAC. The principal pressures on the Wye Valley Woodland SAC are from lack of management (particularly traditional management, e.g. coppice) and inappropriate management proposals which would alter the recognised woodland stand types.
- 3.40 Only 27% of the County’s SSSIs are in favourable condition, which has improved since 2006/08, when the level remained constant at 22%³⁵. Almost three-quarters of SSSIs (71%) are in ‘unfavourable-no-change’ or ‘unfavourable-recovering’ condition. In 2005 there was a recorded loss of 0.6ha (6,000 square metres) of the Wellington Wood SSSI.
- 3.41 In 2005 there was a recorded loss of 655m of ancient and/or species rich hedgerows in the County as a result of planning permissions. The Council also notes that there has been ‘some loss’ of hedgerows outside of planning permissions, ‘permitted on the basis of achieving safety benefits or because they were not deemed to be important under the criteria specified in the Hedgerow Regulations 1997’. The amount of these losses has not yet been quantified in Annual Monitoring Reports as they are not a result of granting planning permissions (as of January 2013). However, significant amounts of new hedgerow are being planted, including as part of planning permissions.
- 3.42 Currently there are unacceptable levels of nutrients (e.g. phosphates) within parts of the river system in Herefordshire which need to be addressed in order to meet conservation objectives. The water quality of Herefordshire’s main rivers and tributaries is therefore of strategic importance and work associated with developing the Core Strategy is seeking to address these issues³⁶

Flood Risk

- 3.43 Significant areas of Herefordshire are low-lying and liable to flood risk. Almost 20% of the County’s land area lies within Flood Zone 3, at high risk or flooding (8.5%) or Flood Zone 2, at

³⁴ <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/protectedsites/sacselection/sac.asp?EUCODE=UK0012642>

³⁵ <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/index.aspx>

³⁶ http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/docs/Water_Issues.pdf

medium risk of flooding (10%). The County has been subjected to 84 significant weather events over the past decade (1998-2008), of which nearly half were related to heavy rain and flooding.

The Built Environment

Housing

- 3.44 In March 2012 there were a total of 79,800 homes in Herefordshire County³⁷. According to the 2012 Local Housing Market Assessment, 5,686 additional affordable houses are estimated to be required over the period 2011/31³⁸. Affordable housing is identified as a key issue in the Sustainable Community Strategy, with a disproportionate number of detached houses compared to regionally and nationally. The house price to earnings ratio is high compared to adjoining counties, the region and nationally. Homelessness has been noted as a growing problem.

Cultural Heritage

- 3.45 Herefordshire contains a wealth of listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, scheduled ancient monuments and conservation areas. These add to the special built quality and environmental character of many areas of the County and their protection and enhancement is recognised as an important ingredient for economic and neighbourhood renewal.

Table 3.2: Herefordshire's Cultural Heritage

Number	Heritage Features
5,899	Listed Buildings (Grades I, II & II*)
24	Registered Parks & Gardens
263	Scheduled Ancient Monuments
64	Conservation Areas

- 3.46 According to English Heritage's 'At Risk' register, 25 of the listed buildings are at risk, along with 25 of the monuments, 1 of the registered parks and gardens and 4 of the conservation areas³⁹.

Efficient Land Use

- 3.47 67% of the total houses built in 2010/11 were built on previously developed land, which is only 1% below the current target set by the UDP; however it is a decrease from levels of housing completed on brownfield between 2003 and 2009.

Resource Consumption and Climate Change

Waste

- 3.48 The amount of municipal waste collected by Herefordshire Council has decreased from 100,300 tonnes in 2002/03, to an estimated 85,600 tonnes in 2011-12 (15% reduction)⁴⁰. Almost all (90%) of this waste comes from households. Historically Herefordshire has produced more waste per household and has recycled less when compared to England as a whole. However, the situation is improving due to changes in the way waste, particularly recycling, is collected. In 2009-10 households on average recycled 35% of their waste. In 2010-11 this had increased to 40% (the target was 41%). The provisional recycling rate for 2011-12 is 40%. These improvements have moved Herefordshire's recycling rate closer to the national rate (41%).

Water Use and Quality

- 3.49 In terms of water consumption, 148 litres of water are consumed per person per day in Herefordshire; this is higher than adjoining authorities. In terms of growth projections for housing and employment, there are issues relating to availability of water resources in the future, foul drainage capacity, pollution and abstraction in a county which supports water dependent biodiversity of international and national importance, coupled with the predicted climate change consequences for water availability.

³⁷ http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/docs/Hfds_Key_Housing_Facts31Mar12_Ver0_5.pdf

³⁸ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

³⁹ <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/publications/har-2011-registers/acc-wm-HAR-register-2011.pdf>

⁴⁰ <http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/factsandfigures/index.aspx>

Air Quality

3.50 There are two Air Quality Management Areas in Herefordshire (Hereford AQMA, declared in 2001; and Leominster AQMA, declared in 2006)⁴¹. The County’s monitoring programme shows that air quality performance is generally good, the AQMAs are exceeding the UK health based standard for Nitrogen Dioxide.

Climate Change

3.51 In 2009 Herefordshire County’s carbon footprint was 1.54 million tonnes (MtCO₂). This is equal to 8.6 tonnes per head of population (per capita) in the county. For comparison the UK as a whole emits 7.4 tonnes of CO₂ per capita and the West Midlands 7.1 tonnes per capita. Between 2005 and 2009 Herefordshire County’s total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 10% and 11% respectively; while UK’s total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 13% and 15% respectively within the same period. If current carbon reduction trends (2005-2009) are maintained, it would be possible to achieve a 72% carbon emission reduction against the 1990 baseline.

3.52 The potential impacts of climate change need to be taken into account in planning for all new development, both in terms of location and design. Increased energy and water efficiency will have to be taken on board along with water storage measures, sustainable drainage systems, and the provision of renewable energy generation.

Key Sustainability Issues

3.53 The key sustainability issues for Herefordshire have been drawn from those issues identified in the SA Scoping Report and reviewed drawing on the baseline information above. In recognition of the SEA Directive requirement (Annex 1 b) that the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme must be described in the Environmental Report, **Table 3.3** shows the likely evolution of these key sustainability issues if the Herefordshire Core Strategy were not adopted.

Table 3.3: Key Sustainability Issues for Herefordshire Core Strategy

Key Issue	Likely Evolution without the Plan
Population Change	
Age profile increasing	The ageing population trend is likely to continue with or without implementation of the Core Strategy. However, if Core Strategy policies were to result in the provision of more jobs in market towns it is possible that this could encourage a higher proportion of working age residents within the county and help to change the population characteristics. Without the availability of employment opportunities and affordable housing in the more rural parts of Herefordshire, the small towns are likely to see a continuation of this trend.
Half population living in rural areas	High levels of commuting may lead to smaller towns and villages increasingly becoming ‘dormitories’ and becoming less viable, whilst road traffic would remain high with the associated impacts on air pollution etc. This may also exacerbate the ageing population profile of the County as young people move outside the County to find work. A number of saved policies in the Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan aim to address the issue of access to services in rural communities, therefore improvements to the trend on

⁴¹ 2011 Air Quality Progress Report for Herefordshire Council

Key Issue	Likely Evolution without the Plan
	<p>this issue are likely to occur even without implementation of the Core Strategy. These policies include:</p> <p>Policy S11: Community facilities and services</p> <p>Policy TCR2: Vitality and Viability</p> <p>Policy TCR8: Small-scale retail development</p> <p>Policy TCR13: Local and neighbourhood shopping centres</p> <p>Policy TCR14: Village commercial facilities</p> <p>Policy T1: Public transport facilities</p> <p>Policy T16: Access for all</p> <p>Policy E11 Employment adjacent to main villages</p> <p>Policy E12 Employment in smaller settlements and open countryside</p>
Affordable Housing	
<p>High ratio of property price to household earnings</p> <p>Shortfall of provision of affordable dwellings / increase in number of people accepted as homeless</p>	<p>An ongoing lack of affordable housing would lead to many people (e.g. first time buyers and lower paid workers) increasingly being priced out of the market and the population profile of the County may become distorted (potentially even more dominated by richer/elderly people). This may have secondary effects on the economy reducing the County's ability to attract key workers in particular.</p>
Economic activity / employment	
<p>GVA remains lower than regional and national figure per head.</p> <p>Reduce and manage reliance on traditional employment sectors and ensure Herefordshire can attract business in technology and knowledge intensive sectors.</p>	<p>If Core Strategy policies were to result in the provision of more jobs in the County it is possible that this could encourage more employment and economic activity and attract technology and knowledge intensive sectors. Without the plan, it is likely that current trends will continue and that employment will rely on traditional employment sectors.</p>
Transport and Accessibility	
<p>High reliance on the private car</p> <p>Traffic congestion in Hereford and strain on existing infrastructure</p>	<p>Ongoing poor provision and use of public transport may cause the more rural parts of the County to become increasingly isolated in terms of access to employment opportunities and community services and facilities, whilst high car use will increase levels of air pollution and noise disturbance.</p>
Climate Change and Flood Risk	
<p>Significant areas of the County are at risk of flooding.</p>	<p>A predicted increase in the number of intense rainfall days in winter could lead to increased frequency of winter flash flooding events in the future. Development already situated in areas of high flood risk, e.g. around the river Wye and its tributaries, would be likely to experience increasing problems with flooding and the associated social and economic problems. Existing developments in such areas may reduce in value due to these issues.</p>

Key Issue	Likely Evolution without the Plan
Biodiversity and Stewardship	
<p>Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from the adaptation and diversification of farming and forestry employment.</p>	<p>Much of the County's existing biodiversity assets remain dependent on continued sensitive agricultural management.</p> <p>The UDP requires applications for agricultural development to avoid adverse impact on the environment (policy E13), but does not reference the impact of agricultural management practices on environmental quality, nor the value of implementing agri-environmental schemes.</p> <p>However, the planning system is limited in the extent to which it can regulate agricultural management; at best, local development documents can draw attention to the impact of agricultural practice on environmental quality, and encourage the use of sustainable management practices (such as by supporting a high uptake of agri-environmental schemes). Therefore, these trends may continue with or without the Core Strategy.</p>
Waste and Recycling	
<p>Increase in amount of waste production over recent years, with too much still going to landfill.</p>	<p>There is an existing drive to increase levels of recycling and composting within the County and shift in general public opinion towards recycling, should help levels to increase over the coming years, with or without the Core Strategy. However, the infrastructure to support this change may come under strain, and the Core Strategy should help to ensure sufficient provision of new waste facilities.</p>

4 Sustainability Appraisal Findings

- 4.1 This section describes the findings of the SA of the Draft Herefordshire Core Strategy Vision and Objectives, spatial strategy policies, place-shaping policies and general policies. Where any recommendations have been made arising from the findings of the SA, these are shown in ***bold italic text*** and summarised in the recommendations section in **Chapter 6**. A detailed assessment of the policies has been undertaken, considering their likely effects against each of the SA Objectives. The full appraisal matrices for the Draft Core Strategy policies can be found in **Appendix 4 (Spatial Strategy policies), Appendix 5 (Place-shaping policies) and Appendix 6 (General policies)**. The appraisal scores for the policies are summarised below in **Tables 4.1-4.12** (shown by symbols and colour coding – see key in **Figure 2.1**).

Core Strategy Vision

- 4.2 The vision consists of an overall vision for Herefordshire, which sets a general aspiration to become a sustainable and distinctive County, and is supported by more detailed visions for social progress, economic prosperity and environmental quality. Taken together, the Core Strategy Vision is likely to have a positive effect on all of the SA objectives as shown in **Table 4.1**. The vision for social progress promotes affordable homes, jobs, health and community facilities including public transport provision in urban and rural areas, and is likely to have positive effects on SA objectives relating to housing (11), employment (1), transport (4), health (5) services and facilities (6 and 7), and quality of life (9). The vision for economic prosperity promotes a diversified business base, with more knowledge-based and high-tech businesses and a more skilled and adaptable workforce, and is therefore likely to have positive effects on skills (2), the sustainable economy (3), education (8), and poverty (10). The vision for environmental quality supports local distinctiveness (19), seeks to protect and enhance environmental assets and addresses climate change issues which are likely to have positive effects on waste (12), biodiversity (13), natural resources (14), landscape quality (15), climate change (16), flood risk (17), pollution (18) and cultural heritage (20).
- 4.3 The general wording of the vision is unlikely to lead to any significant effects on the SA objectives. The success of the vision in helping to achieve the sustainability objectives depends on the implementation of the policies in the Core Strategy.

Core Strategy Objectives

- 4.4 The Core Strategy (CS) objectives are generally unlikely to have an effect or are compatible with a number of the Sustainability Appraisal objectives (as shown in **Table 4.1**). They are likely to have a number of minor positive effects on each of the themes (**education and employment, healthy and prosperous communities, transport and access, the built environment, resource consumption and climate change, and the natural environment**). Some Core Strategy objectives are likely to lead to significant positive effects, where they directly address SA objectives.

Table 4.1: Summary of SA scores for the Vision and Objectives

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
The Vision	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
1. Housing	+?	0	0	0	0	+?	0	+?	0	0	++	+	0	-?	+?	+	0	0	0	0
2. Health	0	+	0	+	+	++	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Education	0	++	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4. Travel	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	+?
5. Access	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	0	+	0	0	+?	+	0	0	0	+
6. Employment	++	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7. Hereford	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	0	-?	-?	+/-	0	0	0	0
8. Market towns, villages and their rural hinterlands	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+/-	+	+	+/-	0	-?	+/-	+/-	+?	+?	+?	+/-
9. Sustainable Tourism	+?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	+	0	0	+?	-?	0	-?	+/-	+/-	0	0
10. Sustainable Communities	0	0	0	+	0	+?	0	0	0	+	+	++	+	0	0	0	+	+	+?	+?
11. Climate Change	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	+	0	++	++
12. Natural, built, historic and cultural assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	0

- 4.5 Waste associated with increased housing (CS objective 1), and development of employment land (CS objective 7, 8 and 9) may have negative effects on SA objective 12, although there may be opportunities for sustainable waste management to be incorporated into the design of buildings. Focusing development in Hereford and the market towns may increase the need to travel for residents in rural areas, which may have negative effects associated with car traffic on SA objectives relating to transport (4), access (6), fossil fuels (14), greenhouse gas emissions (16) and air quality (18). However, focusing development in urban areas may also offer more sustainable transport choices, which would benefit residents in Hereford and the market towns, which is likely to have an overall mixed effect on **transport and access**, and **resource consumption and climate change**. As with the vision, the success of the Core Strategy objectives depends on the implementation of the policies in the Core Strategy.

The Spatial Strategy

- 4.6 The appraisal findings for of the individual spatial strategy policies are included in **Appendix 4** and summarised in **Table 4.2** overleaf. The spatial strategy policies are likely to have a significant positive effect on the **built environment** theme by delivering 16,500 homes during the plan period. In addition, Policies SS2 (Housing Distribution) and SS3 (Release of Housing) give priority to the use of previously developed land, and Policy SS6 (Climate Change) ensures that new developments are in appropriate locations, which are likely to have significant positive effects on efficient use of land (SA objective 19).
- 4.7 Policy SS6 (Climate Change) is also likely to have significant positive effects on reducing travel (4.1), reducing waste (12), natural resources (14), climate change (16), flood risk (17) and pollution (18). However, the overall effect expected on the **transport and access**, **resource consumption and climate change** and the **natural environment** themes is mixed. This is because some negative effects are also expected from residential developments (Policy SS2), major transport schemes (Policy SS4) and employment land provision (Policy SS5) as they could contribute to increased car travel (4.1), waste generation (12), natural resource consumption (14), greenhouse gas emissions (16.1), and pollution (18).
- 4.8 The overall effect expected on the **education and employment** and **healthy and prosperous communities** themes from the spatial strategy policies are minor positive. However, in relation to the education and employment theme, Policy SS5 (Employment provision) is likely to have a significant positive effect on employment (1), skills (2) and the sustainable economy (3) by supporting the provision of employment land. In relation to healthy and prosperous communities, Policy SS4 (Movement and transportation) is likely to have negative effects on sustainable transport patterns by developing a new relief road that is likely to encourage car use.
- 4.9 Policy SS1 has a presumption in favour of sustainable development, and is therefore likely to have positive effects on all SA objectives, but the generic nature of the policy suggests that the effects are expected to be minor.

Table 4.2: Summary of SA scores for spatial strategy policies

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
Policy SS1: Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Policy SS2: Delivering new homes	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	+/-	0	++	+	+	-?	-?	-?	0	0	0	0
Policy SS3: Releasing land for residential development	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	+/-	+/-	-?	++	+	+	++/-
Policy SS4: Movement and Transportation	+	0	+	+	0	+/-	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	+	0	-	-	-	-	0	-?
Policy SS5: Employment Provision	++	++	++	+	0	0	0	+	+/-	0	0	0	0	-?	-?	-?	+	+	0	+
Policy SS6: Climate Change	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	++	+	+	++	+	++	++	++	+	+	++	++

Place-Shaping Policies

Hereford

- 4.10 **Table 4.3** overleaf summarises the SA scores for the appraisal of the six policies for Hereford. The detailed appraisal matrices can be found in **Appendix 5**.
- 4.11 The potential sustainability effects of the Hereford policies on **education and employment** are mainly minor or significant positive, with no likely negative effects having been identified. This is because of the significant provision that the policies make for education and employment development in Hereford, all of which will be well-linked by sustainable modes of transport and therefore should be easily accessible for all residents. In particular, policies HD4 and HD5 will have significant positive effects on employment as they allocate 10ha and 5ha of employment land respectively, which will help to meet the identified need for employment land in Hereford⁴². The residential development allocated under policy HD5 will be adjacent to the existing Rotherwas Industrial Estate which was awarded Enterprise Zone status in 2011 - this will ensure that new residents have easily accessible job opportunities, particularly as there is also to be further employment land provision in that area through the policy. Policy HD6 will also have a significant positive effect on both employment and the development of a sustainable economy as its primary focus is to generate employment opportunities in Hereford through a range of measures such as new office and employment land provision and encouraging small scale environmental and knowledge based employment development.
- 4.12 In terms of the **healthy and prosperous communities** theme, most of the Hereford policies will have a negligible effect on crime. However, policy HD1 may have a positive effect as it encourages mixed-use development in the city centre, which should ensure that there is more activity outside of normal working hours and could improve people's perceptions of their personal safety in the city centre in the evenings. Positive effects on health are likely to result from policies HD1-HD5 as they all provide for the development of new community services and facilities (assumed to include healthcare facilities) to support the growing population in Hereford. In addition, they also provide for new green infrastructure, walking and cycle links, open space and play facilities to encourage more active lifestyles.
- 4.13 The potential sustainability effects of the Hereford policies on **transport and access** are mixed. The effects of the policies on access to services are generally positive, due to the provision they make for new community services and facilities to support the growing population, as well as sustainable transport links to make those facilities more accessible. However, the effects of policies HD1-HD5 on sustainable transport are all mixed. This is because while they provide for improved walking, cycling and public transport links, they also make some provision for improved traffic infrastructure. Although this reflects the need that has been identified through transport modelling work undertaken for the Local Transport Plan⁴³ for new highway infrastructure to reduce congestion and support future growth and prosperity, it could encourage on going car use by making it a more convenient and appealing option. In particular, the construction of the Hereford relief road under policy HD2 will potentially encourage car use for longer journeys and could negatively affect the aspiration for a modal shift towards greater bus and rail travel, although it will have significant benefits in relation to reducing congestion and journey times.

⁴² Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

⁴³ Herefordshire Council (2006) Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 2

Table 4.3 Summary of SA scores for Hereford policies

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
HD1: Hereford City Centre	+?	+?	+	+	+?	+	+?	+	++/-	++	++	++	++	0	+	+/-	+?	+	+?	+/- ?
HD2: Hereford Movement	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	++/-	+	+	+/-	+?	0	+/- ?	+/-	?	+/- ?	?	+/- ?
HD3: Northern Urban Expansion	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	+/-	+	++	+/- ?	+/- ?	0	+	+	+/- ?	-?	+/-	+/-
HD4: Western Urban Expansion (Three Elms)	++	+?	+?	+	+	+	0	0	+/-	+	++	+/- ?	+/- ?	0	+	+/-	+/- ?	-?	-?	+/-
HD5: Southern Urban Expansion (Lower Bullingham)	+++?	+?	+	+	+?	+	0	0	+/-	+	++	+/-	+/- ?	0	+	+/-	+/- ?	-?	+/-	+/-
HD6: Hereford Employment Provision	++	+?	++	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- 4.14 The effects of the Hereford policies on the **built environment** theme are also very mixed. Significant positive effects on housing are likely in relation to policies HD1, HD3, HD4 and HD5 due to the provision they make for large-scale housing development in Hereford (a total of 3,300 new homes), of which at least 35% will be affordable. This will help to meet the identified need for housing in Hereford⁴⁴, especially as the supporting text to policies HD1, HD3, HD4 and HD5 specifies that provision will be made for housing for older persons, which is a particular local need⁴⁵. In contrast, largely mixed effects are likely in relation to the efficient use of land because of the large-scale strategic allocations that are made through policies HD3-HD5 at Holmer West, Three Elms and Lower Bullingham, where much of the development will take place on greenfield land and so is likely to offer limited opportunities for the re-use of existing land and buildings. However, policy HD1 will have significant positive effects on the built environment as it allows for the redevelopment of brownfield sites specifically, and states that development will be encouraged where it enables the protection, restoration and enhancement of built heritage assets, with particular regard to the historic street patterns and skyline.
- 4.15 In terms of **resource consumption and climate change**, the Hereford policies will all have negligible effects in relation to waste as even though new development of the scale proposed will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is recognised that new development will need to conform to draft Core Strategy policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste during construction and use of the development. The effects of the policies on energy efficiency and climate change are to some extent uncertain until specific proposals for development come forward, as they will depend mainly on the design of housing and employment uses. However, the policies will have largely positive effects on natural resources as they make good provision for sustainable transport links and policies HD3, HD4 and HD5 specify that new development will be required to contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include the use of renewable and low carbon energy sources. It is also recognised that developments will need to conform to draft Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency, which requires all development proposals to minimise the use of non-renewable resources and carbon dioxide emissions by maximising energy and water efficiency of buildings.
- 4.16 The effects of the Hereford policies on the **natural environment** are largely uncertain as they will depend on the specific design of development proposals as they come forward. Potential minor negative effects have been identified in relation to policies HD3, HD4 and HD5 as there are sensitive landscapes around the three urban extensions at Holmer West, Three Elms and Lower Bullingham. However, this issue is recognised in the policies and their supporting text and it is likely that the potential impacts can be adequately mitigated due to the requirements within the policies for the development of bespoke, high quality and inclusive design that contributes to the distinctiveness of the site and surrounding environment.
- 4.17 The Hereford Relief Road which is proposed in policy HD2 could affect the landscape and biodiversity as it represents a major infrastructure development to the west of the city and will cross the River Wye SAC. The study of options for the relief road⁴⁶ concluded that the potential effects of the western route on the landscape would be more significant than the effects of the alternative eastern route. However, the study also identified potential mitigation measures that could be put in place to minimise effects on the River Wye SAC, such as the use of wide span structures and avoidance of direct working in the watercourse, and noted that the biodiversity effects of an eastern route would be more significant due to the potential impact on the Lugg Meadows SSSI, meaning that Natural England may object to the proposal.
- 4.18 The HRA that has been carried out for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at the screening stage that none of the Hereford policies are expected to have a significant effect on European sites in and around the County. However, for policy HD2: Hereford Movement, it was recommended that HRA screening for the Hereford Area Plan should revisit the screening conclusion regarding the potential for likely significant effects arising from physical loss or damage to habitats, noise

⁴⁴ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

⁴⁵ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

⁴⁶ Herefordshire Council (September 2010) Hereford Relief Road: Study of Options.

pollution and vibration, light pollution, air pollution and water quality within the River Wye SAC, once more detail about the proposed route for the relief road should be available, and to ensure any further specific mitigation requirements are included. However, it is noted that policy SS3: Release of Land for Residential Development should mitigate the potential adverse effects of residential development on water quality as it states that the release of specific sites may be phased or delayed in order to ensure that necessary infrastructure is in place to support the new development or in order to ensure that there will be no significant adverse effects on the integrity of the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Mixed effects are predicted for the Hereford policies in relation to reducing the risk and impacts of flooding, as there are some areas at higher risk of flooding within or in proximity to the housing and employment land allocations at Three Elms, Lower Bullingham, Rotherwas and some of the Edgar Street regeneration area. In addition, the Hereford Relief Road crosses the River Wye and passes through the flood plain for a short distance. However, policies HD1, HD3, HD4 and HD5 all require new development to deliver sustainable urban drainage and flood mitigation solutions. In addition, new development will need to comply with policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management and Water Resources, which requires development proposals to be located in accordance with the Sequential and Exception Tests in NPPF (where appropriate) and the inclusion of flood storage compensation measures where flooding is an issue.

- 4.19 Similarly, mixed effects from the Hereford policies have been identified for reducing pollution. Air pollution may be reduced due to the measures in the Hereford policies to improve levels of sustainable transport use, but the development of the western relief road and the provision of additional car parking for shoppers and visitors could have an adverse effect by encouraging ongoing car use, making it a more convenient and attractive option. Water quality, particularly in the River Wye SAC could be affected by increased discharges from water treatment works, however, this is addressed in policy SS3 and SD4.

Bromyard

- 4.20 **Table 4.4** overleaf summarises the SA scores for the appraisal of the two policies for Bromyard. The detailed appraisal matrices can be found in **Appendix 5**. The likely effects of the policies are broadly fairly similar, as policy BY1: Development in Bromyard provides the overarching strategy for development at Bromyard (including the urban extension to the north and western areas of the town) while policy BY2: Land at Hardwick Bank and South of the A44 Leominster Road then provides the detail of the proposed urban extension.
- 4.21 Both Bromyard policies are likely to have a range of minor and significant positive effects on **education and employment**, due to the provision that they make for new classrooms at the local primary school and the development of 5ha of employment land, which will help to meet the identified need for employment land in Bromyard⁴⁷. The fact that the employment and residential development is proposed in close proximity means that the effects will be particularly positive as the new residents should be easily able to access job opportunities nearby, especially due to the measures included in both policies to encourage sustainable transport provision. Although it is recognised that some residents may still choose to travel elsewhere for their employment.
- 4.22 In relation to **healthy and prosperous communities**, the likely effects of the Bromyard policies are more mixed. Both policies will have a positive effect on health, due to the provision they make for improved healthcare facilities as well as open space, walking and cycle routes which will encourage more active lifestyles. Neither policy is likely to affect poverty and equality; however policy BY2 could potentially have a positive effect on crime as the supporting text makes reference to developer contributions being used to fund improvements to local police services. However, this is not referred to in the policy itself and so the potential effect is uncertain.

⁴⁷ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

Table 4.4 Summary of SA scores for Bromyard policies

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
BY1: Development in Bromyard	++	+	++	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	++	+	++	0	?	+	+/- ?	+	+	+
BY2: Land at Hardwick Bank and South of the A44 Leominster Road	++	+	++	+	+	+	?	0	+/-	+	++	+	+	0	+	+/-	+/- ?	+/- ?	+	+/- ?

- 4.23 The effects of the policies on **transport and access** will be broadly positive, due to the co-location of employment and residential development at Bromyard and the measures included in the policies to encourage sustainable transport. However, the effects of policy BY2 on sustainable transport are mixed overall, because although the policy makes provision for public transport links and walking and cycle routes between the urban extension and the town centre, it also requires there to be suitable vehicular access to the urban extension, with associated highway improvements (likely to take the form of a new roundabout on the A44) - this could mean that car use is indirectly encouraged as it will be more convenient.
- 4.24 Both of the policies will have entirely positive effects on the **built environment** theme, as they provide for the development of around 500 new homes at Bromyard, for which a target of 40% affordable housing will apply. This will help to meet the identified need for housing in Bromyard⁴⁸ and therefore have a positive effect on SA objective 11: housing, especially as the supporting text to the policies specifies that provision will be made for housing for older persons, which is a particular local need⁴⁹. The policies for Bromyard also aim to ensure that the new development coming forward is of high quality and respects existing local character and heritage features which will have a positive effect on SA objective 20. Given that the Bromyard Conservation Area has previously been identified as being 'at risk', the requirement in policy BY1 for development to contribute to the character of the local environment, including its historic character, should be particularly beneficial. The policy itself also requires an evaluation of the archaeological importance of the area in order to ensure appropriate protection of heritage assets and inform the detailed development proposals.
- 4.25 Mixed effects are likely in relation to **resource consumption and climate change**. Both policies will have negligible effects in relation to waste as even though new development of the scale proposed will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is unlikely to result in any per-capita increase in waste generation and it is recognised that new development will need to conform to draft Core Strategy policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste during construction and use of the development. However, positive effects are likely to result from the requirement in policy BY2 for the new urban extension to contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy, and both policies make good provision for the use of sustainable transport which should help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport.
- 4.26 The two policies will again have mixed effects on the **natural environment**, many of which are currently uncertain due to a lack of detailed information about the detailed development proposals that are likely to come forward at Bromyard. However, it is assumed that the development will conform to other draft Core Strategy policies such as LD3: Biodiversity and SD3: Sustainable Water Management which should provide some mitigation against the potential negative effects of large-scale new development such as that proposed at Bromyard.
- 4.27 While large-scale new development could result in habitat loss or disturbance to species, it is recognised that mitigation measures are built into both policies in relation to impacts on biodiversity, which could also result in enhancements, and the HRA that has been carried out for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at screening stage that neither of the Bromyard policies are expected to have significant effects on European sites in and around Herefordshire. The effects of both policies on biodiversity are therefore potentially mixed (both positive and negative) but are uncertain at this stage.

Leominster

- 4.28 **Table 4.5** overleaf summarises the SA scores for the appraisal of the two policies for Leominster. The detailed appraisal matrices can be found in **Appendix 5**. The likely effects of the policies are in many cases similar, as policy LO1: Development in Leominster provides the overarching strategy for development at Leominster while policy LO2: Leominster Urban Extension then provides the detail of the proposed urban extension.

⁴⁸ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

⁴⁹ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

Table 4.5 Summary of SA scores for Leominster policies

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
LO1: Development in Leominster	++	+?	++	+?	?	+?	0	?	+/- ?	?	++	-?	?	0	?	?	+/- ?	?	+	+/- ?
LO2: Leominster Urban Extension	+?	+?	+?	+	+?	+	0	+	+/-	+	++	+/-	0?	0	?	+/- ?	+/- ?	-?	+	+/-

- 4.29 Both Leominster policies are likely to have a range of minor and significant positive effects on **education and employment**, due to the provision that they make for the development of a new 420-place primary school and 10ha of employment land, which will help to meet the identified need for employment land in Leominster⁵⁰. In particular, the incorporation of sustainable transport links into the new urban extension at Leominster should mean that new residents there will be easily able to access job opportunities in the town centre and at the existing Enterprise Park.
- 4.30 In relation to **healthy and prosperous communities**, the likely effects of the Leominster policies are again broadly positive. Both will have a positive effect on health, due to the provision they make for improved healthcare facilities as well as open space and walking and cycle routes which should help to encourage more active lifestyles. Neither policy will affect crime; however the effect of policy LO1 on reducing poverty and promoting equality is uncertain as it allocates much of the development for Leominster to the edge of the town at the urban extension, which could mean that it is less easy for residents there to access jobs and services in the town centre. However, policy LO2 also encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links such as walking and cycling routes between the urban extension and the town centre and Enterprise Park which should help to mitigate any potential adverse impact on accessibility.
- 4.31 The effects of the policies on **transport and access** are very mixed. Although policy LO2 includes measures to encourage sustainable transport provision (such as walking and cycling links to the town centre and Enterprise Park), it also allows for the creation of a southern link road which may encourage car use. While this provision reflects the need that has been identified through transport modelling work undertaken for the Local Transport Plan⁵¹ for new highway infrastructure to reduce congestion and support future growth and prosperity in Herefordshire, it could encourage ongoing car use by making it a more convenient and appealing option, reducing congestion and journey lengths.
- 4.32 Both of the policies for Leominster will have mixed effects on the **built environment**. Both will have a significant positive effect on housing due to the provision that they make for a total of 2,300 new homes in the town, of which 25% will be affordable. While this target is lower than elsewhere in the county, it is recognised that land values are lower in Leominster⁵² and so this target is considered appropriate in terms of deliverability. This level of housing provision will help to meet the identified need for housing in Leominster⁵³. While not referred to within the policy itself, the supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need⁵⁴. However, policy LO1 may have a negative effect on the efficient use of land as it directs much of the development for Leominster to an urban extension outside of the existing built up area. Policy LO2 is likely to have a negligible effect on the quality of the built environment as the supporting text recognises the potential high archaeological value of the site, but the potential negative effect on archaeological features is mitigated by the requirement in the policy for an evaluation of the archaeological importance of the area in order to ensure appropriate protection of heritage assets and inform the detailed development proposals.
- 4.33 A range of mainly negative effects are likely in relation to **resource consumption and climate change**. Both policies will have negligible effects in relation to waste as the new development is unlikely to result in any per-capita increase in waste generation and it is recognised that new development will need to conform to draft Core Strategy policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste during construction and use of the development. Although it is assumed that all development will comply with other Core Strategy policies such as SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency, policy LO1: Development in Leominster does not make particularly good provision for ensuring that the specific development proposed is energy efficient and sustainable, as the policies for other places (such as Hereford and Ledbury) do. This issue is addressed in policy LO2: Leominster Urban Extension in relation to development at the urban

⁵⁰ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

⁵¹ Herefordshire Council (2006) Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 2

⁵² Three Dragons with Roger Tym and Partners (February 2010) Herefordshire Council Local Development Framework Viability Study

⁵³ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

⁵⁴ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

extension (the policy aims to bring forward development that is sustainable in terms of its construction materials and methods, use of energy, water and other resources and contributes towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include the use of renewable and low carbon energy sources. ***Incorporating the same wording in policy LO1 would improve its effects on this theme and ensure that the criteria will apply to all new development in Leominster, and not just that at the urban extension.***

- 4.34 The two policies for Leominster will have mixed effects on the **natural environment**, many of which are currently uncertain due to a lack of detailed information about the detailed development proposals that are likely to come forward at Leominster. However, it is assumed that the development will conform to other draft Core Strategy policies such as LDS3: Biodiversity and SD3: Sustainable Water Management which should provide some mitigation against the potential negative effects of large-scale new development such as that proposed at Leominster. In particular, the potential landscape impacts of the large new urban extension detailed under policy LO2 are of concern.
- 4.35 The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that both of the Leominster policies are likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye with respects to impacts on water quality. However, the later Appropriate Assessment stage concluded that, provided the measures included in the signed Statement of Intent and the forthcoming Nutrient Management Plan (see HRA report for further details) are implemented, these will combine with the protection afforded in policies SS3 and SD4 (and referred to in policy LO1) to result in no significant effects. Both policies could therefore have mixed (both positive and negative) effects on this SA objective and these effects are uncertain at present and are dependent on the implementation of the identified mitigation.

Ledbury

- 4.36 **Table 4.6** overleaf summarises the SA scores for the appraisal of the two policies for Ledbury. The detailed appraisal matrices can be found in **Appendix 5**. The likely effects of the policies are in many cases similar, as policy LB1: Development in Ledbury provides the overarching strategy for development at Ledbury while policy LB2: Land North of the Viaduct then provides the detail of the proposed urban extension.
- 4.37 Both Ledbury policies are likely to have a range of minor and significant positive effects on **education and employment**, due to the provision that they make for a new 210-place primary school and the development of 12ha of employment land which will help to meet the identified need for employment land in Ledbury⁵⁵. In particular, the fact that the development to the north of the viaduct (policy LB2) will be mixed-use means that the new residents should be easily able to access job opportunities nearby, especially due to the measures included in both policies to encourage sustainable transport provision.
- 4.38 In relation to **healthy and prosperous communities**, the likely effects are again broadly positive. Both policies will have a positive effect on health, due to the provision they make for improved healthcare facilities as well as open space and walking and cycle routes which should encourage more active lifestyles. Neither policy will affect crime; however policy LB1 could potentially have mixed (both positive and negative) effects on reducing poverty and promoting equality as it allocates much of the development for Ledbury (including the 12ha of employment land) to the edges of the town, which could mean that it is less easy for residents within Ledbury to access the new job opportunities and other services and facilities coming forward there. However, the policy also encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links such as walking and cycling routes within Ledbury, especially where these increase connectivity to community facilities and employment areas.

⁵⁵ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

Table 4.6 Summary of SA scores for Ledbury policies

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
LB1: Development in Ledbury	++	+?	++	+	+?	+	0	+/-	+	+	++	+?	++	0	?	+	+/- ?	+/- ?	?	+
LB2: Land North of the Viaduct	+	+?	+	+	+?	+	0	0	+/-	++	++	+/-	+?	0	+	+	+/- ?	+	+/- ?	+

- 4.39 The effects of the policies on **transport and access** will be broadly positive, due to the measures included in the policies to encourage sustainable transport (for example, policy LB1 specifies that development must improve accessibility within Ledbury by walking, cycling and public transport). However, the effects of policy LB2 on sustainable transport are mixed overall, because the development of housing to the north of Ledbury, where there is no allocation for new employment land, could result in longer commuting distances and increase the need to travel (although it is noted that there is an existing employment site adjoining the development location). However, the policy also requires the provision of walking and cycle routes, linking the new urban extension to the town centre, which could facilitate the use of more sustainable modes of transport.
- 4.40 Both of the policies for Ledbury will have broadly positive effects on the **built environment**. They provide for approximately 800 new homes, and this level of housing provision will help to meet the identified need for housing in Ledbury⁵⁶. While not referred to within the policy itself, the supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including affordable housing and housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need⁵⁷. Both policies also aim to ensure that the new development coming forward at the town is of high quality and respects existing local character and heritage features. However, the effects of policy LB2 on the efficient use of land are mixed because although it makes provision for development to be well-linked by sustainable transport, it also allocates development to an urban extension which is understood to be largely greenfield land.
- 4.41 Mixed effects are likely in relation to **resource consumption and climate change**. Both policies will have negligible effects in relation to waste as the new development is unlikely to result in any per-capita increase in waste generation and it is recognised that new development will need to conform to draft Core Strategy policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste during construction and use of the development. However, policy LB2 requires the new urban extension north of the viaduct to contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and both policies make good provision for the use of sustainable transport which should help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport.
- 4.42 The two policies for Ledbury will again have mixed effects on the **natural environment**, many of which are currently uncertain due to a lack of detailed information about the detailed development proposals that are likely to come forward. However, it is assumed that the development will conform to other draft Core Strategy policies such as LDS3: Biodiversity and SD3: Sustainable Water Management which should provide some mitigation against the potential negative effects of large-scale new development such as that proposed at Ledbury. Impacts on landscape are potentially of particular concern at Ledbury, as the Malvern Hills AONB lies to the east of the town. However, the development proposed through these policies is focused to the north of Ledbury, and therefore away from the AONB. Development to the north of the viaduct will also have positive effects on the natural environment by addressing the aspirations of the Green Infrastructure Strategy⁵⁸ which identifies that area as an Enhancement Zone because of the opportunities there for green infrastructure enhancements. This opportunity is built upon in policy LB2 which provides for green infrastructure enhancements in that area.
- 4.43 The HRA that has been carried out for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at screening stage that the policies for Ledbury will not have a significant effect on any European designated sites, and it is recognised that the new development may offer opportunities to incorporate biodiversity enhancements. However, it is also recognised that development of the scale proposed could result in habitat loss or disturbance to species, depending on the specific proposals. Potential mixed but uncertain effects on biodiversity are therefore identified for both policies.

Ross-on-Wye

- 4.44 **Table 4.7** overleaf summarises the SA scores for the appraisal of the two policies for Ross-on-Wye. The detailed appraisal matrices can be found in **Appendix 5**. The likely effects of the policies are in many cases similar, as policy RW1: Development in Ross-on-Wye provides the

⁵⁶ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

⁵⁷ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

⁵⁸ Herefordshire Council (2010) Green Infrastructure Strategy: Herefordshire.

overarching strategy for development at Ross-on-Wye while policy RW2: Land at Hildersley then provides the detail of the strategic housing allocation.

- 4.45 The likely effects of the Ross-on-Wye policies on **education and employment** are broadly very positive, due to the provision that they make for new pre-school places and improved infrastructure at the local high school and the continuing promotion of 10ha of employment land at the adopted UDP site at Model Farm, which will help to meet the identified need for employment land in Ross-on-Wye⁵⁹. The proximity of the new housing proposed to the new employment site at Model Farm will have particular positive effects in terms of access to jobs.
- 4.46 In terms of **healthy and prosperous communities**, both policies are likely to have positive effects on health as they provide for new green infrastructure and walking and cycle links, which should encourage more active lifestyles and require contributions towards improved community facilities (which is taken to include healthcare facilities). Neither policy will affect crime or levels of poverty and the promotion of equality.
- 4.47 Both policies will have positive effects on **transport and access** as they make good provision for new sustainable transport links (including walking and cycling routes and public transport) and require the new development proposed to include new and improved community facilities and infrastructure.
- 4.48 The effects of these policies on the **built environment** are more complex. Both policies will have significant positive effects on housing due to the provision that they make for a total of 900 new homes at Ross-on-Wye, of which at least 40% will be affordable (something that is particularly beneficial in this high house price area). This level of housing provision will help to meet the identified need for housing in Ross-on-Wye⁶⁰ and, while not referred to within the policy itself, the supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need⁶¹. In addition, the two policies will both have positive effects on the overall quality of the built environment, in particular RW1 which specifies new development proposals in Ross-on-Wye should reflect and enhance the characteristic built historic elements of the town such as its red sandstone and timber framed Tudor buildings and boundary walls, the medieval plan form, conservation area and natural setting. However, both policies RW1 and RW2 could have mixed (both positive and negative) effects on the efficient use of land as they allocate much of the new development for Ross-on-Wye to strategic sites on the edge of the existing built up area, some of which is on agricultural land (the employment development continued to be proposed in policy RW1). However, both policies also provide for good sustainable transport links to increase the accessibility of the new developments and policy RW1 provides for some infill development, which represents more efficient use of land.
- 4.49 The effects of the two policies on **resource consumption and climate change** are again broadly positive. Both policies will have negligible effects in relation to waste as the new development is unlikely to result in any per-capita increase in waste generation and it is recognised that new development will need to conform to draft Core Strategy policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste during construction and use of the development. However, the effects of the policies on climate change should be broadly positive as they allow for the co-location of housing and employment development (policy RW1) and the provision of sustainable transport links.
- 4.50 The effects of these two policies on the **natural environment** are again generally positive, although it is recognised that new development at Ross-on-Wye is very constrained by environmental issues such as areas of high flood risk around the River Wye, biodiversity designations including the River Wye SAC and the presence of the Wye Valley AONB, the policies do provide for significant mitigation against potential impacts on those assets.

⁵⁹ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

⁶⁰ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

⁶¹ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

Table 4.7 Summary of SA scores for Ross-on-Wye policies

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
RW1: Development in Ross-on-Wye	++	+	++	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	++	+/- ?	++	0	?	+	+/- ?	+	?	+/- ?
RW2: Land at Hildersley	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	++	+/-	+	0	+	+	+/- ?	+	+	+

4.51 In addition, the HRA work that has been carried out for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at screening stage that the policies for Ross-on-Wye will not have a significant effect on any European designated sites, and it is recognised that the new development may offer opportunities to incorporate biodiversity enhancements. However, it is also recognised that development of the scale proposed could result in habitat loss or disturbance to species, depending on the specific proposals. Potential mixed but uncertain effects on biodiversity are therefore identified for both policies.

Kington

4.52 **Table 4.8** overleaf summarises the SA scores for the appraisal of the one policy for Kington. The detailed appraisal matrix can be found in **Appendix 5**. Note that the policy for development at Kington does not make any specific allocations for the location of residential or employment development; rather it identifies criteria for development proposals that may come forward there through later plans.

4.53 Broadly positive effects are likely in relation to **education and employment**, as although the policy does not allow for additional school places, the existing education facilities are assumed to be adequate for the scale of growth proposed, as the supporting text states that the level of new development proposed should support the current provision of community facilities (which is taken to include education). Minor rather than significant positive effects are likely in relation to employment development and the local economy as the policy does not allocate specific land for employment development, reflecting the environmental constraints present at Kington; however it encourages development proposals to make available small-scale employment sites. As these will be brought forward in balance with housing within the area, there is some uncertainty attached to the likely timing of the resulting positive effects.

4.54 In terms of **healthy and prosperous communities**, positive effects are likely to result from the fact that the policy makes provision for green infrastructure and amenity space as well as walking and cycling links to the town centre, employment areas and other facilities, which should encourage healthier and more active lifestyles. The fact that development is to take place within and around the existing urban area and not on a large peripheral urban extension should have further positive effects in terms of ensuring equal access to jobs and opportunities for local residents.

4.55 The policy is likely to have minor positive effects on **transport and access** because it makes provision for improved walking and cycle links and proposes development within the existing urban area which should reduce the need to travel, particularly by car. While the policy does not provide for the provision of new community services and facilities, it is recognised that the current level of provision is adequate to accommodate the small-scale population growth planned. The provision of sustainable transport links should ensure that these existing facilities are easily accessible for all.

4.56 The effects of the Kington policy on the **built environment** are likely to be particularly positive, due to the provision that it makes for the development of 200 new high quality homes – although this level of provision is lower than at the other market towns, this reflects the identified level of housing need there⁶² and current low building completion rates and is considered to be proportional to the scale of the town. Because the housing and employment development will take place in and around the existing urban area, this will constitute more efficient use of land than a large strategic urban extension on a greenfield site. There is, however, some uncertainty in relation to the provision of affordable housing in particular as the policy requires 35% of housing in developments of more than 15 homes to be affordable and it is not clear how many developments of that size there are likely to be at Kington. This is a particularly relevant issue at Kington, where prices are relatively high⁶³ (hence the 35% affordable housing target). Positive effects will also result from the requirement for development to maintain the character of Kington, in particular the features that contribute to its conservation area and its important buildings.

⁶² Herefordshire Council (March 2012) Herefordshire's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment 2011-2031.

⁶³ Three Dragons with Roger Tym and Partners (February 2010) Herefordshire Council Local Development Framework Viability Study

Table 4.8 Summary of SA scores for Kington policy

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change		The Natural Environment				
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
KG1: Development in Kington	+?	+?	+	+	0	+	0	+?	+	+	++?	+	++	0	?	+	+	+	+	0

- 4.57 The policy will have mixed effects on resource **consumption and climate change**. Negligible effects are expected in relation to waste as the new development is unlikely to result in any per-capita increase in waste generation and it is recognised that new development will need to conform to draft Core Strategy policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste during construction and use of the development. While the effects of the new development proposed on energy efficiency will depend on its specific design which is not yet known, it is assumed that new development will be in conformity with draft Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. The provision of improved sustainable transport links within Kington will also help to manage greenhouse gas emissions from transport.
- 4.58 The effects of this policy on the **natural environment** are likely to be broadly positive, as the policy provides for small-scale development in Kington which will not result in the loss of large areas of greenfield land, and it includes measures to mitigate the potential environmental impacts (e.g. requiring development to link habitats into ecological networks and to maintain the character of Kington in particular scenic views and landscape features surrounding the town).
- 4.59 In addition, the HRA work that has been carried out for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at screening stage that the policies for Kington will not have a significant effect on any European designated sites.

Rural Areas

- 4.60 **Table 4.9** overleaf summarises the SA scores for the appraisal of the six policies for the rural areas. The detailed appraisal matrices can be found in **Appendix 5**.
- 4.61 The effects of the six rural areas policies on **education and employment** are mixed, but broadly positive due to the provision they make for employment provision in rural areas and the stimulation of the rural economy, in particular policy RA6. There are, however, some potential mixed (both positive and negative) effects identified in relation to policies RA4 and RA5 as those policies could be perceived as being restrictive to development which could otherwise help to boost the rural economy due to the strict criteria that they set out for the development of dwellings for rural workers and the redevelopment of buildings in rural areas.
- 4.62 In many cases, the rural areas policies are not expected to affect the provision of **healthy and prosperous communities**, although RA2 could have positive effects on health as it allows for extended family to be considered in applications for rural housing development where it enables the applicant to receive medical support. RA5 could have a positive effect on crime by encouraging the re-use of redundant and disused buildings which could otherwise be (or perceived to be) used for criminal or antisocial activities.
- 4.63 The effects of the rural areas policies on **transport and access** are broadly positive, as they make good provision for increased job opportunities in Herefordshire's rural areas, thereby reducing the need for people to commute into Hereford and the market towns for work. This is particularly the case for policies RA1 and RA6. However, the effects of RA2 and RA4 on sustainable transport could be mixed (both positive and negative) as they provide for housing development in rural areas which could necessitate higher levels of car use than when residential development is focused in the urban areas but could also enable rural workers to live closer to their places of employment.

Table 4.9 Summary of SA scores for rural areas policies

	Education and Employment				Healthy and prosperous communities				Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change		The Natural Environment				
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
RA1: Rural Housing Strategy	+?	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+?	++	-?	+	0	-?	-?	+/- ?	+/- ?	?	?
RA2: Herefordshire's Villages	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	+/-?	+	++	+	+	0	?	-?	+/- ?	+/- ?	?	?
RA3: Herefordshire's Countryside	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+/-	+/-	+	0	+	+/- ?	+/- ?	+	+	+/-
RA4: Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Enterprise Dwellings	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	+/-	+	+	0	+	+/-	+?	+	0	0
RA5: Re-use of Rural Buildings	+/- ?	0	+	+/-	0	0	+?	0	+?	+?	+/-	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+
RA6: Rural Economy	++	+	++	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	+/- ?	+?	+?	+

- 4.64 The effects of the rural areas policies on the **built environment** will be mixed. Significant positive effects may result from policies RA1 and RA2 in relation to housing as they provide for 5,300 new homes in Herefordshire's rural areas over the Plan period (RA1), which will help to address identified housing needs in rural areas⁶⁴, and they set out detailed criteria for the provision of new housing in the villages (RA2) which aim to ensure that new housing is affordable, high quality and targeted to address particular local need. Affordable housing need in rural areas is a particularly important issue for the draft Core Strategy policies to address, as the supporting text to the rural areas policies notes that there is a disproportionate relationship between rural house prices and incomes, which is further skewed by demand from people moving into the rural areas. While the rural areas policies do not set a percentage target for the level of affordable housing provision in the rural areas, policy RA1 states that the development of affordable housing will be a priority (it is also noted that the policies H1: Affordable Housing – Thresholds and Targets and H2: Rural Exception Sites, which specify targets for affordable housing in rural areas and on exception sites, will also apply). A potential minor negative effect on the efficient use of land has been identified for policy RA1 as it focuses housing development in rural areas where there are likely to be less opportunities to re-use previously developed land than in urban areas.
- 4.65 A number of potential negative effects have been identified in relation to **resource consumption and climate change** as the rural areas policies focus new development outside of Hereford and the market towns, which could mean that the option to re-use brownfield sites will be less commonly available and that levels of car use are likely to be generally higher amongst residents of the new housing proposed. However, policies RA3-RA6 will have broadly more positive effects on this theme than RA1 and RA2 as they encourage the re-use of existing buildings, thereby minimising resource consumption (RA3, RA5 and RA6) and they require that proposals for rural dwellings demonstrate that the accommodation could not be provided in an existing building (RA4). None of the rural areas policies are expected to have an effect on waste as they are unlikely to result in a per-capita increase in waste generation and it is expected that all development will need to conform to draft Core Strategy policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste during construction and use of the development.
- 4.66 A wide range of mixed effects are likely in relation to the **natural environment**. While development in rural areas can be considered more likely to have an adverse impact on issues such as the landscape and biodiversity, most of the policies include strong criteria requiring development to avoid or mitigate these sorts of potential impacts. For example, policy RA5 requires that proposals for the re-use of existing buildings use a similar footprint to the original building and do not significantly increase its size, which should mean that potential significant changes to the local landscape are avoided. It is difficult to reach firm conclusions about the potential impacts of development in rural areas on the landscape and biodiversity, as many of the impacts will be determined by the particular location and nature of proposals that come forward, which cannot be known at this stage. However, it is assumed that all new development in the rural areas will need to conform to other draft Core Strategy policies such as LD2: Landscape and Townscape and LD3: Biodiversity and Geodiversity.
- 4.67 The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that three of the rural areas policies (RA1, RA2 and RA6) could have a significant effect on the River Wye with respects to impacts on water quality. However, the later Appropriate Assessment stage concluded that, provided the measures included in the signed Statement of Intent and the forthcoming Nutrient Management Plan (see HRA report for further details) are implemented, these will combine with the protection afforded in policies SS3 and SD4 to result in no significant effects.
- 4.68 In conclusion, all of these three policies could therefore have mixed (both positive and negative) effects on this SA objective and these effects are uncertain at present and are dependent on the implementation of the identified mitigation. Policies RA4 and RA5 could have positive effects on biodiversity as they include measures specifically aiming to mitigate the potential impacts of development on the natural environment, including biodiversity.

⁶⁴ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

General Policies – Social Progress

- 4.69 **Table 4.10** overleaf summarises the SA scores for the appraisal of the Social Progress policies. The detailed appraisal matrices can be found in **Appendix 6**.

Housing

- 4.70 Policies H1 and H2 are likely to have significant positive effects on social inclusion (SA objective 10) and affordable housing (11) because they are likely to increase the availability of affordable housing through requiring new developments above the threshold to provide affordable housing (Policy H1). Policy H4 makes provision for the site needs of Travellers in Herefordshire and sets criteria for any proposals for sites that come forward in the absence of an adopted Travellers' DPD. The policy is expected to have a significant positive impact on quality of life (9), social inclusion (10) and housing (11), with minor positive effects for health (5), land use (19) and landscape (20). Therefore, the housing policies are likely to have a positive effect overall on the **built environment** and **healthy and prosperous communities** themes.
- 4.71 Policies H1-H3 are unlikely to have an impact on SA objectives that relate to the **resource consumption and climate change** theme. However, the criteria in Policy H4 require Traveller sites to be within reasonable proximity to services and facilities, while not overloading local infrastructure, therefore minor positive effects can be expected on the **resource consumption and climate change** theme. In particular, it may have a positive effect on promoting the recycling of waste (SA objective 12) as the criteria in the policy requires provision for recycling and waste management within new pitch sites. Allowing for affordable housing schemes in rural areas (Policy H2) may have a negative effect on reducing the need to travel, as residents of those schemes may have to travel further to access services. In contrast, requiring Traveller sites to be within reasonable proximity to services and facilities (Policy H4) could have a positive effect, therefore, mixed effects overall can be expected on the **transport and access** theme. It should be noted that although these themes are likely to be positively affected, Policy H4 will only affect a small percentage of Herefordshire's population.
- 4.72 Despite the criteria included in Policy H4 that ensures that there will be no adverse effect upon the character and amenity of the landscape through adequate screening and landscaping, the overall effect on the **natural environment** theme is expected to be negligible. Policy H1 may have a minor positive effect on reducing vacant properties if developers choose to refurbish existing dwellings rather than trigger affordable housing requirements in new developments, therefore, the effect of housing policies on the **education and employment** theme is also likely to be negligible.

Social and Community Facilities

- 4.73 As Policy SC1 supports development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure, it is likely to have significant positive effects on developing services and facilities (SA objectives 6, 7 and 10), and educational infrastructure (8) and increasing their accessibility. The policy is therefore likely to have a significant positive effect on **education and employment, healthy and prosperous communities, and transport and access**.
- 4.74 Improving accessibility to services and facilities, by requiring facilities to be safely accessible on foot, by cycle and by public transport, is also likely to lead to positive effects on reducing consumption of fossil fuels (14) and greenhouse gas emissions (16). However, as these facilities will be focused in urban areas, it will continue to encourage rural residents to travel to access the services, and the overall effect on the **resource consumption and climate change** theme is expected to be mixed.
- 4.75 The policy supports proposals for facilities that would be close to existing settlements and accessible by walking, cycling or public transport, which would help ensure developments are in suitable locations (19.1). Enhancement of facilities may improve the quality of design and appearance of some facilities, which would have further positive effects on the **built environment**, but this would not be known until proposals come forward at the planning application stage and the positive effect may be uncertain.

Table 4.10 Summary of SA scores for General Policies – Social Progress

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
H1 – Affordable housing	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	++	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H2 – Rural exceptions sites	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	++	-	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H3 – Ensuring an appropriate range and mix of housing	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
H4 – Travellers sites	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0
SC1 – Social and community facilities	+	0	+	++	++	+	+	++	+	++	+	+	+	0	+/-	+/-	0	0	0	0
OS1 – Requirement for open space, sports and recreation facilities	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	0	+++	++	0	+	++	0	+	+	++	++	0	++
OS2 – Meeting open space, sports and	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	0	+/-?	++	0	+++	++	0	+	+	++	++	0	++

recreation needs																				
OS3 - Loss of open space, sports or recreation facilities	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	0	+	++	0	+	++	0	+	+	++	++	+	++
MT1 - Traffic management, highway safety and promoting active travel	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	++	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+

- 4.76 As it relates to protection, retention or enhancement of existing social and community infrastructure, Policy SC1 is unlikely to have any effect on the **natural environment** themes.

Open Space, Sports and Recreation

- 4.77 The open space, sports and recreation policies require new developments to provide new open spaces (Policies OS1 and OS2), and to avoid loss of existing open space (OS3), and are likely to have a number of positive and significantly positive sustainability effects. The three policies are likely to lead to significant positive effects on providing opportunities to access leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities (SA objective 6), and therefore the **transport and access** theme. However, Policy OS2 promotes the development of major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford, which may create additional travel, therefore there are also some mixed effects expected.
- 4.78 There is also expected to be significant positive effect for the **built environment** theme, as the policies are likely to encourage ways of meeting local needs locally (19), and encourage developments to incorporate green space, biodiversity and local distinctiveness (20).
- 4.79 Protecting and enhancing open space and incorporating green space, biodiversity and local distinctiveness is also likely to have a significant positive effect on the **natural environment** theme.
- 4.80 A significant positive effect is expected on supporting a high quality amenity space (7), but as there are negligible effects expected for other SA objectives that relate to the economy and education theme, only a minor positive effect is expected overall on the **education and employment** theme.
- 4.81 Improved provision of open and recreational spaces may encourage walking and cycling, which would have a positive effect on reducing consumption of fossil fuels (14) and greenhouse gas emissions (16). However, as this would depend on the nature of open spaces that are created or protected, the positive effect expected on the **resource consumption and climate change** theme is uncertain. Similarly, where the protection and provision of open spaces improves opportunities for walking and cycling as well as other sports and recreation activities, there will be positive effects for encouraging healthy lifestyles (5). There are unlikely to be any effects on crime (9) or social inclusion (10) as a result of the open space, sports and recreation policies.

Traffic Management

- 4.82 Policy MT1 sets traffic management requirements for new developments. Overall, it is expected to have a positive effect on **education and employment** by encouraging transport infrastructure improvements that would support the local economy. A positive effect is likely for the **built environment** as developments will be encouraged in suitable locations with sustainable transport access that may improve the public realm. Requiring integrated transport networks within new developments may lead to a significant positive effect on accessibility through sustainable transport modes.
- 4.83 The **healthy and prosperous communities**, and **transport and access** themes are also likely to be positively affected as Policy MT1 would promote sustainable modes of transport such as walking, cycling, or public transport. There is likely to be positive effects on **resource consumption and climate change**, and the **natural environment**, by requiring traffic impacts from new developments to be absorbed through the strategic and local road networks. Sustainable transport is also promoted, which would have a positive effect on **resource consumption and climate change**. There is some uncertainty attached to all of the effects related to increased use of sustainable transport modes however, as they depend on behaviour change, over which the Core Strategy will have only a limited influence.

General Policies – Economic Prosperity

- 4.84 The appraisal matrices for the Economic Prosperity policies are included in **Appendix 6** and summarised in **Table 4.11** above.

- 4.85 The Economic Prosperity policies are likely to have significant positive effects on employment (SA objective 1), the sustainable economy (3) and sustainable regeneration (7), by supporting and protecting the provision of employment land (Policies E1 and E2), and supporting retailers (Policies E5 and E6). Therefore, there is likely to be a significant positive effect on **education and employment**, although Policy E6 may have some negative effects on employment and businesses in non-retail sectors by restricting their development at primary shopping frontages.
- 4.86 Policy E5 is likely to have a significant positive effect on ensuring new developments are in appropriate locations (19.1) by focusing retail development in town centres that are more likely to be accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport. Along with other Economic Prosperity policies, there are also likely to be minor positive effects on high quality built environments and settings (20) through protection of the built character of town centres (Policies E5 and E6) and requiring development to have regards for the heritage assets of the county (Policy E4). Minor positive effects on providing housing that meets people's needs are also expected as Policy E3 allows for developments that support home working. Overall, a minor positive effect is expected on the **built environment**.
- 4.87 The Economic Prosperity policies support locating employment, tourism and retail developments within urban areas (Policies E1, E4 and E5). These policies are therefore likely to have positive effects on reducing travel (4), consumption of natural resources (14) and greenhouse gas emissions (16), by locating these developments near to residents of the major urban areas of Herefordshire. Focusing developments in urban areas is also likely to steer development away from biodiversity and landscape designations, and a minor positive effect is expected on the **natural environment**. However, residents in rural areas would need to travel further to access facilities, most likely by car, and therefore a mixed effect is expected overall on the themes of **travel and access** and **resource consumption and climate change**.
- 4.88 By providing equitable access to and provision of job opportunities, Policies E1, E2 and E3 are likely to have positive effects on social inclusion (9), while encouraging walking and cycling along recreational routes (Policy E4) is likely to have a positive effect on encouraging healthy lifestyles. Overall, a minor positive effect is expected on **healthy and prosperous communities**.

Table 4.11: Summary of SA scores for General Policies – Economic Prosperity

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
E1 – Employment provision	++	+	++	++	0	0	0	+	+/-	0	0	0	0	-?	+/-	+/-	+?	+?	0	+
E2 – Redevelopment of existing employment land and buildings	++	+	++	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0
E3 – Home working	+	0	+	0	0	+/-	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0
E4 – Tourism	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+/-	+	0	+	+	0	+/-	+/-	+	+	0	0
E5 – Town centres	+	0	+	++	0	0	0	0	+/-	+	+	++	+	0	+/-	+/-	+?	+?	0	0
E6 – Primary and secondary shopping frontages	+/-	0	+/-	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

General Policies – Environmental Quality

- 4.89 The appraisal matrices for the Environmental Quality policies are included in **Appendix 6** and summarised in **Table 4.12** below.

Local Distinctiveness

- 4.90 The local distinctiveness policies are likely to have significant positive effects on the **built environment** and the **natural environment**. In particular, supporting development proposals that protect, restore and improve locally distinctive assets and designations (LD1), and the delivery of new green infrastructure (LD4) will encourage development which promotes local distinctiveness (SA objective 20), while Policies LD2 (Landscape) and LD3 (Biodiversity) will help protect biodiversity (13) and landscape quality (15) within development proposals.
- 4.91 Delivering green infrastructure (LD4) is also likely to have significant positive effects on sustainable transport by increasing cycling and walking (4), and increasing the quality of leisure, sporting and recreational activities in the County (6). Therefore, a significant positive effect can be expected overall on the **transport and access** theme, while there should also be a minor positive effect on **healthy and prosperous communities** where provision of green infrastructure will encourage healthy lifestyles (5).
- 4.92 Policy LD4 is also likely to have a significant positive effect on developing services and facilities appropriate to the community by promoting open and recreational spaces, however as the other Local Distinctiveness policies are unlikely to affect SA objectives that relate to the economy and education theme, the overall effect on the **education and employment** theme is likely to be negligible.

Sustainable Design

- 4.93 The Sustainable Design policies are likely to have a significant positive effect on **resource consumption and climate change**, by encouraging energy efficiency measures and on-site renewable energy generation (Policy SD1), supporting developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets (Policy SD2), incorporating sustainable water management (Policy SD3) and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments (Policy SD4). These policies are also likely to have significant positive effects on the **built environment** and the **natural environment** themes. However, Policy SD2 allows for renewable and low carbon technologies that do not result in any significant detrimental impact upon the quality of the landscape character. 'Significant detrimental impact' implies that some level of adverse impact will be considered acceptable, and therefore there may be some negative effects on landscape quality (SA objective 15) and built heritage and the historic environment (20).
- 4.94 Policy SD2 should result in a significant positive impact on the development of low-impact technologies (3.5), and have a minor positive effect on employment and skills in low carbon technologies (1 and 2). Policy SD3 should have a positive effect on the resilience of local businesses (3.1) by requiring sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, to be incorporated into new developments. Overall, a minor positive effect is expected on **education and employment**.
- 4.95 Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to consider residential amenity and create safe environments, and address crime prevention and community safety, which are likely to have significant positive effects on health (5) and crime (9). Improving water quality (Policies SD3 and SD4) will also have positive effects on health, which suggests that a positive effect can be expected overall on **healthy and prosperous communities**. The criteria in Policy SD1 also requires developments to allow easy access throughout the development, and allow for a range of sustainable transport modes, which should have a positive effect on traffic (4) and access to services (6). However, the other policies relating to Sustainable Design are unlikely to have an effect on these SA objectives, and a negligible effect is expected overall on **transport and access**.

Table 4.12: Summary of SA scores for General Policies – Environmental Quality

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
LD1 – Local distinctiveness	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	0	0	0	++	++	+	+?
LD2 – Landscape/townscape	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	++	0	0	0	0	++	0	0
LD3 – Biodiversity/geodiversity	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	0	0
LD4 – Green infrastructure	0	0	0	++	0	+	+?	0	++	++	0	+	++	0	0	0	++	++	++	++
LD5 – Historic environment and heritage assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	++	0	0	0	0	+	0	0
SD1 – Sustainable design and energy efficiency	0	0	0	++	0	++	++	+	+	+	++	++	++	+	++	+	+?	+?	+	++
SD2 – Renewable and low carbon energy	+	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	+	-?	+?	++	++	+	-?	0	++
SD3 – Sustainable water management and water resources	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	0	++	++
SD4 – Wastewater treatment and river water quality	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	++	+	0	++	0	+	++
MN1 – Minerals safeguarding areas	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	-	0	-?	-?	0	0
MN2 – Annual apportionments for aggregate provision	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	0	0	0	0	0
MN3 – Criteria for the assessment of minerals related development	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	-	-	+/-?	+/-	0	0

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution
MN4 – Small Scale non-aggregate building stone and clay production	+	0	+	0	0	+/- ?	0	0	0	0	++	++	++	0	+/-	+	+/- ?	+/- ?	0	0
MN5 – Secondary (reused and recycled) aggregates	0	0	+	0	0	+/- ?	0	0	+	0	++	+	0	++	++	+	+/- ?	+/- ?	0	0
MN 6 – Moreton on Lugg railhead	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	0	0	0
W1 – Waste streams and targets	0	0	0	0	0	-?	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	++	++	++	-?	-?	0	-?
W2 - Location of new waste management facilities	+	0	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+?	+?	0	+?
W3 – Existing and permitted waste treatment Sites	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
W4 – Technologies for biological treatment of waste	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	++	0	++	0	0	0	0
W5 – Waste minimisation and management in new developments	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+?	0	++/-	+	0	++	++	+	0	0	0	0
Policy ID1 – Infrastructure Delivery	+	+?	+	++	+	+/-	+	+	+/-	++	+	+?	+	+	+/-	+/-	+	+	+	+/-

Minerals

- 4.96 The Minerals policies are likely to have a mixed effect on **natural resources and climate change**. Policies MN1-MN4 support mineral extraction, which is likely to have a negative effect on natural resource use (SA objective 14), however Policy MN5 encourages use of secondary (reused and recycled) aggregates which will have a significant positive effect on natural resource use (14) and waste (12). Generally, the policies also support local extraction of minerals (MN3) and transportation of freight by rail (MN6), which may see benefits on reducing greenhouse gases (16). The extraction of minerals has the potential for negative effects on the **natural environment**, but the criteria in Policy MN3 require mitigation of potential effects, therefore the overall effect is likely to be mixed and uncertain.
- 4.97 The Minerals policies are likely to have a positive effect on the **built environment** theme by allowing for the extraction of building materials. Policy MN4 supports extraction of local building stone and is likely to have a significant positive effect on housing (11), meeting local needs locally (19.3) and the character and built quality of settlements (20). Supporting mineral extraction through the Minerals policies may support business growth in the minerals sector in Herefordshire, and the overall effect on **education and employment** is likely to be minor positive.
- 4.98 Overall there is likely to be a negligible effect on **transport and access**, although Policy MN6 which protects the railhead for minerals transportation at Moreton-on-Lugg is likely to have a significant positive impact on prioritising the transportation of freight by rail (4.7). A negligible effect is also likely overall for the **healthy and prosperous communities** theme, as Policy MN3 requires mineral developments to mitigate potential impacts (due to noise and/or dust) on the amenity of nearby residential properties, which would be inevitable, even at a small scale.

Waste

- 4.99 The waste policies are likely to have a significant positive effect on the **natural resources and climate change** themes. Policies W1, W4 and W5 in particular encourage re-use and recycling of materials, which will have significant positive effects on minimising waste (12), natural resource consumption (14) and greenhouse gas emissions (16).
- 4.100 New waste management facilities (as identified in Policy W1) have the potential to have a negative effect on the **healthy and prosperous communities**, the **built environment** and the **natural environment** themes, however criteria in Policy W2 seek to mitigate potential impacts on human health, biodiversity, and the natural, cultural and historic environment, and as such, a mixed effect is expected on these themes overall.
- 4.101 Construction and operation of new and existing waste management facilities (set out in Policies W1-W4) is likely to contribute to employment in Herefordshire (SA objective 1), which is likely to result in a minor positive effect on the **education and employment** theme. Policies W4 and W5 require that traffic impacts of transporting waste are managed, which would have a minor positive effect on SA objective 4, but the overall effect on the **transport and access** theme is likely to be negligible.

Delivery, Implementation and Monitoring

- 4.102 There is one policy in the Core Strategy section on Delivery, Implementation and Monitoring, Policy ID1. The appraisal matrix for this policy is at the end of **Appendix 6** and the sustainability scores are summarised in **Table 4.12** above.
- 4.103 Policy ID1 sets out how Herefordshire Council intends to deliver infrastructure projects (mandatory tariffs on new developments and section 106 agreements), and what type of infrastructure projects will be supported (physical infrastructure, social infrastructure and green infrastructure). In general, there are likely to be positive effects on all the SA objectives, with significant positive effects on services (6) and regeneration (7) by increasing the quality of facilities in Herefordshire, and ensuring access by sustainable modes of transport (6.1),

contributing to a high quality public realm and (7.4), and supporting services and facilities appropriate to the community (7.1).

- 4.104 However, major transport infrastructure supported through this policy may have negative effects on encouraging healthy lifestyles (5), reducing travel (4), fossil fuel consumption (14), greenhouse gas emissions (16) and air pollution (18), by encouraging greater car use. Therefore, overall, mixed effects are expected on **healthy and prosperous communities, transport and access**, the **natural environment** and **resource consumption and climate change** themes. Despite significant positive effects expected on SA objective 7, Policy ID1 is expected to have a minor positive effect on the **education and employment** theme, in addition to a minor positive effect on the **built environment** theme.

Duration and Scale of Sustainability Effects

- 4.105 Herefordshire's Core Strategy sets out how development within the County should look and function and how development needs will be met up to 2031, meaning that the timescales for effects resulting from policies within the Core Strategy could be up to 20 years. In reality, some of the policies may have short-term effects (over the next 5 years), medium-term effects (over the next 10 years), or long-term effects (over the whole plan period).

Short-term effects of the Core Strategy

- 4.106 The impacts of the Core Strategy in the short-term would mostly relate to the initial impacts of construction, including housing, employment land, and transport schemes where these are already in progress or planned for the early part of the plan period. This could include the removal of vegetation, top soil, sub soil, and provision of infrastructure required. Such works could have negative impacts on biodiversity, local amenity (possible disruption to rights of way, traffic flows, noise generation etc.), soil quality, and the landscape. However these impacts would be temporary in nature and should be minimised through implementation of the safeguards set out in a number of the General Policies (e.g. policies LD2, LD3, OS1).

Medium-term effects of the Core Strategy

- 4.107 Negative impacts in the medium-term include the potential implications of developments on health and local amenity (e.g. noise, dust, increased traffic etc.), although as noted above, these should be minimised through implementation of the requirements in the General Policies. In addition, there are likely to be positive medium-term effects on health and quality of life by delivering improved affordable housing availability and healthcare facilities. Medium-term positive impacts also relate to the employment and economic benefits of delivering new employment land.

Long-term effects of the Core Strategy

- 4.108 Long-term, permanent benefits that would result from the Core Strategy include the provision of housing, employment, improved transport infrastructure which would positively impact employment, the economy and quality of life. Green infrastructure may have some long-term, permanent positive impacts for biodiversity, landscape and flooding through the creation of new habitats, enhancement of degraded sites, implementation of sustainable drainage systems and enhancement of townscape and landscape through well designed facilities.
- 4.109 Long-term, permanent negative impacts of the Core Strategy are potentially: increased waste generation overall from a growing population, climate change implications of the energy required in new housing and employment; and the disturbance and/or removal of archaeological remains, some of which may be of national significance. However, these effects could be avoided or mitigated through implementation of the requirements in the General Policies (e.g. policies W1, W5, SD1 and LD5, and requirements in the individual place-shaping policies for Hereford, the market towns and rural areas).

Cumulative Effects

- 4.110 The SEA Directive requires that the cumulative effects of a plan are considered, and this section sets out the likely cumulative effects of the Draft Herefordshire Core Strategy policies. **Table 4.13** below shows the SA scores for the complete set of Draft Core Strategy policies, enabling a judgement to be made regarding the overall cumulative effects of the preferred options on each SA theme.

Education and Employment

- 4.111 A cumulative positive impact on **education and employment** opportunities within Herefordshire is likely to result from the Draft Core Strategy policies in combination. While a number of the policies are unlikely to affect the SA objectives in this theme, most of the policies are likely to have either positive or significant positive impacts on the objectives within this theme and only a small number of potential mixed impacts have been identified, where some negative effects may be associated with the policy.
- 4.112 Most of the significant positive impacts associated with this theme relate to employment opportunities (SA objective 1) and the sustainable economy (3); and as such there may be a cumulative significant positive effect on these particular objectives. This is due to the measures included within a number of the Core Strategy policies (e.g. the Place Shaping policies allocating employment land and the General Employment policies E.1 and E.2) which should help to facilitate job creation within Herefordshire.
- 4.113 Apart from SA objective 8, all of the SA objectives within the theme of **education and employment** have at least one mixed impact associated with them, which come from the policies safeguarding areas for specific types of development, that would restrict other employment types (RA4, RA5, E6).

Healthy and Prosperous Communities

- 4.114 Many of the Draft Core Strategy policies are also likely to have either a positive or significant positive impact on achieving **healthy and prosperous communities** within Herefordshire (although very few of the Core Strategy objectives and policies are likely to affect SA objective 9 to reduce and prevent crime). In particular, the housing policies H1, H2 and H4, social and community facilities policy SC1, plus Policy SD1 are likely to result in significant positive effects on the healthy and prosperous communities theme due to the fact that these policies are likely to increase the availability of affordable housing, make provision for the site needs of Travellers in Herefordshire, requires new development proposals to consider residential amenity and create safe environments, and address crime prevention and community safety.
- 4.115 A small number of potential mixed effects have been identified, relating to potential mineral and waste developments and major transport schemes such as the Hereford relief road. These mixed effects are mainly associated with the potential impacts on public health (SA objective 5), e.g. where development is proposed within close proximity of residential areas, and so the cumulative impact of the Core Strategy as a whole may be mixed in relation to SA objective 5. However, the cumulative impacts on the other SA objectives within this theme, and on the theme as a whole, are considered likely to be positive.

Table 4.13: Summary of SA scores for the Vision, Strategic Objectives and all the Draft Core Strategy policies

SA Theme	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	1	2	3	7	8	5	9	10	4	6	11	19	20	12	14	16	13	15	17	18
The Vision	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Objective 1	+?	0	0	0	0	+?	0	+?	0	0	++	+	0	-?	+?	+	0	0	0	0
Objective 2	0	+	0	+	+	++	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Objective 3	0	++	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Objective 4	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	+
Objective 5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	0	+	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	+
Objective 6	++	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Objective 7	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	0	-?	-?	+/-	0	0	0	0
Objective 8	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+/-	+	+	+/-	0	-?	+/-	+/-	+	+	+	+/-
Objective 9	+?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	+	0	0	+	-?	0	-?	+/-	+/-	0	0
Objective 10	0	0	0	+	0	+?	0	0	0	+	+	++	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	+
Objective 11	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	+	0	++	++	
Objective 12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	0
Policy SS1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Policy SS2	+	+?	0	0	0	+?	0	0	+/-	0	++	+	+	-?	-?	-?	0	0	0	0
Policy SS3	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	+	0	+/-	+/-	-?	++	+	+	++/-
Policy SS4	+	0	+	+	0	+/-	0	+	+/-	+	0	+	+	0	-	-	-	-	0	-?
Policy SS5	++	++	++	+	0	0	0	+	+/-	0	0	0	0	-?	-?	-?	+	+	0	+
Policy SS6	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	++	+	+	++	+	++	++	++	+	+	++	++
Policy HD1	+?	+?	+	+	+	+	+	+	++/-	++	++	++	++	0	+	+/-	+	+	+	+/-?
Policy HD2	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	+	++/-	+	+	+/-	+	0	+/-?	+/-	?	+/-?	?	+/-?
Policy HD3	+	+	0	+	+	+	0	0	+/-	+	++	+/-?	+/-?	0	+	+	+/-?	-?	+/-	+/-
Policy HD4	++	+?	+?	+	+	+	0	0	+/-	+	++	+/-?	+/-?	0	+	+/-	+/-?	-?	-?	+/-
Policy HD5	+++	+?	+	+	+	+	0	0	+/-	+	++	+/-	+/-?	0	+	+/-	+/-?	-?	+/-	+/-
Policy HD6	++	+?	++	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Policy BY1	++	+?	++	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	++	+	++	0	?	+	+/-?	+	+	+
Policy BY2	++	+?	++	+	+	+	?	0	+/-	+	++	+	+	0	+	+/-	+/-?	+/-?	+	+/-?
Policy LO1	++	+?	++	+	?	+	0	?	+/-?	?	++	-?	?	0	?	?	+/-?	?	+	+/-?
Policy LO2	+?	+?	+?	+	+	+	0	+	+/-	+	++	+/-	0?	0	?	+/-?	+/-?	-?	+	+/-
Policy LB1	++	+?	++	+	+	+	0	+/-	+	+	++	+	++	0	?	+	+/-?	+/-?	?	+
Policy LB2	+	+?	+	+	+	+	0	0	+/-	++	++	+/-	+	0	+	+	+/-?	+	+/-?	+
Policy RW1	++	+?	++	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	++	+/-?	++	0	?	+	+/-?	+	?	+/-?
Policy RW2	+	+?	0	+	+	+	0	0	+	+	++	+/-	+	0	+	+	+/-?	+	+	+
Policy KG1	+?	+?	+	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	+++	+	++	0	?	+	+	+	+	0
Policy RA1	+?	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	++	-?	+	0	-?	-?	+/-?	+/-?	?	?
Policy RA2	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	0	+/-?	+	++	+	+	0	?	-?	+/-?	+/-?	?	?
Policy RA3	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+/-	+/-	+	0	+	+/-?	+/-?	+	+	+/-
Policy RA4	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	0	0	0	0	+/-	0	+/-	+	+	0	+	+/-	+	+	0	0
Policy RA5	+/-?	0	+	+/-	0	0	+?	0	+	+	+/-	+	+	0	+	+	+	+	+	+
Policy RA6	++	+	++	+	0	0	0	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	+	+	+/-?	+	+	+

SA Theme	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access		The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
SA objective	1	2	3	7	8	5	9	10	4	6	11	19	20	12	14	16	13	15	17	18
Policy H1	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	++	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Policy H2	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	++	-	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Policy H3	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Policy H4	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	++	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	0	0	+	0	0
Policy SC1	+	0	+	++	++	+	+	++	+	++	0	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	0	0	0	0
Policy OS1	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	0	++?	++	0	+	++	0	+	+	++	++	0	++
Policy OS2	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	0	+/-?	++	0	++?	++	0	+	+	++	++	0	++
Policy OS3	0	0	0	++	0	+	0	0	+	++	0	+	++	0	+	+	++	++	+	++
Policy MT1	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	++	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	+
Policy E1	++	+	++	++	0	0	0	+	+/-	0	0	0	0	-?	+/-	+/-	+	+	0	+
Policy E2	++	+	++	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	0
Policy E3	+	0	+	0	0	+/-	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0
Policy E4	+	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	+/-	+	0	+	+	0	+/-	+/-	+	+	0	0
Policy E5	+	0	+	++	0	0	0	0	+/-	+	+	++	+	0	+/-	+/-	+	+	0	0
Policy E6	+/-	0	+/-	++	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Policy LD1	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	0	0	0	++	++	+	+
Policy LD2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	++	0	0	0	0	++	0	0
Policy LD3	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	0	0	++	0	0	0
Policy LD4	0	0	0	++	0	+	+	0	++	++	0	+	++	0	0	0	++	++	++	++
Policy LD5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	+	0	++	0	0	0	0	+	0	0
Policy SD1	0	0	0	++	0	++	++	+	+	+	++	++	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	++
Policy SD2	+	+	++	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	+	-?	+	++	++	+	-?	0	++
Policy SD3	0	0	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	+	++	++	+	0	++	++
Policy SD4	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	+	+	+	++	+	0	++	0	+	++
Policy MN1	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	-	0	-?	-?	0	0
Policy MN2	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	0	0	0	0	0
Policy MN3	0	0	+	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	-	-	+/-?	+/-	0	0
Policy MN4	+	0	+	0	0	+/-?	0	0	0	0	++	++	++	0	+/-	+	+/-?	+/-?	0	0
Policy MN5	0	0	+	0	0	+/-?	0	0	+	0	++	+	0	++	++	+	+/-?	+/-?	0	0
Policy MN6	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	0	0	0	0
Policy W1	0	0	0	0	0	-?	0	0	0	0	0	0	-?	++	++	++	-?	-?	0	-?
Policy W2	+	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	+	0	+	+	+	0	+
Policy W3	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0
Policy W4	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	++	0	++	0	0	0	0
Policy W5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	0	++/-	+	0	++	++	+	0	0	0	0
Policy ID1	+	+	+	++	+	+/-	+	+	+/-	++	+	+	+	+	+/-	+/-	+	+	+	+/-

Transport and Access

- 4.116 Over half of the Draft Core Strategy objectives and around a third of the policies are unlikely to have any effect on the **transport and access** theme. Another third or so of the Draft Core Strategy policies are likely to have a positive or mixed effect on the transport and access theme; in particular on SA Objective 4 (reducing road traffic and increasing the use of sustainable modes of transport). The negative effects associated with this objective mainly relate to the fact that a number of the policies have the potential to encourage car use by increasing the attractiveness of this option, for example through focusing developments in Hereford and the market towns (which would encourage residents from rural areas to travel by car), the provision of car parking facilities in new developments or by proposing improvements to the road network. However, the policies also include a number of measures which aim to increase the use of sustainable transport and reduce congestion caused by car traffic, particularly in the centre of Hereford; therefore the overall likely cumulative effect on SA objective 4 is mixed.
- 4.117 The cumulative impact of the policies on SA objective 6 (access to facilities), when considered separately from SA objective 4, is likely to be positive as the majority of policies likely to have an effect on this objective will have positive effects, for example due to the spatial policies which generally focus development within or adjacent to existing urban areas where facilities will be more easily accessible. However, the overall cumulative impact for this SA theme remains mixed due to the large number of potentially negative and mixed effects that have been identified in relation to SA objective 4.

Built Environment

- 4.118 Although some of the Draft Core Strategy policies are unlikely to affect the SA objectives in the Built Environment theme, the majority of policies are likely to have either a positive or significant positive effect on this SA objective and several specifically aim to improve the quality of the **built environment**, such as the policies for sustainable design and energy efficiency (SD1) and local building stone (MN4). Most of the positive and significant positive effects associated with this theme relate to SA objective 11 (housing provision), due to the extensive provision made for both market value and affordable housing through the policies, and therefore a cumulative positive effect is expected in relation to this SA objective.
- 4.119 However, a number of mixed effects have also been identified, including some minor negative effects, particularly in relation to SA Objectives 19 and 20 (efficient land use and the quality of the built/historic environment). Most of these mixed effects relate to the policies for development in Hereford and the policies relating to the proposed Hereford relief road, as well as the Leominster policies and RA1 (rural areas). Despite the fact that positive effects should arise from the overall level of housing development proposed in Hereford and the market towns, much of the development at Hereford, Leominster and the rural areas, including the relief road around Hereford, will be on greenfield land. As such, a cumulative mixed effect is likely in relation to these two SA objectives and for the SA theme as a whole.

Resource Consumption and Climate Change

- 4.120 A relatively large number of potential negative effects (all of which are classed as minor) have been identified in relation to the **resource consumption and climate change** theme – more than for any of the other five SA themes. Most of these negative impacts relate to the policies for focusing development at Hereford and transport schemes such as the proposed Hereford relief road, although a large number are also associated with the rural areas policies due to the fact that development in rural areas may encourage ongoing car use and would therefore maintain levels of emissions from road traffic. In relation to SA objective 12 (reducing waste production), while it is recognised that the large-scale new development proposed in the Core Strategy could result in increased waste generation locally, it is not expected to result an overall per-capita increase in waste generation. As such, the majority of the policies will have negligible effects on this objective. However, there are a number of policies that could have a positive effect on reducing waste production; therefore a cumulative minor positive effect is likely in relation to this SA objective in isolation.
- 4.121 A number of potential positive and significant positive effects have also been identified for SA objectives in this theme, particularly in relation to general policies such as SS6 (Climate Change), SD3 and SD4 (water management), and W1 (waste streams and targets), which seek to protect

water resources, encourage use of renewable energy and reduce waste thus reducing contributions to climate change. Therefore, despite the larger number of potential negative effects identified for this theme the likely cumulative effect of the Core Strategy policies on resource consumption and climate change is mixed.

Natural Environment

- 4.122 While there are a large number of minor and some significant positive effects identified for the Draft Core Strategy policies on the SA objectives in the **natural environment** theme, there are also quite a large number of mixed or minor negative effects identified. Most of the mixed or minor negative effects are associated with the policies relating to development at Hereford and the market towns, the construction of the Hereford relief road, and the minerals policies, due to the potential for negative effects on biodiversity (e.g. within the River Wye) and/or landscape as a result of development proposed nearby.
- 4.123 However, a number of the potential negative effects identified may be able to be mitigated through implementation of the safeguards within other policies in the Draft Core Strategy. For example, in recognition of the potential impact on water quality in the River Wye associated with waste water treatment capacity to support the growing population, policy SS3 states that release of specific sites for housing may be phased or delayed in order to ensure that necessary infrastructure is in place to support the new development in order to ensure that there will be no adverse effects on the integrity of the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC).
- 4.124 The significant positive effects on the natural environment theme are identified in relation to policies that specifically aim to conserve and enhance the quality of the natural environment, such as policies LD2 (landscape), LD3 (biodiversity), and LD4 (green infrastructure), SS3 (with respect to the River Wye), or they relate directly to reducing the risk of flooding (SA objective 17) and/or minimising pollution (SA objective 18), such as the Sustainable Design policies (SD1-4) and open space policies (OS1-3). As such, the likely cumulative effect of the policies on the natural environment is mixed.

5 Monitoring

- 5.1 The SEA Directive requires that "*member states shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans or programmes... in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage, unforeseen adverse effects, and be able to undertake appropriate remedial action*" (Article 10.1) and that the environmental report should provide information on "*a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring*" (Annex 1 (i)). Monitoring proposals should be designed to provide information that can be used to highlight specific issues and significant effects, and which could help decision-making.
- 5.2 The Planning Advisory Service guidance on SA states that it is not necessary to monitor everything. Instead, monitoring should be focused on the significant sustainability effects that may give rise to irreversible damage (with a view to identifying trends before such damage is caused) and the significant effects where there is uncertainty in the SA and where monitoring would enable preventative or mitigation measures to be taken. No significant negative effects have been identified for the Herefordshire Draft Core Strategy. The monitoring measures proposed in this SA Report therefore focus on the predicted minor negative effects only (including mixed effects where some minor effects are predicted for some policies as well as positive effects).
- 5.3 As discussed in **Chapter 4** and shown in **Table 4.13**, a number of the strategic and development management policies in the Core Strategy could have potential minor negative or mixed effects (both minor/significant positive and minor negative) on the SA objectives. Therefore, it is recommended that monitoring is undertaken to determine whether these effects do indeed occur due to implementation of the Core Strategy, and in order to seek to remedy or reverse them.
- 5.4 **Table 5.1** sets out a number of suggested indicators for monitoring the potential minor negative sustainability effects of implementing the Core Strategy. Note that the indicators proposed are included as suggestions and have been drawn from the indicators proposed in the Draft Core Strategy in relation to monitoring implementation of the policies themselves as part of the Annual Monitoring Framework that must be undertaken by Herefordshire Council. Therefore, the indicators included in **Table 5.1** may change at subsequent stages of the Core Strategy preparation as Herefordshire finalises its monitoring framework. Only a few indicators have been suggested where the data used for monitoring in many cases will be provided by outside bodies.

Table 5.1: Suggested framework for monitoring potential negative sustainability effects arising from implementation of the Herefordshire Draft Core Strategy

SA objectives for which potential significant effects have been identified	Policies that are likely to lead to minor negative effects	Proposed indicators
Education and Employment		
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	<u>Place-shaping policies</u> RA4, RA5 <u>General Policies</u> E6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employment land floor space by type and location • number of new jobs created • employment and income levels against regional and national averages • the amount of employment land commitments, completions and reallocations, as monitored through the council's annual Employment Land Survey including expansions and relocations • the number of people employed in the different tourism sectors;

SA objectives for which potential significant effects have been identified	Policies that are likely to lead to minor negative effects	Proposed indicators
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	<u>Place-shaping policies</u> RA4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employment land floor space by type and location
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	<u>General Policies</u> E6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • employment land floor space by type and location • number. of live-work units granted permission • accessibility to Broadband • business survival rate at 3 years • new business registration rates;
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<u>Place-shaping policies</u> RA4, RA5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the amount of vacant land and premises in the county; • the amount of completed retail, office and leisure development completed within the monitoring period; • the amount of permissions granted for change of use from A2 to residential or offices • the number of vacant units within town centre • the number and type of visits to Herefordshire, and associated expenditure
Healthy and Prosperous Communities		
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<u>The Spatial Strategy</u> SS4 <u>General Policies</u> E3, MN4, MN5, W1, ID1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Life expectancy of residents (ONS) • Number of planning applications proposing the loss of an open space, sports or recreation facilities • Number of planning applications proposing new open space, sports and recreation facilities
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<u>Place-shaping policies</u> LB1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accessibility to Broadband • employment and income levels against regional and national averages
Transport and Access		
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<u>The Spatial Strategy</u> Objectives 7, 8 and 9; SS2, SS4, SS5 <u>Place-shaping policies</u> HD1, HD2, HD3, HD4, HD5, BY2, LO1, LO2, LB2, RA2, RA4 <u>General Policies</u> H2, OS2, E1, E4, E5, ID1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Level of development in urban areas compared to rural • Transport patronage by mode • Data on the use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg
Built Environment		
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe	<u>Place-shaping policies</u> RA3, RA4, RA5 <u>General Policies</u> SD2, W5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • housing completions by type and tenure and location – assessed in relation to 5 year tranches in order to ensure that there remains a flexible supply of available and deliverable land

SA objectives for which potential significant effects have been identified	Policies that are likely to lead to minor negative effects	Proposed indicators
and pleasant local environments.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> for housing across the county; housing densities in urban and rural areas affordable housing completions split by social and intermediate occupancy Assessment of traveller site provision against the need identified in the Council's Assessment of Accommodation Needs of Gypsies and Travellers
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p><u>The Spatial Strategy</u> Objectives 7 and 8 <u>Place-shaping policies</u> HD2, HD3, HD4, HD5, LO1, LO2, LB2, RW1, RW2, RA1, RA3</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land housing densities in urban and rural areas Level of development in urban areas compared to rural Number of new parish, town and neighbourhood plans
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p><u>Place-shaping policies</u> HD3, HD4, HD5, LO2 <u>General Policies</u> SD2, W1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number and percentage of Listed Buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage) 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
Resource Consumption and Climate Change		
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p><u>The Spatial Strategy</u> Objectives 1, 7, 8 and 9; SS2, SS3, SS5 <u>General Policies</u> E1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Total Local Authority Collected waste arisings per annum
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p><u>The Spatial Strategy</u> Objectives 7 and 8; SS2, SS3, SS4, SS5 <u>Place-shaping policies</u> HD2, RA1 <u>General Policies</u> SC1, E1, E4, E5, MN1, MN2, MN3, MN4, ID1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The production of secondary (reused and recycled) aggregates after use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation Estimates of permitted and useable land banks for aggregates (sand, gravel and crushed rock) Comparison of production figures with national and sub-national apportionments Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register. Monitoring changes to historic landscapes
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p><u>The Spatial Strategy</u> Objectives 7, 8 and 9; SS2, SS3, SS4, SS5 <u>Place-shaping policies</u> HD1, HD2, HD4, HD5, BY2, LO2, RA1, RA2,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transport patronage by mode Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission Total CO2 emissions per capita (DECC)

SA objectives for which potential significant effects have been identified	Policies that are likely to lead to minor negative effects	Proposed indicators
	RA3, RA4 <u>General Policies</u> SC1, E1, E4, E5, MN3, ID1	
Natural Environment		
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<u>The Spatial Strategy</u> Objective 9, SS4 <u>Place-shaping policies</u> BY1, LO2 <u>General Policies</u> MN1, MN3, MN4, MN5, W1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net change in condition of SSSIs (Natural England) • after use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation • Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from Core Strategy growth • Monitoring changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan • Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission; • Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<u>The Spatial Strategy</u> Objective 9; SS4 <u>Place-shaping policies</u> HD2, HD3, HD4, HD5, BY2, LO2, LB1, RA1, RA2 <u>General Policies</u> SD2, MN1, MN3, MN4, MN5, W1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design standards. • 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
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<u>Place-shaping policies</u> HD3, HD4, HD5, LB2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds. (EA and HC)
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<u>The Spatial Strategy</u> Objective 8, SS3, SS4 <u>Place-shaping policies</u> HD1, HD2, HD3, HD4, HD5, BY2, LO1, LO2, RW1, RA3 <u>General Policies</u> W1, ID1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural land usage by quality • Percentage of river length assessed as good or chemical quality (EA)

6 Conclusions

- 6.1 The policies in the Herefordshire Draft Core Strategy and the reasonable alternatives considered during its preparation have been subject to a detailed appraisal against the SA objectives which were developed at the scoping stage of the SA process. In general, the Draft Core Strategy has been found to have a wide range of positive and significant positive effects on the SA objectives, although a number of potentially minor negative impacts are also associated with the scale and location of development required. Recommendations made in previous iterations of the SA have generally been addressed, which has gone a long way towards providing mitigation for potential adverse effects. A further recommendation has been made by the SA team in relation to strengthening of one policy in the Core Strategy to provide mitigation for potential negative effects identified, as described below.
- 6.2 Due to the rural nature of the county, there are tensions between the need to guide development to key locations (Hereford and the market towns), taking advantage of economic efficiencies and more sustainable transport options that this provides, and the need to provide access to services and facilities in smaller rural communities
- 6.3 Similarly, there is a tension between the protection of the high environmental quality of the county (achieved by constraining the amount and quality of development) and the encouragement of socially diverse and economically robust communities with a balance of housing types and employment opportunities. The supply of affordable housing, particularly in the smaller communities, is a specific example of this tension.
- 6.4 These tensions are implicitly recognised by the Draft Core Strategy, and it is generally well equipped to balance the level, type and location of growth with the maintenance and enhancement of Herefordshire's natural environment and social well-being.
- 6.5 A strong and unpredictable influence will be the strength of the national and local economy and its recovery from recession. One of the key challenges for Herefordshire Council in taking the Local Plan through to submission and adoption will be to ensure that the policies are flexible and resilient to this changing economic and political climate.

SA Recommendations

- 6.6 As described in **Chapter 2**, a draft version of this SA report was produced and made available to Herefordshire Council, in relation to an initial draft of the Core Strategy. That draft SA report made a number of recommendations for ways in which the wording of some policies could be amended in order to help to mitigate potentially negative sustainability effects identified. While most of these recommendations have now been addressed in the final version of the Draft Core Strategy for consultation (as described in **Chapter 2**), one remains:
- **Policy LO1** does not make particularly good provision for ensuring that the specific development proposed at Leominster is energy efficient and sustainable, in comparison to the policies for other places (such as Hereford and Ledbury and policy LO2 which relates specifically to the urban extension at Leominster). **Incorporating the same wording (i.e. relating to contributing towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy) in the overarching policy for development at Leominster would improve its effects and ensure that the criterion applies to all development in Leominster and not just that at the urban extension.**

Next Steps

- 6.7 This SA Report will be available for consultation alongside the Draft Core Strategy.

- 6.8 Following this consultation, all responses will be fully reviewed and addressed where appropriate. As described in **Chapter 2**, depending on the extent of any changes made to the Core Strategy, further SA work may need to be undertaken in relation to the Pre-Submission and Submission versions. Any such SA work will either be presented as an addendum to this report, or an updated version of the whole report (depending on the scale of changes to the Core Strategy and the time elapsed since production of this SA report).

Appendix 1

Review of relevant plans, policies and programmes

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
INTERNATIONAL				
EU Directives				
<i>SEA Directive 2001</i> Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment	Provide for a high level of protection of the environment and contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development.	The Directive must be applied to plans or programmes whose formal preparation begins after 21 July 2004 and to those already in preparation by that date.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive at the national level.	Requirements of the Directive must be met in Sustainability Appraisals.
<i>The Industrial Emissions Directive 2010</i> Directive 2010/75/EU on industrial emissions (integrated pollution prevention and control)	This Directive lays down rules on integrated prevention and control of pollution arising from industrial activities. It also lays down rules designed to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to reduce emissions into air, water and land and to prevent the generation of waste, in order to achieve a high level of protection of the environment taken as a whole.	The Directive sets emission limit values for substances that are harmful to air or water.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objective for reducing pollution.
<i>The Birds Directive 2009</i> Directive 2009/147/EC is a codified version of Directive 79/409/EEC as amended	The preservation, maintenance, and re-establishment of biotopes and habitats shall include the following measures: Creation of protected areas. Upkeep and management in accordance with the ecological needs of habitats inside and outside the protected zones. Re-establishment of destroyed biotopes. Creation of biotopes.	No targets or indicators.	Policies should make sure that the upkeep of recognised habitats is maintained and not damaged from development. Avoid pollution or deterioration of habitats or any other disturbances affecting birds.	Include sustainability objectives for the protection of birds.
<i>The Waste Framework</i>	Prevention or reduction of waste	Development of clean technology to	Develop policies that take	Include sustainability objectives

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
<i>Directive 2008</i> Directive 2008/98/EC on waste	production and its harmfulness. The recovery of waste by means of recycling, re-use or reclamation. Recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without using processes that could harm the environment.	process waste and promote recycling.	account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	that minimise waste production as well as promote recycling.
<i>The Floods Directive 2007</i> Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks	Establish a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks, aiming at the reduction of the adverse consequences for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity associated with floods.	Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments to be completed by December 2011. Flood Hazard Maps and Flood Risk Maps to be completed by December 2013. Flood Risk Management Plans to be completed by December 2015.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives that relate to flood management and reduction of risk.
<i>The Water Framework Directive 2000</i> Directive 2000/60/EC establishing a framework for community action in the field of water policy	Protection of inland surface waters, transitional waters, coastal waters and groundwaters.	No targets or indicators.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to protect and minimise the impact on water quality.
<i>The Landfill Directive 1999</i> Directive 99/31/EC on the landfill of waste	Prevent or reduce negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.	Reduce the amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill to 75% of the 1995 level by 2010. Reduce this to 50% in 2013 and 35% by 2020.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to increase recycling and reduce the amount of waste.
<i>The Drinking Water Directive 1998</i> Directive 98/83/EC on the quality of water intended for human consumption	Protect human health from the adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean.	Member States must set values for water intended for human consumption.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to protect and enhance water quality.
<i>The Air Quality Framework</i>	Avoid, prevent and reduce harmful	No targets or indicators.	Develop policies that take	Include sustainability objectives

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
<i>Directive 1996</i> Directive 96/62/EC on ambient air quality assessment and management	effects of ambient noise pollution on human health and the environment.		account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	to maintain and enhance air quality.
<i>The Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive 1994</i> Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste	Harmonise the packaging waste system of Member States. Reduce the environmental impact of packaging waste.	By June 2001 at least 50% by weight of packaging waste should have been recovered, at least 25% by weight of the totality of packaging materials contained in packaging waste to be recycled with a minimum of 15% by weight for each packaging material.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to minimise the environmental impact of waste and promote recycling.
<i>The Habitats Directive 1992</i> Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora	Promote the maintenance of biodiversity taking account of economic, social, cultural and regional requirements. Conservation of natural habitats and maintain landscape features of importance to wildlife and fauna.	No targets or indicators.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to protect and maintain the natural environment and important landscape features.
<i>The Nitrates Directive 1991</i> Directive 91/676/EEC on nitrates from agricultural sources.	Reduce water pollution caused or induced by nitrates from agricultural sources and prevent further such pollution.	Identification of vulnerable areas.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to reduce water pollution.
<i>The Urban Waste Water Directive 1991</i> Directive 91/271/EEC concerning urban waste water treatment	Protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water collection, treatment and discharge, and discharge from certain industrial sectors.	No targets or indicators.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to reduce water pollution.
European				

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
EU Seventh Environmental Action Plan (2002-2012)	<p>The EU's objectives in implementing the programme are:</p> <p>(a) to protect, conserve and enhance the Union's natural capital;</p> <p>(b) to turn the Union into a resource-efficient, green and competitive low-carbon economy;</p> <p>(c) to safeguard the Union's citizens from environment-related pressures and risks to health and wellbeing;</p> <p>(d) to maximise the benefits of the Union's environment legislation;</p> <p>(e) to improve the evidence base for environment policy;</p> <p>(f) to secure investment for environment and climate policy and get the prices right;</p> <p>(g) to improve environmental integration and policy coherence;</p> <p>(h) to enhance the sustainability of the Union's cities;</p> <p>(i) to increase the Union's effectiveness in confronting regional and global environmental challenges.</p>	No targets or indicators.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to protect and enhance the natural environment and promote energy efficiency.
European Spatial Development Perspective (1999)	<p>Economic and social cohesion across the community. Conservation of natural resources and cultural heritage. Balanced competitiveness between different tiers of government.</p>	No targets or indicators.	Develop policies that take account of the Directive as well as more detailed policies derived from the Directive contained in the NPPF.	Include sustainability objectives to conserve natural resources and cultural heritage.

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2002)	The convention promotes landscape protection, management and planning.	No indicators or targets.	Develop policies that take account of the Convention.	Include sustainability objectives to protect the archaeological heritage.
European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta, 1992) <i>Revision of the 1985 Granada Convention</i>	Protection of the archaeological heritage, including any physical evidence of the human past that can be investigated archaeologically both on land and underwater. Creation of archaeological reserves and conservation of excavated sites.	No indicators or targets.	Develop policies that take account of the Convention.	Include sustainability objectives to protect the archaeological heritage.
International				
Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development (2002)	Commitment to building a humane, equitable and caring global society aware of the need for human dignity for all. Renewable energy and energy efficiency. Accelerate shift towards sustainable consumption and production.	Greater resource efficiency. New technology for renewable energy. Increase energy efficiency.	Develop policies that take account of the Declaration.	Include sustainability objectives to enhance the natural environment and promote renewable energy and energy efficiency.
Aarhus Convention (1998)	Established a number of rights of the public with regard to the environment. Local authorities should provide for: The right of everyone to receive environmental information The right to participate from an early stage in environmental decision making The right to challenge in a court of law public decisions that have been made without respecting the two rights above	No targets or indicators.	Develop policies that take account of the Convention.	Ensure that public are involved and consulted at all relevant stages of SA production.

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	or environmental law in general.			
NATIONAL				
White Papers				
Natural Environment White Paper, 2011 <i>The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature</i>	Protecting and improving our natural environment; Growing a green economy; and Reconnecting people and nature.	No targets or indicators.	Protect the intrinsic value of nature and recognise the multiple benefits it could have for communities.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the enhancement of the natural environment.
Electricity Market Reform White Paper 2011, <i>Planning our Electric Future: A White Paper for Secure, Affordable and Low-Carbon Electricity</i>	This White Paper sets out the Government's commitment to transform the UK's electricity system to ensure that our future electricity supply is secure, low-carbon and affordable.	15 per cent renewable energy target by 2020 and 80 per cent carbon reduction target by 2050.	Develop policies that support renewable energy generation and encourage greater energy efficiency.	Include sustainability objectives to reduce carbon emissions and increase proportion of energy generated from renewable sources.
The Future of Transport White Paper 2004: A network for 2030	Ensure we can benefit from mobility and access while minimising the impact on other people and the environment, now and in the future. Get the best out of our transport system without damaging our overall quality of life. Develop strategies that recognise that demand for travel will increase in the future. Work towards a transport network that can meet the challenges of a growing economy and the increasing demand for travel but can also achieve the government's environmental objectives.	20% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2010 and 60% reduction by 2050. Transport is currently responsible for about a quarter of total emissions.	Develop policies that provide for an increase in demand for travel whilst minimizing impact on the environment. Policies also needed to promote public transport use rather than increasing reliance on the car.	Include sustainability objectives to reduce the need to travel and improve choice and use of sustainable transport modes.

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
Policies and Strategies				
DCLG (2012) National Planning Policy Framework	Presumption in favour of sustainable development. Delivering sustainable development by:	No targets or indicators.	Development plan has a statutory status as the starting point for decision making.	Sustainability appraisal should be an integral part of the plan preparation process, and should consider all the likely significant effects on the environment, economic and social factors.
	Building a strong, competitive economy.	No targets or indicators.	Set out clear economic visions for that particular area.	Include a sustainability objective relating to strengthening the economy.
	Ensuring vitality of town centres.	No targets or indicators.	Recognise town centres as the heart of their communities.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the vitality of town centres.
	Promoting sustainable transport	No targets or indicators.	To implement sustainable transport modes depending on nature/location of the site, to reduce the need for major transport infrastructure.	Include a sustainability objective relating to sustainable transport.
	Supporting high quality communications infrastructure.	No targets or indicators.	Enhance the provision of local community facilities and services by supporting the expansion of electronic communications networks.	Include a sustainability objective relating to improving communication.
	Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes.	No targets or indicators.	Identify size, type, tenure and range of housing that is required in particular locations.	Include a sustainability objective relating to housing availability and quality.
	Requiring good design.	No targets or indicators.	Establish a strong sense of place to live, work and visit.	Include a sustainability objective relating to good

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
				design.
	Promoting healthy communities.	No targets or indicators.	Promote safe and accessible environments with a high quality of life and community cohesion.	Include a sustainability objective relating to health and well-being.
	Protecting Green Belt Land.	No targets or indicators.	To prevent the coalescence of neighbouring towns.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the coalescence of towns.
	Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding, and coastal change.	No targets or indicators.	Use opportunities offered by new development to reduce causes/impacts of flooding.	Include a sustainability objective relating to climate change mitigation and adaption.
	Conserving and enhancing the natural environment.	No targets or indicators.	Recognise the wider benefits of biodiversity.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment.
	Conserving and enhancing the historic environment	No targets or indicators.	Sustain and enhance heritage assets and put them to viable uses consistent with their conservation. A local plan may be considered unsound if there has been no proper assessment of the significance of heritage assets in the area, and the plan does not contain a positive strategy for the conservation, enhancement and enjoyment of the historic environment.	Include a sustainability objective relating to the conservation of historic features.
	Facilitating the use of sustainable	No targets or indicators.	Encourage prior extraction of minerals where practicable and	Include a sustainability objective relating to sustainable

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	materials.		environmentally feasible.	mineral extraction.
DCLG (2012) Planning Policy for Traveller Sites	<p>Government's aims in respect of traveller sites are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning. • To ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites. • To encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale. • That plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development. • To promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites. • That plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective for local planning authorities to ensure that their Local Plan includes fair, realistic and inclusive policies. • To increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under 	No targets or indicators.	Ensure that relevant considerations are taken into account when producing Local Plan.	Include relevant sustainability objectives relating to social inclusion and environmental protection.

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<p>provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and planning decisions. • To enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure. • For local planning authorities to have due regard to the protection of local amenity and local environment. 			
<p>DCLG (2011) Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management</p>	<p>Key planning objectives are identified within PPS10, requiring planning authorities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy • provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste • help implement the national waste strategy, and supporting targets • help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment, • reflect the concerns and interests of communities, waste collection authorities, waste disposal authorities and business 	<p>No targets or indicators.</p> <p>Requires planning authorities to implement targets set through the national waste strategy</p>	<p>Develop policies that promote sustainable waste management and use of the waste hierarchy.</p>	<p>Include sustainability objective that relates to waste reduction.</p>

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect green belts but recognise the particular locational needs of some types of waste management facilities when defining detailed green belt boundaries • ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management 			
DCLG (2011) <i>Laying the Foundations: A Housing Strategy for England</i>	Aims to provide support to deliver new homes and improve social mobility.	No targets or indicators	Develop policies that encourage development of residential properties.	Include sustainability objective that assesses whether housing need is being met.
DEFRA (2011) <i>Securing the Future: Delivering UK Sustainable Development Strategy</i>	<p>Enable all people throughout the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life for future generations. There are 4 shared priorities:</p> <p>sustainable consumption and production;</p> <p>climate change and energy;</p> <p>natural resource protection and environmental enhancement; and</p> <p>sustainable communities.</p>	Sets out indicators to give an overview of sustainable development and priority areas in the UK. They include 20 of the UK Framework indicators and a further 48 indicators related to the priority areas.	Develop policies that meet the aims of the Sustainable Development Strategy.	Include sustainability objectives to cover the shared priorities.
Department of Health (2010) <i>Healthy Lives, Healthy People: our Strategy for public health in England</i>	Protect the population from serious health threats; helping people live longer, healthier and more fulfilling lives; and improving the health of the poorest, fastest. Prioritise public health funding from within the overall NHS budget.	No targets or indicators.	Policies within the Local Plan should reflect the objectives of the strategy where relevant.	Include a sustainability objective relating to health and well-being.
DECC (2009) <i>The UK</i>	Increase our use of renewable	15% of energy from renewable	Encourage developments that	Include a sustainability

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<i>Renewable Energy Strategy</i>	electricity, heat and transport, and help tackle climate change. Build the UK low-carbon economy, promote energy security and take action against climate change.	sources by 2020. Reducing UK CO2 emissions by 750 million tonnes by 2030.	would support renewable energy provision including electricity, heat and transport.	objective relating to increasing energy provided from renewable sources.
DEFRA (2007) <i>The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland</i>	Make sure that everyone can enjoy a level of ambient air quality in public spaces, which poses no significant risk to health or quality of life. Render polluting emissions harmless.	Sets air quality standards for 13 air pollutants.	Develop policies that aim to meet the standards.	Include sustainability objectives to protect and improve air quality.
DCLG (2006) <i>Delivering Affordable Housing</i>	The aim of this document is to support local authorities and other key players in delivering more high quality affordable housing within mixed sustainable communities by using all tools available to them.	No indicators or targets.	Develop policies that help deliver high quality affordable housing where there is a need.	Include sustainability objectives that relate to affordable housing provision
Legislation				
Housing Act 2004	Protect the most vulnerable in society and help create a fairer and better housing market. Strengthen the Government's drive to meet its 2010 decent homes target.	No indicators or targets.	Develop policies that help to create a fairer and better housing market.	Include sustainability objectives to improve access to good quality and affordable housing.
REGIONAL				
West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (2008) <i>(The regional tier of planning has been removed through the Localism Act</i>	Spatial Strategy Objectives that are relevant to the Core Strategy are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to secure the regeneration of the rural areas of the Region; to create a joined-up multi-centred 	No indicators or targets.	Incorporate objectives into Core Strategy policies and proposals	Ensure that the SA Framework reflects the Spatial Strategy Objectives identified in the RSS.

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
<p>2011. The process of revoking the Regional Spatial Strategy has begun, although the RSS is still considered as a material consideration when making planning decisions.)</p>	<p>Regional structure where all areas/centres have distinct roles to play;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to retain the Green Belt, but to allow an adjustment of boundaries where this is necessary to support urban regeneration; • to support the cities and towns of the Region to meet their local and sub-regional development needs; • to support the diversification and modernisation of the Region's economy while ensuring that opportunities for growth are linked to meeting needs and reducing social exclusion; • to ensure the quality of the environment is conserved and enhanced across all parts of the Region; • to improve significantly the Region's transport systems; • to promote the development of a network of strategic centres across the Region; 			
<p>West Midlands Regional Housing Strategy (2005)</p> <p>(The regional tier of planning has been removed through the Localism Act 2011. The process of revoking the Regional</p>	<p>To create a strong regional economy through the provision of "pathways of housing choice", enabling people to live near their work, in pleasant affordable homes.</p> <p>To redress the failure of the housing markets which have resulted in little or,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Halve the numbers living in temporary accommodation by 2010. • Ensure that all social housing meets set standards of decency by 2010, by reducing the number of households living in social housing 	<p>Include policies that help deliver improved housing in Herefordshire</p>	<p>Ensure that the SA Framework reflects the targets identified in the RHS.</p>

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
<p><i>Housing Strategy has begun, although the RHS is still considered as a material consideration when making planning decisions.)</i></p>	<p>in some cases no substantial range of choice whether in price or type.</p> <p>In pursuit of sustainable communities, to work with the private sector, Registered Social Landlords and planning authorities to deliver the required new range and types of housing.</p>	<p>that does not meet these standards by a third between 2001 and 2004, with most of the improvement taking place in the most deprived local authority areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eradicate fuel poverty for vulnerable households by 2010 and for all households by 2016. • In refurbishments for Decent Homes Standard, raise energy efficiency to current Building Regulations standards, or as near as practicable, not only to Decent Homes minimum. • Local authorities should establish the volume of non-decent homes occupied by vulnerable households in the private sector and produce plans for increasing the number of vulnerable households in decent housing with a view to ensuring that this is at least 65% by 2006, 70% by 2010 and 75% by 2020. 		
<p>West Midlands Regional Economic Strategy 2004</p> <p><i>(The regional tier of planning has been removed through the Localism Act 2011. The process of revoking the Regional Economic Strategy has begun, although the RES is</i></p>	<p>Support modernisation of and diversification of West Midlands to ensure economic growth.</p> <p>Pillar One: Developing a diverse and dynamic business base</p> <p>Pillar Two: Promoting a learning and skilful region</p> <p>Pillar Three: Creating the conditions for</p>	<p>Indicators that could be used: -</p> <p>Productivity – GVA per head</p> <p>Business survival rates - % of companies which survived for three years</p> <p>% of under 19 qualified to NVQ 2</p> <p>% of workforce qualified to NVQ 4+</p>	<p>Develop strategic policies to reflect these objectives</p>	<p>SA framework to reflect these objectives</p>

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
<p><i>still considered as a material consideration when making planning decisions.)</i></p>	<p>growth – securing improvements to the Region’s transport, communication and property infrastructure to support the development of a diverse and dynamic business base.</p> <p>Pillar Four: Regenerating communities in the West Midlands</p>	<p>% of workforce qualified to NVQ 3+</p> <p>% of workforce without qualifications</p> <p>ILO unemployment rate</p> <p>Wage/income levels – gross weekly pay</p> <p>Educational performance - % of 15 + year olds getting A* to C at GCSE</p> <p>Work destination of graduates - % of students completing university who are either employed or in further study.</p> <p>% of school leavers staying on to FE/structured training</p> <p>Housing affordability, price/earnings index – average house price compared to average salary.</p> <p>Accessibility to broadband - % of households and businesses with access to broadband.</p> <p>Congestion/journey times – mean travel time to work (minutes)</p> <p>Congestion/journey times - % of average trunk road speed achieved at a.m. peak.</p> <p>Population change.</p> <p>Indices of deprivation - %of wards in bottom 10% of UK wards.</p>		
LOCAL				

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 3 2011-2026	<p>The LTP3 goals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support long-term economic growth within Herefordshire by improving journey time reliability and predictability on key routes. • To prepare for a low-carbon future by supporting sustainable travel and ensuring responsible life-cycle management plans are developed to maintain Herefordshire's transport assets. • To ensure transport is not a barrier to community involvement. • To improve levels of safety by reducing the risk of incident when using the county's transport network. • To encourage the adoption of active travel by all ages to create and support healthier lifestyles. 	No specific targets or indicators	The LDF will support LTP3 and will aim to consider policy that will contribute to a reduction in traffic and congestion in the District	The SA framework will include objectives that provide for sustainable transport systems.
Herefordshire Waste Strategy 2004-2034	<p>Aims to reduce waste and restrict growth by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing packaging and facilitating more sustainable consumer behaviour • Re-use waste – through re-use schemes. • Retain waste –within the household through home composting and the use of home waste disposal units for kitchen waste where composting is unsuitable • Recycle waste – Through the provision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By 2005/2006 recycling and composting targets must reach 21% for Herefordshire. • To reduce the kg/head collected/disposed to 2001/02 levels by March 2006 and for the life of the Strategy. • By 31 March 2005 the Local Authorities will provide a household or kerbside recycling collection to 51% of their properties • To achieve the requirements of the 	The LDF will support the aims of the strategy	The SA framework will incorporate provisions to support the strategy with local indicators provided for monitoring.

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<p>of a single container to each household that will contain all dry recyclable material, to be collected fortnightly and automatically separated</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recovery of value from residual • Final disposal – into suitable landfill sites, which recover gas to generate energy as far as practicable. 	Household Waste Recycling Act 2003 by 31st December 2010.		
Herefordshire Biodiversity Action Plan, 2005	<p>Protect and enhance the county's biodiversity assets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the condition of Council owned Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) • Prepare and implement a Biodiversity Action Plan complete with an effective monitoring, reporting and review system • Protect and enhance the biodiversity on Council owned land 	No specific targets and indicators.	The LDF will support the aims of the BAP and will introduce policy that relates directly to the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in the District	The SA framework will provide indicators that monitor the state of biodiversity in the District. Indicators will include targets set by the BAP.
Herefordshire Sustainable Community Strategy –June 2010	<p>The six themes of this plan are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and Young People • Economic Development and Enterprise • Environment • Healthier Communities and Older People • Safer Communities • Stronger Communities <p>There are also three guiding principles, which are:</p>	No specific indicators or targets.	The LDF will support the appropriate objectives of the strategy / plan	The SA framework will include indicators to support this strategy / plan

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Everyone is Someone • Safeguard our Future • Work across Boundaries 			
Herefordshire Unitary Development Plan 1996–2011 – Adopted March 2007	<p>The UDP will contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development by developing land use policies and proposals which help ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of the legitimate needs of everyone in the community, and progress towards social equity • Sustainable economic activity and development, together with high and stable levels of employment • Effective protection, restoration and enhancement of the environment and of Herefordshire’s environmental capacity • Sustainable use of natural resources 	Preparation of Annual Monitoring Report	The LDF will incorporate objectives that aim to conserve natural resources and protect local distinctiveness. The LDF will also aim to support the local economy and the need to reduce travel by the private car	The SA framework will ensure a balanced approach taken to new development to ensure sustainability principles are met.
Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2005–2025	<p>The key objectives for Sustainable Development are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish and promote Herefordshire as the leading county for a sustainable and high quality of life • To attract and support entrepreneurial businesses in sustainable high value sectors such as environmental technologies and knowledge based activities • To increase the business birth rate 	No specific targets and indicators.	The LDF will consider how best to co-ordinate economic activities and adequate provision for economic growth	The SA framework will include economic indicators

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	<p>across Herefordshire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the county's HE offer further. • Enhancing the provision of community based training and learning • Maximise the economic impact of competitive locations by improving the land and property offer • Provide flexible business accommodation and other support services in peripheral locations • Provide a sector specific property offer for key sectors (such as mixed use live-work space for the creative industries sector) • Continue to lobby for road investment to improve transport links and access to markets • Address traffic congestion in Hereford through additional traffic management measures • To enhance access to affordable housing for those on low incomes, or those who are generally disadvantaged. • To fully understand and address issues associated with urban disadvantage, particularly in Hereford city. 			
<p>Tourism Strategy for Herefordshire 2010-2015</p>	<p>The Tourism Strategy's vision is "<i>to firmly establish Herefordshire as a must visit rural destination for leisure and business tourism in England for both high value international and domestic</i></p>	<p>No specific targets or indicators</p>	<p>The LDF will support the appropriate objectives of the strategy / plan</p>	<p>The SA framework will include indicators to support this strategy / plan</p>

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<p><i>tourists based upon creating a unique range of year round Herefordshire creatively presented visitor experiences. These will feature the area's 1,300 years of history, its 'terroir', its artisan produce (food, drinks, crafts and art) and rural activities set in characterful locations that will allow visitors to enjoy traditional wholesome and uncomplicated English rural life at its very best."</i></p>			
<p>Herefordshire Cultural Strategy 2004</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the health and well-being of Herefordshire people – provide sporting opportunities to encourage healthy lifestyles, also improve mental health through learning and creativity • Reduce crime and disorder and make Herefordshire safer – help to divert people away from criminal activity or anti-social behaviour through the use of culture and leisure based initiatives • Reduce poverty and isolation in Herefordshire – promote free or concessionary activities and run schemes that address rural isolation through mobile services and use of village / community halls • Encourage communities to shape the future of Herefordshire – support the work of hundreds of voluntary groups working in culture and leisure to run their own initiatives • Develop Herefordshire as an active, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To increase visitor numbers to specific sites and activities • Increase bed occupancy for visitor accommodation • Increase the use of parks, open spaces, play areas and other community recreational facilities • Increase the number of people travelling to work or school or for recreation by cycling and walking • Increase use of village halls and schools as venues • Number of voluntary groups or social enterprises helped • Increase visitor numbers and visitor spend • Schemes to identify, protect and enhance the County's natural and historic landscape 	<p>Will need to consider their targets in LDF monitoring</p>	<p>Need to consider sustainability impacts of greater visitor numbers</p>

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<p>vibrant and enjoyable place to be – culture at the heart of developing Herefordshire</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect and enhance Herefordshire’s distinct environment – promote and preserve the historic and rural landscape, with schemes linked to tourism, distinctiveness and archaeological sites • Develop an integrated transport system for Herefordshire – encourage links between public transport and facilities for cultural activities • Meet Herefordshire’s accommodation needs – to conduct work with communities in neighbourhoods of most need and provide facilities such as libraries and leisure centres close to communities • Support business growth and create more and better-paid work in Herefordshire – growth of cultural based businesses, and supporting the local economy specifically through tourism • Provide excellent education and training in Herefordshire for all ages – to support the national curriculum with culture, plus cultural opportunities being integral to the County’s Lifelong Learning programme. 			
Herefordshire Crime, Disorder and Drugs	<p>The objectives relate to: Anti-Social Behaviour:</p>	<p>Anti- Social behaviour:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce anti-social behaviour in 	<p>The LDF will support the appropriate objectives of the</p>	<p>The SA framework will include indicators to support this</p>

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
Reduction Strategy 2005-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce anti-social behaviour in Herefordshire through education, prevention and enforcement <p>Drug supply and drug related crime:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce drug related crime and supply 	<p>Herefordshire by 10% by 2007-8</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To monitor fear of crime and anti-social behaviour in Herefordshire • To reduce the incidence of criminal damage in Herefordshire by 6% by 2007-8 	strategy / plan	strategy / plan
Children and Young Peoples Plan for Herefordshire 2006	<p>The Children's Service in Herefordshire has five principal priorities based on the Children's Act 2004. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being healthy • Staying safe • Enjoying and achieving • Making a positive contribution and • Achieving economic well-being 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing obesity in children <11 by 2010 • Reducing teenage conceptions by 50% from 1998 by 2010 • Reduce hospital admission rates for accident among children from 2002 baseline • Reduce the number of young people (<25) who are victims of crime by 6% by 2007/8 • Improved results for children achieving 5 or more GCSE's at Grade A-C or equivalent • Increased NVQ level 2 achievement at 19 • Decrease number of homeless young people • Increase number of Herefordshire residents aged 19yrs to achieving a skills for life qualification • Increased 16-18 participation rates in learning • Target young people to stop 	The LDF will support the appropriate objectives of the plan	The SA framework will include indicators to support this plan

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
		smoking		
Herefordshire Council Corporate Plan 2005/2008 "Action for a better Herefordshire"	<p>The Corporate Plan identifies the need to involve communities in establishing objectives and working in partnership and highlights priorities for council investment. The top sustainability objectives for this period are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect the environment, including by recycling much more waste and significantly reducing carbon emissions • To improve transport and safety of roads, including further reductions in the number of people killed or seriously injured. • To sustain vibrant and prosperous communities, including by providing more efficient, effective and customer-focused services and clean streets • To promote diversity and community harmony and strive for equal opportunities for all the people of Herefordshire, regardless of race, religion, disability, sex, sexual orientation, geographical location, income or age. 	Numerous detailed targets which will be considered in baseline review	The LDF will incorporate the aims of the corporate plan where appropriate	The SA framework will consider objectives that will seek a balance in the provision of community need
Herefordshire Council Corporate Environmental Strategy 2005-2011	<p>To meet their commitments Herefordshire Council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make efficient use of natural resources including water, heat and electricity and promote the use and development of appropriate sources of renewable energy 	No specific targets and indicators	The LDF will support the aims of the strategy	The SA framework will incorporate provisions to support the strategy with local indicators provided for monitoring.

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<p>and recycled products</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take action to prevent pollution and minimise environmental risks • Promote sustainable and integrated transport solutions that meet the needs of the county • Implement a waste strategy to reduce the amount of waste entering the waste stream and increase recycling, while ensuring that all waste generated is dealt with in a way that reduces its impact on the environment • Respond to the challenges posed by climate change by significantly reducing carbon emissions from its own activities and acting, where possible, to address and mitigate wider potential impacts • Protect natural habitats and species to maintain and improve the wealth of biodiversity in the county • Promote the benefits of a healthy and attractive environment to community well-being • Provide a planning system that ensures that development is sustainable 			
<p>Herefordshire Partnership Climate Change Strategy 2005/6-2011/12</p>	<p>Reduce emissions of Carbon Dioxide and other greenhouse gases:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decrease emissions of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions per head of population per year • Reduce the fossil fuel and electricity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce carbon dioxide equivalent emissions from activities directly controlled by the council or upon which it has an influence by 1.25% per year to 2012 • To secure 100% renewable 	<p>The LDF will support the objectives of the strategy and will provide for policy development in the field of renewable with the overall aim of reducing emissions</p>	<p>The SA framework will include objectives for environmental sustainability including the need to reduce emissions in new development</p>

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<p>consumption of operational council properties</p> <p>Support and promote energy efficient measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the average street lamp circuit wattage • Improve the energy efficiency of all housing sectors • Reduce the energy consumption of operational Council properties <p>Support and promote the use of renewable energy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the use of renewable energy sources where they economically and environmentally sustainability through the Unitary Development Plan. 	<p>electricity for operational Council properties</p>		
<p>Herefordshire Carbon Management Plan, 2005/6 – 2011/12</p>	<p>The broad objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The adoption of a carbon management hierarchy based on avoidance - minimisation of energy use, efficiency – Increased efficiency of energy use and; renewables – switching to renewable energy, including electricity • Alignment of the CMAP with the Herefordshire Partnership climate change strategy, including adoption of targets for Herefordshire council’s contribution to emissions reduction • The identification of changes to council policies and procedures designed to enable the furtherance of the CMAP, by 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council target is to achieve a 12.5% reduction on the 2002 base-line by 2012 and a total 20% reduction by2020. • total emissions from waste management are projected to reduce to around 25% of 1990 levels by 2020. • Sourcing at least 10 per cent electricity from renewable sources by31 March 2008, sourcing at least 15 per cent of electricity from Combined Heat and Power (CHP) by2010. 	<p>The LDF will support the appropriate objectives of the strategy / plan</p>	<p>The SA framework will include indicators to support this strategy / plan</p>

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	the adoption of low cost energy measures in corporate buildings and schools			
Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2004-2009	<p>Future management objectives for the Malvern Hills include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To prevent encroachments – this principle refers to encroachments resulting from enclosure of land or building • To keep the Hills open and un-built on for the benefit, recreation and enjoyment of the public. To provide opportunities for informal outdoor recreation by the public, both visitor and resident. <p>To conserve and enhance the character and quality of the existing landscape – this includes all types of natural flora and fauna. To conserve and enhance the existing wildlife of the Hills and Commons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect the interests of the commoners • To improve the public’s knowledge, understanding and respect for the Malvern Hills • To have regard for the social and economic well-being of the people living in the area in a manner compatible with the conservators’ other purposes • To seek influence on planning control and development in the area to ensure 	No specific targets or indicators.	The LDF will support the appropriate objectives of the strategy / plan	The SA framework will include indicators to support this strategy / plan

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	that this is not inconsistent with the objectives of the conservators			
Wye Valley AONB Management Plan, 2004-2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conserve and enhance, where this is needed, the natural beauty of the landscape in the Wye Valley AONB, with its natural and cultural features and processes • To conserve, enhance and restore the characteristic biodiversity • To conserve and enhance the Geodiversity of the AONB • To conserve, safeguarding and enhance the historic environment of the AONB, with its wealth of cultural associations • To foster viable farming enterprises that manage the land in ways that protect the natural resources and distinctiveness of the AONB and to enhance them where need arises • To ensure woodland throughout the Wye Valley AONB is managed sustainably in a way that protects and enhances the outstanding semi natural wooded character of the area, and provides economic, environmental and social benefits • That sustainable tourism, based upon the natural beauty and local distinctiveness of the AONB, continues to enrich the lives of visitors, operators and employees while contributing positively 	<p>Targets for 2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1% of average domestic energy requirement in the AONB generated from renewable sources within the AONB • No new over ground lines affecting skylines or important views • No new aggregate quarries in the AONB • No net loss of tree cover • No decrease in ancient woodland • Increase in farmland and hedgerow trees planted and protected • No loss of habitats or features due to inappropriate agricultural practices • 10% of AONB in higher tier agri-environment schemes • Buildings at risk register completed for AONB • Increase area of farmland under agri-environment schemes and organic farming • Ensure all viewpoints identified in viewpoints assessment 2000 are opened up and accessible wherever possible • No increase in light pollution from 	The LDF will support the appropriate objectives of the strategy / plan	The SA framework will include indicators to support this strategy / plan

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	to the conservation and enhancement of the area.	<p>within the AONB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No net loss of identified vernacular highway features • Increase in affordable housing in AONB • Increased markets for local organic and woodland produce • Increase in use of renewable energy, such as wood fuel, and recycling • Increased use of public transport, town and village facilities by recreation users 		
Housing in Herefordshire Strategy 2011-2012	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that the numbers of overall housing completions targets are met. 2. Increase the number of new affordable homes throughout the County, including within market towns and rural villages, and ensure that their environmental impact is minimised. 3. Support the growth and regeneration of Herefordshire, particularly, subject to the Local Development Framework Core Strategy, the focused growth in Hereford and urban village development. 4. Respond to changes in housing demand and promote a broad range of housing opportunities to meet local needs across a range of household groups and sizes including vulnerable households. 	<p>Targets include:</p> <p>Deliver 795 homes per year between 2011 and 2016</p> <p>Deliver 170 affordable homes per year between 2011 and 2016</p> <p>Bring 135 empty properties back into use during 2012/13</p> <p>Deliver 83 Gypsy and Traveller pitches by December 2012</p>	Include policies that will help deliver housing and affordable housing in order to meet housing strategy targets.	Include an SA objective that relates to housing availability.

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<p>5. Pilot innovative housing solutions, particularly linked to economic development opportunities. Where appropriate this will include "Live Work" schemes and "Build Train" schemes.</p> <p>6. The private sector plays a greater role in meeting local housing needs and balancing the housing market including through promoting city living, bringing empty properties back into use and increasing access to rented housing.</p> <p>7. Housing promotes the sustainability of local communities by supporting existing services and generating new economic growth, particularly by retaining and attracting skills which support a vibrant economy.</p> <p>8. Anticipate future innovations and future proof existing and new homes for the long term.</p> <p>9. Working with local communities and land owners to enable land to be brought forward for development.</p>			
Green Infrastructure Strategy Herefordshire 2010	<p>The objectives of the plan are to:</p> <p>To provide an evidence base of green infrastructure assets based on a comprehensive analysis and understanding of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> all natural resources and systems <input type="checkbox"/> all related land uses and human systems and activities, both past and 	Prepare Design Guidance for developers.	Include a policy that promotes the incorporation of green infrastructure into new developments.	Include an objective that relates to provision and quality of green open space.

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<p>current</p> <p>To establish a vision for a sustainable future for Herefordshire’s environment and green infrastructure assets.</p> <p>To identify and promote the economic, social and health benefits of a multifunctional environment, centred on a dynamic green infrastructure network.</p> <p>To ensure comprehensive recognition of green infrastructure assets, deficiencies and opportunities within the local planning framework.</p> <p>To establish principles and policies that secure protection and promote the enhancement of existing green infrastructure, and identify opportunities and means of creating new, high quality green infrastructure.</p> <p>To produce guidelines for developers, planners and land managers that will ensure the successful integration, implementation and ongoing management of green infrastructure.</p> <p>To maximise the contribution green infrastructure provision can make towards mitigating the effects of and adapting to the implications of climate change, including flood risk management.</p> <p>To identify specific projects and opportunities, including opportunities for funding, that best deliver green infrastructure and act as examples to</p>			

Strategy / Plan / Programme	Key objectives relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to Core Strategy and SA	Implications for the Core Strategy	Implications for SA
	<p>others.</p> <p>To realise the contribution green infrastructure can make to the reversal of habitat fragmentation and decline in biodiversity through investment in the restoration, creation and protection of priority habitats.</p> <p>To realise the contribution green infrastructure can make to the protection and restoration of landscape character and cultural heritage, particularly the reversal in decline in condition of landscapes.</p>			

Appendix 2

Audit trail of the reasonable alternatives considered during preparation of the Herefordshire Core Strategy

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
Place-Shaping Policies				
Spatial Strategy	<p>A – Focus on the economy (Focus on Hereford and the eastern side of the County)</p> <p>B – Focus on society (Focus on Hereford the market towns and sustainable settlements or groups of settlements with existing services or the potential to support new services)</p> <p>C – Focus on environment (Focus on Hereford, the market towns and specific areas of environmental enhancement)</p> <p>D – Focus on a new or expanded settlement (Focus on Hereford, the market towns and a new or expanded settlement)</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The June 2008 SA report describes the fact that the SA process informed the development of these four options, through an internal SA workshop earlier in 2008, where six overall spatial options were identified and appraised. Comments made at that workshop informed the refinement into the four spatial strategy options included in the Developing Options Paper. The four options for the overall spatial strategy for Herefordshire were appraised in the June 2008 SA report – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by each SA objective), there is also a summary of the ‘reasonableness test’ and the ‘community engagement test’ along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>The Council proposed a preferred strategy based on a combination of elements from Options A, B and C from the Developing Options Paper. This approach was considered to address a balance of social, economic and environmental key issues.</p> <p>Option D was not taken forward because it received very little public support and was considered not to be feasible for a number of other reasons, e.g. it would undermine the vitality and viability of existing market towns and would not be in keeping with the existing regional plan which states that the majority of development should be directed to Hereford.</p> <p>Two further alternative options were also received during the consultation but were not taken forward:</p> <p>1: Allocate all new housing to villages rather than to Hereford or the Market towns - this would contravene policies within the regional plan and is considered unsustainable.</p> <p>2: Developing only those settlements with existing railway stations or capacity for new stations - this would not conform to regional plan policies and is considered unrealistic in a county which is poorly served by rail links and would result in very uneven patterns of development.</p> <p>A text box (see page 21) sets out how the findings of SA and HRA work undertaken to date have influenced the Spatial Strategy.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the overall spatial strategy for Herefordshire against a chosen list of ‘representative’ SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). See Appendix B3-1 for the appraisal matrix.</p>	<p>An overarching Spatial Strategy was not produced at the Preferred Options stage as the preferred strategy was put forward at Place Shaping stage; rather the overarching housing numbers, employment land provision etc. for each location were considered separately under the more specific Preferred Options (see sections below on Hereford, the five market towns and rural areas).</p> <p>No SA work was therefore undertaken in relation to the overarching Spatial Strategy at this stage; however the more specific Preferred Options for Hereford, the market towns and rural areas were subject to appraisal individually (see below).</p> <p>Revised Preferred Option</p> <p>A set of Revised Preferred Options for Herefordshire was published in September 2011 as a result of consultation responses received showing opposition to the scale of new housing proposed, changes brought about by publication of Government household projections, changes to the time period for the Core Strategy and the general economic slowdown. The suggested changes for the overall spatial strategy were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the level of housing in Hereford by 2,000 (from 8,500 to 6,500) and redistribute 800 of these homes to the rural areas. • Reduce the number of homes to be provided in Ross-on-Wye by 100. This will result in a reduced overall housing allocation. • The time period of the plan will now be from 2011-2031. <p>In addition, a number of revisions were made to the specific Preferred Options for Hereford, Ross-on-Wye and the Rural Areas, and these have been described separately (see relevant policies below).</p> <p>In deciding on the overall spatial strategy for development across Herefordshire, a number of other options were considered and rejected by the Council for reasons of either not meeting national</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes six policies with supporting text under the themes of social progress , economic prosperity and environmental quality which comprise the spatial strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SS1: Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development - this is the model policy from the NPPF. • SS2: Delivering New Homes – sets out the number and broad spread of new homes to be provided (focus to be primarily in Hereford, followed by the market towns). • SS3: Releasing Land for Residential Development – describes the approach to be taken to the release of sites. • SS4 – Movement and Transportation – sets out the overarching approach to transport provision in the County. • SS5: Employment Provision – outlines the number and broad location of new employment sites to be provided. • SS6: Addressing Climate Change – outlines the measures that will be taken to address and adapt to climate change. <p>Policy SSI is a new addition to the Draft Core Strategy, having come forward from the model policy required by the NPPF. Policies SS2 and SS5 draw together the housing numbers and employment land provision that was detailed under the specific Preferred Options for each town/village (see other rows below). Policy SS3 was brought in the Core Strategy as a result of concerns regarding the capacity of sewage treatment works in Herefordshire to accommodate the level of growth planned and the need to bring forward essential infrastructure i.e. transport improvements in Hereford and Leominster, and was also informed by advice received from the Planning Advisory Service regarding the release of housing.</p> <p>Policy SS4 was introduced in order to address the need to have sufficient development</p>

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
		<p>Note that a standard list of 'selected' objectives was used for the appraisal of most of the options at this stage, but was extended for the appraisal of the overall spatial strategy to include a number of additional sub-objectives from the SA framework. The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p>	<p>policy requirements, not addressing public concerns (from consultation responses) or not being deliverable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing the current spatial strategy (as directed by the regional plan) of focussing the majority of development in Hereford with a plan period up to 2026 (i.e. not making any changes to the 2010 Preferred Options). Changing the plan period to 2011-2031, but not making any other changes to the current spatial strategy, scale and distribution of houses. Reducing the level of housing in Hereford by 2,000 (from 8,500 to 6,500) and redistributing those 2,000 homes to the rural areas with an extended time period of the plan to 2031, while retaining the overall 18,000 total housing allocation. Reducing the amount of new homes in Hereford but building some or all of them in the market towns instead. Changing the plan period and increasing the amount of new homes in the county above the regional plan target of 18,000. Other options for changing the distribution of new homes in Herefordshire. Build a partial eastern relief road. <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Revised Preferred Option for the overall spatial strategy (including the alternative options that were considered but rejected) and the findings were published in the SA Note for the Revised Preferred Options (July 2011).</p>	<p>management coverage in the absence of the MTRAP which is no longer being produced, and until such time as Neighbourhood Plans or other DPDs come forward. The options considered in developing this Movement and Transport policy (and how they were subject to SA) are discussed further down this table in the "Movement and Transportation" section.</p> <p>Policy SS5 was introduced as a way of ensuring that the spatial strategy was appropriately rounded and to place more emphasis on climate change up front in the document, reflecting the requirements of the NPPF.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The five Spatial Strategy policies have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. Each policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 4 of this report.</p>
Hereford	<p>P35 – How and in what direction should Hereford grow?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Allocate growth to the south Allocate growth to the west Allocate growth through a combination of growth to the south and west Disperse the growth to a number of smaller areas in various locations around the city <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The four options for the spatial strategy for</p>	<p>The options for Hereford's direction of growth that were put forward in the Developing Options paper were incorporated into four refined options for extending the city:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> North-western focus South-western focus North-south focus Dispersed option <p>These options took into account the five strategic locations for growth that were</p>	<p>The Preferred Option for development at Hereford comprised an amended version of Option 4 from the Place Shaping Paper, with dispersed development within the city centre as well as urban expansion to the north, south and west of the city.</p> <p>There were six policies included in the Preferred Options for Hereford:</p> <p>H1 – Hereford City Centre: city centre expansion and redevelopment proposals were set out in the UDP and these planned commitments will continue as Core Strategy policy options. Options not taken forward included providing even more homes on</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes six policies for Hereford:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HD1: Hereford City Centre – sets out proposals for the city centre. HD2: Hereford Movement – includes the proposal for a western relief road. See Hereford Relief Road below. HD3: Northern Urban Expansion – proposes sustainable urban expansion at Holmer West. HD4: Western Urban Expansion (Three Elms) – proposes sustainable urban expansion on land to the north west of the city.

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
	<p>Hereford were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there is also a summary of the ‘reasonableness test’ and the ‘community engagement test’ along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>highlighted by SHLAA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower Bullingham • Holmer east • Holmer west • Three Elms/Kings Acre • Whitecross <p>It was recognised that Hereford Racecourse may be a potential site for around 600 homes, but was not included in any of the four options due to outstanding uncertainties and constraints about potential use of the site.</p> <p>Options 1, 2 and 3 from the Developing Options consultation were incorporated into the first three options set out above, so were taken forward in this way. The ‘dispersed’ option remained as a separate fourth option.</p> <p>A text box (see page 42) set out how the findings of SA and HRA work undertaken to date had influenced the options for Hereford.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the first three options for growth in Hereford in Appendix B3-2 and the fourth ‘dispersed’ option is appraised separately in Appendix B3-3. The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p> <p>Appendix B3-4 sets out the appraisal of the ‘not yet rejected Hereford Racecourse Place Shaping Option’ under the same format.</p>	<p>the Edgar Street Grid – this was not considered a viable or feasible option as it would detract from the city’s sub-regional role as a retail and commercial centre.</p> <p>H2: Hereford Movement Policy: See “Hereford Relief Road” section below.</p> <p>H3: Growth Distribution Policy: Option 4 from the Place Shaping Paper consultation (dispersed option) was favoured by respondents, whilst Options 1 and 2 (north-western and south-western focus respectively) were least popular and so were not taken forward. Options 3 (north-south focus) was reasonably popular but was not taken forward as it was felt that it was not as good as Option 4 in terms of the opportunities arising for the creation of sustainable transport links from the new to existing communities.</p> <p>Other new options for growth distribution considered by not taken forward included:</p> <p><u>Develop land over two plan periods and increase the total amount of homes</u> - If funding or delivery of key infrastructure, such as the Hereford Relief Road is not forthcoming within the current plan period, this option may be regarded as an alternative to the preferred option.</p> <p><u>Develop a Central – Northern focus (Holmer, Urban Village and Racecourse)</u> – rejected as the inclusion of the racecourse was unpopular during the consultation and the site is unlikely to be available during the plan period.</p> <p><u>Development predominantly at the south</u> – rejected due to landscape constraints identified by SHLAA.</p> <p><u>More homes on ESG</u> – unrealistic due to limited land availability for more than the planned 800 homes.</p> <p><u>More homes in the east</u> – SHLAA didn’t identify any potential strategic sites to the east of the city due to constraints (landscape, ecological,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HD5: Southern Urban Expansion (Lower Bullingham) – proposes that land located south west of Rotherwas Enterprise Zone and north of the B4399 (Rotherwas Access Road) will be used for a sustainable mixed use urban expansion. • HD6: Hereford Employment Provision – outlines how employment provision at Hereford will be improved/secured. <p>These policies broadly reflect the Revised Preferred Options, setting out specific and detailed policies for the same broad directions for growth. However, Policy HD6 was introduced in order to address the need to consider office development more clearly (arising from the NPPF) and in order to include more emphasis on development management within the policies following the introduction of neighbourhood planning and the uncertainty of what would be covered under other DPDs.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The six policies for development at Hereford have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. Each policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 5 of this report.</p>

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
			<p>environmental and flood risk).</p> <p><u>Employment at Moreton-Lugg</u> - land allocated for employment here remains available but will be reviewed under MTRAP.</p> <p><u>Use empty homes</u> - whilst empty homes will make some contribution to meeting future housing needs, the stock of unused housing is not expected to be adequate to meet the need arising. The release of greenfield sites will remain necessary.</p> <p>H4: Northern Urban Expansion: Development at two strategic sites (Holmer east and west) to the north of the city. The allocation of land to the north reflects the popularity of Options 3 and 4 from the Place Shaping Paper.</p> <p>H5: Western Urban Expansion: Development at two strategic sites (Three Elms and Whitecross) to the west of the city. The allocation of land to the west reflects the popularity of Options 3 and 4 from the Place Shaping Paper, both of which included developing some land to the west of the city.</p> <p>H6: Southern Urban Expansion: Development at a strategic site (Lower Bullingham) to the south of the city. The allocation of land to the south reflects the popularity of Options 3 and 4 from the Place Shaping Paper.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Preferred Option for Hereford and the findings were published in the SA Note for the Hereford Preferred Option (September 2010).</p> <p>At this stage, three of the discounted options relating to development at Hereford, which were raised as an alternative to the Place Shaping Options, during that consultation in January-March 2010, were also appraised.</p> <p>The first discounted option related to the Hereford</p>	

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
			<p>City Centre Policy (H1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retail expansion in historic core and leisure and housing (affordable) on ESG area <p>The other two discounted options relate to the Growth Distribution Policy (H3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop land over two plan periods and increase the total amount of homes Development predominantly in the south <p>The remaining alternatives described above for Policy H3</p> <p>Revised Preferred Option</p> <p>A Revised Preferred Option for Hereford was published in September 2011 as a result of consultation responses received, changes brought on by Government proposals and the general economic slowdown. The suggested changes for Hereford were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to focus most new development including homes, jobs and community facilities to Hereford, but reduce the overall amount of new homes to be built there by around 2,000 by removing Whitecross urban extension altogether and reducing size of extension at Holmer from 1000 to 500. <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Revised Preferred Option for Hereford and the findings were published in the SA Note for the Revised Preferred Options (July 2011).</p>	
Hereford Relief Road	<p>In the Developing Options consultation, two options were put forward in relation to transport infrastructure in Hereford:</p> <p>1- Deliver a blended package of transport improvements including the provision of an outer distributor road, and associated public transport improvements, including bus priority and Park and</p>	<p>The options for transport development in Hereford that were put forward in the Developing Options paper were developed into three refined options, which all included the provision of the Hereford relief road, coupled with a varying range of sustainable transport improvements from retaining the current level of provision (option 1) through to significantly</p>	<p>The relief road was covered under one of the policies within the Preferred Option for Hereford:</p> <p>H2: Hereford Movement Policy: proposed a package of sustainable transport measures based on an amended Option 2 from the Place Shaping Paper and the provision of the relief road along the</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy makes provision for a western Hereford Relief Road in Policy SS4 and the place-shaping policies for Hereford, including policy HD2: Hereford Movement.</p> <p>This reflects the proposal for a western relief road set out in H2: Hereford Movement policy in the Preferred Options and Revised Preferred</p>

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
	<p>Ride, in association with the proposals for growth of the City</p> <p>2- Develop an enhanced package of public transport measures to enable growth without the provision of an outer distributor road.</p> <p>In addition, the Developing Options paper stated that if option1 was chosen, there will need to be decisions about a preferred route of the Outer Distributor Road (ODR) - whether this is east or west of the city. The Developing Options questionnaire contained questions regarding potential route of the ODR.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The two options for transport development in Hereford were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. In addition, the two options for the route of the ODR (eastern route versus western route) were also appraised briefly in Appendix B3 of the 2009 SA Report Addendum. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there is also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>increasing the provision (option 3) :</p> <p>1 – Sustainable transport improvements</p> <p>2 - Sustainable transport improvements linked to measures for 'demand management' of car use</p> <p>3 - Significant sustainable transport improvements linked to measures for 'demand management' of car use</p> <p>Under the Developing Options consultation, 79% of respondents felt that the blended package of transport measures including public transport improvements and the provision of a relief road (Option 1) would be the preferred solution. There was no clear preferred east or west route at that stage.</p> <p>For the purpose of this stage of the Core Strategy, a strategic transport model (SATURN) of Hereford was constructed and used to test the impact on Hereford's highway network of the proposed spatial development options during peak travel times. The housing and employment options were tested with potential sites being identified from housing and employment land assessments. The development options were considered using three strategic highway scenarios: no road, an eastern relief road and a western relief road.</p> <p>Analysis of the impacts of the no-road scenario against the proposed development options indicated a significant detrimental effect on the operation of Hereford's highway network. For this reason the 'no-road' option was discounted. The eastern and western relief road options performed differently according to which development (housing and employment land) was being assessed. Whilst the modelling work indicated the need for a relief road to enable the level of development identified in the spatial strategy, a wide range of further ongoing technical work was needed to be undertaken to fully assess a preferred route corridor.</p>	<p>western route corridor.</p> <p>Of the options not taken forward:</p> <p><u>Option 1</u> – received low public support during the consultation and it was considered unlikely that the measures would adequately address traffic growth and that the current levels of congestion would continue and worsen.</p> <p><u>Option 3</u> – received a similar level of public support to Option 2; however Option 2 was considered to be a more satisfactory middle ground which would also take into account the small amount of support given to Option 1.</p> <p><u>Eastern corridor for Hereford Relief Road</u> – The Hereford Relief Road Study of Options (September 2010) showed that such a route would carry a high risk of a successful challenge through the Conservation Regulations (2010) as it would run through and be adjacent to several sites of biodiversity interest.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook SA of the Preferred Option for Hereford (including the transport policy H2 which covers provision of the relief road) and the findings were published in the SA Note for the Hereford Preferred Options (September 2010).</p> <p>Within the SA Note, the two routes for the relief road arising from the Study of Options, were also subject to sustainability appraisal. The Study of Options report describes the further assessment work on the relief road and sustainable transport options carried out since the Place Shaping consultation, from which the inner western and inner eastern corridor routes emerged as the favoured options based on the detailed engineering and environmental assessment undertaken. While the Hereford Preferred Option Policy H2 proposes the western inner corridor route as the preferred route for the relief road, the eastern inner corridor route was still considered to be a reasonable alternative, thus both of these options were subject to sustainability appraisal.</p>	<p>Options.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>Policy H2 (including the western relief road) has been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 5 of this report.</p>

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
		<p>While options for the <u>specific route</u> of the relief road were not set out at this stage, page 33 of the Place Shaping Paper summarises the environmental characteristics and sensitivities of the western and eastern corridor routes for the relief road. The western corridor route would fall in an area of high landscape sensitivity, and where biodiversity potential is high (particularly at the River Wye). However, the eastern corridor route was considered to be more harmful in this sense, with the need to cross the River Wye and the floodplain of the River Lugg/Lugg Meadows site.</p> <p>Text on page 34 explains how the SA and HRA from the Developing Options stage influenced the transport options.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper states on page 25 that the transport options for Hereford and the western and eastern corridor route options were not subject to further appraisal since the Developing Options stage because the environmental evidence base was not fully available, and that the most appropriate time for the appraisal to take place would be following the publication of the 'Study of Options for the Hereford Relief Road' report, which was due in Summer 2010. The western and eastern corridor options were appraised in the SA Note for the Hereford Preferred Options (September 2010), drawing on the findings of the Relief Road Study of Options.</p>	<p>Revised Preferred Option</p> <p>A Revised Preferred Option for Hereford was published in September 2011 as a result of consultation responses received, changes brought on by Government proposals and the general economic slowdown. The suggested changes for the Hereford relief road were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Propose a slightly amended road to the west of the city. The choice of a western route was based on linking to the new homes and jobs, and on environmental reasons. <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook SA of the Revised Preferred Option for Hereford (including the transport policy H2 which covers provision of the relief road) and the findings were published in the SA Note for Revised Preferred Options July (2011).</p>	
<p>Bromyard</p>	<p>P42 – In which direction should Bromyard grow?</p> <p>1 – Allocate growth to the north</p> <p>2 – Allocate growth to the south</p> <p>3 – Disperse the growth to a number of smaller sites in various locations around the town</p> <p>4 – Limit further growth to that falling within the existing built-up parts of the town</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p>	<p>Three options were set out for the expansion of Bromyard:</p> <p>1 – A northern focus</p> <p>2 – A western focus</p> <p>3 – A northern and western focus</p> <p>It is noted that the favoured option emerging from the Developing Options consultation was to disperse development around a number of smaller sites around the town (Option 3). Of the options proposed in the Developing Options</p>	<p>The Preferred Option for Bromyard was to pursue Option 3 from the Place Shaping Paper (northern and western focus). This was the most popular option in the consultation.</p> <p>Of the other two options not taken forward:</p> <p><u>Option 1</u> was unpopular with consultees, possibly because of concerns about the resulting traffic on Tenbury Road.</p> <p><u>Option 2</u> was slightly less favoured than</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes two policies relating to Bromyard:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BY1: Development in Bromyard – provides for 500 new homes and 5ha of employment land in Bromyard. BY2: Land at Hardwick Bank and South of the A44 Leominster Road – allows for a mixed-use development including 350 new homes in this area and 5ha of employment land.. <p>These policies take forward part of the</p>

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	<p>The four options for the spatial strategy for Bromyard were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there is also a summary of the ‘reasonableness test’ and the ‘community engagement test’ along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>consultation:</p> <p>1 – This option is retained in Options 1 and 3.</p> <p>2 – This was not taken forward due to concerns about landscape constraints and because development would not relate satisfactorily to the existing built form of the town.</p> <p>3 – Retained in part in option 3 by the proposal to split new housing to the west and the north.</p> <p>4 – Not taken forward due to a lack of suitable sites.</p> <p>Note: The Place Shaping Paper stated that there were five options included in the Developing Options Paper but only four were listed and appraised in the SA Report relating to that consultation. A north-east option is referred to which did not appear in the Developing Options consultation. This was because the text referred to a single northern option but the map showed an option to the north east and one to the north-west so they were separated in the Place Shaping Paper for clarity. The SA addendum to the Developing Options discussed a single northern option but did distinguish between north east and north west.</p> <p>Text boxes (see pages 48, 49 and 50) set out how the findings of SA and HRA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for Bromyard.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the first two options for growth in Bromyard in Appendix B3-5 and the third option in Appendix B3-6. The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised</p>	<p>development to the north and west. It was not taken forward because landscape constraints and concerns about the severance of the A44 to access the housing site.</p> <p>Text on page 9 of the Preferred Option describes how the SA and HRA processes have influenced the Preferred Option.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook SA of the Preferred Option for Bromyard and the findings were published in the SA Note for the Spatial Options for Bromyard, Ledbury and Ross-on-Wye (July 2010).</p>	<p>Preferred Option for Bromyard, although the proportion of the 500 new homes to be provided in the urban extension at Hardwick Bank has increased (from 250 of the 500 total new homes to 350). This is because of a lack of smaller sites being identified in the SHLAA review.</p> <p>The proposed employment site has also changed from 5ha at Linton, near Bromyard to 5ha as part of a mixed use scheme including the housing to the west of Bromyard. This change resulted from further investigations which revealed that the Linton site might not be deliverable due to contamination issues and topographical and existing land use constraints. In addition, its distance (outside of Linton) gave rise to concerns regarding the sustainability of the site and a more reasonable site was then found (BY2).</p> <p>As part of the Revised Preferred Options Consultation, an alternative option for future development at Bromyard was submitted to the Council for consideration. This option involved a larger residential urban extension to the north for around 600 new homes as well as employment land which was proposed for the UDP allocated housing site at Porthouse Farm. The urban extension would be flanked along its northern boundary by a road linking the A44 Leominster Road to the B4214 Tenbury Road. The purpose of this new road would be to serve the suggested employment site at Porthouse. The option has been discounted and not taken forward as an option to be assessed as part of the SA because it was considered unreasonable for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concerns regarding the deliverability of the site within the plan period. The Local Housing Market Assessment 2011 states that the housing market in Bromyard is currently somewhat subdued and new development should be carefully phased over time. • Concerns regarding the need for a relief road in this location. • Concerns about the size of the proposed employment site and the deliverability of the provision of an area of

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		<p>against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p> <p>Note: It was stated at the start of Appendix B3-5 that 'it was suggested at the beginning of assessing the Bromyard Options that the distribution of housing in Bromyard could be similar to that done for Ledbury i.e. divide the 250 homes into equal 125 properties between the north west and west of Bromyard. The plan writers considered this to be a feasible and reasonable new option which has subsequently been appraised – see Appendix B3-10'. However, Appendix B3-10 relates to options for Ross-on-Wye and this text should have referred to Appendix B3-6.</p>		<p>employment land on an existing saved UDP housing site.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The two policies for development at Bromyard have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. Each policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 5 of this report.</p>
<p>Kington</p>	<p>P43 – In which direction should Kington grow?</p> <p>1 – Limit any further growth to that falling within the existing built-up parts of the town</p> <p>2 – Allocate limited employment and housing growth to a number of smaller sites in various locations around the town</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The two options for the spatial strategy for Kington were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there is also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>The Place Shaping Paper stated that the Core Strategy will not contain strategic locations for development at Kington and that any further development will be identified within the Market Towns and Rural Areas Plan (MTRAP). The two options for development at Kington that were put forward at the Developing Options stage were not rejected as they were to be considered under MTRAP.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>No SA work was undertaken in relation to the spatial options for development at Kington as neither was to be taken forward for inclusion within the Core Strategy.</p>	<p>The introduction to the Preferred Options for the Market Towns stated that no Preferred Option for Kington was included because a Preferred Option was reached at the previous stage, and the responses received did not significantly alter the policy direction. This was incorrect and is inconsistent with the statement in the Place Shaping Paper that no option for development at Kington was presented because it was to be considered under MTRAP rather than the Core Strategy (which was correct).</p> <p>As there were no new strategic options considered, no further SA work was therefore undertaken in relation to development at Kington at the Preferred Options stage.</p> <p>Kington had a strategic allocation in terms of an amount of housing needed over the plan period, but no strategic site allocation/urban extension – the MTRAP was going to define smaller sites but the Core Strategy was not intended to include a strategic site.</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes one policy relating to development at Kington:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KG1: Development in Kington – allows for approximately 200 new homes, and supports small-scale employment provision. <p>This policy reiterates what is set out in Policy SS2 for the strategic allocation of new dwellings at Kington and no broad locations are suggested for the town, which is consistent with the earlier iterations of the Plan. The policy was included because, with the introduction of NDP's, there is uncertainty whether there is sufficiency of plan coverage for the area in the intervening period. Because the MTRAP is no longer being produced, there was a need to have a more development management-based policy which set out clearly how many homes would be provided at Kington.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The policy for development at Kington has been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrix is presented in Appendix 5 of this report.</p>

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<p>Ledbury</p>	<p>P45 – In which direction should Ledbury grow?</p> <p>1 – Allocate growth to the northwest on land currently proposed for employment use</p> <p>2 – Allocate growth to the west, on the western side of the by-pass</p> <p>3 – Disperse growth to a number of smaller sites in various locations around the town</p> <p>4 – Limit further growth to that falling within the existing built-up parts of the town</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The four options for the spatial strategy for Ledbury were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there is also a summary of the ‘reasonableness test’ and the ‘community engagement test’ along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>The Place Shaping Paper set out two refined options for growth at Ledbury:</p> <p>1 – A southern focus</p> <p>2 – A western focus</p> <p>For both of the refined options, a sub-option was provided, which provides more detail about the potential location of development within the broad southern or western areas.</p> <p>Of the options put forward in the Developing Options consultation:</p> <p>1 – Retained in both refined options 1 and 2.</p> <p>2 – Remains as option 1, albeit refined.</p> <p>3 - Rejected due to the absence of sufficient and appropriate smaller sites close to the town to achieve the housing target set out in the preferred strategy.</p> <p>4 – Not taken forward due to a lack of suitable sites and because it would be inconsistent with the spatial strategy.</p> <p>Text boxes (see pages 56 and 57) set out how the findings of SA and HRA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for Ledbury.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the two options for growth in Ledbury in Appendix B3-7 and the two sub-options are appraised in Appendix B3-8. Again, the options were appraised against the chosen list of ‘representative’ SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the</p>	<p>The Preferred Option for Ledbury took forward an amended Option 2 from the Place Shaping Paper.</p> <p>Although Option 1 was the more popular of the two options during the consultation, the majority of respondents favoured neither option as there were concerns about breaching the bypass (which would occur under both options). Further review and analysis was undertaken and Option 2 was amended to provide housing at the Viaduct site instead of breaching the bypass to the south of the town (where land is of higher landscape sensitivity) for housing development.</p> <p>Sub-options 1 and 2 from the Place Shaping Paper both involved utilising the existing cricket and football ground for housing – this was discounted because of public concerns about the loss of facilities and a lack of available research regarding the need for playing pitches in Ledbury.</p> <p>Text on page 18 of the Preferred Option sets out how SA and HRA have influenced the Preferred Option.</p> <p>Other new options that were not taken forward as reasonable or realistic included:</p> <p><u>Developing land to the east of Bosbury Road and north of the railway station for housing</u> – this land was already considered under SHLAA but was rejected due to its high landscape sensitivity so was not considered a realistic option at this stage.</p> <p><u>Develop strip of land from Full Pitcher to the Gloucester Road alongside ring road for housing</u> – rejected as the land is protected open space and is considered to form a necessary buffer zone between the bypass and existing development at Deer Park (in relation to noise abatement and visual screening).</p> <p><u>Retain Viaduct site for employment only and build more housing to the west of the bypass</u> – constraints regarding the listed viaduct mean the site is unsuitable for employment development. The land to the west of the bypass was rejected for further housing development because of landscape</p>	<p>The Core Strategy includes two policies relating to development at Ledbury:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LB1: Development in Ledbury – allows for 800 new homes and 12ha of employment land at Ledbury. • LB2: Land North of the Viaduct – proposes a sustainable urban extension in this area, including 700 new homes. <p>Policy LB1 takes forward the same broad locations that were set out in the Preferred Option (800 new homes and 12ha of employment land), and LB2 takes forward the specific proposals for the land north of the Viaduct, as set out in the Preferred Option.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The two policies for development at Ledbury have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. Each policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 5 of this report.</p>

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		<p>selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p>	<p>and biodiversity constraints, and because the land is separated from the existing built up area of the town by the bypass.</p> <p><u>Mixed use of viaduct site</u> – not possible if the whole site is to be used for housing as per the preferred option.</p> <p><u>Divert housing to Ross/other market towns and/or villages</u> – Ross and other towns are already receiving a large amount of new homes and are also subject to their own constraints.</p> <p><u>Move formal park to existing recreation ground or walled garden or Bye St/Orchard Lane or to Little Marcle (West of Bypass) site</u> – although there is need for a formal park, placing one on an existing recreation ground would mean the loss of that facility. Siting a formal park in the area specified was not considered reasonable as the site for housing to the west of Ledbury is not being progressed as a Preferred Option.</p> <p><u>Land to the south of the bypass could be used for employment only</u> – not considered realistic as the land is visually very open and industrial buildings would disrupt the landscape here. Housing could be more acceptably screened.</p> <p><u>Keep cricket field and build on football ground only</u> – not considered realistic as the capacity of the football ground is insufficient to be considered a strategic site. Also, development here would be sandwiched between two open areas and would not relate well to the existing form of the town.</p> <p><u>Continue bypass northwards to Bromyard Road</u> – it was not considered realistic in deliverability terms that a new road and canal and park are all provided by developer contributions and the new road was not considered necessary if use of the site is for housing purposes only, as the new road was a requirement for the use of the site for employment purposes.</p> <p><u>Combine viaduct site and western option with canal restoration</u> – this option was taken on board in part in the Preferred Option. The land to the west</p>	

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			<p>of the bypass was not considered realistic to develop during this plan period.</p> <p><u>Use empty homes</u> - whilst empty homes will make some contribution to meeting future housing needs, the stock of unused housing was not expected to be adequate to meet the need arising and the release of greenfield sites remains necessary.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook SA of the Preferred Option for Bromyard and the findings were published in the SA Note for the Spatial Options for Bromyard, Ledbury and Ross-on-Wye (July 2010).</p>	
<p>Leominster</p>	<p>P46 – In which direction should Leominster grow?</p> <p>1 – Allocate land to the south or southwest in conjunction with a east-west link road</p> <p>2 – Disperse growth to a number of smaller sites in various locations around the town</p> <p>3 – Limit further growth to that falling within the existing built-up parts of the town</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The three options for the spatial strategy for Leominster were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there is also a summary of the ‘reasonableness test’ and the ‘community engagement test’ along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>Only one Preferred Option was included in the Place Shaping Paper in relation to Leominster: urban extension and southern relief road. This is in line with the preference expressed in the Developing Options consultation responses for development to the south and south west in conjunction with a relief road (Option 1).</p> <p>Of the options from the Developing Options consultation that were not taken forward:</p> <p>2 – Not taken forward due to concerns about transport and air quality constraints and the fact that the option would not allow for the added community benefits that can be achieved with an urban extension.</p> <p>3 – Not taken forward due to the limited capacity of potential sites, which means the housing numbers required could not be achieved through this option.</p> <p>A text box on page 61 sets out how the findings of SA and HRA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for Leominster.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p>	<p>Because a Preferred Option for Leominster was presented at the Place Shaping Paper stage, and the consultation responses did not significantly alter the policy direction for the town, the option was not included again in the Preferred Options consultation.</p> <p>No SA work was therefore undertaken in relation to development at Leominster at this stage.</p> <p>Revised Preferred Option</p> <p>A Revised Preferred Option for Leominster was published in September 2011 as a result of consultation responses received, changes brought on by Government proposals and the general economic slowdown. The suggested changes for Leominster were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slightly reduced housing allocation (reduced by 200 from 2,500 to 2,300). • Addition of 5ha of employment land. <p>The change to Leominster’s housing allocation was also supported by the GL Hearn Local Housing Requirements Study which highlighted concern about whether it would be possible to deliver 2,500 new homes in Leominster over the Plan period.</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes two policies relating to development at Leominster:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LO1: Development in Leominster - proposes a minimum of 2,300 new homes, of which approximately 1,500 dwellings will be provided in a single strategic urban extension to the south-west of the town. • LO2: Leominster Urban Extension – proposes an urban extension to include approximately 1,500 new homes and up to 10 ha of employment land. <p>These two policies take forward the same broad Preferred Option that was identified at the Place Shaping stage. However, the employment land allocation has been increased from 5ha to 10ha as a result of new evidence from the Employment land study 2013 which details the need for 10ha of employment land to be delivered towards the end of the plan period as a southerly extension to the existing Leominster Enterprise Park.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The two policies for development at Leominster have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. Each policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are</p>

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		<p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the Preferred Option for growth in Leominster in Appendix B3-9. The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p>	<p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook SA of the Revised Preferred Option for Leominster and the findings were published in the SA Note for Revised Preferred Options July (2011).</p>	<p>presented in Appendix 5 of this report.</p>
<p>Ross-on-Wye</p>	<p>P47 – In which direction should Ross-on-Wye grow?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 – Allocate significant growth to the north 2 – Allocate significant growth to the southeast 3 – Allocate significant growth to the southwest 4 – Disperse growth to a number of smaller sites in various locations around the town 5 – Limit further growth to that falling within the existing built-up parts of the town <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The five options for the spatial strategy for Ross-on-Wye were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there is also a summary of the ‘reasonableness test’ and the ‘community engagement test’ along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>The Place Shaping Paper set out two refined options for development at Ross-on-Wye:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 – North-east focus 2 – North/south focus <p>Of the options put forward at the Developing Options stage:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 – Not taken forward as it would have involved significant expansion into the AONB. 2 – Remained an option, albeit refined, as set out in Option 2. 3 – Not taken forward due to potential impact on the AONB and on flood risk. 4 – Not taken forward due to an absence of appropriate sites. 5 – Not taken forward as it would not be consistent with the spatial strategy. <p>Text boxes (see pages 66 and 68) set out how the findings of SA and HRA work undertaken to date influenced the options for Ross-on-Wye.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the two options for growth in Ross-on-Wye in Appendix B3-10. Again, the</p>	<p>The Preferred Option taken forward for Ross-on-Wye was an amended Option 2 from the Place Shaping Paper.</p> <p>Both options were popular during the consultation, but Option 2 (a split of housing between sites at Overcross and Hildersley) was slightly more popular than Option 1 (350 homes at Overcross alone). Many responses who favoured Option 2 also stated that they wanted all or most of the housing to go at Hildersley alone, and the Option has now been amended to include housing only at this one strategic site.</p> <p>Option 1 was rejected as the area is separated from the rest of Ross-on-Wye by the A40, making the provision of sustainable transport links difficult. The landscape in this area is also more sensitive and vulnerable to change, with no natural physical features that could form boundaries for development. Opportunities exist at Hildersley to provide a more sensitive and naturally limited form of development.</p> <p>Other new options not taken forward as unrealistic included:</p> <p><u>Allocate land to the south west of Ross for significant development</u> – not taken forward due to the potential impact on the AONB and areas liable to flooding. Because around 150 new homes will need to be built on smaller, non-strategic sites around Ross, there may be the opportunity to build in this part of the town where appropriate.</p> <p><u>Dispersed housing in/around Ross at smaller sites</u> – discounted because of an absence of sufficient and appropriate sites, as described in the Place</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes two policies relating to development at Ross-on-Wye:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RW1: Development in Ross-on-Wye – proposes approximately 900 new homes and 10ha of employment land in the town. A strategic housing location will focus new residential development to the south east of the town. • RW2: Land at Hildersley – proposes a strategic residential development site in this location, to include 200 new homes. <p>These policies take forward the same broad allocations as set out in the Preferred Options, although and the number of the new homes to be provided at Hildersley has changed from 350 to 200 – this change was made in order to ensure any impact of the Ministry of Defence firing range can be assessed and mitigated, following concerns from the local parish council regarding development at Preferred Options stage.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The two policies for development at Ross-on-Wye have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. Each policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 5 of this report.</p>

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		<p>options were appraised against the chosen list of 'representative' SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p>	<p>Shaping Paper.</p> <p>Text on pages 29 and 30 of the Preferred Option document explain how SA and HRA have influenced the Preferred Option.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook SA of the Preferred Option for Ross-on-Wye and the findings were in the SA Note for the Spatial Options for Bromyard, Ledbury and Ross-on-Wye (July 2010).</p> <p>Revised Preferred Option</p> <p>A Revised Preferred Option for Ross-on-Wye was published in September 2011 as a result of consultation responses received, changes brought on by Government proposals and the general economic slowdown. The suggested changes for Ross-on-Wye were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Slightly reduced number of new homes from 1,000 to 900. <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Revised Preferred Option for Ross-on-Wye and the findings were published in the SA Note for the Revised Preferred Options (July 2011).</p>	
<p>Rural Areas</p>	<p>How should the Rural Areas including all the settlements outside of Hereford and the Market Towns, grow?</p> <p>The balance of growth between the market towns and rural areas:</p> <p>1 - Focus a significant majority of new growth outside of Hereford, on the market towns, with rural settlements limited to affordable housing to meet local needs only</p> <p>2 - Focus new growth outside Hereford to the market towns, but enable some growth in or around a limited number of sustainable rural settlements, with the remainder of the rural area limited to affordable housing to meet local needs</p>	<p>Firstly, the Place Shaping Paper set out the preferred approach of defining Rural Service Centres/Hubs and lists the Tier 1 settlements (rural service centres and hubs) within the county and gives a definition of Tier 2 settlements (local centres).</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper then set out two options for development in Tier 2 settlements (Local Centres):</p> <p>1 – Make additional allocations for up to around 30 new homes in 'local centres'.</p>	<p>There were five policies included in the Preferred Option for development in Rural Areas:</p> <p>RA1 – Housing allocation</p> <p>RA2 - Rural Service Centres/Hubs</p> <p>RA3 – Other Settlements Outside of the RSCs and Hubs</p> <p>RA4 – Open Countryside</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes six policies relating to rural areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RA1: Rural Strategy – allows for 5,300 new dwellings within the rural areas, to be broadly distributed across the County. RA2: Herefordshire's Villages – sets out criteria for new housing development within villages. RA3: Herefordshire's Countryside – sets out criteria for residential development outside of the villages. RA4: Agricultural, Forestry and Rural Enterprise Dwellings – sets out criteria for these types of residential

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	<p>only</p> <p>3 - Plan for an equal or similar distribution of growth between the market towns and sustainable rural settlements</p> <p>4 - Focus the majority of growth outside of Hereford, to sustainable rural settlements</p> <p>Depending on the level of growth distributed to rural areas, development in rural settlements could be:</p> <p>1 - Limited to brownfield land inside the existing built up limits of sustainable rural settlements using a criteria based policy</p> <p>2 - Enabled to provide sufficient growth, including greenfield releases, to retain or provide new rural services or facilities in identified rural settlements</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The six options for the growth of rural areas were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there is also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>2 – A criteria- based policy to consider all applications for new homes in settlements not determined as Rural Service Centre or Hubs, but not defining a specific list of settlements at any one time.</p> <p>The preferred approach for development in areas outside of Tiers 1 and 2 would be to restrict housing development to that which is required for rural exception needs only. Option 2 from the Developing Options consultation would allow for some flexibility, where it can be shown that development would meet a proven need.</p> <p>Of the options put forward at the Developing Options stage for the balance of growth that were not taken forward:</p> <p>1 – Not taken forward on the basis that some growth in the rural areas can support rural regeneration through the provision of affordable housing and support for the retention of existing services.</p> <p>3 – Was not considered to be a realistic option because of the intentions of the Core Strategy Vision and Objectives and because the limited level of growth suggested by the Spatial Strategy necessitated a review of the settlement hierarchy.</p> <p>4 – Considered unreasonable because it would be contrary to the policies concerning rural regeneration of the market towns.</p> <p>The Draft Options Rural Settlement Hierarchy Background Paper included four options of distributing new homes to a second tier below that of Rural Service Centres:</p> <p><u>Limiting new homes to RSCs with only exception housing elsewhere</u> – Not taken forward as SHLAA revealed insufficient capacity in RSCs alone.</p> <p><u>Identifying a second tier of settlements below</u></p>	<p>RA5 – Rural Economy</p> <p>It is not clear which aspects of which proposals were carried forward from the Place Shaping Paper consultation, although it is stated that Tier 2, Option 1 was not taken forward because it was not the preferred approach identified in the Place Shaping Paper consultation.</p> <p>It is also stated that the majority of respondents to the Place Shaping Paper consultation agreed with the overall approach to the rural areas, that the defining of the RSCs and Hubs was correct and that the level of proposed housing within them was about right.</p> <p>Text on page 6 of the Preferred Option paper states that SA and HRA findings influenced the Preferred Option, but no specific detail is provided with regards to this.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Preferred Option for development in Rural Areas and the findings were published in the SA Note for the Rural Areas Policies (July 2010).</p> <p>Revised Preferred Option</p> <p>A Revised Preferred Option for the Rural Areas was published in September 2011 as a result of consultation responses received, changes brought on by Government proposals and the general economic slowdown. The suggested changes for the Rural Areas were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the number of new homes in rural settlements outside of Hereford and the market towns by, around 800, to allow for more affordable homes in these expensive areas. This will result in a more homes being built in the rural areas than previously suggested. • Create more local jobs to reduce the need to travel longer distances and help the rural economy. 	<p>developments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RA5: Re-Use of Rural Buildings – sets out criteria for the re-use of rural buildings. • RA6: Rural Economy – details how economic activities will be supported in rural areas. <p>These policies broadly take forward the Revised Preferred Options, with Policy RA1 setting out housing numbers for specific settlements (the hierarchy of settlements was addressed at the Preferred Options stage through RA2 and RA3). However the number of new homes for the rural areas has increased from 4,800 to 5,300 because this approach would enable more affordable houses to be delivered in the most expensive areas of the county, would enable some flexibility to reflect the emerging neighbourhood planning agenda and brings the required rate closer to that experienced in recent years in rural areas (this is explained in full in the Revised Preferred Options Background Paper, October 2011).</p> <p>Policy RA5 has been added to the rural areas policies as a result of the NPPF and the need for greater coverage of development management issues in the policies, as the MTRAP is no longer being produced.</p> <p>The rural housing background paper explains in more detail the reasons for the changes to the rural housing policies. It also includes some discussion of the options considered which were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continuing with the previous approach (which was subject to SA at preferred options stage). 2. Allowing unrestricted development in Herefordshire's rural areas to meet housing demand – this was not considered a reasonable option (contrary to NPPF, leading to unsustainable development) and was discounted. 3. The new approach set out in the Draft plan. <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The two policies for development at the rural</p>

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		<p><u>RSCs that are within 5km of an RSC, regardless of their level of services</u> – Not favoured by consultation responses and would only marginally help with reducing the need to travel by private car.</p> <p><u>A second tier of settlements below that of RSCs with good public transport and four or more key services</u> – Taken forward within Option 1 of the Place Shaping Paper.</p> <p><u>A second tier of settlements with 5 or more key services, regardless of public transport availability</u> – Not favoured by consultation responses and would only marginally help with reducing the need to travel by private car.</p> <p>In addition, a further option of a criteria-based policy for areas outside the defined settlement hierarchy was suggested. This option is refined and included in Option 2.</p> <p>In relation to the secondary Options 1 and 2 included in the Developing Options consultation, the majority of respondents favoured development on brownfield land.</p> <p>Text boxes (see pages 74 and 75) set out how the findings of SA and HRA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for rural areas.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper includes three appraisal matrices in relation to the Rural Areas Place Shaping Options (see Appendices B3-11, B3-12 and B3-13). These relate to New Jobs and Shops, Additional Housing to the Rural Areas Place Shaping Options and Settlement Hierarchy Place Shaping Options. In addition, Appendix B3-1 appraises the whole spatial strategy including the rural areas preferred approach to using RSC/Hubs and options for second tier settlements.</p>	<p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Revised Preferred Option for the Rural Areas and the findings were published in the SA Note for the Revised Preferred Options (July 2011).</p>	<p>areas have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. Each policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 5 of this report.</p>

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		<p>The findings of the SA were presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p>		
General Policies				
<p>Affordable Housing</p>	<p>How should we address the need for affordable housing in the County?</p> <p>1 - Increase the percentage of affordable housing required on housing sites (currently 35%).</p> <p>2 - Lower the site size thresholds for affordable housing particularly in rural areas where most housing is completed on sites smaller than existing thresholds.</p> <p>3 - A combination of 1 and 2.</p> <p>4 - Identify settlements or areas where new housing development is limited only to affordable housing; this could mean that rural exceptions sites for affordable housing are the subject of specific allocations.</p> <p>What types and mix of housing does Herefordshire need?</p> <p>1 - Allow a market-led approach to the mix of new house types in new developments.</p> <p>2 - Ensure all schemes have a mix of house types in accordance with up to date housing needs information.</p> <p>3 - Devise a policy, which gives priority to specific housing types; for example, homes for families, single persons and for retirement - in order to balance the types of housing across the County.</p> <p>What level of density targets should Herefordshire set?</p> <p>1 - Apply a single standard density to all housing provision across the County.</p> <p>2 - Apply different standard densities to different</p>	<p>Affordable Housing</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper set out three options for establishing indicative percentages of affordable housing requirements:</p> <p>Option 1: Continue to apply an indicative target of 35% for all of Herefordshire.</p> <p>Option 2: Set an indicative target of 35% for the entire county except for Leominster where a target of 25% would be set.</p> <p>Option 3: Set an indicative target of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 40% affordable housing for sites in Ledbury, Ross and their rural hinterlands and in the rural north of the county (including Bromyard). • 35% for Hereford and its rural hinterland, Kington and the west of the county • 25% in Leominster. <p>The Place Shaping Paper then set out two options for defining site size threshold for affordable housing:</p> <p>Option 1: Retain a threshold of 6 dwellings.</p> <p>Option 2: Reduce threshold to 1 dwelling (requiring a financial contribution on sites of 1 or 2 dwellings).</p> <p>The consultation findings from the Developing Options consultation stage revealed that there was strong support amongst respondents for a</p>	<p>There was one policy included in the Preferred Option for affordable housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (No policy number): Affordable Housing <p>This policy broadly took forward Option 3 from the Place Shaping Paper. While there was strong support for Option 1 (countrywide target) and minimal support for Options 2 and 3, the 2010 viability study suggests that countywide targets do not maximise opportunities to deliver affordable housing within rural parts of the county. As the provision of affordable housing is a key priority the policy suggests lowering thresholds and providing a range of targets in accordance with the evidence.</p> <p>The approach to density targets was going to be defined at a later stage as part of the Hereford Area Plan and Market Towns and Rural Areas Plan. However, in the Preferred Options (General Policies, 2nd tranche) the supporting text to Preferred Option LD4: Sustainable Strategic Design refers to a minimum density of 30 dph but that this should not be rigidly applied.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Preferred Option for affordable housing and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies (August 2010). LUC also undertook the SA of the Preferred Option for sustainable strategic design and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies: 2nd Tranche (October 2010). The supporting text for each preferred option was taken into consideration as part of the appraisal.</p>	<p>There are two policies in the Draft Core Strategy relating to affordable housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H1: Affordable Housing – Thresholds and Targets • H2: Rural Exceptions Sites <p>Policy H1 takes forward the same affordable housing targets that were set out in the Preferred Option, and H2 relates specifically to the part of the Preferred Option that addresses rural exceptions sites, setting out broadly the same, but slightly more detailed, criteria for the development of those sites.</p> <p>The Draft Core Strategy includes one further policy relating to housing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H3: Ensuring an Appropriate Range and Mix of Housing <p>This new policy has been introduced partly due to the move towards a Local Plan and not having the MTRAP, and also to address development management issues for the 'less than strategic' applications that may come forward before a Neighbourhood Plan is in place. The policy also seeks to address housing needs for older people, which the Housing and Support Needs for Older People Report 2011 stated need to be considered.</p> <p>The draft Core Strategy spatial strategy and rural policies section now state that the "settlement boundaries or not" issue will be left</p>

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	<p>parts of the County to reflect accessibility (highest densities in central Hereford, towns and adjacent areas, lower densities in other parts of urban areas, and the lowest densities in rural areas.</p> <p>3 - Densities either set or determined for each site on the basis of an assessment of the character of the surrounding area.</p> <p>Should we continue with settlement boundaries?</p> <p>1 - Devise a criteria based policy for sustainable settlements to judge future development proposals against; or</p> <p>2 - Continue to define settlement boundaries for sustainable settlements within a future DPD.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The four options for affordable housing provision were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there was also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>combination of Options 1 and 2. Views on Option 4 were polarised with 51% of respondents saying 'yes' and 49% saying 'no'.</p> <p>This preferred policy direction is based on Option 3 as highlighted within the Developing Options Paper. Option 3 suggested a combination of Options 1 and 2. However, the preferred policy direction also takes account of the emerging evidence from the viability study.</p> <p>Option 4 has not been taken forward at this stage as the evidence would suggest that without housing grant 100% affordable housing schemes would not be viable. However, the Core Strategy will still include a rural exceptions policy for affordable housing. The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 114) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for affordable housing.</p> <p>Type and Mix of Housing</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper included a Preferred Policy Direction for Type and Mix of Housing, which reflects Option 2 within the Developing Options Paper. Of the three options put forward within the Developing Options consultation, that option was the most favoured although the option to devise a policy which gives priority to specific housing types (Option 3) was also supported.</p> <p>Two alternative options from the Developing Options consultation have not been taken forward as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow a market led approach – this approach would not be in conformity with both national and regional policy approaches. • Devise a policy which gives priority to 		<p>to individual NDP's or DPD's.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The policies for housing have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. Each policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 6 of this report.</p>

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		<p>specific housing types – although not taken forward entirely, the preferred policy direction will enable specific housing types to be developed within housing proposals and does recognise the particular issue of meeting the housing requirements of an increasingly elderly population.</p> <p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 110) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for housing type and mix.</p> <p>Housing Density</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper also included a Preferred Policy Direction for Housing Density, which was a combination of Option 2 and 3 within the Developing Options Paper. Option 3 was the most favoured during the consultation; however the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) recognised that the sub-region is dominated by detached dwellings and suggests promoting the development of higher density housing in order to develop pathways of housing choice to advance the sustainability of mixed communities.</p> <p>Two alternative options from the Developing Options consultation have not been taken forward as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set a single standard density across the county – this option was considered to add little to national planning policy (PPS3) and would not be sensitive to local circumstances. • Apply different standards to different parts of the county – the results of the Developing Options consultation suggested a preference for site based density standards, such an approach would be most sensitive to local characteristics. 		

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		<p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 109) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for housing type and mix.</p> <p>Settlement Boundaries</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper did not include any reference to settlement boundaries because the intention at the time was that they would be addressed in the MTRAP and HAP. <i>The draft Core Strategy spatial strategy and rural policies section now state that the "settlement boundaries or not" issue will be left to individual NDP's or DPD's (see final column).</i></p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the options for affordable housing provision in Appendix B3-23 and the Preferred Policy Direction for housing density in Appendix B3-22. Again, the options were appraised against the chosen list of 'representative' SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p> <p>However, the Preferred Policy Direction for Housing Type and Mix has not been appraised in the Place Shaping Paper SA Report because it is stated that the policy direction is based on Option 2 as set out in the Developing Options Paper and that the SA of this option undertaken at the time suggested</p>		

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		the policy direction was considered to be neutral. It was noted that further appraisal of the detailed policy wording at submission stage will be necessary.		
Travellers' Sites	<p>How should we make provision for the needs of gypsies and travellers?</p> <p>1 - Develop a County-wide criteria based policy for location of different types of gypsy and travellers sites (residential, transit and temporary).</p> <p>2 - Identify areas or locations where gypsy and traveller sites would be unacceptable due to environmental constraints.</p> <p>3 - Provide an indication of specific areas (but not sites) where gypsy and travellers sites are needed, and sites will be directed.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The three options for Gypsies and Travellers were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there was also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>The Place Shaping Paper included a Preferred Policy Direction for Gypsies and Travellers. This preferred option is based on Option 1 within the Developing Options Paper with elements of the other two options included.</p> <p>All of the options received support during the consultation on the Developing Options paper; however the most favoured option was to 'develop a countywide criteria based policy' and to 'identify areas/locations where sites would be unacceptable due to environmental constraints'.</p> <p>Two alternative options from the Developing Options consultation have not been taken forward, these are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Option 2: Identify areas/locations where sites would be unacceptable due to environmental constraints - this option has not been taken forward as a policy based on this approach would be largely negative and therefore contrary to the national approach to positively aim to meet travellers' needs. The criteria based approach will identify how environmental constraints will be taken into account in dealing with proposals for new sites. Option 3: Provide an indication of specific areas where sites are needed – evidence to provide sub-county information on the need for new sites is not available, such evidence will be better utilised as part of the other DPDs which will include site allocations. <p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 115) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for travellers' sites.</p>	<p>There was one policy included in the Preferred Option for Gypsy and Traveller Sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GT1: Gypsy and Traveller Sites <p>This policy took forward the Preferred Policy Direction set out in the Place Shaping Paper, setting out specific criteria for the location of Gypsy and Traveller sites.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Preferred Option for development in Rural Areas and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies (August 2010).</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes one policy relating to Travellers' sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H4: Travellers Sites <p>This policy takes forward broadly similar criteria for Gypsy and Traveller sites as were set out in the Preferred Option. The number of sites to be provided has reduced since the Preferred Options stage; however this reflects more recent evidence regarding levels of need.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The policy for Travellers' Sites has been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrix is presented in Appendix 6 of this report.</p>

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		<p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the Preferred Policy Direction for Gypsies and Travellers in Appendix B3-24. Again, the options were appraised against the chosen list of 'representative' SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p>		
<p>Movement and Transportation</p>	<p>Discrete options for movement and transportation in general were not set out in the Developing Options consultation. However, movement and transport were considered as part of the overall Spatial Strategy options A, B and D (see key issues listed for each option on pages 20, 23 and 29, as well as Option B sub-options ii and iii on page 23 in particular); within the two options for Transport Provision in Hereford (page 40, and discussed above under the "Hereford Relief Road" section); and the Market Town options (Option 3, page 41).</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The overall Spatial Strategy options A-D were appraised in the June 2008 SA Report – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there was also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions. The two Hereford Transport Provision options (as well as the western versus eastern route for the outer distributor road) and the Market Town options were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3.</p>	<p>The Place Shaping Paper included a Preferred Policy Direction for Movement in Herefordshire, which lists a number of measures to improve sustainable transport opportunities, in particular walking and cycling routes. While there were no options specifically addressing movement and transport in general in the Developing Options paper, this Preferred Policy Direction reflects and brings together the overall intention of the transport elements that were included in the Spatial Strategy, Hereford Transport and Market Town options in the Developing Options paper.</p> <p>A text box (see page 92) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the Preferred Policy Approach for Movement.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the Preferred Policy Direction for Movement in Appendix B3-18. Again, the options were appraised against the chosen list of 'representative' SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option</p>	<p>There was one policy included in the Preferred Option for Movement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M1: Movement <p>The Preferred Option was developed directly from the Preferred Policy Direction set out in the Place Shaping Paper, for which the Consultation showed that there was overwhelming support.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Preferred Option for Movement and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies (August 2010).</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes two policies relating to movement and transportation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SS4: Movement and Transportation • MT1: Traffic Management, Highway Safety and Promoting Active Travel <p>Note that SS4 is part of the overall Spatial Strategy in the Draft Core Strategy, so is discussed above in the "Spatial Strategy" section, but it evolved from the Preferred Option M1 and the Preferred Policy Direction for Movement before it. The relief road element of policy SS4 is covered above in the "Hereford Relief Road" section.</p> <p>Policy MT1 takes on some elements of the Preferred Option, but also takes into account the requirements of the NPPF, changing economic circumstances (including less grants for bus patronage) and subsequent evidence/associated plans i.e. emerging Herefordshire LTP.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>Policies SS4 and M1 for movement and transportation have been subject to SA as part</p>

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		being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.		of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policies have been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 6 of this report.
Social and Community Facilities	<p>How should we protect shops in the market Towns?</p> <p>1 - Continue with the current UDP approach of defining primary and secondary shopping frontages and a criteria based policy to encourage a higher proportion of retail uses within the core of each the town centres.</p> <p>2 - Define primary shopping frontages only.</p> <p>3 - Do nothing and allow market forces to prevail.</p> <p>How should we protect our rural facilities?</p> <p>1 - Develop more robust criteria based policies to protect and/or increase the provision of small-scale, rural services/facilities, including retail - for example farm shops, in or adjoining settlements.</p> <p>2 - Identify particular settlements outside of the market towns and Hereford as Local Service Centres (still within a ranking of settlements), and use criteria based policies to promote/protect facilities/services (similar to the current approach).</p> <p>3 - Do nothing and allow market forces to prevail.</p> <p>How can new developments help to make provisions for new and improved health care facilities?</p> <p>1 - Provide new facilities in areas which are a focus for growth or urban extensions in partnership with Herefordshire Primary Care Trust and other health care providers.</p> <p>2 - Increase the capacity of existing facilities in partnership with social/health care organisations.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p>	<p>Shops</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper states for retail that 'the majority of retail issues are dealt with in the Strategy and Place Shaping Options sections, including the definition of a retail hierarchy. The Primary and Secondary shopping frontages will be reviewed in the Area Plans. Background to retail issues is contained within the Retail Policy Development Paper.</p> <p>Rural Facilities</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper states for Rural Services and Facilities that 'these issues are dealt with as part of the Rural Areas Place Shaping section. Background to this policy is contained within the Rural Economy and Diversification Policy Development Paper'. Note that this option has also contributed to the development of the rural economy policy RA6 in the draft Core Strategy.</p> <p>Health</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper includes a Preferred Policy Direction for Health, which was based on both options highlighted within of the Developing Options consultation, both of which received strong support.</p> <p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options for health to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 121) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for health.</p>	<p>There was one policy included in the Preferred Option for Social and Community Infrastructure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC1: Social and Community Infrastructure <p>Policy SC1 reflects the main issues being considered at the Developing Options stage. Paragraph 11.0 of the Preferred Options General Policies document explains how policy directions on health and education and skills have been amalgamated into SC1.</p> <p>The Rural Economy Preferred Option RA5 also takes into account issues regarding provision/loss of village shops. The Preferred Options for Hereford and the market towns explain that the issue of retail were at this stage intended to be covered by MTRAP and HAP.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Preferred Option for Social and Community Infrastructure and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies (August 2010).</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes one policy relating to social and community facilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SC1: Social and Community Facilities <p>This policy is broadly similar to the Preferred Option SC1, with some minor changes. The NPPF discusses making retail allocations and stating the retail hierarchy, whereas before the Council understood that it could deal with these issues within town centre policies. Therefore, policy E6: Primary and Secondary Shopping Frontages has been introduced into the Draft Core Strategy to address this issue (see below).</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The policy for social and community facilities has been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrix is presented in Appendix 6 of this report.</p>

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	<p>The options for social and community facilities were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there was also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the Preferred Policy Direction for Health in Appendix B3-17. Again, the options were appraised against the chosen list of 'representative' SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p>		
<p>Open Space, Sports and Recreation</p>	<p>What is the best way to provide the required open space and recreation facilities throughout the County?</p> <p>1 - Develop a County-wide standard for the provision of open space and recreation facilities within all new developments, similar to the current UDP.</p> <p>2 - Develop area specific standards and needs for the provision of open spaces and recreation facilities based on assessments from the PPG17 Study and the Green Infrastructure Study.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The options for open space, sports and recreation were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there was also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>The Place Shaping Paper included a Preferred Policy Direction for open space, sports and recreation, which was based on Option 2 from the Developing Options Paper. The results of the Developing Options Paper consultation revealed that there was a preference for Option 1, with fewer respondents in favour of the other option. However, Option 1 was rejected on the basis of the findings of the Open Space Study which recommended using area specific standards. The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 117) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for open space, sports and recreation.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper stated that the policy direction for open space, sports and recreation has not been appraised as it is based on Option 2 as set out in the Developing Options Paper and the SA of this option undertaken at the time suggested the policy direction was considered to be working towards sustainability. It was noted that</p>	<p>There were three policies included in the Preferred Option for open space, sports and recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OS1: Open Space • OS2: Sport and Recreation Facilities • OS3: Protection of Existing Sports and Recreation Facilities <p>It is stated that there was overwhelming support for the Preferred Policy Direction that was set out in the Place Shaping Paper, these three policies were therefore developed from that; however they are far more detailed. The more detailed policies were developed because only a "policy direction" was consulted upon at PSP stage, not a specific policy and even then it only really talked about policies being developed at HAP and MTRAP stage. This was considered insufficient policy coverage for the intervening period, hence the new more detailed policies.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook the SA of the Preferred Option for open space, sports and recreation and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies (August 2010).</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes two policies relating to open space, sports and recreation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OS1: Requirement for Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities • OS2: Meeting Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs • OS3 – Loss of open space <p>These policies have changed quite considerably from the Preferred Options. The Council has always been working towards developing new local standards for open space instead of relying on the old NPFA ones as in the UDP. Over the last year it has had new evidence base material emerging regarding playing fields and play space, which has meant revisiting these policies. It was also felt that the emphasis of protecting/ providing open space or sport/recreation was very similar and therefore could be combined.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The policies for open space, sports and recreation have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policies</p>

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		further appraisal of the detailed policy wording at submission stage will be necessary.		have been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrix is presented in Appendix 6 of this report.
Economic Prosperity	<p>How should we encourage the diversification of the rural economy?</p> <p>1 - Limit employment development in rural areas to proposals which support farm diversification, and the development of small employment sites for businesses which are required to locate in a rural area.</p> <p>2 - Devise a criteria based policy to diversify the rural economy within and outside of rural settlements, by enabling the development of new employment opportunities and enterprises such as:</p> <p>a) live-work units;</p> <p>b) environmental technologies, such as the development of biofuels or food production; or</p> <p>c) sustainable rural tourism and leisure businesses.</p> <p>What type of employment sites should we be providing?</p> <p>1 - Locate significant employment growth on larger purpose built estates similar to Rotherwas or Leominster Enterprise Park, providing a mix of employment uses.</p> <p>2 - Locate new employment growth on a number of smaller sites to meet local needs and start up businesses.</p> <p>3 - Expand existing employment areas to accommodate new employment growth.</p> <p>4 - Encourage the integration of new employment opportunities in mixed use developments such as live-work schemes or opportunities to work from home.</p> <p>5 - Locate new employment growth as part of a housing urban extension.</p> <p>Should we protect existing employment</p>	<p>Diversification of the Rural Economy</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper did not take forward the options for diversification of the rural economy into a policy approach – the issue is instead addressed in the preferred strategy for rural areas (see above).</p> <p>Provision of Employment Sites</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper included a Preferred Policy Direction for employment land provision, which represents a combination of five policy options put forward in the Developing Options Paper, as all received significant support.</p> <p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 102) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for the provision of employment sites.</p> <p>Protecting Employment Land</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper included a Preferred Policy Direction for protecting employment land (maintaining supply), which was based on Option 3 from the Developing Options Paper. The results of the Developing Options Paper consultation revealed that there was a preference for Option 3, with fewer respondents in favour of the other options. Options 1 and 2 were not considered realistic given the outcomes of the Employment Land Study which classifies supply based on quality of site and provides a robust methodology for establishing policy criteria.</p>	<p>The Preferred Option for the Economy set out two policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC1: Economy <p>This policy was developed from the need for greater emphasis on the economy which was raised through consultation at the Place Shaping Paper stage and also following a critical friend review by PAS/Inspectorate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EC2: Tourism <p>This policy broadly takes forward the Preferred Policy Approach for Tourism and Culture that was set out in Place Shaping Paper.</p> <p>The Preferred Option for Employment then set out the following two policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E1: Maintaining Supply of Employment Land • E2: Employment Land Provision <p>Policy E1 takes forward the Preferred Policy Approach for Protecting Employment Land, as set out in the Place Shaping Paper. Policy E2 broadly takes forward the Preferred Policy Approach for Provision of Employment Sites, as set out in the Place Shaping Paper although there are some differences which stemmed from the consultation comments received.</p> <p>The Preferred Policy Approach for Education and Skills that was included in the Place Shaping Paper was amalgamated with health into Preferred Option SC1 (see above).</p> <p>SA work undertaken</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes six policies relating to Economic Prosperity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E1: Employment Provision • E2: Redevelopment of Existing Employment Land and Buildings • E3: Home Working • E4: Tourism • E5: Town Centres • E6: Primary and Secondary Shopping Frontages <p>These policies have changed quite considerably from the Preferred Option - only Policy E4 takes forward Policy EC2 from the Preferred Options stage, with only minor changes to wording.</p> <p>This is due to the greater emphasis that was needed on development management type policies following on from the NPPF, especially its emphasis on the need for retail policies (which previously were going to be covered in HAP and MTRAP) and uncertainty with regards to the emergence of NDPs and/or DPDs.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The policies for economic prosperity have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policies have been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 6 of this report.</p>

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	<p>land?</p> <p>1 - Protect all employment land from development for other uses.</p> <p>2 - Protect no employment land and allow market forces to prevail.</p> <p>3 - Develop a criteria based policy to protect employment sites on their merit at the time of an application, based on sustainable locations, best employment land, quality of site and a rolling 5-year supply.</p> <p>How can we improve the skills base in the County?</p> <p>1 - Create a university style campus in Herefordshire to improve skills, retain young people in the area and help to attract new types of development.</p> <p>2 - Support the development of new and extended school/college facilities - improving skills, learning and performance.</p> <p>3 - Allow market forces and demand to prevail and judge any applications at the appropriate stage.</p> <p>How can Herefordshire's tourism and culture sector grow?</p> <p>1 - Devise a policy to limit the growth of tourism in Herefordshire in order to protect existing environmental assets.</p> <p>2 - Devise a policy to strongly promote the growth of tourism across Herefordshire to help create a vibrant local economy.</p> <p>3 - Focus tourism development on key assets within Herefordshire for example Hereford, the Black and White villages or Symonds Yat; to maximise the growth of tourism and attract more visitors.</p> <p>4 - Focus tourism development only to those areas accessible by public transport.</p> <p>5 - Concentrate on promoting Herefordshire as a centre for green tourism.</p>	<p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options for the protection of employment land to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 100) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for protecting employment land.</p> <p>Improving the Skills Base</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper included a Preferred Policy Direction for education and skills, which combines elements of Options 1 and 2 from the Developing Options Paper. The results of the Developing Options Paper consultation revealed that there was significant support from Option 2 and to some extent Option 1, with less support for Option 3 which was not taken forward.</p> <p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options for improving the skills base to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 104) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for improving the skills base.</p> <p>Tourism and Culture</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper included a Preferred Policy Direction for tourism, culture and leisure, which combines elements of all of the five options from the Developing Options Paper. The results of the Developing Options Paper consultation revealed that the most popular options for Tourism, Culture and Leisure were</p> <p>Options 2 and 4. Option 1 gained least support, while Option 3 was supported but not to the extent of Options 2 and 4. The Policy Direction Background Paper on Tourism explained that elements of all the options had</p>	<p>LUC undertook the SA of the Preferred Options for employment and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies (August 2010). The SA for the Preferred Options for the Economy were also undertaken by LUC and were published in the SA Note for the General Policies: 2nd Tranche (October 2010).</p>	

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	<p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>All of the above options for economic prosperity were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there was also a summary of the ‘reasonableness test’ and the ‘community engagement test’ along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>potential, but the basis for the approach was Option 2 which had the most support.</p> <p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options for tourism and culture to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 106) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for tourism and culture.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the Preferred Policy Directions for Employment Land Provision and Education and Skills (in Appendices B3-20 and B3-21 respectively). Again, the options were appraised against the chosen list of ‘representative’ SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures. The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper did not, however, appraise the policy direction for maintaining supply as this policy direction was based on Option 3 as set out in the Developing Options paper and the SA of this option undertaken at the time suggested the policy direction to be neutral. Similarly, the Preferred Policy Direction for Tourism and Leisure was not appraised as it was based on Option 2 as set out in the Developing Options Paper and the SA of this option undertaken at the time suggested the policy direction was considered to be neutral. It was, however, noted that further appraisal of the detailed wording of these policies at submission stage will be necessary.</p>		
Local Distinctiveness	How can we make Herefordshire distinctive in terms of design?	Local Distinctiveness The Place Shaping Paper set out a Preferred	The Preferred Option for Natural and Built Heritage Assets included four policies:	The Draft Core Strategy includes five policies relating to Local Distinctiveness:

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	<p>1 - Devise a locally distinctive design policy incorporating all aspects of design and sustainable construction.</p> <p>2 - Integrate design elements into the place shaping policies and general core policies such as renewable energy, flooding, housing provision.</p> <p>3 - Rely on the sustainable design and construction policy as set out in the regional plan.</p> <p>How should we protect / conserve / enhance our locally distinctive features / assets?</p> <p>1 - Rely on the national and regional policies only, to protect Herefordshire's environmental assets.</p> <p>2 - Develop specific policies to provide an appropriate level of protection, conservation and enhancement for those locally distinctive and locally designated or recognised features and areas which are important for their biodiversity, landscape and/or the historic/built environment.</p> <p>3 - Ensure that relevant policies of the plan include criteria, which provides an appropriate level of protection, promotion and enhancement for all elements of the natural or historic environment.</p> <p>How should Herefordshire protect and enhance its green spaces?</p> <p>1 - Ensure that new developments are designed in a way which enhances Herefordshire's green infrastructure, for example through linking into existing networks.</p> <p>2 - Seek developer contributions for identified green infrastructure proposals, particularly in areas where an identified need within an area has been identified.</p> <p>3 - Make the most of the benefits of green infrastructure for a number of purposes including flood storage, biodiversity and recreation.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken All of the above options for local distinctiveness were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the</p>	<p>Policy Direction for local distinctiveness, which was based on Option 2 from the Developing Options consultation, which was the most popular option.</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper states that Option 3 from the Developing Options Paper was not taken forward because It is considered that the single comprehensive policy will reflect the interrelationships which make Herefordshire distinctive, and adding criteria to a number of policies would also risk repetition. Option 1 was not taken forward because it was considered that one comprehensive policy would reflect the interrelationships between all aspects of the environment which make Herefordshire distinctive.</p> <p>A text box (see page 88) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for local distinctiveness.</p> <p>Green Spaces</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper set out a Preferred Policy Direction for green infrastructure, which was based on elements of all three options from the Developing Options consultation as all three options were favoured by the public.</p> <p>A further option of designating new areas of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty was raised during the Developing Options consultation; however this option has not been taken forward as the issue would need to be addressed through an Act of Parliament as opposed to through the Local Development Framework.</p> <p>A text box (see page 120) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for local distinctiveness.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NH1: Landscape NH2: Biodiversity NH3: Built Environment and Streetscape NH4: Archaeology <p>These policies broadly took forward and expanded upon the Preferred Policy Direction for Local Distinctiveness which was set out in the Place Shaping Paper. However, that policy direction stipulated having an overarching policy addressing local distinctiveness, which there was not at this stage. The responses from the statutory agencies at the Place Shaping Paper stage all understood the principle of a single policy but at the same time all the agencies said that their specific topic area should have a separate policy and would not support it being within a single 'catch-all' policy.</p> <p>The Preferred Option for Green Infrastructure set out one policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> GI1: Green infrastructure <p>The Preferred Option broadly took forward the Preferred Policy Direction for green infrastructure which was set out in the Place Shaping Paper.</p> <p>SA work undertaken</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LUC undertook the SA of the Preferred Options for natural and built heritage assets and green infrastructure and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies (August 2010). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LD1: Local Distinctiveness LD2: Landscape and Streetscape LD3: Biodiversity and Geodiversity LD4: Green Infrastructure LD5: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets <p>Policy LD1 does not relate directly to any of the Preferred Options; however it was introduced in order to act as an overarching policy and set the scene for the other policies. Following a meeting with English Heritage, Natural England and other partners after the Preferred Options stage, it was agreed that an overarching policy would be included outlining what constitutes Local Distinctiveness (along the lines of the UDP 'S' type policies) but then individual policies would provide more detail on the individual aspects that make up Local Distinctiveness. Policies LD2, LD3, LD4 and LD5 address broadly similar themes to the policies in the Preferred Options, but have changed quite considerably in order to become more development management-orientated due to the introduction of the NPPF and the lack of the MTRAP and HAP.</p> <p>SA work undertaken: The policies for local distinctiveness have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policies have been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 6 of this report.</p>

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	<p>SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there was also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>appraised the Preferred Policy Direction for Local Distinctiveness (in Appendix B3-16). Again, the options were appraised against the chosen list of 'representative' SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures. The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper did not, however, appraise the policy direction for design as this policy direction was based on Option 1 as set out in the Developing Options paper and the SA of this option undertaken at the time suggested the policy direction was working towards sustainability. Similarly, the policy direction for green infrastructure was not appraised as it was based on a combination of all three options set out in the Developing Options Paper and the SA of these options undertaken at the time suggested that all policy options were working towards sustainability. It was, however, noted that further appraisal of the detailed wording of these policies will be necessary at submission stage.</p>		
<p>Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency</p>	<p>How can Herefordshire increase its usage of renewable energy sources?</p> <p>1 - Highlight specific technologies and locations in Herefordshire where renewable energy sources could be promoted – such as wind turbines, individual turbines, solar energy, waste to energy, combined heat and power plants, biomass, geo-thermal or other.</p> <p>2 - Set targets and design requirements for the inclusion of energy from renewable sources within new developments of a particular scale.</p> <p>How should the flooding issues in Herefordshire be addressed with the increasing needs for future development?</p> <p>Development in Flood Risk Areas:</p>	<p>Design</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper set out a Preferred Policy Direction for design, which was based on Option 1 from the Developing Options consultation. Option 2 was the most popular; however it was not taken forward. The reasons for this are not made explicit, although it is stated that some design elements will be included within the Place Shaping policies where appropriate or in the Hereford Area Plan or the Market Towns and Rural Areas Plan.</p> <p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options for design to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 90) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for design.</p>	<p>Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency</p> <p>The Preferred Option for Renewable Energy set out one policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EN1: Renewable Energy <p>This policy was intended to take on board issues raised mainly by Option 1 at the Developing Options stage and referred to in the policy direction at the Place Shaping Paper stage. The aspects raised by option 2 are covered by the Sustainable Strategic Design Preferred Option (see below).</p> <p>Managing Flood Risk and Water Resource Management</p> <p>The Preferred Option for Sustainable Water</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes four policies relating to sustainable design and energy efficiency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency SD2: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy SD3: Sustainable Water Management and Water Resources SD4: Wastewater Treatment and River Water Quality <p>Policy SD1 broadly reflects policy LD4 from the Preferred Options stage, with only minor changes to wording, while Policy SD3 broadly</p>

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
	<p>1 - Devise a policy based on the PPS25 sequential test approach using the data from the SFRA. This is similar to the current UDP approach; or</p> <p>2 - Adopt a stricter policy, only allowing development in areas with no known flood risk.</p> <p>Design of developments:</p> <p>1 - Introduce built or natural design approaches to tolerate or adapt to flooding.</p> <p>2 - Ensure all new development includes methods to collect, store and reuse rainwater, including Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) where appropriate to reduce possible non-fluvial flooding.</p> <p>3 - Work with developers to determine the most appropriate design solutions with regards to reducing flooding risks at the application stage.</p> <p>How can we balance the growing needs for water and the European status of the Rivers Wye and Lugg?</p> <p>1 - Ensure that all new development incorporates water saving and efficiency measures linked to the Code for Sustainable Homes requirements.</p> <p>2 - Incorporate phasing proposals to enable necessary new infrastructure to be put in place prior to the commencement of new development.</p> <p>3 - Require developments over a particular threshold to contribute to incorporating water saving and efficiency measures into existing properties, using SUDs or other efficiency techniques.</p> <p>4 - A combination of elements of 1, 2 and 3.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>All of the above options for sustainable design and energy efficiency were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather</p>	<p>Renewable Energy/Energy Efficiency</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper set out a Preferred Policy Direction for renewable energy/energy efficiency, which was a combination of Options 1 and 2 from the Developing Options consultation. The most popular option for renewable energy/energy efficiency policy was Option 1; however Option 2 was also popular.</p> <p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options for energy efficiency to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 79) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for energy efficiency.</p> <p>Managing Flood Risk</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper also set out two Preferred Policy Directions for managing flood risk – one for areas prone to flooding, which reflected Option 1 from the Developing Options Consultation. Option 2 was the most popular during the consultation; however this was not taken forward as it would not be consistent with the SFRA. Note that the Place Shaping Paper in paragraph 7.12 incorrectly referred to this as Option 1 not being taken forward.</p> <p>The other Preferred Policy Direction for managing flood risk relate to design of developments, and this reflected Option 2 from the Developing Options Paper, as this was the most popular option during the consultation. It is stated that the other two options were not taken forward although the reasons are not clearly stated – it is assumed that this was because they were slightly less popular during the consultation.</p> <p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable</p>	<p>Management set out one policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WM1: Sustainable Water Management <p>This policy addresses both managing flood risk and water resource management – it was considered that a single policy would suffice, especially as the flood risk element was well covered by national guidance at the time.</p> <p>Sustainable Strategic Design</p> <p>There was also one policy for Sustainable Strategic Design in the Preferred Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LD4 – Sustainable Strategic Design <p>This policy took forward the Preferred Policy Direction for Design which was set out in the Place-Shaping Paper.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook SA of the Preferred Options for renewable energy, sustainable water management and sustainable strategic design and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies: 2nd Tranche (October 2010).</p>	<p>reflects policy WM1 from the Preferred Options stage, again with only minor changes to wording having been made. Policy SD4 is new and has stemmed from the need to specifically cater for the quality issues of Rivers Wye and Lugg, as highlighted through the HRA.</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The policies for sustainable design and energy efficiency have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policies have been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 6 of this report.</p>

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
	<p>than by SA objectives), there was also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>alternative options for flood risk management (either in relation to areas prone to flooding or the design of developments) to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 83) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for flood risk management.</p> <p>Water Resource Management</p> <p>The Place Shaping Paper also set out a Preferred Policy Direction for water resources, which reflected Option 4 from the Developing Options Consultation. This was because all of the options were popular.</p> <p>The Developing Options consultation responses did not identify any distinctive reasonable alternative options for water resources to those already consulted upon.</p> <p>A text box (see page 84) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for water resources.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the Preferred Policy Direction for Energy Efficiency (in Appendix B3-14) and water resources (in Appendix BS-15). Again, the options were appraised against the chosen list of 'representative' SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures. The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper did not, however, appraise the policy direction for flood risk management as it was based on the sequential approach of</p>		

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
		<p>PPS25 is in line with Option 1 of the Developing Options Paper and the SA of this option undertaken at the time suggested the policy direction was working towards sustainability. It was noted that further appraisal of the detailed policy wording at submission stage will be necessary.</p>		
Minerals	<p>How should Herefordshire address any additional mineral reserves requirement?</p> <p>1 - Identify the current and required land bank of permitted mineral reserves to meet the needs of Herefordshire up until 2026.</p> <p>2 - Identify preferred areas of mineral extraction, to enable greater flexibility and safeguard potential mineral reserves.</p> <p>3 - Provide a set of generic criteria, which would be used to judge planning applications for new minerals extraction.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The three options for minerals requirements were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there was also a summary of the 'reasonableness test' and the 'community engagement test' along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>The Place Shaping Paper set out a Preferred Policy Direction for Minerals, which was based on amalgamating the elements of Options 2 and 3 of the Developing Options and reflects the recommendations of Herefordshire Minerals and Waste Planning Assessment 2009. All three options as presented in the Developing Options Paper achieved a significant level of support.</p> <p>Option 1 from the Developing Options Paper was not taken forward. This was because an adequate minerals supply made it unnecessary to identify additional locations.</p> <p>The consultation responses to the Developing Options Paper did not give rise to any new policy directions.</p> <p>A text box (see page 97) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for waste.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper appraised the Preferred Policy Direction for Minerals in Appendix B3-19. Again, the options were appraised against the chosen list of 'representative' SA objectives and sub-objective (not the entire SA framework). The findings of the SA are presented in a more detailed matrix than that used at the Developing Options stage, with each option being appraised against the selected SA objectives and sub-objectives, as well as consideration being given to key baseline information and targets and potential appropriate enhancement and mitigation measures.</p>	<p>The Preferred Option for Minerals set out six policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M1: Minerals Safeguarding Areas • M2: Criteria for the Assessment of Minerals Related Development • M3: Small Scale non-Aggregate Building Stone and Clay Production • M4: Secondary (Reused and Recycled) Aggregates • M5: Moreton on Lugg Railhead • M6: Apportionments <p>These policies were developed from the Preferred Policy Direction in the Place Shaping Paper, which states that a set of policies based on the bulleted issues listed there would be set out at the Preferred Options stage, and these are generally covered. More detailed policies were required for the Core Strategy because there was no minerals and waste plan for Herefordshire yet, to set out apportionment for minerals.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook SA of the Preferred Option for Minerals and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies (July 2010).</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes six policies relating to minerals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M1: Minerals Safeguarding Areas • M2: Annual Apportionments for Aggregate Provision • M3: Criteria for the Assessment of Minerals-Related Development • M4: Small Scale non-Aggregate Building Stone and Clay Production • M5: Secondary (Reused and Recycled) Aggregates • M6: Moreton-on-Lugg Railhead <p>These policies broadly reflect the policies that were set out at Preferred Options stage, with very few minor changes having been made to the policy wording (as well as the reordering of the policy numbers).</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The policies for minerals have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policies have been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 6 of this report.</p>
Waste	How should Herefordshire manage the waste	The Place Shaping Paper set out a Preferred	The Preferred Option for Waste set out five	The Draft Core Strategy includes five policies

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
	<p>it produces?</p> <p>1 - Identify locations where specific waste management facilities will be required, for example these could be,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Close to urban centres As part of new urban extensions Within areas with good transport links Existing/proposed employment sites; <p>2 -Provide a set of generic criteria in a policy for new waste management facilities which would be used to judge planning applications against.</p> <p>3 - Devise a policy whereby all new developments of a certain size will need to be accompanied by a new local waste facility being built or contributed to.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The three options for waste management were appraised in the March 2009 SA report Addendum – see Appendix B3. As well as the SA findings (which are presented briefly under the overarching categories of economic, social and environmental effects rather than by SA objectives), there was also a summary of the ‘reasonableness test’ and the ‘community engagement test’ along with recommendations and conclusions.</p>	<p>Policy Direction for Waste, which was based on Option 1 from the Developing Options Paper and the evidence base emerging from the Herefordshire Minerals and Waste Planning Assessment 2009. Option 1 received most support at the Developing Options stage although all three options were supported.</p> <p>Options 2 and 3 set out in the Developing Options Paper were not taken forward. The Herefordshire Minerals and Waste Planning Assessment provided clear and robust recommendations for policy development in the Core Strategy which, in combination with elements of Option 1, suggested the appropriate way forward.</p> <p>The consultation responses to the Developing Options Paper did not give rise to any new policy directions which would need to be considered as alternatives.</p> <p>A text box (see page 95) sets out how the findings of SA work undertaken to date have influenced the options for waste.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper stated that the policy direction for waste was not appraised as it is based on Option 1 as set out in the Developing Options Paper and the SA of this option undertaken at the time suggested the policy direction was considered to be neutral. It was noted that further appraisal of the detailed policy wording at submission stage will be necessary.</p>	<p>policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> W1: Waste Streams and Targets W2: Location of New Waste Facilities W3: Existing and Permitted Waste Treatment Sites W4: Anaerobic Digesters W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments <p>These policies were developed from the Preferred Policy Direction in the Place Shaping Paper, which states that a set of policies based on the bulleted issues listed there would be set out at the Preferred Options stage, and these are generally covered. Moreton On Lugg railhead is an exception and this was included because it had previously been included in the UDP and because there is not yet a specific minerals and waste plan for Herefordshire.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook SA of the Preferred Option for Waste and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies (July 2010).</p>	<p>for waste:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> W1: Waste Streams and Targets W2: Location of New Waste Management Facilities W3: Existing and Permitted Waste Treatment Sites W4: Technologies for Biological Treatment of Waste W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments <p>These policies broadly reflect the policies that were set out at Preferred Options stage, with very few minor changes having been made (including the renaming of Policy W4).</p> <p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The policies for waste have been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policies have been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrices are presented in Appendix 6 of this report.</p>
Infrastructure Delivery	<p>There was not a specific question on developer contributions in the Developing Options Paper, although the issue was referred to in specific questions, for example, on Green Infrastructure.</p>	<p>The Place Shaping Paper set out a Preferred Policy Direction for Infrastructure Delivery. This was not based on a particular option from the Delivering Options Paper, as it did not present a specific question on developer contributions. Background to this policy direction was contained within the Implementation Planning and Developer Contributions Policy Development Paper.</p> <p>No new options came forward from the</p>	<p>The Preferred Option for Infrastructure Contributions set out one policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ID1: Infrastructure Contributions. <p>This policy has been developed from the Preferred Policy Direction in the Place Shaping Paper, having been taken forward into a more detailed and specific policy. The Preferred Option states that the majority of respondents to the Place Shaping</p>	<p>The Draft Core Strategy includes one policy for infrastructure delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ID1: Infrastructure Delivery. <p>This policy broadly takes forward the Preferred Option, with only minor changes to wording having been made.</p>

Policy Topic	Developing Options Paper (June 2008) + SA Report (June 2008 and Addendum March 2009)	Place Shaping Paper (January 2010) + SA Report (January 2010)	Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011) + SA Notes (2010-11)	Draft Core Strategy (March 2013) + SA Report (March 2013)
		<p>Developing Options consultation in relation to infrastructure delivery.</p> <p>A text box (see page 94) explains that no SA work had yet been undertaken in relation to infrastructure contributions, as it has not been previously identified as a specific policy direction.</p> <p>SA Work Undertaken</p> <p>The SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper stated that the policy direction for infrastructure delivery has not yet been undertaken on this policy direction as it has not been previously identified as a specific policy direction. It was stated that SA of this policy area would be undertaken prior to submission.</p>	<p>Paper consultation supported the approach of the Infrastructure Delivery policy.</p> <p>SA work Undertaken</p> <p>LUC undertook SA of the Preferred Option for Infrastructure Contributions and the findings were published in the SA Note for the General Policies: 2nd Tranche (October 2010).</p>	<p>SA work undertaken:</p> <p>The infrastructure delivery policy has been subject to SA as part of the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. The policy has been appraised against each of the SA objectives, and the detailed appraisal matrix is presented in Appendix 6 of this report.</p>

Appendix 3

Summary of consultation responses relating to the SA Notes for the Place Shaping Paper (2010), Preferred Options (2010) and Revised Preferred Options (2011)

Table 1: Consultation responses received in relation to the SA Report for the Place Shaping Paper (January-March 2010)

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
Sustainability Appraisal		
Question 1		
Natural England	<p>Overall NE agrees with the assessments. Our only comment is that the assessment of Core Strategy Objective 11 against SA Objective 3 should be given a more positive comparison. Addressing the causes and impacts of climate change can directly benefit the economy. Climate change poses a significant risk to the economy and measures to manage or reduce these risks make a positive contribution to a sustainable economy, for example flood risk management and measures to reduce city centre temperatures can maintain viability of businesses. The Stern Review highlighted the fact that delivering climate change adaptation now, as opposed to delaying action, would cost significantly less. In addition, there are significant economic opportunities around energy saving technologies and green energy production.</p>	<p>Noted: The links between addressing climate change and the potentially beneficial effects on the economy have been recognised in subsequent stages of the SA (e.g. see positive score for Strategic Objective 11 (climate change) against SA objective 3 (sustainable economy) in the SA of the Draft Core Strategy).</p>
Question 2		
Natural England	<p>We do not believe Objectives 4 and 7 to be compatible. Objective 4 seeks to reduce the need to travel while Objective 7 implies major road building that could generate additional, induced travel demands by private car.</p>	<p>Noted: The potentially conflicting outcomes of the objectives are recognised; although it is made clear in the wording of Objective 7 that the package of transport measures would include sustainable transport schemes and a park and ride scheme which should reduce the need to travel by private car.</p>

Question 3		
Natural England	We note the absence of assessments of the relief road, which does not appear against appraisal questions 4.1, 4.2 or 16.1 for Hereford or Herefordshire. We also note the need for further information on the benefits achievable through sustainable transport measures (4.2 for Herefordshire).	Noted: The proposed relief road has since been subject to SA against the full set of SA objectives, as described in Section 2 of this SA report for the Draft Core Strategy. Further details regarding the proposed sustainable transport measures for Herefordshire have been set out in the Draft Core Strategy policies and subject to SA as described in this report.
Natural England	Regarding the evaluation of the effects of the growth of Herefordshire, there are a few differences between the conclusions made for Options 1, 2 and 3 in our comparison to Option 4 which, in our opinion, should be reconsidered. It is our opinion that Option 4 performs the best in terms of reducing the need to travel, but this is not apparent in the SA. We do not agree with the SA's judgment of Option 4 against appraisal question 4.1. Options 1-3 were judged as 'marginally moving towards sustainability' as they highlight the need to include walking and cycling links. Option 4 was judged as 'neutral', despite also highlighting this need and, in addition, locating housing growth near to existing and proposed employment sites at both Rotherwas and Holmer East. The reasoning that smaller development would have greater difficulty in delivering sustainable travel options may be sound, but the housing numbers proposed for each site are still significant (as noted in the SA's recommendations box for Option 4) and we therefore don't foresee this as being an issue. Option 4 therefore performs better than 1 and 2 in terms of reducing the need to travel.	Noted: The likely effects of the options were assessed using professional judgement and were based on the available information. Natural England's comments regarding the effects of the proposals on the need to travel have been taken into account in the subsequent stages of the SA as appropriate.
Natural England	The evaluation of effects against Leominster does mention the proposed southern links	Noted. The link road was considered to have a potential effect on air quality as a result of changing

	<p>against appraisal question 4.1 but only in relation to air quality, which is not relevant to the question. The effect of the link road on reducing the need to travel appears to be unknown. Consideration should be given to induced traffic.</p>	<p>patterns of vehicle use. The effect of the road on induced traffic has been considered in subsequent SA work for the Core Strategy (see the appraisal of Draft Core Strategy policy LO1 against SA objective 4 as described in Chapter 4 of this SA report).</p>
<p>Natural England</p>	<p>The assessments made against 16.1 seem to relate predominantly to dealing with the effects of climate change e.g. drainage rather than reducing the county's contribution to the problem.</p>	<p>Noted. Subsequent SA work for the Core Strategy has sought to consider both the effects of climate change and Herefordshire's contribution to the problem, for example considering the likely effects of policy options on levels of greenhouse gas emissions from vehicle traffic. The SA has sought to distinguish between effects associated with flooding (assessed as part of SA objective 17) and other impacts of climate change (assessed as part of SA objective 16) in order to avoid any duplication in the assessment.</p>

Table 2: Consultation responses received in relation to the SA of the Preferred Options (August-September 2010)

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
General Comments on the Sustainability Appraisal work		
English Heritage	<p>We have some continuing reservations regarding the overall approach and reporting format for the appraisals. These relate to a number of interrelated factors. For each of the consultation documents the assessment results are collated under each of the main topics, with the sustainability appraisal objective most closely linked to the historic environment (20) put under the 'built environment' topic. In turn this headline objective and its supporting sub-objectives deal with both design issues and the historic environment. As already indicated in our response last year to the subsidiary appraisal reports we had some concern at this combination and recommended that additional historic environment focused sub-criteria are included to help to ensure a robust appraisal of the historic environment. We then outlined a series of possible criteria which could be tailored. Whilst we welcome the use of our recommended wording for 20.1, no further sub-criteria directly related to the historic environment have been included and the other criteria (20.2-4) remain primarily design focused with 20.4 addressing a much wider environmental quality theme.</p>	<p>Noted: Note that in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme, in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>Due consideration has been given to the potential impacts of the Core Strategy on the historic environment throughout each stage of the SA as part of the appraisal against SA objective 20. It is considered that the sub-criteria relating to that SA objective allow for an appropriate level of assessment given the strategic nature of the Plan. Note that the most recent SA work on the Draft Core Strategy highlighted a number of potential effects on the historic environment and made recommendations that resulted in additional mitigation being included (see Chapter 2 of this SA Report).</p>
English Heritage	<p>Under the Natural Environment Topic objective 15 deals with the landscape, the character and quality of which is a product of both natural and cultural influences. The first sub-objective (15.1) mentions historic landscapes and parks and gardens. However, these are not 'natural environmental assets' and indeed the AONB</p>	<p>Noted: SA objective 15 focuses primarily on the natural environment; hence its inclusion within that theme. The reference to historic landscapes within the sub-objectives recognises the potential environmental as well as cultural and historic significance of such areas, and this has been taken into consideration as the SA is carried out. However,</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>encompasses both the natural and historic environment. This sub-objective should hence refer more broadly to 'environmental assets'. It is also recommended that there should be a clearer recognition that in considering potential impacts on the landscape both its natural and cultural components (including the historic environment and heritage assets) are fully taken into account.</p>	<p>effects on the heritage environment are primarily considered through SA objective 20.</p>
<p>English Heritage</p>	<p>Following a review of the appraisal documents we consider that the adopted approach has a number of implications:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The appraisal of the built environment topic tends to be dominated by considerations linked to housing (objective 11) and design. In contrast, any specific consideration of the potential implications (positive or negative) for the historic environment and heritage assets is weak, if not absent. • Following on from this point the collated summary score for the built environment topic appears overly positive in that the main driver appears to be the provision of affordable housing (objective 11). • There is a risk that the historic environment is primarily interpreted as an urban issue which underplays its important influence on the character and quality of Herefordshire's landscapes. • There is a risk that it may be interpreted 	<p>Noted: The built environment topic seeks to address a range of issues which include housing and design but also the historic environment (SA objective 20).</p> <p>Note that in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme, in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>The SA has sought to identify potential impacts on the historic environment in both urban and rural areas. The majority of the development proposed in Herefordshire is focussed in and around urban areas; therefore it is reasonable to assume that the majority of potential effects may be located in those areas. However, consideration has also been given to the potential impacts in rural areas, e.g. in relation to undiscovered archaeological remains and impacts on the landscape.</p> <p>The assessment of effects of the Core Strategy on the historic environment has been undertaken in as much detail as is possible at this strategic level of assessment. As a result of the most recent SA work on the Draft Core Strategy, additional mitigation has been built into a number of policies to provide additional mitigation for potential effects identified.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>that potential issues for the historic environment can be deferred and mitigated through design and hence will be addressed at the much later design stage rather than considered fully and at an early stage through the appraisal process.</p>	<p>However, it is inevitable that effects will in some cases remain uncertain without knowing the specific details of development proposals and in such cases it is considered appropriate to acknowledge this.</p>
English Heritage	<p>To deliver a robust assessment we strongly recommend that the historic environment and heritage assets are specifically taken into account as a distinct strand within the appraisal; this is in accordance with our formal guidance and indeed the Regulations.</p>	<p>Noted: Effects on the historic environment and heritage assets have been specifically taken into account through SA objective 20. As describe above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives (including SA objective 20) rather than a collated summary score for each 'theme' or group of SA objectives, in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p>
English Heritage	<p>To address the above concerns we propose that one option would be to transfer a reworked and expanded objective 20 to the broadened topic theme of 'environment'. The objective could then be more directly focused on the historic environment, whilst a design based objective (under the built environment topic) could utilise and expand on the sub-criteria 20.2-4.</p>	<p>Noted: It is considered appropriate for the assessment of effects on the historic environment (SA objective 20) to remain within the built environment theme. As well as considering built heritage assets, the objective also refers to 'the County's historic environment' and 'areas of historical heritage and cultural value' so takes into account a wide range of assets and not just buildings and structures.</p>
Sustainability Appraisal Note for Preferred Options – General Policies		
General Comments		
English Heritage	<p>In our response to the follow-on consultations on the Core Strategy over the summer we made a number of substantive comments on the first set of general core policies, particularly those relating to the historic and natural environment.</p>	<p>Noted: The detailed policies now set out in the Draft Core Strategy have been subject to SA as described in this SA report. As noted above, the SA of the more detailed Draft Core Strategy policies has now been presented so as to provide a score and description for</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>We are in continuing liaison with the Council on the scope and approach of these policies. We suggest that as the detail of these policies is updated and revised, the appraisal is also reviewed. For the other policy areas which do not directly relate to the environment (e.g. movement, employment land, infrastructure) consideration of the historic environment is again absent or poorly dealt with in part as a consequence of its incorporation within the wider built environment topic.</p>	<p>each policy against the full set of SA objectives (including SA objective 20).</p> <p>See comments above in relation to the consideration of the historic environment within the SA framework.</p>
<p>Countryside Council for Wales</p>	<p>CCW welcomes the positive approach taken by Herefordshire in undertaking the SA/SEA process and supports the use of stakeholder groups in this process. CCW does however, have a number of concerns regarding the 'transparency' of the SEA process (as proposed) and regarding the 'compartmentalism' of SA/SEA topics and objectives.</p>	<p>Noted: Herefordshire Council has undertaken extensive consultation with CCW and other stakeholders throughout the development of the Core Strategy. CCW's more specific comments associated with the SEA process have been addressed below.</p>
<p>Countryside Council for Wales</p>	<p>Objectives</p> <p>CCW notes the great majority of the SA objectives relate to social and economic issues whereas only a small number relate to the natural environment and natural resources functions and services. Whilst CCW accepts that this assessment process incorporates sustainability appraisal, it should also be fully compliant with the SEA Directive which requires assessment of the Plan's effects on a comprehensive range of environmental topics and the interrelationships between them. For example, CCW notes that soil, despite being the basis of much of the economy of Herefordshire, is only considered in terms of quality and/or contamination. CCW would suggest that</p>	<p>Noted: The SA objectives are considered to address all of the environmental topics required by the SEA Directive as well as wider social and economic issues and an appropriate balance has been sought between these issues. SA objective 18 is considered to appropriately address the issue of soils.</p> <p>The issue of flooding is addressed specifically in SA objective 17 and an assessment of the impacts of the Core Strategy on flooding as part of SA objective 16 (climate change) as well would result in duplication.</p> <p>Subsequent stages of the SA work for the Core Strategy have sought to address tranquillity issues and the provision of greenspace as part of the assessment against SA objective 15 as appropriate.</p> <p>It is recognised that some of the sub-objectives are</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>SA/SEA objectives for soil be reconsidered to enable assessment in respect of soil function and processes. CCW would also suggest objectives on flooding need to be considered within the climate change section and that sub-objectives need to be developed in respect of 'adaptability' to climate change impacts. Consideration should also be given to tranquillity issues and to greenspace within SA Objective 15.</p> <p>Many of the sub-objectives presented are 'near duplicates' of one another or are closely related and CCW would suggest that sub-objectives could be 'rationalised'. For example SA Objectives 14.2 and 15.3 could be amalgamated and sub Objectives for flooding (17.1-17.3) could be amalgamated with objectives on climate change.</p> <p>CCW would also suggest that some of the overarching objectives would benefit from re wording. For example, Objective 13 has the aim of 'expanding county biodiversity'. This is a somewhat nebulous goal and is open to misinterpretation.</p>	<p>closely related; however every effort has been made to avoid duplication in the assessment of effects (as referred to above).</p> <p>The wording of SA objective 13 is considered to be appropriate and addresses the ambition to enhance County biodiversity.</p>
Countryside Council for Wales	<p>Grouping of SA Objectives by Topic</p> <p>CCW has some concerns regarding the practice of grouping together SA/SEA objectives within 'Topics'. Whilst the intention may have been to 'streamline' the appraisal process, it is suggested that compartmentalising objectives impedes consideration of the wider issues and, most importantly, the strong interconnections between objectives and topics. For example sub objective 15.3 (within the grouping for the natural environment) relates to mineral</p>	<p>Noted: As noted above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy, individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified. Reference is still made to the effects of the policies on each of the SA 'themes'; however this is considered to be a useful way of concisely summarising the effects on each of the 20 SA objectives, some of which are closely related.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>workings (in respect of potential environmental impacts) but might be better placed within the topic grouping on 'natural resources'. The creation of arbitrary topic groupings is, in CCW's opinion, not helpful to the assessment process, encourages duplication or 'near duplication' of SA/SEA sub objectives and discourages consideration of interrelationships between environmental topics and objectives.</p>	
<p>Countryside Council for Wales</p>	<p>Appraisal Scores</p> <p>As discussed at the SEA/HRA stakeholder workshop on 4th August, CCW has concerns regarding the block assessment (and scoring) of groups of SEA/SA objectives since the practice may hide serious and significance effects for individual objectives within a wider 'theme' appraisal. For example, in respect to the Ross on Wye proposals (Bromyard, Ledbury Ross options), a theme 'score' for the Natural Environment is given as a mixture of positive and negative effects. This 'neutral' score fails to identify a potentially significant adverse effect in respect of water quality on the Wye SAC and may give a false impression that there are no major issues relating to the proposals in terms of the natural environment. CCW would therefore suggest that the practice of giving amalgamated scores for so called 'themes' or groups may lead to misrepresentation of appraisal results and an oversimplification of issues (both positive and negative). It is not appropriate to "trade off" environmental effects on different facets of the environment, against each other or against social and economic matters.</p>	<p>Noted: As noted above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy, individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
Specific Comments		
<p>Countryside Council for Wales</p>	<p>NH1-4 – Natural and Heritage Assets</p> <p>CCW notes and welcomes the ‘breaking down’ of the SA/SEA scores to enable consideration of landscape, biodiversity, built environment and archaeology policies however, CCW still retains concerns regarding the SEA/SA methodology used, notably in terms of the amalgamation of SEA objectives into theme groups and the strong emphasis within this assessment process on economic and social issues (environmental effects forming only a very minor component of the assessment process and findings). Amalgamation of SA/SEA objectives into a single theme group relating to the Natural Environment does not enable consideration of potential effects of NH1, NH2, NH3 and NH4 on relevant natural heritage objectives. It is also unknown whether cumulative effects with other plans, programmes and policies have been considered within this assessment process.</p> <p>The weakness of the assessment and the lack of evidence base for assessment findings means that policies cannot address environmental effects adequately, for example through the incorporation of avoidance and mitigation measures, or be amended so as to provide a robust basis for maintaining, protecting and enhancing the natural environment in the light of other LDF policies and programmes.</p>	<p>Noted: As noted above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>Where appropriate, recommendations have been made throughout the SA process regarding additional mitigation that could be built into Core Strategy policies and these recommendations have largely been addressed.</p> <p>In line with the requirements of Annex 1 of the SEA Directive, cumulative effects of the Core Strategy have been considered as described in Chapter 4 of this SA Report. The relationship between the Core Strategy and other plans, programmes and policies is also described in Chapter 3 and Appendix 1 of this SA Report.</p>
<p>Countryside Council for Wales</p>	<p>G1.1 – Green Infrastructure</p> <p>See comments above.</p>	<p>See actions/justifications above.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
Countryside Council for Wales	<p>GT.1 – Gypsy and Traveller Sites</p> <p>Clarification would be welcomed as to whether policies aimed at gypsies/travellers will also consider the needs of seasonal agricultural workers accommodation.</p>	<p>Noted: Policies aimed at Travellers address issues relating directly to Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople.</p>
Countryside Council for Wales	<p>AH1.I – Affordable Housing</p> <p>See comments on Housing within our response to Rural Housing.</p>	<p>See actions/justifications in relation to comments on Housing.</p>
Countryside Council for Wales	<p>E.1 and E.2 – Employment Land</p> <p>CCW notes that the great majority of the assessment process is aimed at economic and social issues and that environmental effects form only a very minor component of the assessment process and findings. Amalgamation of SA/SEA objectives into a single theme group relating to the Natural Environment does not enable robust consideration of potential effects of this policy on natural heritage objectives. It is unknown whether cumulative effects with other plans, programmes and policies have been considered within this assessment process.</p> <p>CCW have not had sight of the Herefordshire Employment Land Study and are therefore unable to comment on the merits or robustness of employment allocations in terms of the natural heritage and/or provision of environmental goods and services.</p>	<p>Noted: Throughout the SA process, consideration has been given to the potential effects of the employment land policies on all of the SA objectives which address a balance of environmental, social and economic issues. As explained above, in the most recent SA work for the Draft Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>In line with the requirements of Annex 1 of the SEA Directive, cumulative effects of the Core Strategy have been considered as described in Chapter 4 of this SA Report. The relationship between the Core Strategy and other plans, programmes and policies is also described in Chapter 3 and Appendix 1 of this SA Report.</p>
Countryside Council for Wales	<p>M.I – Movement</p> <p>CCW notes that this policy is considered likely to have a negative impact on the natural environment. See comments on Policy RA5:</p>	<p>Noted: Policy M1 has now been developed into Draft Core Strategy policy SS4: Movement and Transportation (see audit trail in Appendix 2 of this SA report) and CCW's comments in relation to the appraisal of policy M1 have been taken into account</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>Rural Economy in respect of potential effects regarding greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuels. CCW notes that the great majority of the assessment process is aimed at economic and social issues and that environmental effects form only a very minor component of the assessment process and findings. Amalgamation of SA/SEA objectives into a single theme group relating to the Natural Environment does not enable robust consideration of potential effects of this policy on natural heritage objectives. It is unknown whether cumulative effects with other plans, programmes and policies have been considered within this assessment process.</p>	<p>as appropriate. This policy has again been subject to SA against the full suite of objectives, and the effects on each of the SA themes (including the natural environment) have been considered. As explained above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>In line with the requirements of Annex 1 of the SEA Directive, cumulative effects of the Core Strategy have been considered as described in Chapter 4 of this SA Report. The relationship between the Core Strategy and other plans, programmes and policies is also described in Chapter 3 and Appendix 1 of this SA Report.</p>
<p>Countryside Council for Wales</p>	<p>W.1 – W.4 – Waste Streams and Targets, Location of New Waste Facilities, Anaerobic Digesters and Existing/permitted Waste Sites.</p> <p>See comments above on M.1.</p>	<p>See actions/justifications in relation to policy M1 above.</p>
<p>Countryside Council for Wales</p>	<p>MN.2 and MN.3 – Criteria for Assessment of Minerals Related Development, Small Scale Non-Aggregate Building Stone and Clay Production.</p> <p>CCW notes that this assessment considers that although implementation of minerals criteria are still likely to cause a negative effect on biodiversity and the natural heritage, potential after-use is likely to have a more beneficial effect. CCW notes the amalgamated score in respect of the natural environment is 'mixed'. See earlier comments regarding our concerns</p>	<p>Noted: As explained above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified. The assessment of the Draft Core Strategy (including the minerals policies) has considered the effects on biodiversity, including designations at the local, national and international levels. The potential for effects on the River Lugg to extend to the River Wye has also been recognised in the SA for the Draft Core</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	regarding the amalgamation of objectives into 'theme groups' and the resultant inadvertent concealment of potential negative (and positive) effects on SA/SEA objectives. CCW also notes the potential for adverse effects on the Lugg SSSI and Wye SAC. It should be noted that the Wye is also an SSSI as well as being a European Site. Potential negative effects on these rivers must therefore be considered in the context of both UK and European legislation. It should also be noted that, because the Lugg and the Wye are effectively linked, there is a potential for adverse effects of the Lugg to impact upon European features within the Wye.	Strategy.
Sustainability Appraisal Note for Preferred Options – Bromyard, Ledbury and Ross-on-Wye		
General Comments		
Countryside Council for Wales	The same general comments were made for all three SA Notes.	Please see General Comments section for the SA Note on General Policies above.
English Heritage	Reflecting the concerns outlined above, the text for each of the towns does not provide any specific appraisal information with respect to the historic environment and heritage assets as well as impacts on the historic and distinctive character of these settlements. To inform this, the relevant evidence base includes the rapid urban characterisation studies for each market town, the HEDIDs studies and the landscape sensitivity work.	Noted: Subsequent SA work has considered the potential for the policies for each of the market towns to affect each of the SA objectives, including SA objective 20 which addresses impacts on the historic environment. The most up-to-date evidence has been used to inform the assessment as appropriate, as reflected in this SA report for the Draft Core Strategy.
Specific Comments		
Countryside Council for Wales	Ross-on-Wye Notwithstanding our concerns regarding the	Noted: Subsequent SA work has considered the potential for the policies for Ross-on-Wye to affect

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>grouping together of SA/SEA themes, compartmentalism of appraisal and issues relating to amalgamation of appraisal 'scores', CCW notes that the great majority of this assessment is aimed at economic and social matters and not at the environment. For example, it is debatable whether the allocation of 10ha of employment land and 450 new homes (identified as having a positive effect) would have a similarly positive effect on the natural heritage.</p> <p>Potential effects on the natural environment are considered only in the context of the Habitats Directive and the HRA process. No consideration appears to have been given to wider aspects of the Natural Environment (objectives 13, 15, 17, 18) however, as previously discussed, the amalgamation of SA/SEA objectives into so-called theme groups, does not enable consideration of effects on individual objectives/sub objectives.</p> <p>From the limited scope of this assessment, CCW has obvious concerns regarding potential effects on water quality, water resources and on bat populations. No consideration appears however to have been given to potentially affected wildlife species (including otter), sensitive and/or vulnerable habitats, to greenspace and green infrastructure, landscape and tranquillity issues, flood hazard etc. This may be as a result of consolidation of SA/SEA objectives into wider groups however, if these issues have been considered, the report as written, is not sufficiently 'transparent' so as to enable consideration of these matters.</p>	<p>each of the SA objectives, which address a balance of environmental, social and economic issues. The assessment of likely effects has been informed by the most up-to-date available evidence as appropriate and the most recent SA work considers the detailed policy wording now included in the Draft Core Strategy.</p> <p>The assessment of effects of the Ross-on-Wye policies against the SA objectives relating to the Natural Environment theme has considered a wide range of issues, extending beyond the HRA process (although this issue has been referred to within the assessment of effects on SA objective 13: biodiversity as appropriate). As explained above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>The potential for the Ross-on-Wye policies to affect water quality, water resources and bat populations has been considered further through the SA of the Draft Core Strategy. Consideration has also been given to the potential impact on wildlife (habitats and species), green infrastructure, the landscape and flood risk in relation to SA objectives 13, 6, 15 and 17 respectively. The summary of effects in Chapter 4 of this SA report describes the key significant effects of the Ross-on-Wye policies, and the full and detailed appraisal matrices can be found in Appendix 4.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
Sustainability Appraisal Note for Preferred Options – Rural Areas Policies		
General Comments		
Countryside Council for Wales	The same general comments were made for all three SA Notes.	Please see General Comments section for the SA Note on General Policies above.
English Heritage	As per our comments above, the potential implications for the historic environment and heritage assets of the rural areas are not specifically addressed in the explanatory text. The potential implications for the historic character of the smaller rural settlements and open countryside are also not considered. In addition to the evidence base indicated above, the results of the West Midlands Farmsteads and Landscape Project including the county summary report would be of relevance.	Noted: Subsequent SA work has considered the potential for the rural areas policies to affect each of the SA objectives, including SA objective 20 which addresses impacts on the historic environment. The most up-to-date evidence has been used to inform the assessment as appropriate, as reflected in this SA report for the Draft Core Strategy.
Specific Comments		
Countryside Council for Wales	<p>RA1: Housing Allocation</p> <p>CCW understands that the housing allocation under consideration is derived from Housing figures presented in the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy. Clarification would be welcomed as to whether the figures used are from the original version of the WMRSS or Phase 2 (which incorporated higher housing allocations). Given that the WMRSS (including Phase 2) has been subject to public examination and an Inspectors report published, CCW would expect that housing policies/allocations in Herefordshire also took into account and have regard to relevant policies and assessments undertaken in respect of the housing policies</p>	<p>Noted: Section 3 of the Draft Core Strategy document explains the background to the housing allocations for Herefordshire, including the rural areas.</p> <p>Each of the rural areas policies now included in the Draft Core Strategy have been assessed against each of the SA objectives, which address a balance of environmental, social and economic issues. As explained above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>In line with the requirements of Annex 1 of the SEA Directive, cumulative effects of the Core Strategy</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>and allocations in the WMRSS Phase 2, notably in respect of infrastructure and services/resources supporting housing allocations.</p> <p>Notwithstanding CCW's concerns regarding the SEA/SA methodology used, CCW notes that the great majority of the assessment process is aimed at economic and social issues and that environmental effects form only a very minor component of the assessment process and findings. Amalgamation of SA/SEA objectives into a single theme group relating to the Natural Environment does not enable consideration of potential effects of RA1 on relevant objectives however, CCW would suggest that it seems highly unlikely that the provision of 4500 homes (with associated infrastructure, transport and resource needs) would be likely to have (as indicated) a negligible effect on the natural environment. It is unknown whether cumulative effects with other plans, programmes and policies have been considered within this assessment process.</p>	<p>have been considered as described in Chapter 4 of this SA Report. The relationship between the Core Strategy and other plans, programmes and policies is also described in Chapter 3 and Appendix 1 of this SA Report.</p>
Countryside Council for Wales	<p>RA2: Rural Service Centres and RA3: Other settlements</p> <p>See comments above on RA1. CCW notes that potential effects on the natural heritage appear to have only been considered in the context of designated landscapes and international/national sites of nature conservation value. Potential effects on the Wye SAC are not explained or clarified. CCW notes that the great majority of the assessment process is aimed at economic and social issues and that environmental effects form only a very</p>	<p>See actions/justifications above in relation to policy RA1.</p> <p>The assessment of the effects of the rural areas policies now included in the Draft Core Strategy has considered the effects of the policies against each of the SA objectives in the natural environment theme, and has provided a score against each SA objective (as summarised in Chapter 4 of this report and set out in full in Appendix 4). The assessment of the effects of each policy on the Wye Valley SAC have been considered as part of the assessment against SA objective 13: biodiversity, as well as through the</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>minor component of the assessment process and findings. Amalgamation of SA/SEA objectives into a single theme group relating to the Natural Environment does not enable consideration of the potential effects of RA2/RA3 on natural heritage objectives. It is unknown whether cumulative effects with other plans, programmes and policies have been considered within this assessment process.</p>	<p>separate HRA report.</p> <p>As explained above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>In line with the requirements of Annex 1 of the SEA Directive, cumulative effects of the Core Strategy have been considered as described in Chapter 4 of this SA Report. The relationship between the Core Strategy and other plans, programmes and policies is also described in Chapter 3 and Appendix 1 of this SA Report.</p>
<p>Countryside Council for Wales</p>	<p>RA4: Open Countryside</p> <p>See comments above on RA1. CCW notes this assessment's suggestion that 'all development has the potential to negatively affect biodiversity' but would question the premise that 'agricultural diversification' should or could be used as a valid justification or evidence base for the offsetting of potential negative effects of the LDF policy, notably because the great majority of agricultural development/intensification lies outwith the control of the LDF and Planning regime. CCW would suggest it is not appropriate to 'trade off' environmental effects on different facets of the environment, against each other or against social and economic matters.</p> <p>CCW notes that the great majority of the assessment process is aimed at economic and social issues and that environmental effects form only a very minor component of the</p>	<p>See actions/justifications above in relation to policy RA1.</p> <p>CCW's comments in relation to agricultural diversification are noted and have been taken into account in subsequent SA work for the Core Strategy.</p> <p>The assessment of the effects of the rural areas policies now included in the Draft Core Strategy has considered the effects of the policies against each of the SA objectives in the natural environment theme, and has provided a score against each SA objective (as summarised in Chapter 4 of this report and set out in full in Appendix 4).</p> <p>As explained above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>In line with the requirements of Annex 1 of the SEA</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	assessment process and findings. Amalgamation of SA/SEA objectives into a single theme group relating to the Natural Environment does not enable consideration of potential effects of RA2/RA3 on natural heritage objectives. It is unknown whether cumulative effects with other plans, programmes and policies have been considered within this assessment process.	Directive, cumulative effects of the Core Strategy have been considered as described in Chapter 4 of this SA Report. The relationship between the Core Strategy and other plans, programmes and policies is also described in Chapter 3 and Appendix 1 of this SA Report.
Countryside Council for Wales	<p>RA5: Rural Economy.</p> <p>See comments above on RA1 regarding SA/SEA methodology.</p> <p>Similarly, although only limited consideration is given to the natural environment and natural heritage in this part of the assessment (as opposed to social and economic issues), CCW notes that potential negative effects on the natural environment have been discounted from the assessment process because 'the nature of the impact will be dependent on individual developments'. CCW is not convinced that this statement provides sufficient justification and/or evidence base for the discounting of environmental effects.</p>	<p>See action/justification above relating to RA1.</p> <p>Policy RA5 from the Preferred Options has now become policy RA6 in the Draft Core Strategy. The assessment of the effects of the updated policy has considered its effects on each of the SA objectives in the natural environment theme, and has provided a score against each SA objective (as summarised in Chapter 4 of this report and set out in full in Appendix 4). Effects on the natural environment have been considered as far as is practicable at this strategic level of assessment.</p>

Table 3: Consultation responses received in relation to the SA of the Revised Preferred Options (2011)

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
Sustainability Appraisal		
English Heritage	Whilst we welcome in broad terms the preparation of the appraisal note to accompany	Noted: See actions/justifications for English Heritage's comments from the Preferred Options consultation

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>the consultation on the Revised Preferred Option, our concerns raised at previous consultations remain with respect to the treatment of the historic environment. It is disappointing that suggestions on strengthening the appraisal framework for the historic environment have not been taken on board as part of the latest consultation. To a large extent these comments remain applicable to the current appraisal of the Revised Preferred Options. In contrast to other topic areas the treatment of the historic environment and heritage assets is highly imbalanced; this exacerbated or indeed a direct consequence of its comparatively weak coverage in the appraisal framework (Appendix 1). As such we retain serious reservations with regard to the robustness of the appraisal. This concern relates to demonstrating an appropriate understanding of Herefordshire's historic environment resource and heritage assets, and to fully assessing the potential implications of the Core Strategy for their conservation and, where appropriate, enhancement. It also extends to any recommended changes to the policy framework as a consequence of the assessment, as these also appear to be inconsistent across the appraisal topics.</p> <p>In this context we find it difficult to comment in detail on the appraisal matrices for the Revised Preferred Option (Appendix 2). However, we offer the following points to illustrate our concerns with respect to the appraisal process (see below).</p>	above.
English Heritage	In the main body of the report and summary of the overall spatial strategy and discounted	Noted: The summary text for both the revised Preferred Options and the cumulative impacts

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	options, no specific consideration is given to the historic environment. This is also true of the summary text on cumulative impacts.	focused on summarising the key likely effects; however during the appraisal consideration was given to the impacts on the historic environment as part of the assessment against SA objective 20. Note that in this SA report for the Draft Core Strategy, the effects of each policy have been scored separately for each SA objective, rather than receiving an overall SA score for each theme. Therefore, the effects of the policies on individual SA objectives can be more clearly identified.
English Heritage	Table 3 Rural Areas RA1: No consideration of the potential impact of the increased allocation on the historic environment and heritage of these places and their historic character.	See above.
English Heritage	Table 4 rural Areas Policy RA5: No specific consideration of the historic environment, for example the positive repair and re-use of historic farmsteads?	See above.
English Heritage	Table 5 Ross-on Wye: There is no specific appraisal information with respect to the historic environment and heritage assets as well as impacts on the historic and distinctive character of the settlement. To inform this the relevant evidence base should include the rapid urban characterisation study (as prepared for each market town), the HEDIDs studies and the landscape sensitivity work.	See above. Note that the assessment of the Draft Core Strategy policies (including the policies for development at Ross-on-Wye) has made use of the most up-to-date evidence sources as appropriate.
English Heritage	Table 6 Leominster: Although a brief reference is made to listed buildings, other heritage assets (as required by PPS5) are not considered.	Noted: A range of heritage assets (including listed buildings) have been taken into consideration through the assessment against SA objective 20 and referred to as relevant. This latest iteration of the SA report includes detailed appraisal matrices (see appendices 4 and 5) which describe the likely effects of each Draft

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
		Core Strategy policy on each SA objective and this approach has allowed for more detail to be provided regarding the likely effects on each objective, including in relation to the historic environment.
English Heritage	Table 7 Policy H1 City Centre: Relevant content for the historic environment (e.g. townscape character) is confusingly outlined under the Natural Environment section.	Noted: The historic environment (SA objective 20) has been addressed as part of the wider 'built environment' theme in subsequent SA work.
English Heritage	Table 8 Relief Road Options: Although the appraisal includes a brief outline of potential impacts on heritage assets and their setting, it is very narrow in scope. For example, no mention is made to the potential archaeological implications of a river crossing, nor the impacts on the historic landscape – this including designed landscapes identified on the Historic Environment Record.	Noted: These issues have been addressed as appropriate in this latest SA report for the Draft Core Strategy in relation to the relief road policy (HD2: Hereford Movement).
English Heritage	Table 9 Policy H3 Growth Distribution: The built environment section makes a number of very generalised assumptions often equating 'sustainable construction techniques' to design quality and delivering a high quality environment. This is only one part of delivering development that respects its context and setting, especially given the emphasis on accommodating smaller sites within the existing built form. This could have implications for the character of the townscape, whether designated (e.g. conservation area) or not due to changes in the density, grain, scale, massing and height of development in addition to its detailed architectural design.	Noted: This point has been taken into account as appropriate in the SA report for the Draft Core Strategy.
English Heritage	Table 10 Policy H4 Northern Urban Expansions:	Noted: Recommendations in relation to changes to

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	Although certain historic environment implications are identified they are not carried through to recommendations for amending the policy (e.g. masterplanning requirements).	policy wording were made where this was considered appropriate. Note that, as described in Chapter 2 of this SA report for the Draft Core Strategy, a number of recommendations were made in a draft version of the SA report in relation to impacts on the historic environment, and these have been implemented in the final Draft Core Strategy for consultation.
English Heritage	Table 11 Policy H5 Western Urban Expansions: Again the consideration of the historic environment is confined to listed buildings under the Built Environment section, although other heritage assets could be impacted e.g. setting of Huntington conservation areas. Archaeology?	Noted: A range of heritage assets (including listed buildings) have been taken into consideration through the assessment against SA objective 20 and referred to as relevant. This latest iteration of the SA report includes detailed appraisal matrices (see appendices 4 and 5) which describe the likely effects of each policy on each SA objective and this approach has allowed for more detail to be provided regarding the likely effects on each objective, including in relation to the historic environment.
English Heritage	In taking forward the Sustainability Appraisal and Core Strategy, we strongly recommend that the coverage of the historic environment is reviewed in order to deliver a robust and appropriate assessment. This should build on the evidence base available from the Council's conservation and archaeology and their professional input.	Noted: As described above, the SA report for the Draft Core Strategy includes a score for each policy against each SA objective individual (including SA objective 20) in order to ensure that the specific effects on the historic environment and other issues can be more clearly identified. The most up-to-date evidence has been used to inform the appraisal as appropriate.
CCW	CCW notes that the SA 'Note' has been prepared for Herefordshire Council in order to consider/address issues raised in previous consultations to the initial set of preferred options for the Herefordshire LDF Core Strategy (2010) as relating to rural areas policies, general core policies, policies for Hereford and policies for market towns. It is also noted that the outcome of initial consultations revealed	Noted: See justifications/actions relating to CCW's comments on previous iterations of the Core Strategy SA work.

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>considerable opposition to the scale of housing development proposed. Our detailed comments on the Sustainability Appraisal Note (July 2011) should be read in the context of our previous representations on the SA/SEA for this developing LDF (in particular, our comments on the draft options General Policies 12th August 2010, Rural Areas 10th August 2010 and Ross-on-Wye 5th August 2010). In previous comments, CCW has raised a number of concerns regarding compartmentalism of SEA topics and objectives, the nature of SEA objectives and appraisal scoring. It is disappointing to note that these concerns do not appear to have been considered or addressed.</p>	
CCW	<p>Grouping of SA topics by group and amalgamation of sub-objective scores</p> <p>CCW accepts that the intention of amalgamating sub-objectives within generic compartments may be to 'streamline' the SEA process; however it is suggested that compartmentalising objectives in this way impedes consideration of wider natural heritage issues and the strong inter-connection between objectives and topics. As discussed in previous written responses and at stakeholder workshops, CCW has major concerns regarding the block assessment and scoring of groups of SA/SEA objectives. This practice may disguise serious and significant effects against individual objectives and sub-objectives within a wider 'theme' appraisal. CCW would suggest that the practice of giving amalgamated scores may lead to misrepresentation of appraisal results and over simplification of issues (both positive and negative). This Report does not provide a</p>	<p>Noted: In the most recent SA work for the DRaft Core Strategy, individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified. Reference is still made to the effects in relation to each of the SA 'themes'; however this is considered to be a useful way of grouping the 20 SA objectives and summarising the potential impacts.</p> <p>Note that where mixed effects (e.g. positive and negative effects) are identified, this is intended to demonstrate that different types of effects, some positive and some negative, could both occur. A neutral effect is scored as '0' and is different to a mixed (positive and negative) effect.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>consideration of assessment scores by sub-objective, only amalgamated scores against broad objectives. For example, in respect to the Ross-on-Wye proposed amendments, a theme 'score' for the natural environment is given as mixed negative and positive. This 'neutral' score fails to identify a potentially significant adverse effect on the Wye SAC in terms of water quality and gives a false impression that there are no major issues relating to the Ross-on-Wye proposals and the natural environment. CCW would suggest that the provision of amalgamated scores only may lead to misrepresentation of appraisal results and an over-simplification of environmental issues. It is not appropriate to conceal or 'trade off' environmental effects on different facets of the environment, against each other.</p>	
CCW	<p>SA/SEA objectives</p> <p>CCW has expressed concerns that the great majority of SA/SEA objectives relate to social and economic issues whereas only a small number relate to the natural environment and natural resource services and functions. CCW accepts that this assessment process incorporates SA; however it should also be fully compliant with the SEA Directive which requires assessment of the Plan's effects on a comprehensive range of environmental topics and the interrelationships between them.</p> <p>It is noted that soil, despite being the basis for Herefordshire's economy, is only considered in terms of quality and contamination. No consideration has been given to soil function or the environmental services it provides.</p>	<p>Noted: The SA for the Draft Core Strategy has scored each policy against each of the SA objectives, which address a balance of environmental, social and economic issues.</p> <p>It is considered that SA objective 18 adequately addresses impacts on soils. The issue of flooding is addressed specifically in SA objective 17 and an assessment of the impacts of the Core Strategy on flooding as part of SA objective 16 (climate change) as well would result in duplication. The wording of SA objective 13 is considered to be appropriate and addresses the ambition to enhance County biodiversity. All aspects of biodiversity have been taken into account within this SA objective as appropriate.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>CCW would also suggest objectives on flooding need to be considered within the climate change section and that additional consideration should be given to objectives aimed at 'climate proofing' existing and new development.</p> <p>CCW would further suggest that some of the overarching SA objectives would benefit from re-wording. Objective 13, for example, has the aim of 'expanding county biodiversity'. This is a somewhat nebulous goal and open to interpretation. This objective should be extended to encapsulate a wider responsibility for all biodiversity, habitats and natural heritage (including environmental goods, services and functions) not only in Herefordshire but in areas affected by activities/developments in Herefordshire. Objective 14, 'use natural resources...more efficiently' contains no inherent aim to use natural resources in a sustainable or prudent manner.</p>	
CCW	<p>The aim of the SEA Directive is to 'provide for a high level of protection to the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans'. The primary means of achieving these aims is, through the appraisal process, to identify potential effects (both positive and negative) on environmental issues and functions and through amendment and strengthening of plan policies, to avoid and mitigate against negative effects while promoting those policies which are likely to have positive effects. In order to enable plan and policy development, CCW would suggest that the SA/SEA methodology needs to be transparent and to clearly consider adverse effects and</p>	<p>Noted: This SA report for the Draft Core Strategy has described in detail the process that has been undertaken for the SA of the Core Strategy as it has been developed. The SA has sought to identify both positive and negative effects that are likely to result from the implementation of the Core Strategy and the SA report describes how recommendations made in previous iterations have been addressed in the latest version of the Core Strategy in order to provide additional mitigation against potential negative effects identified.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>opportunities resulting from the implementation of the Plan, not only in respect of Herefordshire itself but also those areas, natural functions and resources, which will be affected by the plan's implementation.</p>	
CCW	<p>Rural Areas Policy RA1</p> <p>CCW notes that assessment 'scores' have not changed from the Aug 2010 version of this assessment as a result of revision to the preferred option (increase in rural housing allocation from 4,500 to 5,300).</p> <p>The great majority of the assessment process for this revised policy is aimed at economic and social issues and that environmental effects form only a very minor component of the assessment's findings. Amalgamation of SA/SEA sub-objectives and objectives into a single theme group does not enable full and transparent consideration of the potential effects of the revised RA1 on relevant objectives; however, CCW would suggest it seems highly unlikely that the provision of 5,300 new homes in rural areas could have a negligible impact on the natural environment, especially when considered cumulatively with other housing and economic development proposals within this Plan.</p>	<p>Noted: The change in housing numbers for the rural areas was not considered to be great enough to have an effect on the SA scores, although the change was recognised.</p> <p>The SA for the Core Strategy has considered the potential for the policies to affect each of the SA objectives, which address a balance of environmental, social and economic issues. As described above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy, individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p>
CCW	<p>Ross on Wye Policy</p> <p>CCW notes the revised policy aims to reduce the total housing allocation from 1,000 to 900 and that the number of Hildesley urban extension is reduced from 350 to 200. In regard to the assessment 'score' of mixed positive and negative effects for the natural environment,</p>	<p>See justifications/actions above relating to the mixed score for Ross-on-Wye.</p> <p>The SA objectives within the Natural Environment theme address a wide range of issues, and while the HRA findings have fed into the scores against SA objective 13: biodiversity, this is only one of a</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>please refer to the comments in our covering letter regarding the amalgamation of SEA scores within overall 'themes'. CCW notes that, as per the previous SA/SEA in 2010, natural environment issues within the text are considered principally in the context of European Sites. Little consideration appears to have been given to wider natural heritage issues (SA/SEA objectives 13, 15, 17 and 18).</p>	<p>number of issues taken into account.</p>
<p>CCW</p>	<p>Leominster Policy</p> <p>The reduction of proposed housing by 200 units and a new allocation for employment land is noted.</p> <p>This assessment does not appear to include any consideration of potential effects on water resources, water quality and potential downstream effects on the Wye SAC.</p>	<p>Noted: These issues have been taken into account as appropriate in the SA for the Draft Core Strategy and work that has been undertaken on the HRA in relation to the water environment has also informed the SA as appropriate in relation to SA objective 13: biodiversity.</p>
<p>CCW</p>	<p>Policy H1: City Centre</p> <p>CCW notes that mixed positive and negative effects on the natural environment are identified within this assessment. See comments in our covering letter on the amalgamation of assessment scores into generic themes.</p> <p>CCW welcomes the suggestion within this SEA that the policy H1 needs to acknowledge the status of the Wye SAC. The potential that Hereford City Development may have negative effects on the Wye SAC is noted with concern. The STW at Eign and Rotherwas have both been identified within the EA RoC as requiring discharge consents to be reduced. CCW would question whether it is appropriate to promote significant levels of development in close</p>	<p>Noted: As described above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy, individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>The issues associated with the effects of the Hereford policies on the River Wye SAC are addressed through the separate Habitats Regulations Assessment report.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>proximity to an SAC that may already be subject to damage as a result of discharges from existing development. It would seem more appropriate to consider the potential for development in terms of the environmental capacities of the Wye and available (or potential) sewerage treatment capacity.</p>	
CCW	<p>Policy H2: Relief Road Options.</p> <p>CCW notes that both the eastern and western options have mixed positive/negative effects on the natural environment according to this assessment process.</p> <p>The eastern route has been identified as having more significant adverse effects than western route, notably in the context of encroachment onto the Lugg flood plain and Wye SAC. The statement that the eastern route is 'unlikely to be approved because of Habitats Regulations issues' is noted; however, CCW would suggest that this supposition would be more appropriate for the HRA of the Core Strategy Revisions. The fact that HRA is currently being undertaken on both relief road options is noted. CCW has no record of having been contacted with regard to this HRA process despite being a 'relevant nature conservation authority' under the Directive and Regulations. Explanation for this matter would be welcomed.</p> <p>The suggestion that the western route option might be constrained by landscape issues is noted; however, CCW would suggest that landscape issues should not take priority over the River Wye's status under European legislation.</p>	<p>Noted: The relief road proposals have been subject to SA at the Preferred Options stage and again as part of the Draft Core Strategy. Note that HRA for the relief road has been undertaken separately to the HRA for the Core Strategy, by Hyder Consulting on behalf of Herefordshire Council.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
CCW	<p>Policy H3: Growth Distribution</p> <p>CCW notes the proposals state that overall growth in Hereford should be reduced from 8,500 to 6,500 (including the removal of the allocation at Whitecross). It is noted that assessed effects on the natural environment remain unchanged with mixed positive and negative effects having been identified. See comments in our covering letter regarding the amalgamation of assessment scores under generic themes.</p> <p>No consideration appears to have been given within the assessment of the revised H3 to issues of water resources and waste water treatment. Given the importance of water and the capacity limits imposed by the Wye's status as an SAC and the EA RoC process, CCW is surprised that this important issue has not been considered. The statement that 'all development within reasonably close proximity to the River Wye SAC may result in increased recreation' is noted. Consideration of the potential effects of revised policy H3 must also be considered cumulatively with other policies and plans.</p> <p>The statement that the STW that serve Hereford have already been identified by the EA as needing discharge consents to be reviewed (RoC) is noted. CCW would question whether it is appropriate to promote significant levels of development (6,500 houses) in close proximity to an SAC that may already be subject to damage as a result of discharges from existing development. It would seem more appropriate to consider the potential for development in terms of the environmental capacities and limits</p>	<p>Noted: The change in housing numbers was not considered to be great enough to have an effect on the SA scores, although the change was recognised.</p> <p>As described above, in the most recent SA work for the Core Strategy, individual scores have been given for each of the SA objectives rather than a collated summary score for each theme in order to allow for the varying and more specific effects of Draft Core Strategy policies to be more clearly identified.</p> <p>The issues associated with the effects of the Hereford policies on the River Wye SAC are addressed through the separate Habitats Regulations Assessment report, and the findings have been taken into account in the SA as appropriate (in relation to SA objective 13: biodiversity).</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	of the Wye and available (or potential) sewerage treatment capacity.	
CCW	<p>Policy H4: Northern Urban Expansions</p> <p>Housing at Holmer West to be reduced from 1,000 to 500</p> <p>The assessment for this policy makes little reference to the natural heritage issues (especially limits and capacities) although proposed development is in close proximity to the Wye SAC. The potential for adverse effects on the Wye SAC and other natural heritage issues need to be considered cumulatively with Hereford and Ross allocations and other relevant plans, programmes and policies.</p> <p>See comments above on Table 9 (Policy H3) regarding the need to consider allocations in terms of available natural resources and their capacities and limits.</p>	The issues associated with the effects of the Hereford policies on the River Wye SAC are addressed through the separate Habitats Regulations Assessment report, and the findings have been taken into account in the SA as appropriate (in relation to SA objective 13: biodiversity).
CCW	<p>Policy H5: Western Urban Expansions</p> <p>Removal of Whitecross allocation. Retention of 1,000 at Three Elms.</p> <p>The assessment for this policy makes little reference to the natural heritage issues (especially limits and capacities) although proposed development is in close proximity to the Wye SAC. The potential for adverse effects on the Wye SAC and other natural heritage issues need to be considered cumulatively with Hereford and Ross allocations and other relevant plans, programmes and policies.</p>	The issues associated with the effects of the Hereford policies on the River Wye SAC are addressed through the separate Habitats Regulations Assessment report, and the findings have been taken into account in the SA as appropriate (in relation to SA objective 13: biodiversity).
Natural England	Natural England would welcome further discussions about the HRA and the SA before	Noted: Herefordshire Council undertook further consultation with Natural England as the Draft Core

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>Herefordshire’s Cabinet considers the submission draft Core Strategy in May 2012. I would like to remind Herefordshire Council that Natural England will have to consider if the Core Strategy is legally compliant and meets the relevant tests for soundness. At the same time, Natural England needs to formally consider if the Sustainability Appraisal is in compliance with the SEA Regulations.</p>	<p>Strategy was developed and it is now being consulted on the Draft version in advance of the Submission stage.</p> <p>Table 1.1 in this SA report for the Draft Core Strategy signposts where each of the requirements of the SEA Directive has been met.</p>
Sport England	<p>The revisions appear to focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amending the plan period to cover the period 2011-2013. • Reducing the level of housing provision in the county to an average of 825 per annum (compared to 900 per annum as previously proposed). • To propose fewer houses for Hereford. • To make some adjustments to the housing proposals for Leominster and Ross-on-Wye. • To increase the level of housing in rural areas. <p>It is difficult to assess whether any of the above proposals would result in existing playing fields or other sports provision now being placed under threat of development. If they are, however, the requirements for appropriate replacement facilities (where appropriate) should be referenced within the strategy.</p> <p>In addition, and as referenced by our previous consultation responses, it is important that the proposed growth in Herefordshire is supported by appropriate levels of sporting infrastructure.</p>	<p>Noted: The SA work throughout the Core Strategy’s development has considered the potential effects of the growth proposed on access to open space and green infrastructure. These issues are addressed under SA objectives 6, 7 and 15.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>We anticipate that the audit, assessment and strategy work relating to the full range of indoor and outdoor sporting facilities in Herefordshire is used to underpin a robust Core Strategy and other documents within the LDF. In practise, we see the relevant policies within these documents clearly articulating the issues relating to sporting infrastructure and then detailing how these issues are to be addressed.</p>	
<p>Individual respondent</p>	<p>Issue of resource depletion and climate change are pivotal to forward planning and affects all other SA objectives. Insufficient to state in SA that <i>"The final plan will set out a number of policies which will tackle the effects of climate change and protect the environment as well as the other distinctive characteristics of the county"</i>. How does the LDF make provision for meeting climate change targets? How does the plan stand up to a scenario of scare and expensive oil?</p>	<p>Noted: The Draft Core Strategy includes detailed policies associated with climate change and details how the Core Strategy aims to address the causes and effects within Herefordshire. Issues associated with oil scarcity and prices are considered to be outside the scope of the Core Strategy and SA.</p>
<p>Individual respondent</p>	<p>Material presented lacks any sustainability assessment by which an evaluation of its validity as a realistic plan can be made. A scoping document is available which promised an SA soon in 2007.</p>	<p>Noted: A Sustainability Appraisal (SA) scoping report was produced and consulted on in 2007. Since then a number of further SA and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) assessments have been carried out and reported on the Council's website. This latest SA report presents the appraisal of the detailed Draft Core Strategy policies against each of the SA objectives.</p>
<p>Individual respondent</p>	<p>Within the SA policies scoring +/- are still being advanced. The SA shows there are negative sustainability impacts as a result of these policies and accordingly they should be dropped.</p>	<p>Noted: Herefordshire Council accepts that not all policies are able to score positively on their own. The role of the SA is to highlight potential negative impacts that the policy could cause, so that mitigation measures can be introduced whether in a revision to the policy or in combination with other plan policies.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
		<p>Details of how this is being achieved are described in this SA report for the Draft Core Strategy. SA scoring is a professional judgement based on available evidence. Sustainability is about the balance between environmental, social and economic factors and it has to be accepted that sometimes the balance may favour one more than the others. What is key is to ensure that these potential impacts have been highlighted up-front through the plan making process and that mitigation to resolve these is factored into future development using policy. Crucially, effects need to be monitored to ensure that if policies are not working they can be reviewed and amended as necessary (monitoring is also addressed in this SA report).</p>
Individual respondent	<p>The SA states that housing development would make a positive impact in providing new accommodation. However as it is believed the figures for new housing requirements are too low, the positive impact is incorrect.</p>	<p>Noted: As detailed in this SA report for the Draft Core Strategy, the assessment of the effects of housing provision on SA objective 11: housing is based on an assessment of the housing numbers against the identified levels of need, and the allocations have been found to address this need. As such, significant positive effects have been identified as appropriate.</p>
Individual respondent	<p>The plan is not justified. Alternatives have not been looked at. The SA has not modelled different ways of tracking perceived traffic congestion problems. The sustainable transport options are based on out of date info, for example, no account given to carbon dioxide impact of each option and how it accords with the Climate Change Act 2008. Poorly defined social and economic factors. In addition, in giving the public a choice of east or west a lack of justification for the routes/corridors is given, as no costs of the road in terms of money, environment and carbon dioxide generation</p>	<p>Noted: This SA report for the Draft Core Strategy describes in detail how alternatives to the policies have been considered and subject to SA. The SA addresses issues associated with carbon reduction as part of the assessment against SA objective 16: climate change.</p>

Consultee	Response	Action/Justification
	<p>were given. Furthermore, the multi modal study 2009 does not look at anything but traffic flows, comparing a western and eastern route. It does not calculate the carbon dioxide emissions, or the effect on the landscape or social issues of its two road building options. Neither does the SA consider carbon dioxide reduction. It is believed that the amount of detor, either route would create, will significantly increase the miles travelled and the amount of carbon dioxide for nearly all journey's.</p>	

Appendix 4

SA matrices for the Spatial Strategy Policies

SA Scores for the Vision and Core Strategy objectives

	Education and Employment					Healthy and prosperous communities			Transport and Access			The Built Environment			Resource consumption and climate change			The Natural Environment			
	SA1: Employment opportunities	SA2: Skilled workforce	SA3: Sustainable economy	SA7: Sustainable regeneration	SA8: Education	SA5: Health	SA9: Crime	SA10: Poverty and equality	SA4: Sustainable transport	SA6: Access to services	SA11: Housing	SA19: Efficient use of land	SA20: Built environment	SA 12: Waste	SA14: Natural resources	SA16: Climate change	SA13: Biodiversity	SA15: Landscape	SA17: Flooding	SA18: Pollution	
The Vision	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	
13. Housing	+?	0	0	0	0	+?	0	+?	0	0	++	+	0	-?	+?	+	0	0	0	0	
14. Health	0	+	0	+	+	++	+	+	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
15. Education	0	++	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
16. Travel	+	0	0	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	0	+	0	0	0	+?	0	0	0	+?	
17. Access	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	0	+	0	0	+?	+	0	0	0	+	
18. Employment	++	+	+	+	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
19. Hereford	0	0	0	++	0	0	0	0	+/-	+/-	0	+/-	0	-?	-?	+/-	0	0	0	0	
20. Market towns, villages and their rural hinterlands	+	0	+	+	0	0	0	+	+/-	+	+	+/-	0	-?	+/-	+/-	+?	+?	+?	+/-	
21. Sustainable Tourism	+?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+/-	+	0	0	+?	-?	0	-?	+/-	+/-	0	0	
22. Sustainable Communities	0	0	0	+	0	+?	0	0	0	+	+	++	+	0	0	0	+	+	+?	+?	
23. Climate Change	0	0	+?	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	++	++	+	0	++	++	
24. Natural, built, historic and cultural assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	+	++	0	0	0	+	+	0	0	

Policy SS1: Sustainable Development

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include supporting employment. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 1, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include developing a skilled workforce. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 2, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include maintaining a sustainable economy. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 3, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include sustainable regeneration. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 7, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include raising educational achievement. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 8, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include improving the health of the people of Herefordshire. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 5, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include supporting good design to reduce and prevent crime. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 9, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p>	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include promoting equality and social inclusion. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 10, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.		
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include reducing road traffic. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 4, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include access to cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community facilities. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 6, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include providing good quality affordable housing. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 11, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
19. Ensure	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include ensuring efficient and balanced land use. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 19, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include protecting cultural heritage. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 20, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include reducing waste and encouraging recycling. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 12, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food,</p>	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include efficient use of natural resources. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.		objective 14, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include climate change mitigation and adaptation. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 16, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance. 13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species. 13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces. 13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value. 13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include protecting and enhancing biodiversity. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 13, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings. 15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management. 15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. 15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include protecting and enhancing landscape quality. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 15, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the	17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change. 17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include reducing flood risk.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
economy and the environment.	17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.		The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 17, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	+	Policy SS1 reflects the NPPF's presumption in favour of sustainable development, and seeks to secure development that improves the social, economic and environmental conditions in Herefordshire, which is assumed to include minimising pollution. The policy also requires that planning applications are in accordance with other policies in the Core Strategy. Therefore a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 18, although the general nature of the policy suggests that the effect is likely to be minor.

Policy SS2: Housing Distribution

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	The delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031 as identified in Policy SS2 is likely to support the provision of employment opportunities in the construction industry. As the employment opportunities related to these developments are focussed within one sector, the positive effect on SA objective 1 is expected to be minor, as it would not increase the diversity of job opportunities (1.4), or employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors (1.1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	The delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031 as identified in Policy SS2 may have opportunities for increasing knowledge and skills in the construction industry. However, as the skills related to the construction industry would not contribute to a more adaptable, higher skilled workforce, the expected positive effect on SA objective 2 is uncertain.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+?	The delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, may have a positive impact on reducing inequalities in health (5.2) by improving the availability of housing. However, the availability of affordable housing for all members of the community will depend on other policies in the Core Strategy such as Policy AH1, and therefore the expected positive effect on SA objective 5 is uncertain.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	+/-	Policy SS2 supports the delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031. 6,500 of the homes should be focussed in Hereford itself, with 4,700 in the County's other market towns and 5,300 homes in rural areas. New residential development will inevitably lead to greater road traffic related to new residents, which would have a negative

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		effect on road traffic and congestion (4). However, focussing residential development in Hereford is likely to reduce the need to travel (4.1) as new residents will be more likely to use public transport, cycling or walking as a transport mode (4.4). There will also be residential developments in rural areas, where it supports existing services and facilities and is responsive to the needs of its community. Overall, a mixed effect is expected on SA objective 4.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	Policy SS2 supports the delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031, which is likely to have a significant positive effect on the availability of good quality housing in the County.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses</p>	+	Policy SS2 supports the delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031, and states that gives priority to the use of previously developed land in sustainable locations (19.1). Therefore, a positive effect is expected on SA objective 19.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings. 20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. 20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place? 20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.	+	Policy SS2 states that residential density will be determined by local character and good quality design, which will mitigate any negative effects on the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods related to the delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period. Therefore, the overall impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage is likely to be minor positive.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	-?	The delivery of 16,500 homes during the plan period will inevitably involve an increase in waste generation. However, new developments may offer good opportunities for incorporating sustainable waste management practices and any negative effect expected on SA objective 12 is currently uncertain.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	-?	The delivery of 16,500 homes during the plan period will inevitably involve an increase in natural resource consumption. However, new developments may offer good opportunities for incorporating energy-efficiency practices and any negative effect expected on SA objective 14 is currently uncertain.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.	-?	The delivery of 16,500 homes during the plan period will inevitably involve an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. However, new developments may offer good opportunities for incorporating renewable energy and energy-efficiency practices

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
change as well as its contribution to the problem.	16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		and any negative effect expected on SA objective 16 is currently uncertain.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flooding (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use</p>	0	Delivery of 16,500 homes in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS2, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		

Policy SS3: Release of housing

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period, which is likely to support employment in the construction sector, and a minor positive effect is expected on SA objective 1.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Releasing land for residential development is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period, which is likely to support the construction industry in Herefordshire (3.1), and there may be a minor positive effect on SA objective 3.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Releasing land for residential development is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Releasing land for residential development is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Releasing land for residential development is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Releasing land for residential development is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Releasing land for residential development is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	Releasing land for residential development is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	0	Releasing land for residential development is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	++	Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period. This is likely to have a significant positive effect on access to good quality housing (11.1) by supporting the housing target set in Policy SS.2.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and	+	Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period. The policy states that priority will be given to the use of brownfield land, which is likely to have a positive effect on optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings (19.1).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Releasing land for residential development is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	+/-	The delivery of housing through the Core Strategy will inevitably involve an increase in waste generation. Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period, and therefore a negative effect is expected on SA objective 12. However, the policy states that priority will be given to the use of brownfield land, which may provide opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials, and a mixed effect is expected overall.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+/-	The delivery of housing through the Core Strategy will inevitably involve an increase in natural resource consumption. Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period, and therefore a negative effect is expected on SA objective 13. However, the policy states that priority will be given to the use of brownfield land, which may provide opportunities to re-use existing buildings and materials, and a mixed effect is expected overall.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from</p>	-?	The delivery of housing through the Core Strategy will inevitably involve an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period, and therefore a negative effect is

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
contribution to the problem.	renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		expected on SA objective 13. However, there may be opportunities to incorporate sustainable construction practices, and renewable energy and energy-efficiency measures into new developments, and therefore the negative effect is currently uncertain.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	++	Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period. The policy also ensures that there will be no significant adverse effects on the integrity of the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC), which is likely to have significant positive effects on protecting internationally designated sites (13.2 and 13.2).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+	Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period, and states that priority will be given to the use of brownfield land. Therefore, there may be positive effects on landscape quality by steering development away from more sensitive rural areas and open spaces.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period, and states that priority will be given to the use of brownfield land. Therefore, there may be positive effects on reducing flood risk, by steering development away from areas of permeable greenfield land that reduce the risk of flooding.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p>	++/-	The delivery of housing through the Core Strategy will inevitably involve an increase in pollution. Policy SS.3 seeks to release sufficient land for residential development to ensure the Core Strategy housing target is achieved over the plan period, and therefore a negative effect is expected on SA objective 18. However, the policy states that priority will be given to the use

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>		<p>of brownfield land, which is likely to minimise soil pollution (18.1), and provide opportunities to improve soil quality and reduce contaminated land (18.3). The policy also ensures that there will be no significant adverse effects on the integrity of the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC), which is likely to have significant positive effects on protecting and enhancing the quality of watercourses and therefore the overall effect is expected to be mixed.</p>

Policy SS4: Movement and Transportation

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	The policy may have a minor positive impact on access to employment opportunities through supporting improvements to transport across the county including the road network, public transport provision and the increased movement of freight by rail (1.2).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Planning for major highway schemes and reducing road traffic is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	The policy may have a minor indirect positive impact on maintaining conditions that enable a sustainable economy (SA objective 3) through supporting improvements to transport across the county including the road network, public transport provision and the increased movement of freight by rail.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	+	By promoting enhancements in the quality of the wider public realm, this policy is likely to have a positive impact on creating a high quality public realm (7.4). There may also be some indirect positive effects for services, facilities and retailers (7.1 and 7.2) if improvements to transport networks increase accessibility to these areas.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Planning for major highway schemes and reducing road traffic is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+/-	By promoting enhancements in the quality of the wider public realm and encouraging walking and cycling as sustainable modes of transport, this policy may have a positive impact on encouraging healthy lifestyles (5.3). However, the policy also promotes improvements to the strategic and local highway network, including construction of a new relief road around Hereford, which reflects a continued dependence in the County on car use. Existing and forecast demand for car use far exceeds demand for sustainable transport modes (public transport, cycling, walking) ⁶⁵ ; therefore, the policy is expected to have an overall mixed impact on health.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Planning for major highway schemes and reducing road traffic is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	+	The policy may have a minor indirect positive impact on access to services and opportunities (SA objective 10.1) through supporting improvements to transport across the county including the road network and public transport provision.
Transport and Access			

⁶⁵ Hereford Multi-Modal Model Forecasting Report (JMP Consultants, September 2009).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	+/-	The policy is likely to have mixed effects on the transport and access objectives, as it aims to protect and enhance strategic and local cycle and walking routes, which promote more sustainable transport patterns (4.2). However, it is not clear that sustainable transport patterns will increase overall, given the continued reliance on car use in the County (as forecast by supporting evidence ⁶⁶ and reflected through policy support for improvements to the highways network). The policy prioritises the construction of new relief roads around Hereford and Leominster to address forecasted highway congestion associated with development growth. In this case, therefore, the policy is likely to have a negative impact on promoting sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion (4.2). However, the policy's aim to improve public transport interchanges is likely to have a positive impact on improving the quality and provision of integrated transport options (4.3). The policy is likely to have a positive impact on increasing the use of public transport (4.4), as it supports improved rail infrastructure, public transport interchanges, expansion of an existing park-and-ride scheme, and improving bus provision.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	+	The policy is likely to have a minor positive impact on access to cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities through supporting improvements to transport across the county including the road network and public transport provision.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.	0	Planning for major highway schemes and reducing road traffic is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).

⁶⁶ Ibid.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
pleasant local environments.	<p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>		
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+	The policy requires new development to demonstrate that existing or proposed public transport services can accommodate development proposals, which is likely to have a positive impact on ensuring developments are accessible by sustainable transport modes (19.1).
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on improving the general appearance of an area (20.4), as it promotes enhancements in the quality of the wider public realm (in order to encourage walking and cycling).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Planning for major highway schemes and reducing road traffic is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the	-	The policy is likely to have a negative impact on reducing the

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>		consumption of fossil fuels (14.1), as it is predicated on providing improved highway infrastructure to meet forecast increase in the number of cars on the County's roads. The policy also encourages the use of public transport, including improved rail infrastructure and bus service; however, the policy overall is likely to result in an increase in transport emissions, reflecting the predicted population growth within the County and high car use, which is likely to continue due to the rural nature of Herefordshire.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	-	The policy is likely to have a negative impact on reducing the consumption of greenhouse gas emissions (16.1), as it is predicated on providing improved highway infrastructure to meet forecast increase in the number of cars on the County's roads. The policy also encourages the use of public transport, including improved rail infrastructure and bus service; however, the policy overall is likely to result in an increase in transport emissions, reflecting the predicted population growth within the County and high car use, which is likely to continue due to the rural nature of Herefordshire.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	-	Due to construction and development associated with planned transport developments, the policy may have negative impacts on the protection of biodiversity (13) through land take, encroachment, or disturbance. The SEA of the Local Transport Plan identifies that biodiversity, soil quality, flood risk and landscape could be adversely affected by the provision of the two Park-and-Ride sites in Hereford, the rail-based Park-and-Ride at Withington, a new rail station at Rotherwas, and a Hereford Relief Road.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by</p>	-	Due to construction and development associated with planned transport developments, the policy may have negative impacts on landscape quality (15.1) through land take, encroachment, or disturbance. The SEA of the Local Transport Plan identifies that biodiversity, soil quality, flood risk and landscape could be adversely affected by the provision of the two Park-and-Ride sites in Hereford, the rail-based Park-and-Ride at Withington, a

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>		new rail station at Rotherwas, and a Hereford Relief Road.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Planning for major highway schemes and reducing road traffic is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	-?	<p>The policy is likely to have a negative impact on air quality (18.1) through growth in car use and consequent transport emissions. There may also be an uncertain negative impact on improving air quality within Air Quality Management Areas (18.4), due to the policy's support for improvements to the road network in Hereford, which is likely to exacerbate existing air quality issues in that area.</p> <p>Although the policy option proposes the provision of a Hereford relief road, which should have positive effects on air quality within the city, the policy option also allows for further improvements to the road network which may have an overall effect of increasing traffic volumes across the County generally, and therefore having an overall adverse impact on air quality in Herefordshire (although not necessarily within the AQMA if the relief road is indeed provided).</p>

Policy SS5: Employment Provision

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, and safeguarding higher quality employment land from alternative uses is likely to have a significant positive effect on employment. In addition to supporting the more traditional employment sectors such as farming and food and drink manufacturing, Policy SS.5 seeks to facilitate the development of knowledge intensive industries, environmental technologies and creative industries (1.1 and 1.4).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	++	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, and safeguarding higher quality employment land from alternative uses may have a positive effect on skills by providing work-based training opportunities. In addition to supporting the more traditional employment sectors such as farming and food and drink manufacturing, Policy SS.5 seeks to facilitate the development of knowledge intensive industries, environmental technologies and creative industries, which should attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs (2.1), and the positive effect on SA objective is expected to be significant.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	++	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, and safeguarding higher quality employment land from alternative uses may have a positive effect on the resilience of the local economy (3.1). In addition to supporting the more traditional employment sectors such as farming and food and drink manufacturing, Policy SS.5 seeks to facilitate the development of knowledge intensive industries, environmental technologies and creative industries, which should have a significant positive effect on the diversity of businesses available in Herefordshire (3.1), and the development of new high value and low impact technologies (3.5).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.	+	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period may have a positive effect on sustainable regeneration, where this would lead to increased services and facilities (7.1) and retail developments (7.2).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality. 7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS.5, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS.5, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS.5, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	+	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, and safeguarding higher quality employment land from alternative uses may have a positive effect on access to jobs (10.1).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion,	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in	+/-	There may be increased traffic related to the delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		Strategic sites are proposed in Hereford (15ha), Leominster (up to 10 ha), Ledbury (12 ha) and Bromyard (5ha) which should provide opportunities to use public transport, cycling and walking (4.4) for residents in those towns. However, developing strategic employment sites in Hereford and the market towns may increase car travel from rural areas (4.1 and 4.6), and the overall effect expected on SA objective 4 is mixed.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS.5, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS.5, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11), although safeguarding higher quality employment land from alternative uses may restrict residential developments in safeguarded areas.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p>	0	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS.5, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings. 20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. 20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place? 20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.	0	Delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period, as identified in Policy SS.5, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	-?	The delivery of 148ha of employment land through Policy SS.5 will inevitably involve an increase in waste generation. However, new developments may offer good opportunities for incorporating sustainable waste management practices and any negative effect expected on SA objective 12 is currently uncertain.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	-?	The delivery of 148ha of employment land through Policy SS.5 will inevitably involve an increase in natural resource consumption. However, new developments may offer good opportunities for incorporating energy-efficiency practices and any negative effect expected on SA objective 14 is currently uncertain.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial	-?	The delivery of 148ha of employment land through Policy SS.5 will inevitably involve an increase in greenhouse gas emissions. However, new developments may offer good opportunities for

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		incorporating renewable energy and energy-efficiency practices and any negative effect expected on SA objective 16 is currently uncertain.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance. 13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species. 13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces. 13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value. 13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.	+?	There may be negative effects on biodiversity related to the delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period. However, strategic sites proposed in Hereford (15ha), Leominster (up to 10 ha), Ledbury (12 ha) and Bromyard (5ha) should steer development away from rural areas and sites of international, national, regional or local importance. Until specific employment sites are allocated, a minor positive but uncertain effect is expected on SA objective 13.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings. 15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management. 15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. 15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.	+?	There may be negative effects on landscape quality related to the delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period. However, strategic sites proposed in Hereford (15ha), Leominster (up to 10 ha), Ledbury (12 ha) and Bromyard (5ha) should steer development away from rural areas and natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings. Until specific employment sites are allocated, a minor positive but uncertain effect is expected on SA objective 15.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change. 17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems. 17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.	0	Until specific employment sites are allocated, the delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period it is uncertain whether Policy SS.6 will have any effects on flood risk. Currently, a negligible effect is expected on SA objective 17.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality	+?	There may be negative effects on pollution related to the delivery of 148 ha of employment land in Herefordshire during the plan period. However, strategic sites proposed in Hereford (15ha), Leominster (up to 10 ha), Ledbury (12 ha) and Bromyard (5ha) should steer development away from rural areas and the best and most versatile agricultural land (18.3). Until specific employment sites are allocated, a minor positive

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		but uncertain effect is expected on SA objective 18.

Policy SS6: Climate Change

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	The climate change mitigation and adaptation measures identified in Policy SS.6 are unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	The climate change mitigation and adaptation measures identified in Policy SS.6 are unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	Climate change mitigation measure such as promoting the use of decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy is likely to have a positive effect on new high value and low impact technologies (3.5), and on using natural resources efficiently (3.2). A minor positive effect is therefore expected on the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and	+?	Incorporation of climate change adaptation measures such as reducing heat island effects (through the provision of open space and water, planting and green roofs) may have a positive effect on creating a high quality public realm and community/amenity space (7.4), although this is currently uncertain as it depends on the specific design of developments.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	support vitality. 7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	The climate change mitigation and adaptation measures identified in Policy SS.6 are unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	Policy SS.6 seeks to deliver development that encourages sustainable travel options including walking, cycling and public transport and is therefore likely to have a positive effect on encouraging healthy lifestyles (5.3).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	The climate change mitigation and adaptation measures identified in Policy SS.6 are unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	The climate change mitigation and adaptation measures identified in Policy SS.6 are unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are	++	Climate change mitigation measures included within Policy SS.6 such as delivering development that seeks to reduce the need to travel by private car and which encourages sustainable travel options including walking, cycling and public transport, and supporting affordable, local food production and farming to

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		reduce the county's contribution to food miles is likely to have a significant positive effect on reducing the need to travel (4.1) and increasing the use of alternative transport modes (4.4).
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+?	Incorporation of climate change adaptation measures such as reducing heat island effects (through the provision of open space and water, planting and green roofs) may have a positive effect on sport and recreational facilities, although this is currently uncertain as it depends on the specific design of developments.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+	Policy SS.6 promotes climate change mitigation measures such as designing developments to reduce carbon emissions and use resources more efficiently, and water efficiency measures to reduce demand on water resources, including through the use of efficient appliances and exploration of the potential for rainwater recycling. This is likely to increase the availability of good quality housing in Herefordshire, particularly by improving the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reducing fuel poverty and ill-health (11.4).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by</p>	++	Focussing development to the most sustainable locations, and supporting affordable, local food production and farming to reduce the county's contribution to food miles is likely to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 19 as it directly seeks to ensure that new developments are in appropriate locations (19.1), and promotes ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food (19.3).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	Policy SS.6 requires developers to take known physical and environmental constraints into account when identifying locations for development. This is likely to prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting (20.3), and a positive effect can be expected on SA objective 20.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	++	Policy SS.6 promotes climate change mitigation measures such as reduction, re-use and recycling of waste with particular emphasis on waste minimisation on development sites and water efficiency measures to reduce demand on water resources. This is likely to lead to significant positive effects on the SA objective that relates to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	++	Policy SS.6 promotes climate change mitigation measures such as reducing the need to travel by private car and designing developments to use resources more efficiently. These measures are likely to lead to significant positive effects on the SA objective that relates to natural resource consumption.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by</p>	++	Policy SS.6 promotes climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, and is likely to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 16 as it directly addresses climate change issues. In particular, delivering development that seeks to reduce the need to travel by private car, and reduce carbon emissions and use resources more efficiently is likely to reduce greenhouse

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
problem.	micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		gas emissions (16.1), and promoting the use of decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy will increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources (16.2).
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+	Policy SS.6 requires developers to take known physical and environmental constraints into account when identifying locations for development. It is assumed that this would include any international, national, regional or local designated sites (13.1 and 13.2) and a minor positive effect is therefore expected on SA objective 13 by steering development away from these designations.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+	Policy SS.6 requires developers to take known physical and environmental constraints into account when identifying locations for development. It is assumed that this would include any AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, or parks and gardens (15.1) and a minor positive effect is therefore expected on SA objective 15 by steering development away from these designations.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	++	Policy SS.6 promotes climate change adaptation measures such as minimising the risk of flooding and making use of sustainable drainage methods, and including water efficiency measures to reduce demand on water resources, which are likely to have a significant positive effect on reducing flood risk (17.1). In addition, focussing development to the most sustainable locations is likely to prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain (17.2).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p>	++	Policy SS.6 promotes climate change mitigation and adaptation measures, such as focussing development to the most sustainable locations, protecting the best agricultural land, and the development of water efficiency measures to reduce demand on water resources. Therefore, significant positive effects are expected on minimising water and soil pollution

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		(18.1), the quality of watercourses (18.2), soil quality (18.3) and the use of water minimisation techniques (18.5).

SA matrices for the Place-shaping Policies

Policy HD1: Hereford City Centre

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	<p>1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors.</p> <p>1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport.</p> <p>1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings.</p> <p>1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.</p>	+?	This policy allows for large-scale mixed use development in Hereford city centre, including opportunities for new commercial (including office) development, which would be well-located within the city centre and within easy reach of residents of the new homes in that area. The measures in the policy to discourage 'city centre uses' (understood to include offices) in out of town locations should have a positive effect by ensuring that most development comes forward in easily accessible central locations. New employment development within the city centre would also be easily accessible via public transport for employees commuting from further afield and for those without access to cars. It will also contribute to the identified need to promote small-scale sustainable employment opportunities in and on the edge of the Hereford city area and help to achieve the aim of enhancing city centre office provision ⁶⁷ . However, there is some uncertainty attached to the likely positive effect as it is not yet certain how much employment would result from the commercial development in the city centre, and no specific floor space allocation is included in the policy.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	<p>2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs.</p> <p>2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county.</p> <p>2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.</p>	+?	The provision of new employment opportunities in the city centre as part of the large-scale mixed use development proposed under this policy could result in improved and easily accessible opportunities for work-based training and skills development. However, this potential positive effect is uncertain as it is not currently clear what nature the new job opportunities in the city centre would be and to what extent they would offer opportunities for on-the-job training. The policy specifies that the Urban Village will be complemented by other land uses, including opportunities for new education developments. Depending on the nature of those developments (e.g. if they include new college places), it is possible that there could be a further positive effect on increasing the skill level of the local workforce.
3. Maintain or	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business	+	The fact that the development proposed in Hereford city centre

⁶⁷ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	<p>and the economy.</p> <p>3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently.</p> <p>3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector.</p> <p>3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example.</p> <p>3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.</p>		is to be mixed-use, incorporating a range of commercial uses (offices, tourism and leisure etc.) should have a positive effect on diversifying the local economy. The location of new commercial development in the city centre should make it appealing to investors due to the good existing and planned transport links and relatively easy access for commuters and business users. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>	+	<p>The policy makes good provision for retail and employment development in the city centre, and aims to maintain the vitality and viability of the city centre by requiring proposals for town centre uses (including retail and office developments) outside of the defined central area to be subject to an impact assessment to identify potential adverse impacts on the centre of Hereford. This should help occupancy rates in the city centre at a time when the city has been affected by the economic downturn along with many other small city and town centres⁶⁸. In addition, the policy encourages residential use of the upper floors of shops and commercial buildings in the city centre, which should further benefit occupancy levels.</p> <p>The policy also specifies that the Urban Village will be complemented by other land uses, to create a sustainable mixed use development. This type of large-scale mixed use development in the city centre should have a positive effect in terms of providing services and facilities in an accessible location, and in appropriate surroundings. It will also contribute to the wider aims of achieving city centre regeneration⁶⁹. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
8. Raise Educational	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets	+?	The policy states that the large-scale mixed use development to

⁶⁸ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (December 2012) Herefordshire Council Town Centres Study Update

⁶⁹ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
achievements throughout the County	projected future demand and need.		come forward in Hereford city centre will include educational development, which is taken to cover additional school places to meet increased demand from the growing population. However the extent and nature of such provision is not specified; the potential positive effect on this objective is currently uncertain.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	<p>The policy specifies that the new Urban Village in Hereford will be complemented by other land uses, to create a sustainable mixed-use development including opportunities for new health developments (this is taken to include facilities such as doctors' surgeries). The policy also encourages development that provides new or enhanced sport, recreation and leisure facilities for local residents and visitors, which should help to increase levels of activity amongst the local population. This will also be helped by the provision of green infrastructure – the policy allows for enhancements to Widemarsh Brook as a green infrastructure resource.</p> <p>New health-related development in the city centre will be easily accessible by public transport, thereby reducing inequalities in terms of access to healthcare facilities, and the focus of new development in the city centre combined with the provision of the new Link Road should also help to reduce traffic congestion and address pockets of poor air quality which should have further health benefits for local people.</p>
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	+?	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on levels of crime and safety in Herefordshire. However, it is possible that focussing a range of mixed-use developments within the city centre could help to improve perceptions of safety in the area as it will be busier throughout the various times of day rather than being busy during the day and quieter after dark.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p>	+	This policy focuses residential and commercial development in the city centre, which should have a positive effect on ensuring easy and equitable access to services and opportunities, including for those without access to private cars. The provision of improved employment opportunities, particularly those in easily accessible locations, will also have a positive effect on addressing poverty by increasing the number and range of

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
the county.	10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.		available job opportunities.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	++/-	Locating new development within the city centre means that local people should be more easily able to access the new jobs, services and facilities via shorter journeys which may be made on foot or by bicycle, and that people travelling from further afield can travel by bus or train. The policy also specifies that the Urban Village will be served by safe and attractive pedestrian and cycle links to other locations within the city, and it allows for the provision of a new transport interchange. Newmarket Street, Blueschool Street and Commercial Square will be redesigned to become safe and attractive routes for pedestrians and cyclists, further enhancing the sustainable transport opportunities on offer. However, the policy also states that a new Link Road will service development parcels forming part of the Urban Village and, although this is likely to have a positive effect in terms of reducing congestion in the core of the city which is a significant problem for Hereford, it may also encourage ongoing car use and discourage a modal shift towards rail travel. The policy also allows for new public car parking facilities, which may have a similar effect. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	++	The policy specifies that the Urban Village will be complemented by other land uses, to create a sustainable mixed-use development including opportunities for new large-scale education tourism and leisure developments. This new development will be in the city centre and so will be easily accessible by public transport, which the policy also makes provision for improving through new walking and cycle links. In addition, the new residential development coming forward in the city centre will be in close proximity of the old livestock market which is currently being redeveloped for a range of leisure uses including a cinema, restaurants and cafes. The

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			policy should have further positive effects on improving Hereford's tourism offer, through specific tourism-related development in the city centre and the provision of a visitors' centre at the Canal basin, as well as the mixed-use redevelopment of parts of Hereford United football ground, which may help to stimulate local sport-related tourism. This will also have a positive effect on the promotion of inland waterways for leisure and recreation as well as for transport (the supporting text to the policy recognises that opportunities exist to make an attractive feature of the canal basin and its corridor). As such, an overall significant positive effect on this objective is likely.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	The policy allows for the provision of 800 new homes, the majority of which will be in a new urban village near to the centre of Hereford. As such, the new homes will be easily accessible and well-located for the services and facilities offered in the city centre. The policy also states that further residential development will take place through the implementation of existing commitments, re-development of brownfield sites, re-use of upper floors above commercial properties, infill development and site allocations through the Hereford Area Plan. This approach should have a positive effect on the wider built environment as derelict or unused buildings may be redeveloped for high quality housing. The policy also specifies that at least 35% of the new homes will be affordable, mixed-tenure and with an appropriate density, and the supporting text to the policy reiterates that they will be built to high standards in accordance with other Core Strategy policies. It also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need ⁷⁰ . As such, an overall significant positive effect on this objective is likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed	++	This policy encourages the redevelopment of brownfield sites and residential development in the upper floors of existing commercial buildings, which will reduce the extent of new

⁷⁰ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
use.	<p>on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		development coming forward on greenfield land. Focussing development in the city centre will mean that particularly good opportunities for the re-use of existing buildings and materials are likely to exist and it will also ensure that new developments are easily accessible by walking and cycling and other modes of sustainable transport. In addition, focussing mixed-use (both residential and employment) development within the city centre area should help to reduce the need to travel and shorten journey distances. The policy also specifies that residential development will be of an appropriate density for the city centre; therefore an overall significant positive effect on this objective is likely.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	This policy should have a positive effect on the quality of the built environment in the city centre as it allows for the redevelopment of brownfield sites and it is assumed that the new development coming forward will be high quality. The policy specifies that development will be encouraged where it enables the protection, restoration and enhancement of built heritage assets, with particular regard to the historic street patterns and skyline. It is also assumed that the development will take place in accordance with Core Strategy policy LD5: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets, and the supporting text states that the work to upgrade Newmarket Street, Blueschool Street and Commercial Square (which is detailed in the policy itself) will present the opportunity to improve the setting of the city wall, an important historic asset. The policy also encourages development which provides improved tourism and cultural facilities which respect historic character and local distinctiveness. An overall significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and employment development will

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
encourage recycling.			conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+	The effect of the new development proposed in this policy on energy efficiency will largely depend on its design, which is determined by other emerging Core Strategy policies (such as SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency). However, because the development proposed in this policy is located in the city centre, opportunities to re-use existing buildings are likely to be good and the policy actively encourages the re-use of brownfield sites and residential development within the upper floors of existing buildings (therefore minimising the need for new building). In addition, the policy makes good provision for sustainable and integrated transport (e.g. through the development of a transport interchange). As such, this policy is likely to have a positive effect on this objective.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+/-	This policy makes good provision for the use of sustainable transport (e.g. the provision of a transport interchange and enhanced walking and cycle links) which should have a positive effect on reducing greenhouse gas emission from vehicle transport, particularly given that the residential and employment development proposed in the city centre would otherwise be expected to result in increased car use. However, the policy also allows for the provision of a new link road and additional public car parking spaces, which could encourage ongoing car use by making it faster and more convenient, and could therefore help to maintain levels of transport-related greenhouse gas emissions. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green</p>	+?	This policy encourages development that enables the protection and enhancement of Hereford's natural assets (which is taken to include biodiversity) and it specifies that Widemarsh Brook in particular will be enhanced for biodiversity - this area has been highlighted as an important biodiversity feature where there will be opportunities to achieve enhancements through green

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>		<p>infrastructure provision⁷¹. Focussing development in the city centre may have a positive effect in that it allows for higher levels of brownfield site use and infill development, which can reduce the extent of habitat loss that could otherwise result from development on greenfield land. However, brownfield sites can often harbour valuable biodiversity and this issue should be explored, with any appropriate mitigation implemented, before sites and buildings are redeveloped. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall minor positive effect on this SA objective is therefore likely.</p>
<p>15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.</p>	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+	<p>This policy provides for development within the existing built up area of Hereford city centre, thereby focussing it away from the more sensitive rural landscapes on the edge of the city and beyond. The policy also makes specific reference to the protection and enhancement of Widemarsh Brook as a green infrastructure resource, which should have a positive effect by enhancing the limited extent of open space in the city centre and thereby improving the townscape. The policy also encourages development that enables the protection, restoration and enhancement of Hereford's natural assets, which is taken to include the landscape/townscape.</p>
<p>17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.</p>	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+?	<p>This policy provides for large-scale development within the city centre, which could exacerbate flood risk by increasing the area of impermeable surfaces within an already built up area. However, it is assumed that the new development will adhere to other Core Strategy policies, including policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management and Water Resources. The supporting text to this policy recognises the importance of providing infrastructure to address flooding issues within the new Urban Village and states that an Integrated Surface Water Management Strategy will be produced and will inform the design and layout of the development, also helping to deliver</p>

⁷¹ Herefordshire Council (2010) Green Infrastructure Strategy: Herefordshire.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			<p>sustainable drainage and flood reduction measures (although this is not referenced within the policy itself). The policy also encourages development on brownfield land and residential use of the upper floors of existing buildings, which should reduce the extent to which entirely new development (which can lead to the loss of impermeable surfaces) will occur. The policy also specifies that Widemarsh Brook will be enhanced to provide flood relief and sustainable surface water drainage solutions; therefore an overall minor positive effect on this objective is likely, although there are some uncertainties attached without more information in the policy itself regarding the specific flood management measures that would be incorporated into the new Urban Village.</p>
<p>18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p>	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	<p>+/-?</p>	<p>This policy makes good provision for the use of sustainable transport and reduced car use (e.g. the provision of a transport interchange and enhanced walking and cycle links) which should have a positive effect on reducing pollution and improving air quality, particularly given that much of Hereford city centre suffers from traffic congestion. However, the policy also allows for the provision of a new Link Road and increased public car parking provision, which could have the opposite effect on air quality by encouraging ongoing car use in the city. The policy also for development associated with the canal, and it is uncertain at this stage what the potential effects on the watercourse could be in terms of water quality, although it is assumed that this development would adhere to emerging Core Strategy policy SD4: Water Quality. An overall mixed and currently uncertain effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>

Policy HD2: Hereford Movement

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	While this policy does not make provision for employment development, it will improve the extent to which employment land in Hereford (both existing and that allocated under other emerging Core Strategy policies) will be accessible by via a range of transport modes, by making provision for improved connectivity for pedestrians, cyclists and bus users. A minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	This policy is not expected to have an effect on the adaptability and skill level of the local workforce.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	This policy could have an indirect positive effect on this SA objective as improved transport links, in particular improved connectivity with the national transport network, is likely to make Hereford a more popular and attractive place for businesses to invest. Ensuring that appropriate transport links are in place to allow individuals to commute to and from workplaces in the city, and to allow for industrial transport, should help to increase Hereford's viability as a commercial hub.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.	+	This policy should help to improve the quality of the public realm within Hereford by reducing the level of vehicle traffic and congestion within the city centre and by ensuring that there are safe and amenable routes for walkers and pedestrians. The

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		provision of additional car parking for shoppers may also have an indirect positive effect by stimulating the retail market within the city centre, and therefore encouraging a wider range of retailers to locate there and helping to support existing shops at a time when many local high streets are struggling with closures.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on education.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	The measures in this policy which encourage walking and cycling could have a positive effect on health by increasing levels of activity amongst the local population. Reducing congestion within Hereford city centre (by the provision of a western relief road and improved sustainable transport links) could also have a positive effect on health by improving air quality, especially in the area around the A49 between Asda and Newtown Roundabouts, the inner ring road and much of Whitecross Road which have been designated as an Air Quality Management Area.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on crime and safety.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p>	+	The measures in this policy aiming to improve sustainable transport provision within Hereford should have a positive effect on ensuring easy and equitable access to jobs, services and facilities for all groups of people, and avoiding discrimination against those without access to a private car.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.		
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	++/-	<p>The primary focus of this policy is on transport and movement within Hereford, and it will have a range of potential effects on this SA objective. The policy strongly promotes the use of sustainable transport in Hereford, which suffers from significant congestion issues, for example by encouraging improved access and connectivity for walkers, cyclists and bus users and by increasing integration between bus and rail services. It specifically encourages reduced reliance on car use by requiring sustainable transport infrastructure to be incorporated within new developments. In this sense, a significant positive effect is likely.</p> <p>However, some of the provisions of the policy could have a negative effect by encouraging ongoing car use, in particular the provision of car parking facilities for shoppers and visitors and a western relief road. While the relief road would help to reduce congestion in the city centre and could therefore also improve safety, it could increase the attractiveness and convenience of car travel in the wider area and hinder a modal shift away from car use. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.</p>
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	+	<p>The provision of improved car parking for visitors within Hereford could have a positive effect on promoting tourism in the area. In addition, the sustainable transport provision made by this policy will help to ensure that all people are more easily able to access the cultural, educational, leisure, sporting and recreation facilities that will come forward through other Core Strategy policies, as well as those that already exist. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location,	+	While this policy does not make direct provision for housing development, it should have an indirect positive effect by

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>		improving the quality of the wider built environment and therefore the setting of existing housing in Hereford as well as the new housing coming forward under other emerging Core Strategy policies. Reduced vehicle traffic within Hereford city centre (as a result of sustainable transport improvements and the development of the western relief road) should increase the quality of the built environment by reducing noise and improving air quality – this is a particular issue around the A49 between Asda and Newtown roundabouts, the inner ring road and much of Whitecross Road which have been designated as an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). A minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+/-	While this policy does not influence the location of new development (aside from the proposed western relief road), it will help to ensure that new development is well connected via sustainable transport modes such as walking and cycle routes and in this sense will have a positive effect. However, the location of the new relief road could have a negative effect on efficient land use as a result of development on greenfield land; therefore overall effects will be mixed.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+?	This policy is likely to have a positive effect on the quality of Hereford's built environment, by reducing vehicle traffic and congestion within the city centre. This will therefore have a positive effect on the setting of designated heritage assets in that area. There is some uncertainty attached to this effect as the development proposed by this policy (namely the relief road and the transport interchange) could have adverse effects, depending on the proximity of heritage assets such as listed buildings and archaeological remains. However, any potential effects will not be able to be accurately assessed until detailed proposals for those developments come forward.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	0	Most of this policy is not expected to have an effect on waste, although the development of the western relief road and the improvements to public transport infrastructure could have an effect depending on the materials used during construction and the potential for existing construction materials to be re-used or recycled. While this cannot be known at this stage, it is assumed that the new infrastructure development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. The overall effect on this objective is therefore negligible.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	+/-?	Improved sustainable transport provision should help to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels for transport; however the construction of the new western relief road could have a negative effect on the consumption of land and soil as it will largely take place on greenfield land. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely. There is also some uncertainty attached as it is not currently known to what extent it may be possible to make use of re-used or recycled materials during the construction of the relief road and other transport infrastructure.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.	+/-	The effects of this policy on climate change are likely to be mixed. The policy makes good provision for sustainable transport (including walking and cycle routes and a new transport interchange) within Hereford, and therefore should help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport. However, the policy could also encourage ongoing car use through the construction of the western relief road and the provision of additional car parking for shoppers and visitors, which may make car use more convenient and attractive and therefore could stimulate transport-related emissions.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand	13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.	?	The effects of the policy on biodiversity objective will depend largely on the effects of the proposed western relief road, which

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
county biodiversity.	<p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>		<p>will be a major development and could result in habitat loss and species disturbance, particularly as the favoured western route involves crossing the River Wye which is a designated Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and SSSI. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. However, it was recommended that HRA screening for the Core Strategy and subsequently the Hereford Area Plan should revisit the screening conclusion regarding the potential for likely significant effects arising from physical loss or damage to habitats, noise pollution and vibration, light pollution, air pollution and water quality within the River Wye SAC, once more detail about the proposed route for the relief road should be available, and to ensure any further specific mitigation requirements are included. The supporting text to the policy states that the Hereford Relief Road Study of Options report⁷² indicated that the impacts on biodiversity at the River Wye crossing can be largely mitigated through the use of wide span structures and avoidance of direct working in the watercourse. The overall likely effect of this policy on biodiversity is therefore currently uncertain as it will depend on the final design of the relief road and the implementation of the identified mitigation.</p>
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and</p>	+/-?	<p>The development of the western relief road could have an adverse impact on the landscape outside of the city centre, although this effect will depend largely on the exact route and design of the road, which is not known at this stage. The Hereford Relief Road Study of Options⁷³ highlighted the potential for the road to have adverse landscape impacts at the River Wye gorge and concluded that the landscape impacts of the road would be greater if it followed a western route as opposed to the alternative eastern option. However, the supporting text to this policy states that work on the detailed alignment of the road will be considered through the Hereford</p>

⁷² Herefordshire Council (September 2010) Hereford Relief Road: Study of Options.

⁷³ Herefordshire Council (September 2010) Hereford Relief Road: Study of Options.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	accommodate the needs of disabled users.		<p>Area Plan, and that close working with the key statutory bodies will be undertaken to ensure that there is the minimum impact on natural assets (taken to include the landscape) and that appropriate mitigation measures are identified.</p> <p>While this policy makes significant provision for sustainable transport use within the city centre, it does not address non-car based access to rural areas and open space outside of the city. However, some positive effect is still likely in this sense as improved access to bus routes and the railway station will allow for onward travel elsewhere via those modes of transport.</p> <p>As such, an overall mixed but uncertain effect on this objective is likely, and will depend largely on the final route and design of the western relief road and any mitigation measures that can be employed to mitigate the potential landscape impacts.</p>
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	?	<p>This policy allows for the development of the western relief road, which crosses the River Wye and so will involve development within the flood plain. The Hereford Relief Road Study of Options⁷⁴ identified the River Wye floodplain as a potential constraint to the western route; however it is assumed that the development would have to adhere to the emerging Core Strategy policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management. It will not be possible to accurately assess the likely effects of the relief road on flood risk until such time as the detailed alignment of the road has been considered through the Hereford Area Plan; therefore the potential effect is currently uncertain.</p>
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	+/-?	<p>The measures in this policy to improve levels of sustainable transport use (e.g. the provision of new walking and cycle links and the development of a transport interchange) should have a positive effect on reducing air pollution in Hereford city centre, which suffers from significant congestion in some areas (particularly in the area around the A49 between Asda and Newtown Roundabouts, the inner ring road and much of Whitecross Road which have been designated as an Air Quality Management Area). However, the development of the western relief road and the provision of additional car parking for</p>

⁷⁴ Herefordshire Council (September 2010) Hereford Relief Road: Study of Options.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		shoppers and visitors could have an adverse effect by encouraging ongoing car use, making it a more convenient and attractive option. In addition, the development of the relief road could have an adverse impact on water quality in the River Wye as it will require a river crossing. The Hereford Relief Road Study of Options ⁷⁵ indicated that the impacts on the River Wye can be largely mitigated through the avoidance of direct working in the watercourse; however it will not be possible to accurately assess the likely effects of the relief road on water quality until such time as the detailed alignment of the road has been considered through the Hereford Area Plan. As such, overall mixed and uncertain effects on this objective are likely.

⁷⁵ Herefordshire Council (September 2010) Hereford Relief Road: Study of Options.

Policy HD3: Northern Urban Expansion

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	This policy does not include any allocation for employment land, and so is not expected to have a direct effect on levels of employment in Herefordshire. However, the policy does require the new residential development at Holmer West to include sustainable transport links to employment sites in the locality and so should have a minor positive effect on ensuring that employment opportunities are easily accessible by public transport.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+	This policy does not include any allocation for employment land, and so is not expected to result in new opportunities for work-based training and skills development. However, it does allow for improved education facilities (through provision of or contributions towards primary and secondary school places and through the development of a pre-school facility) and so could have a minor positive effect by increasing the educational attainment and skill level of the future local workforce.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	This policy does not include any allocation for employment land, and so is not expected to have a direct effect on enhancing the local economy and encouraging inward investment.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using	+	This policy allows for the development of community services and facilities alongside the new residential development at Holmer West, which will help to ensure that the community is

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		<p>viable and sustainable. In particular, the supporting text to the policy states that the Strategy for Community Buildings⁷⁶ highlighted a gap in the provision of community buildings in the north of Herefordshire, and so the provision of improved community facilities at Holmer West will help to address the identified shortfall and prevent it from being exacerbated by the new residential development.</p> <p>Development outside of the city centre on the northern edge of Hereford could be seen to have a potential negative impact on the vitality and viability of the existing high street area and shops; however the services and facilities to be provided at Holmer West appear to be local-level shops and services, aimed at local residents and as such should not detract from the city centre and the retail offer there. The policy should also help to ensure that the public realm in the new urban extension at Holmer West is of high quality as it requires new open space, allotments and play facilities (which will also facilitate community interaction). An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+	This policy specifies that the development at Holmer West will be expected to provide a pre-school facility and that enhanced primary and secondary school places will either be provided or contributed towards by developers. This should ensure that existing school facilities are not overloaded by the population growth associated with the 500 new homes, and a positive effect is therefore likely.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	While this policy does not make specific reference to the provision of healthcare facilities such as doctors' surgeries for the new residents of Holmer West, it does state that the new development will be expected to provide for any identified need for other community infrastructure/facilities, which is taken to include healthcare facilities such as doctors' surgeries. The provision of walking and cycle routes within the new development, and linking to employment sites elsewhere, should help to encourage higher levels of active travel which

⁷⁶ Strategy for Community Buildings (2009)

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			will have a positive effect on health, as will the provision of open space and play facilities and allotments within the Holmer West site. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	This policy is not likely to have an effect on crime and safety.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	0	The fact that this policy allocates development to the north of the city could mean that it is less easy for residents there to access jobs, services and facilities which tend to be focussed in the city centre, and for residents in other parts of Hereford to access the new services and facilities that will come forward at Holmer West, particularly for those without access to private cars. However, the policy also encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links such as walking and cycling routes to and from Holmer West which can be used by residents there, and it is recognised that the services and facilities to be developed there are intended more for local use by nearby residents as opposed to replacing those offered in other parts of the city. As such, the policy is considered to have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+/-	Development of housing to the north of Hereford, where there is no allocation for employment land, could result in longer commuting distances and increase the need to travel for work. However, the policy allows for the provision of walking and cycle routes, linking the development at Holmer West to the forthcoming Park and Ride site and to employment sites in the locality, which could encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport. The supporting text to the policy notes that the proposed development will be 'heavily reliant on bus priority, walking and cycling routes'. The provision of a range of community services and facilities within the new development itself should also help to reduce

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			the need to travel elsewhere (including into the often congested city centre) to access facilities such as schools, healthcare and leisure facilities and shops. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely. It is noted that the policy requires land or a contribution to facilitate the construction of the adjoining phase of the Hereford relief road, and the effects of the road are considered separately under policy HD2 above.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	This policy requires the new development at Holmer West to include appropriate provision of and contributions towards indoor and outdoor play facilities, open space and allotments. These facilities should be easily accessible on foot or by bicycle for local residents as they will be within the same development site as the new housing, and particularly as the policy also requires walking and cycle routes and green infrastructure corridors to be provided. The supporting text to this policy notes that the Open Space Study ⁷⁷ identified under-provision of natural and semi-natural greenspace in the north of the city and 'average' provision of play facilities in the area, with particular gaps for older children. The proposals for new such facilities at Holmer West should therefore help to address this shortfall and prevent it from being exacerbated by the new residential development. A minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable</p>	++	This policy requires the development of around 500 new homes at Holmer West, of which a minimum of 25% will be affordable. It is assumed that new homes will all be built to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with Draft Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. While it is not referred to within the policy itself, the supporting text to the policy states that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including older people, which is a particular identified local need ⁷⁸ . The policy should also have a positive effect on the quality of the built environment within which the new residential development at

⁷⁷ Herefordshire Council and Strategic Leisure Limited (2006) PPG17 Open Spaces Assessment.

⁷⁸ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.		Holmer West will be located, as it requires appropriate contributions towards open space which will enhance the setting of the housing. As such, an overall significant positive effect is likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.	+/-?	The development at Holmer West will take place on largely greenfield land which comprises predominantly agricultural land. In this sense, a negative effect on the efficient use of land is likely, although the policy specifies that the new development will meet high design and sustainability standards. It also makes good provision for sustainable transport such as walking and cycling. The supporting text to the policy states that sustainably sourced materials will be used for housing development where practicable; however it is not clear whether this involves the local sourcing of materials. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely, and some uncertainty is attached.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings. 20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. 20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place? 20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.	+/-?	This policy proposes large-scale development to the north of Hereford on land which is currently largely undeveloped. In this way it could be seen as being inappropriate in scale. However, the policy specifies that the new development will be incorporated into the urban fabric of Hereford and that it will meet high design standards. Because the urban extension will be newly designed and built in accordance with other emerging Core Strategy policies such as LD1: Local Distinctiveness and LD2: Landscape and Streetscape, it is likely to be a high quality built environment. While the policy itself does not make any specific reference to cultural heritage assets, it is assumed that the development will take place in accordance with Core Strategy policy LD5: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets. In addition, the supporting text states that listed buildings and a Scheduled Monument (St Bartholomew's Church and Holmer House) lie to the west of the Holmer West site, and that new development should be designed to ensure that the impacts on the setting of these assets are minimised and opportunities for enhancement are pursued. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely although there are some uncertainties attached until detailed proposals for the Holmer West site come forward and it

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			is certain that potential impacts on heritage assets will be adequately mitigated.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and other development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+	This policy specifies that development at Holmer West will contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy, indicating that a positive effect on energy efficiency is likely. The policy also specifies that the new development will be built to high standards of sustainable design and construction. The supporting text to the policy expands on this, stating that new development will be designed to minimise water and energy use and to use sustainably sourced materials where possible. It also specifies that this will include the use of renewables and other low carbon energy sources. The measures in the policy to encourage sustainable transport provision should have a further positive effect on reducing resource consumption. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+	The measures in this policy aiming to encourage sustainable transport use should have a positive effect on reducing the extent to which greenhouse gas emissions from transport are likely to increase as a result of the new development planned. The supporting text to the policy notes that the proposed development will be 'heavily reliant on bus priority, walking and cycling routes'. The policy also specifies that the new development will meet high standards of design and will contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy, and the supporting text expands on this, specifying that

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			this will include the use of renewables and other low carbon energy sources. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	Development of the scale proposed by this policy on greenfield land could have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss and/or physical disturbance. However, the policy states that any potential impacts on the local environment or biodiversity should be mitigated and measures taken to conserve and enhance areas of important environmental quality. In addition, the policy allows for the creation of new green buffers and linear green routes which should increase connectivity and reduce habitat fragmentation as a result of new development. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall mixed effect on this SA objective is therefore likely, and is currently uncertain as it will depend on the implementation of appropriate mitigation.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	-?	Large scale development on largely greenfield land to the north of Hereford could have a negative effect on the landscape, particularly given that the supporting text to the policy states that the northern part of the development site is in an area classed as being of high to medium landscape sensitivity. While the southern part of the site is less sensitive, it is acknowledged that consideration will need to be given to the impacts of the development on the landscape and vistas. The policy itself also specifies that the development will be sensitively integrated into the existing landscape and that measures should be taken to conserve and enhance areas of important landscape quality. The potential negative effect on this objective is therefore uncertain, until detailed proposals for the site come forward in the site masterplan.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p>	+/-	Large-scale development on greenfield land, as proposed by this policy, could increase the area of impermeable surfaces and therefore increase the risk of flooding to the north of Hereford and elsewhere. However, the supporting text to the policy

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
economy and the environment.	17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.		notes that the Holmer West site is within flood zone 1, which has a low probability of flooding, except for the south eastern boundaries around Ayles Brook which are within flood zone 3. The policy itself states that measures to mitigate flood risk will be implemented, including the consideration of SuDS as part of the green infrastructure network, and the supporting text expands on this, stating that the developer will be required to demonstrate that adequate measures are incorporated within the development to mitigate flood risk from the new development and that the proposals will also need to include measures to mitigate the existing flood risk from Ayles Brook. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	+/-	This policy allows for development which will take place on land to the north of Hereford which has been identified as being predominantly agricultural land ⁷⁹ , and so is likely to have a negative effect in relation to the loss of land and soil. However, the provisions made in the policy for sustainable transport provision will have a positive effect on improving air quality by reducing vehicle traffic in and around Hereford, which is of particular concern in the very heavily congested city centre where there is a designated AQMA. The supporting text to the policy notes that improvements in the capacity of the public foul drainage network in the locality will be required to serve the new development. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.

⁷⁹ Herefordshire Council (2010) Green Infrastructure Strategy: Herefordshire.

Policy HD4: Western Urban Expansion (Three Elms)

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	This policy makes provision for a minimum of 10ha of employment land within the new development at Three Elms, which will have a significant positive effect on increasing employment opportunities. The fact that the site is to be used for mixed-use (residential and employment) development should ensure that the employment land there is easily accessible by local people, particularly given that the policy also allows for the provision of new sustainable transport links (including new bus links and a transport interchange).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	The provision of 10ha of new employment land could have a positive effect on increasing the skill level of the local workforce as it is likely to give rise to some opportunities for work-based training and skills development, although the likely positive effect is currently uncertain as it is not yet clear to what extent these opportunities will arise. The provision of new school places (see SA objective 8 below) should also help to achieve skills development amongst the future local workforce.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+?	The provision of 10ha of employment land to the west of Hereford should help to encourage inward investment, particularly because of the good transport links that will be provided by the new relief road and the proximity of the strategic road network (A4103 and A438) to the site. However, this could encourage commercial road-based transportation and therefore reduce the sustainability of commercial operations; therefore the likely positive effect is uncertain.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using	+	This policy allows for the development of community services and facilities alongside the new residential development, which will help to ensure that the new community is viable and

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		<p>sustainable. Development outside of the city centre could be seen to have a negative impact on the vitality and viability of the existing high street area and shops; however the services and facilities to be provided at Three Elms appear to be local-level shops and services, aimed at local residents and as such should not detract from the city centre and the retail offer there. The policy should ensure that the public realm in the new urban extension at Three Elms is of high quality as it requires new open space and play facilities to be provided (which will also facilitate community interaction). An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+	<p>The policy requires a new 210 place primary school with additional pre-school accommodation to be delivered directly by the developer or through developer contributions. It also states that Whitecross High School will be extended to increase capacity from a six form entry to a seven form entry school, with commensurate school playing field provision to be delivered either by the developer or through developer contributions. The supporting text states that the new primary school will be located close to the existing high school, in order to create a community and education hub for the new development. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	<p>This policy allows for a new linear park along the Yazor Brook corridor connecting with the existing green infrastructure links east of the expansion area, the Public Rights of Way Network within and adjoining the expansion area and informal recreation space. These measures should have a positive effect on health by providing space for active outdoor recreation and thus encouraging more active lifestyles amongst local residents. Effects on health will also depend on the provision of healthcare facilities and the policy states that a neighbourhood community hub will be provided to help meet any identified need for health provision. As such, an overall positive effect on this objective is likely.</p>
9. Reduce and	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce	0	This policy is not likely to have a direct effect on crime and

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>		safety.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	0	The fact that this policy allocates development to the west of the city could mean that it is less easy for residents there to access jobs, services and facilities which tend to be focussed in the city centre, and for residents in other parts of Hereford to access the new services and facilities that will come forward at Holmer West, particularly for those without access to private cars. However, the policy also encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links to and from Three Elms (e.g. along the disused railway line) and it is recognised that the services and facilities to be developed there are intended more for local use by nearby residents. As such, the policy is considered to have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+/-	While this policy provides for development outside of the city centre, and could therefore result in increased journey lengths, it provides for mixed-use residential and employment development which could reduce commuting distances and enable residents to work in close proximity to their homes. The policy also makes some provision for sustainable transport links, including land and infrastructure for a transport interchange. A series of new green infrastructure connections will be provided, which will serve as pedestrian cycle links through the development and new bus links through the expansion area will also be provided. However, the policy states that the transport interchange will involve the provision of 'around 150 spaces' (taken to be car parking space) which could encourage ongoing car use for at least part of journeys. The policy also allows for the delivery of land and infrastructure to facilitate the construction of a western phase of the Hereford Relief Road, which could have the same effect, making ongoing car travel easier and more convenient.

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			The policy also states that the Three Elms location is 'dependent on the expanded capacity of the A49 and local highway network by the provision of sustainable transport measures and/or the construction of future phases of the Hereford Relief Road'. As such, the likely effects of the policy on this SA objective are mixed as although the policy makes fairly good provision for public transport use, it is unavoidably linked with highway improvements which in some cases could result in ongoing or even increased car use.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	This policy makes good provision for leisure and recreation space, including a new linear park along the Yazor Brook corridor, a series of new green infrastructure connections, on-site sports and play facilities, and both formal and informal open space. It also states that a neighbourhood community hub will be provided to meet any identified need for community meeting space, indoor sports and other community infrastructure/facilities. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	This policy allows for the development of around 1,000 new homes comprising a mix of predominantly two and three bedroom dwellings at an average density of around 35 dwellings per hectare. A minimum of 35% of the total number of dwellings will be affordable housing of a tenure to meet the requirements of Policy AH1. In addition, the policy makes provision for the development of accommodation that will meet the needs of older persons, which is a particular identified local need ⁸⁰ and it specifies that residential development will contribute to the distinctiveness of the site and surrounding environment. A significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
19. Ensure	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate	+/-?	The development at Three Elms will take place on largely

⁸⁰ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		greenfield land which comprises predominantly agricultural land. In this sense, a negative effect on the efficient use of land is therefore likely, although the policy specifies that the new development will meet high design and sustainability standards. It also makes good provision for sustainable transport such as walking and cycling. The supporting text to the policy states that sustainably sourced materials will be used for housing development where practicable; however it is not clear whether this involves the local sourcing of materials. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely, and some uncertainty is attached.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+/-?	This policy proposes large-scale development to the west of Hereford on land which is currently largely undeveloped. In this way it could be seen as being inappropriate in scale. However, the supporting text to the policy specifies that the new development will be incorporated into the urban fabric of Hereford and that it will meet high design standards. Because the urban extension will be newly designed and built in accordance with other emerging Core Strategy policies such as LD1: Local Distinctiveness and LD2: Landscape and Streetscape, it is likely to be a high quality built environment. The supporting text to the policy identifies that the Three Elms site includes the Huntingdon Conservation Area, which could therefore potentially be significantly affected by development; however the policy requires the integration of Huntingdon village into the development area whilst ensuring the setting of the Conservation Area is respected. In addition, the supporting text states that the built heritage within the Conservation Area, and the width, hedgerows and alignment of the lane will be safeguarded and enhanced. It is also assumed that the development will take place in accordance with Core Strategy policy LD5: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely although there are some uncertainties attached until detailed proposals for the Three Elms site come forward and it is certain that potential impacts on the Conservation Area will be adequately mitigated.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.	0	While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.		inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and employment development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	+	This policy requires the development at Three Elms to make use of sustainable standards of design and construction that contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include the use of renewable and low carbon energy sources. The supporting text to the policy expands on this, stating that construction standards should ensure that energy and water usage is minimised and that sustainably sources materials are used where practicable. As such, an overall positive effect on this objective is likely.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.	+/-	The measures in this policy to encourage sustainable transport use should have a positive effect on reducing the extent to which greenhouse gas emissions from transport are likely to increase as a result of the new development planned. However, the measures associated with the provision of the new relief road could have the opposite effect by encouraging ongoing car use. The policy specifies that the new development will meet high standards of design and will contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include the use of renewable and low carbon energy sources, and the supporting text builds on this, stating that development will include the use of renewables and other low carbon energy sources where practicable. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	Development of the scale proposed by this policy on greenfield land could have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss and/or physical disturbance. However, the development at Three Elms will include a new linear park along the Yazor Brook corridor and a series of new green infrastructure connections which would enhance the biodiversity value of the area. It also allows for optimising the use of the disused railway line to connect with local services and facilities, but the current biodiversity value of that disused railway line is not currently known. Areas such as that can harbour valuable biodiversity and this should be thoroughly investigated as part of any proposal coming forward. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall mixed effect on this SA objective is therefore likely, and is currently uncertain as it will depend on the implementation of appropriate mitigation.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	-?	The supporting text to this policy states that the Three Elms area is of low/medium landscape sensitivity, although it does also state that the new development will be planned to integrate with the remainder of the city and to respect the landscape sensitivity. However, the policy itself does not make any reference to the implementation of mitigation measures to address the potential landscape impacts of this large-scale development. A minor negative effect is therefore likely, although this is uncertain and depends on the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures and the final design of the scheme which is unknown until the site Masterplan comes forward.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	-?	The supporting text to this policy states that Yazor Brook runs through the Three Elms site, and that the brook corridor is a designated high flood risk zone. As such, large-scale development on largely greenfield land in this location could have a negative effect on flood risk. However, the policy specifies that sustainable urban drainage and flood mitigation solutions will form an integral part of the green infrastructure network at the site and that opportunities to mitigate flood risk

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			<p>arising from Yazor Brook for existing residents and businesses within the city will be expected to be delivered by new development. This addresses the requirement for a strategy to address both the sustainable management of surface water discharges from the urban extension and measures to mitigate against fluvial flood risk⁸¹⁸². As such, the potential negative effect is currently uncertain and depends on the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures within the development.</p>
<p>18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p>	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	<p>+/-</p>	<p>This policy allows for development which will take place on predominantly agricultural land to the west of Hereford, and so is likely to have a negative effect in relation to the loss of land and soil. The provisions made in the policy for sustainable transport provision should, however, have a positive effect on improving air quality by reducing vehicle traffic in and around Hereford, which is of particular concern in the very heavily congested city centre where there is a designated AQMA. However, the measures associated with the Hereford relief road could have the opposite effect by encouraging ongoing car use and therefore adversely affecting air quality outside of the city centre.</p> <p>With regards to water use, the supporting text to the policy states that new buildings will be required to reduce water usage at source and, where practicable, to harvest and recycle grey and surface water. An overall mixed effect is therefore likely.</p>

⁸¹ Herefordshire Council (2008) Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for Herefordshire

⁸² Herefordshire Council (2009) Outline Water Cycle Study

Policy HD5: Southern Urban Expansion (Lower Bullingham)

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	<p>1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors.</p> <p>1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport.</p> <p>1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings.</p> <p>1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.</p>	++?	<p>This policy allows for the provision of around 5ha of employment land within the new development to the south of Hereford, which will have a significant positive effect on increasing local employment opportunities. The proximity of the development (which will include both housing and employment land) to the existing Rotherwas Enterprise Zone means that these land uses should be complementary, and there may be opportunities for residents of Lower Bullingham to also easily access job opportunities in that area.</p> <p>The provision of new sustainable transport links (including walking, cycling and bus links) between the urban extension and the city centre to the north should help to ensure that the new job opportunities are accessible by public transport, although there does seem to be a lot of emphasis within this policy on car use to reach the site – the policy states that it will be accessible from the B3499 and that there will be links to a new Park and Ride site. There is, therefore, some uncertainty attached to the likely significant positive effect as it is not clear how convenient access to the site will be without use of a car.</p>
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	<p>2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs.</p> <p>2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county.</p> <p>2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.</p>	+?	<p>The provision of around 5ha of employment land at Lower Bullingham should have a positive effect on this objective by allowing for new opportunities for work-based training and skills development. However, there is some uncertainty attached without more information about the types of businesses that will locate there and therefore the likely extent of any such opportunities. The provision of new school places (see SA objective 8 below) should also help to improve educational attainment and skills development amongst the future local workforce.</p>
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	<p>3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy.</p> <p>3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently.</p> <p>3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and</p>	+	<p>The provision of around 5ha of employment land at Lower Bullingham should have a positive effect on this SA objective by encouraging inward investment through the provision of new, high quality employment premises, in a location that is well-linked by a range of transport modes. The supporting text to the policy notes that the employment development will need to</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector.</p> <p>3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example.</p> <p>3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.</p>		complement uses at the adjacent Enterprise Zone, but that the site offers opportunities for sustainable small-scale businesses,
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>	+	The policy allows for the development of community services and facilities alongside the new residential development, which will help to ensure that the community is viable and sustainable. Development outside of the city centre could be seen to have a negative impact on the vitality and viability of the existing high street area and shops; however the services and facilities to be provided at Lower Bullingham appear to be local-level shops and services, aimed at local residents and as such should not detract from the city centre and the retail offer there. The policy should ensure that the public realm in the new urban extension at Lower Bullingham is of high quality as it requires new open space and play facilities to be provided (which will also facilitate community interaction). An overall minor positive effect is therefore likely.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+?	This policy requires a new 210 place primary school with additional pre-school accommodation to be provided either directly by the developer or through developer contributions. A positive effect on this objective is therefore likely, although there is some uncertainty attached as the policy makes no reference to the provision of secondary places. If any increase in demand is not met, existing schools could be overloaded as a result of the new residential development.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use</p>	+	A neighbourhood community hub, addressing any identified need for community infrastructure/facilities including health provision is to be provided as part of the new development. This should ensure that there is adequate healthcare provision to support the new housing, without existing services becoming overloaded. The community hub will also include indoor and

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
encourage healthy living for all.	and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.		outdoor sports facilities and green infrastructure corridors will be provided through the area (including strategic greenways along Red Brook and Norton Brook, and links with Withy Brook and a new country park will be created). These measures should combine to encourage higher levels of activity and outdoor recreation amongst local residents and employees, and the provision of walking and cycle links between Lower Bullingham and the city centre should encourage the use of active modes of travel for commuting and other journeys. An overall minor positive effect on health is therefore likely.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	This policy is not likely to have an effect on crime and safety.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	0	The fact that this policy allocates development to the south of the city could mean that it is less easy for residents there to access jobs, services and facilities which tend to be focussed in the city centre, and for residents in other parts of Hereford to access the new services and facilities that will come forward at Lower Bullingham, particularly for those without access to private cars. However, the policy also encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links between Lower Bullingham and the city centre (e.g. improved walking and cycle links) and it is recognised that the services and facilities to be developed there are intended more for local use by nearby residents. As such, the policy is considered to have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are</p>	+/-	The policy allows for mixed-use development at Lower Bullingham, including both housing and employment development, which should help to reduce the need to travel and minimise journey lengths by providing job opportunities within close proximity of new homes. It also makes fairly good

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		provision for sustainable transport (e.g. a new park and ride facility and improved walking and cycle links between the site and the city centre). However, there is quite a lot of emphasis on car use, with the policy stating that the site must deliver suitable vehicular access principally from the B4399 and that the location is also dependent on the expanded capacity of the A49 by the provision of sustainable transport measures and/or the construction of future phases of the Hereford Relief Road. While the provision of a 350 space Park and Ride site adjacent to the A49/ Rotherwas Access Road roundabout will have a positive effect on levels of car traffic within the site itself, it could still encourage ongoing car use for journeys up to that point. As such, the likely effects of the policy on this SA objective are mixed.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	This policy makes a good level of provision for cultural, educational, leisure and sporting facilities. It requires green infrastructure corridors through the area to include strategic greenways along Red Brook and Norton Brook and links with Withy Brook, the creation of a country park to incorporate new footpaths linking with the existing Public Right of Way Network in the locality and the provision on site of appropriate sports and play facilities, open space, community orchards and allotments. In addition, a neighbourhood community hub will be provided, including community meeting space indoor and outdoor sports facilities. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of</p>	++	This policy allows for the provision of around 1,000 new homes comprising a mix of dwellings at an average density of around 35 dwellings per hectare. The supporting text to the policy states that the housing will be predominantly two storey in height, to reflect the residential character of the locality. A minimum of 35% of the total number of dwellings will be affordable housing, and the policy also refers to the development of high quality accommodation that will meet the

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
environments.	<p>homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>		needs of older persons, which is a particular identified local need ⁸³ . An overall significant positive effect is therefore likely, particularly as south Hereford is known to have a high level of income and affordable housing deprivation.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+/-	The development at Lower Bullingham will take place on largely greenfield land. In this sense, a negative effect on the efficient use of land is therefore likely, although the policy specifies that the new development will meet high design and sustainability standards. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+/-?	<p>This policy proposes large-scale development to the south of Hereford on land which is currently largely undeveloped. In this way it could be seen as being inappropriate in scale. However, the supporting text to the policy specifies that the new development will meet high design standards and will respect the existing character of the area. Because the urban extension will be newly designed and built in accordance with other emerging Core Strategy policies such as LD1: Local Distinctiveness and LD2: Landscape and Streetscape, it is likely to be a high quality built environment.</p> <p>The supporting text to the policy identifies that recent field investigations at the Lower Bullingham site have revealed a number of archaeological finds of significance (e.g. the Bronze Age feature known as the Rotherwas Ribbon). It states that further field investigations will be necessary to inform the site Masterplan. It is also assumed that the development will take place in accordance with Core Strategy policy LD5: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets. As such, an overall mixed</p>

⁸³ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			effect on this objective is likely although there are some uncertainties attached until detailed proposals for the Lower Bullingham site come forward and it is certain that potential impacts on heritage assets will be adequately mitigated.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	0	While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and employment development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	+	This policy requires the development at Lower Bullingham to make use of sustainable standards of design and construction that contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include maximising the energy efficiency of buildings and the use of renewable and low carbon energy sources. The supporting text to the policy expands on this, stating that energy and water use in new development will be minimised and that the feasibility of combined heat and power systems will be investigated, possibly in combination with the Enterprise Zone at Rotherwas. As such, an overall positive effect on this objective is likely.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.	+/-	The measures in this policy to encourage sustainable transport use should have a positive effect on reducing the extent to which greenhouse gas emissions from transport are likely to increase as a result of the new development. However, the measures associated with the provision of the new relief road could have the opposite effect by encouraging ongoing car use, making it a more attractive and convenient option. The policy specifies that the new development will meet high standards of design and will contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include the use of renewable and low

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			carbon energy sources. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	Development of the scale proposed by this policy on greenfield land could have a negative effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss and/or physical disturbance. However, this policy provides for the development of green infrastructure corridors through the area to include strategic greenways along Red Brook and Norton Brook and links with Withy Brook, which should have a positive effect on biodiversity as a result of habitat creation and connection, particularly as this area has been identified as a green infrastructure enhancement zone for the benefit of biodiversity ⁸⁴ . The policy also states that sports and play facilities, open space, community orchards and allotments will be provided, as well as a new country park, and this type of green infrastructure provision may have further positive effects. The supporting text to the policy notes that flood attenuation schemes planned for the site will also have biodiversity benefits. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall mixed effect on this SA objective is therefore likely, and is currently uncertain as it will depend on the implementation of appropriate mitigation.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by</p>	-?	This policy proposes large-scale development on a largely greenfield site, which could have a significant negative impact on the landscape character. This is particularly the case given that the supporting text to the policy states that the southern section of the site has been identified as being of higher landscape sensitivity and vulnerable to change ⁸⁵ ; however it also notes that development to the south of the site is largely contained by the Rotherwas Access Road which forms a visual barrier to the more sensitive landscape beyond. The supporting text to the policy also states that the Lower Bullingham site will

⁸⁴ Herefordshire Council (2010) Green Infrastructure Strategy: Herefordshire.

⁸⁵ Herefordshire Council (January 2010) Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis: Hereford and the Market Towns

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.		be designed to respect the landscape sensitivity, and so the potential negative effects is classed as minor and it is uncertain until detailed proposals for the site come forward.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+/-	Large-scale development on greenfield land, as proposed by this policy, is likely to increase the risk of flooding by reducing permeable surfaces. This is particularly the case given that the supporting text to the policy notes that the northern part of the urban extension site is designated as flood zone 3, and it is recognised in the supporting text that a strategy to address flood mitigation measures will be required. The policy itself requires that sustainable urban drainage and flood mitigation solutions form an integral part of the green infrastructure network within the site; therefore the likely effect is mixed.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	+/-	The effects of this policy on air quality could be both positive and negative as although it makes some provision for sustainable transport, it can be seen in some ways to encourage ongoing car use (e.g. through the development of the western relief road). In terms of water quality, the policy requires development to include safeguards to ensure there is no adverse impact on the water quality of local watercourses and the River Wye, while in relation to soil quality a negative effect may result from the development of a large area of primarily greenfield land. As such, an overall mixed effect is likely.

Policy HD6: Hereford Employment Provision

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	This policy sets out the overarching strategy for employment land provision in Hereford, stating that Hereford will be the focus for employment development in the County and that the city centre will be expanded to include new office space, commercial employment land and a better environment for existing businesses. The policy also aims to encourage knowledge-based employment development opportunities and for development at Hereford Enterprise Zone to focus on the defence and knowledge sectors. By focussing employment development within Hereford city centre it will be more accessible, particularly for those with no car, as Hereford offers better sustainable transport links than the smaller market towns and rural areas. An overall significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	This policy allows for increased employment opportunities within Herefordshire, which should in turn increase the opportunities available for work-based training and skills development. Focussing employment opportunities mainly within Hereford could in some way increase inequalities between those in the city and those in the more rural areas of the County; however Hereford offers good sustainable transport links which should ensure that opportunities arising for training and skills development are open to all. A potential positive effect on this objective is therefore likely, although there is some uncertainty attached as the policy does not make specific reference to training opportunities or specify the extent to which they will be provided within new employment development – this will depend largely on the particular companies and industries that locate there and cannot be known at this stage.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and	++	This policy should encourage inward investment as the employment land to be provided in Hereford will offer opportunities for companies to locate in high quality new premises (which it is assumed will be built in accordance with Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency), with relatively easy access via a range of transport

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector.</p> <p>3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example.</p> <p>3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.</p>		<p>modes. By encouraging the development of the defence and knowledge-based employment sectors, the policy should have further positive effects on diversifying the local economy. An overall significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on sustainable regeneration.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on education provision.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on local peoples' health.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on levels of crime and safety. Although increased employment provision in Hereford could be seen as increasing prosperity and therefore potentially reducing crime levels, this is an indirect effect and cannot be assumed.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.		
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	+	The provision of new employment land in Hereford should have a positive effect on reducing poverty in the County by increasing the available number and range of job opportunities for local residents. While focussing employment development in Hereford could be seen as potentially increasing inequality between residents of the city and the more rural areas of the County, Hereford is one of the most easily accessible locations in the County in terms of public transport, and so focussing most employment provision there should help to reduce inequality of access between those with a car and those without. The effects of specific employment site allocations in Hereford have been subject to SA separately, which has considered the potential to which those specific locations allow for access for all. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+	The policy specifies that Hereford will be the focus of employment development within the County, and while this may mean that commuting distances from other parts of the County are relatively long, opportunities to travel via sustainable modes of transport (e.g. bus or train) should be higher than if jobs were primarily located in smaller market towns or rural areas. The policy will not affect the modes of travel used by employees; rather this will be influenced by other emerging Core Strategy policies (e.g. those specifying the location of employment site allocations in Hereford and policy MT2: Traffic Management, Highway Safety and Promoting Active Travel). An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activities for all.	6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.		
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on the provision of housing.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on integrated, efficient and balanced land use - that issue will be influenced by the specific locations for employment development in Hereford which are allocated under other Core Strategy policies.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on the character and quality of the built environment - this will be influenced by other Core Strategies which set out criteria for the development of employment sites in Hereford. All employment-related development will be expected to be in conformity with the emerging Core Strategy policies LD1: Local Distinctiveness and LD5: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and cultural heritage.	20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place? 20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.		
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	0	While the new employment development proposed by this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that new employment development at Hereford will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on the efficient use of energy and natural resources - that issue will be influenced by the criteria for the development of employment sites, which are specified under other Core Strategy policies. All employment-related development will be expected to be in conformity with the emerging Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on the County's vulnerability or contributions to climate change - that issue will be influenced by other Core Strategy policies which set out criteria for the development of employment sites in Hereford. All employment-related development will be expected to be in conformity with the emerging Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on biodiversity - that issue will be influenced by the specific locations for employment development in Hereford and the criteria for the development of those sites, which are specified under other Core Strategy policies. All employment-related development will be expected to be in conformity with the emerging Core Strategy policy LD3: Biodiversity and Geodiversity, and all employment site allocations in Hereford have been subject to a separate Habitats Regulations Assessment to consider their potential impacts on European designated sites. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall negligible effect on this SA objective is therefore likely.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on the local landscape - that issue will be influenced by the specific locations for employment development in Hereford and the criteria for the development of those sites, which are specified under other Core Strategy policies. All employment-related development will be expected to be in conformity with the emerging Core Strategy policy LD2: Landscape and Streetscape.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on flood risk - that issue will be influenced by the specific locations for employment development in Hereford and the criteria for the development of those sites, which are specified under other Core Strategy policies. All employment-related development will be expected to be in conformity with the emerging Core Strategy policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management.
18. Minimise local and global pollution	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on pollution and the protection of environmental resources - this will be

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>		<p>influenced by other Core Strategies which set out criteria for the development of employment sites in Hereford. All employment-related development will be expected to be in conformity with the emerging Core Strategy policy SD4: Water Quality.</p>

Policy BY1: Development in Bromyard

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	This policy provides for 5ha of new employment land at Bromyard, which will have a significant positive effect on increasing employment opportunities by helping to meet the identified need for employment land in Bromyard ⁸⁶ . While the employment land is to be provided outside of the town centre, and so could be seen as potentially less accessible for employees, the policy encourages proposals to facilitate a genuine choice of modes of travel including public transport, cycling and walking. In addition, the policy encourages the provision of live-work units which will increase the supply of flexible employment land and reduce the need to travel. The more specific effects of the employment land allocation are considered under the appraisal of policy BY2.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	The provision of 5ha of employment land at Bromyard is likely to result in new opportunities for work-based training and skills development, although this is dependent on the nature of the businesses that locate there so the potential positive effect is currently uncertain. It should also have a positive effect on reducing inequality by providing these sorts of opportunities in the market towns rather than just focussing them in Hereford.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental	++	The provision of 5ha of employment land at Bromyard is likely to have a significant positive effect on this objective as it will encourage new businesses to invest in Bromyard by providing new and high quality premises, and similarly it will enable existing businesses to grow.

⁸⁶ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	technology initiatives.		
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>	+	The measures included in this policy to ensure the ongoing viability of Bromyard town centre should have a positive effect on sustainable regeneration. The policy encourages new retail, leisure and office developments to be located within the town centre rather than in out of town locations, which should help to reduce the number of vacant properties at a time when many town centres are struggling to achieve high levels of occupancy. The policy also encourages the conservation and enhancement of green infrastructure (taken to include amenity space) and requires development proposals to contribute to identified needs for new or improved community facilities as a result of new development (which should help to encourage community interaction). An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+?	This policy does not make specific reference to the provision of education infrastructure, although it requires development proposals to contribute to identified needs for new or improved community facilities as a result of new development, which is taken to include schools. A minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely, although there is some uncertainty attached.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	<p>This policy encourages new developments to conserve and enhance green infrastructure and to facilitate walking and cycling, which should help to encourage healthier and more active lifestyles amongst local people.</p> <p>The policy does not make any specific reference to the provision of healthcare services, although it requires development proposals to contribute to identified needs for new or improved community facilities as a result of new development, which is taken to include facilities such as doctors' surgeries.</p> <p>The provision of new affordable housing, which is assumed to be high quality, may also have an indirect positive effect on both physical and mental health by ensuring that people on lower incomes have access to good quality housing without facing issues such as damp. However, while the supporting text states that 40% of the 500 new homes at Bromyard will be</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			affordable, this is not specified within the text itself. Overall, a minor positive effect on this objective is likely.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	The policy for development at Bromyard is not expected to have a direct effect on crime/fear of crime.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	0	The fact that this policy allocates much of the development for Bromyard (including the 5ha of employment land) to the north and west of the town could mean that the associated job opportunities and other services and facilities are less accessible than if it were to be developed more centrally. However, the policy encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links such as walking and cycling routes which should help to ensure equal access to jobs, services and other opportunities. As such, the policy is considered to have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+	The provision of employment land at Bromyard should enable more local residents to work locally, rather than commuting into Hereford or further afield, thus reducing journey distances. In particular, the policy encourages the provision of live-work units which will reduce the need to travel. The enhancement of community services and facilities within new development in the town will also help to reduce the need for local people to travel elsewhere to access facilities such as shops, health centres etc. While the majority of the new development is to be located on peripheral areas of Bromyard rather than centrally, which could mean that car use is likely to be high, the policy encourages development proposals in Bromyard to facilitate a genuine choice of modes of travel, including public transport, walking and cycling, which should increase the use of sustainable transport and reduce the potential traffic-related impacts of new housing and employment development in Bromyard.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			The policy also aims to encourage retail development within the town centre rather than in out of town locations, which should reduce the need to travel by car to reach shops. As such, an overall positive effect on this objective is likely.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	This policy encourages new developments to conserve and enhance green infrastructure in Bromyard, which is taken to include areas of accessible open space. The policy also requires development proposals to contribute to identified needs for new or improved community facilities as a result of new development, which is taken to include recreation and leisure facilities. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	This policy requires the development of 500 new homes at Bromyard, with the supporting text (although not the policy itself) stating that 40% of those are likely to be affordable. This will help to meet the identified need for housing in Bromyard ⁸⁷ . While not referred to within the policy itself, the supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need ⁸⁸ . It is assumed that new homes will all be built to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with Draft Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. The policy should also have a positive effect on the quality of the built environment in which the new housing will be located, as it encourages the conservation and enhancement of green infrastructure (taken to include open space) and aims for new development to contribute to the quality of the local environment. An overall significant positive effect is therefore likely.
19. Ensure	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate	+?	This policy allocates much of the development to take place in

⁸⁷ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

⁸⁸ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		<p>Bromyard to a the north and west of the town, where opportunities to re-use existing land and buildings may be fewer than in a more central location. The location of other development to come forward at Bromyard is unknown and therefore so is the extent to which it may take place on previously developed land. While much of the development is to be peripheral, the policy does encourage new developments to facilitate a genuine choice of modes of travel other than the private car including walking and cycling.</p> <p>The emphasis within the policy on maintaining the vitality and viability of the town centre means that retail development in particular is more likely to be centrally focussed within Bromyard, which should mean that it is more easily accessible by non car-based modes of transport. An overall uncertain minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	<p>This policy specifies that new development proposals in Bromyard should contribute to the historic character and quality of the local environment. The supporting text notes that Bromyard Conservation Area has previously been identified as being 'at risk'; therefore this requirement is likely to have a significant positive effect. The policy also encourages new development proposals to provide green infrastructure and amenity space which will enhance the overall quality and appearance of the town.</p>
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	<p>While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and employment development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments,</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	?	The effects of the new development proposed in this policy on energy efficiency will depend on the design of the development, which is determined by other Core Strategy policies, and are not influenced by its location. It is also assumed that all development will conform to emerging Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. Because the location of some of the housing development to come forward in Bromyard is not specified in this policy, it is not currently clear to what extent opportunities will exist to re-use existing buildings. As such, the likely effects of the policy on this objective are currently uncertain.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+	<p>This policy should help to manage the potential increase in greenhouse gas emissions from transport that can be associated with large-scale new development as it encourages developments to facilitate a genuine choice of modes of travel as alternatives to the car.</p> <p>The potential for renewable energy to be incorporated into new development at Bromyard is not known at this stage, and will depend on the design of particular proposals coming forward. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	<p>While this policy proposes large-scale development which could result in habitat loss or species disturbance, it is recognised that new development can offer good opportunities for habitat enhancement. In addition, the policy specifically encourages development proposals to provide for the conservation and enhancement of natural environmental resources and makes particular reference to the water environment, requiring there to be no adverse impact on water quality in the River Frome. The policy also encourages green space enhancement which can result in new habitat creation. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall mixed effect on this SA objective is therefore likely, although the effects are uncertain until more specific development proposals come forward.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+	This policy encourages development proposals in Bromyard to conserve and enhance the natural environment including green infrastructure. It also encourages development to contribute to the quality of the local environment, including its landscape character; therefore a positive effect is likely, particularly as the supporting text to the policy recognises that 'high landscape constraints are predominant all around Bromyard'. The more specific effects of the employment land allocation on the local landscape are considered under the appraisal of policy BY2.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	The supporting text to this policy recognises that flooding issues constrain development to the east of Bromyard; therefore the fact that the policy allocates much of the development for the town to the north and west means that it will be largely directed away from the higher flood risk areas. While the policy does not make specific reference to incorporating flood risk management measures into the new development at Bromyard (this issue is addressed through other more specific Core Strategy policies), it does encourage the conservation and enhancement of green space as part of new development proposals, which will increase the areas of permeable surfaces and allow infiltration. An overall minor positive effect is therefore likely.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p>	+	This policy encourages new development proposals at Bromyard to provide for the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment, which is taken to include issues such as air, noise and light pollution (although no specific reference is made). The policy also specifies that new development should not have any adverse impact on water quality in the River Frome and that it should take account of water supply and water resources. It is assumed that development will conform to the standards

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		required by other emerging Core Strategy Policies which relate to environmental protection (e.g. SD4: Water Quality and SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency). An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.

Policy BY2: Land at Hardwick Bank and South of the A44 Leominster Road

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	This policy provides for 5ha of new employment land to the west of Panniers Lane, as well as small-scale employment opportunities to be incorporated within the housing site in the Hardwick Bank area and south of the A44. This provision will have a significant positive effect on increasing employment opportunities by helping to meet the identified need for employment land in Bromyard ⁸⁹ . The fact that the employment land will be adjacent to the residential development, which will itself allow for mixed-use opportunities alongside the 350 new homes, means the site should be easily accessible by residents without access to a private car and will enable people to work within close proximity to their homes.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	The provision of 5ha of employment land at Bromyard is likely to result in new opportunities for work-based training and skills development, although this is currently uncertain as it is dependent on the nature of the businesses that locate there. The policy specifies that development proposals at Bromyard will be required to contribute towards improvements to classroom provision at the local school, which should help to improve the educational attainment and skill level of the future local workforce.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the	++	The provision of 5ha of employment land at Bromyard is likely to have a significant positive effect on this objective as it will encourage businesses to invest in Bromyard through the provision of new, high quality premises and will also enable existing businesses to grow locally. The policy specifies that the new development (including employment land) will be sustainable in terms of its construction materials and methods;

⁸⁹ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>voluntary sector.</p> <p>3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example.</p> <p>3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.</p>		therefore should contribute towards using natural resources efficiently.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>	+	This policy states that the provision of and contributions towards new and improved community facilities will be required, which will have a positive effect on the creation of a sustainable new community at the urban extension. The policy also requires the provision of a park, new play and sports facilities and allotments within the new urban extension, which should have a positive effect on the quality of the public realm in that area and provide space for community interaction. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	<p>8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.</p>	+	This policy states that the provision of and contributions towards new and improved community facilities will be required, and specifies that this will include improvements to classroom provision at the local primary school. This should have a positive effect by ensuring that the population growth associated with the new residential development will not result in the local primary school becoming overloaded. While the policy itself does not make any reference to capacity at local secondary or pre-schools, the supporting text states that additional contributions to pre-school, post-16, youth and Special Education services will also be required, and that such requirements should be met by developer contributions.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use</p>	+	<p>This policy states that the new urban extension will include a new park, play and sports facilities and allotments, and it will also make provision for improved walking and cycling links, which should help to encourage healthier and more active lifestyles amongst local people.</p> <p>The policy does not make any specific reference to the provision</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
encourage healthy living for all.	and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.		of healthcare facilities such as doctors' surgeries, although it states that the provision of and contributions towards new and improved community facilities will be required, which is taken to include such facilities. The provision of 40% affordable housing within the new residential development at the urban extension, which is assumed to be of high quality in line with other Core Strategy policies, may also have an indirect positive effect on both physical and mental health by ensuring that people on lower incomes have access to good quality housing without facing issues such as damp. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	?	While the supporting text to this policy refers to develop contributions funding improvements to the local police service, this is not referenced in the policy itself and so the likely effect is uncertain. If this is the case, a positive effect would be likely as the additional funding should help ensure that police resources are not overstretched by the new community.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	The fact that this policy allocates much of the development for Bromyard (including the 5ha of employment land) to the north and west of the town could mean that the associated job opportunities and other services and facilities are less accessible than if it were to be developed more centrally. However, the policy encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links such as walking and cycling routes which should help to ensure equal access to jobs, services and other opportunities. As such, the policy is considered to have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	+/-	This policy allocates large-scale development at Bromyard to the north and west of the town, outside of the existing urban area, and so could be seen as potentially increasing the need to travel. However, the new urban extension at Bromyard will be mixed use, including small-scale employment uses within the new housing, and it will be adjacent to the 5ha of new

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		<p>employment land. This should enable residents to access job opportunities close by and therefore reducing commuting distances.</p> <p>The policy also requires contributions towards any identified need for community facilities, which should reduce the extent to which residents need to travel in and out of the town centre, and the urban extension is to include pedestrian and cycle links as well as public transport links between the site and the town centre.</p> <p>However, the policy also requires there to be suitable vehicular access to the urban extension, with associated highway improvements (likely to take the form of a new roundabout on the A44), which could mean that car use is indirectly encouraged as it will be more convenient. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	<p>The policy requires the provision of a new park, sports and play facilities and allotments within the urban extension as well as the provision of and contributions towards new and improved community facilities, which is taken to include recreation and leisure facilities. The policy also states that the improvements to classroom provision at the local primary school should incorporate publically accessible youth facilities. The walking and cycle links to be provided within the new development should ensure that these facilities are easily accessible without using a car. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty</p>	++	<p>This policy specifies that the new urban extension at Bromyard will include 350 new homes, with a target of 40% of those being affordable. This will help to meet the identified need for housing in Bromyard⁹⁰. While not referred to within the policy itself, the supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the</p>

⁹⁰ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>		<p>community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need⁹¹. It is assumed that new homes will all be built to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with Draft Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency, and the policy specifies that development at the site will be sustainable in terms of its construction methods and materials and that it will be energy efficient.</p> <p>The policy should also have a positive effect on the quality of the built environment within which the new housing will be located, as it specifies that a park will be provided within the new urban extension which will contribute to the quality of the local environment. An overall significant positive effect is therefore likely.</p>
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+	<p>The housing to be delivered at the sustainable urban extension at Hardwick Bank will not be in very close proximity to the existing town centre; however the policy specifies that sustainable transport and public transport links are to be provided to and from the town centre. The sustainable urban extension will include a mixed-use development of housing and employment land, and the policy specifies that sustainable and resource efficient construction materials and methods will be used. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity</p>	+	<p>This policy specifies that the urban extension must make use of a high standard of design, respecting the townscape. The supporting text to the policy states that it is anticipated that the layout of the site on the land south of the A44 will incorporate the existing historic field pattern to respect the local distinctiveness of the area and the supporting text also recognises the potential sensitivity of Bromyard's historic environment, stating that the Conservation Area has been identified as being at risk and that recent field investigations have identified potential for archaeological remains. However,</p>

⁹¹ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place? 20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.		this issue is addressed as the supporting text states that further archaeological field evaluation will be required, and the policy itself requires an evaluation of the archaeological importance of the area in order to ensure appropriate protection of heritage assets and inform the detailed development proposals. The policy also provides for a new formal park within the urban extension, which should enhance the overall quality and appearance of the new development. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	0	While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and other development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	+	The effects of this policy on energy efficiency will depend largely on the design of the new development proposed, which is largely determined by other Core Strategy policies, and not influenced by its location. However, the policy specifies that new development at the urban extension should be sustainable in terms of its construction materials and methods, use of energy, water and other resources, and should contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include the use of renewable and low carbon energy sources. A positive effect on this objective is therefore likely,
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from	+/-	This policy should help to reduce the potential increase in greenhouse gas emissions from transport that can be associated with new development as it provides for mixed-use (residential and employment) development which should enable more people to travel to and from work on foot or by bicycle,

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
contribution to the problem.	renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		and it provides for improved sustainable transport links. However, it also provides for improved vehicular access to the urban extension site, which could encourage car use by making it more convenient, thereby contributing to increased emissions from transport. The policy does, however, encourage the incorporation of renewable energy technologies within the urban extension site and to use sustainable construction techniques which should help to reduce the overall increase in greenhouse gas emissions that would be expected to result from new development on this scale. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance. 13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species. 13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces. 13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value. 13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.	+/-?	New development of the scale proposed in this policy could result in habitat loss or species disturbance, although effects are largely dependent on the design of the development which is unknown at this stage. This policy does not make specific reference to the protection of biodiversity, although it encourages a design and layout which respects the local green infrastructure. The conservation of green infrastructure (as well as the provision of a new park) should help to mitigate any potential harm to biodiversity that could result from the new development, by retaining habitat connectivity. The supporting text to the policy makes specific reference to this, stating that the park will accommodate biodiversity. It also recognises that the employment land will be situated partly within a local Biodiversity Action Plan priority habitat. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. The likely effects of the policy on biodiversity are therefore potentially mixed (both positive and negative) but are uncertain at this stage until detailed proposals come forward.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire,	15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings. 15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments,	+/-?	The supporting text to this policy recognises that landscape constraints are a key issue for development at Bromyard, and that the proposed housing at Hardwick Bank is located on mainly 'high' and 'medium high' sensitivity landscape and that

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>		<p>the proposed employment area is on 'high' sensitivity landscape⁹². However, the policy specifies that a high standard of design will be required, and that proposals for the site will incorporate significant landscape buffers to mitigate the impacts of the development areas on the wider landscape. While no detail is provided in the policy itself with regards to what these measures may entail, the supporting text proposes measures such as conservation and enhancement of hedgerows and new tree planting.</p> <p>The supporting text also refers to the fact that the required improvements to the access route to the urban extension are likely to have significant landscape impacts, which will require a landscaping scheme. As such, the likely effect of the policy on the local landscape is currently mixed and uncertain as it will depend quite heavily on the implementation and success of such mitigation schemes.</p>
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	<p>The supporting text to this policy recognises that flooding issues constrain development to the east of the town, and the development described in this policy for the urban extension will be to the north and west; therefore it is directed away from the higher risk areas (the area of the urban extension is outside of high risk flood zones).</p> <p>While the policy does not make specific reference to incorporating flood risk management measures into the new urban extension (this issue is addressed through other more specific Core Strategy policies), it does encourage new development to respect existing green infrastructure and a park is to be provided within the urban extension, which will increase the areas of permeable surfaces and allow infiltration. The policy also specifies that the urban extension will make use of sustainable construction methods, which may well include SuDS. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.	+/-?	This policy proposes large-scale development on land, some of which (the employment site) is in agricultural use and so is likely to have a negative effect in terms of the loss of soil. The

⁹² Herefordshire Council (January 2010) Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis: Hereford and the Market Towns

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>		<p>measures in the policy to encourage sustainable transport use should help to mitigate the potential impacts on air quality that can arise from the increase in vehicle traffic associated with new large-scale development. In addition, the policy specifies that the urban extension is to be built using sustainable construction materials and methods, which should involve managing noise and light pollution etc. although this is not specified. A mixed overall effect on this objective is therefore likely and there is some uncertainty attached.</p>

Policy LO1: Development in Leominster

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	This policy allows for an extension of up to 10ha of new employment land as an extension to the existing enterprise park, which will have a significant positive effect on increasing employment opportunities and will help to meet the identified need for employment land in Leominster ⁹³ . The policy also encourages the development of suitable small-scale employment sites within Leominster, and the supporting text to the policy indicates that there may be an opportunity to also bring forward some additional smaller live/work units which would be integrated into the urban extension and would provide further opportunities for flexible and easily accessible employment opportunities.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	The provision of up to 10ha of new employment land at Leominster is likely to result in new opportunities for work-based training and skills development, although such opportunities are dependent on the nature of the businesses that locate there.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	++	The provision of up to 10ha of employment land at Leominster is likely to have a significant positive effect on this objective as it will encourage new businesses to locate at Leominster through the provision of new and high quality premises, and it will enable existing businesses to grow, particularly as the new employment land will be provided as an extension to the existing enterprise park.

⁹³ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>	+	<p>The measures included in this policy to ensure the ongoing viability of Leominster town centre should have a positive effect on sustainable regeneration, and also support the recommendations of the Town Centres Study update⁹⁴ in relation to requiring impact assessments for development of 550 square metres or more of floor space. The policy encourages new retail, leisure and office developments to be located within the town centre rather than in out of town locations, which should help to reduce the number of vacant properties, at a time when many town centres are struggling to achieve high levels of occupancy.</p> <p>However, the policy does not make any reference to the provision of open space or other measures to ensure a high quality public realm, and does not refer to any improvements that may be made to community facilities as a result of new development. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely, although there are currently some uncertainties attached.</p>
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	?	<p>This policy does not make reference to the provision of education infrastructure to support the population growth that will result from 2,300 new homes in Leominster; therefore the likely effect on this objective is currently uncertain as it is not known if existing schools and colleges could therefore become overloaded.</p>
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	<p>This policy will result in a significant increase in the population of Leominster as a result of the development of 2,300 new homes, which will inevitably result in increased demand for services and facilities such as doctor's surgeries; however the policy does not make any reference to the provision of additional facilities to support the population growth.</p> <p>Impacts on health can also be influenced by the extent to which green infrastructure and walking and cycling links are provided within new development as this can help to encourage healthier and more active lifestyles, but again this issue is not addressed within the criteria for development at Leominster.</p>

⁹⁴ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (December 2012) Herefordshire Council Town Centres Study Update

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			The provision of 2,300 new homes, of which the supporting text to the policy indicates 25% will be affordable (although this is not specified within the policy itself) may also have an indirect positive effect on both physical and mental health by ensuring that people on lower incomes have access to good quality housing without facing issues such as damp. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely, although there is some uncertainty associated with the provision of new healthcare facilities to support the growing population.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	The policy for development at Leominster is not expected to have a direct effect on crime/fear of crime.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	?	The fact that this policy allocates much of the development for Leominster to the south of the town (including the 10ha of employment land at the enterprise park) could mean that it is less easy for residents within the town to access the new job opportunities in that area. However, this will depend to a large extent on the provision of new sustainable transport links such as walking and cycling routes which is not specified in this policy. An overall uncertain effect is therefore likely.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p>	+/-?	This policy does not make any specific reference to new developments including measures to encourage sustainable modes of transport, and the fact that much of the development proposed is to be at an urban extension site rather than integrated within the existing built up area means that an increase in vehicle traffic may result. However, the policy does aim to encourage retail development within the town centre rather than in out of town locations, which should reduce the need to travel by car to reach shops. An overall mixed but

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
public transport, cycling and walking.	4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.		currently uncertain effect on this objective is therefore likely.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	?	This policy does not make any reference to the provision of green infrastructure and open space, or to the provision of cultural and recreational facilities to support the growing population. As such, the effects on this objective are currently uncertain as the significant population growth associated with 2,300 new homes could otherwise cause existing facilities to become overloaded. This is of particular concern given that Leominster has a recognised shortage of semi-natural greenspace, play facilities, parks, gardens and outdoor sport space ⁹⁵ .
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	++	This policy requires the development of 2,300 new homes at Leominster, with the supporting text (although not the policy itself) stating that 25% of those are likely to be affordable. While this target is lower than elsewhere in the county, it is recognised that land values are lower in Leominster ⁹⁶ and so this target is considered appropriate. This level of housing provision will help to meet the identified need for housing in Leominster ⁹⁷ . While not referred to within the policy itself, the supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need ⁹⁸ . It is assumed that new homes will all be built to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with Draft Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency, and an overall significant positive effect is therefore likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed	-?	This policy allocates much of the development to take place in Leominster to an urban extension to the south of the town which may have a negative effect on the efficient and

⁹⁵ Herefordshire Council and Strategic Leisure Limited (2006) PPG17 Open Spaces Assessment

⁹⁶ Three Dragons with Roger Tym and Partners (February 2010) Herefordshire Council Local Development Framework Viability Study

⁹⁷ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

⁹⁸ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
use.	<p>on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		integrated use of land. However, the location of other development to come forward in Leominster is currently unknown and therefore so is the extent to which it may take place on previously developed land and whether it will be well-connected by sustainable transport links. As such, an overall uncertain minor negative effect is likely.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	?	The effects of the policy on this objective are largely uncertain until more specific proposals come forward as the policy does not give any indication of the criteria that development will be required to adhere to so it is currently difficult to assess its likely impacts on the built environment and local character.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and employment development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.	?	The effects of new development on energy efficiency will depend on its design, which is determined by other Core Strategy policies, and are not influenced by its location. It is

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>		assumed that new development will be constructed to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with emerging Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency; however there is mention of this issue in the policy. As such, the likely effects of the policy on this objective are currently uncertain.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	?	The effects of the new development proposed under this policy on climate change will depend largely on its specific design and construction methods, which are not known at this stage. However, it is assumed that the development will be in accordance with the emerging Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	Large-scale development such as that proposed at Leominster could have an adverse impact on biodiversity as a result of habitat loss or species disturbance; however it can also have positive effects if it incorporates habitat enhancement through green infrastructure provision. This policy does not make any reference to the protection or enhancement of biodiversity, although it does specify that development must not exacerbate air pollution issues within the AQMA at Bargates, and this could have an indirect positive effect on biodiversity as some habitats and species may have the potential to be adversely affected by poor air quality. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye with respects to impacts on water quality. However, the later Appropriate Assessment stage concluded that, provided the measures included in the signed Statement of Intent and the forthcoming Nutrient Management Plan (see HRA report for details) are implemented, these will combine with the protection afforded in policies SS3 and SD4 (and referred to in policy LO1) to result in no significant effects. An overall mixed (both

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			positive and negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore likely and is dependent on the implementation of the identified mitigation.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	?	The development of 2,300 new homes at Leominster, as well as the provision of an additional 10ha of employment land, could affect landscape quality, particularly as the majority of the new development is to be focussed on the edge of the town at the urban extension. The policy does not refer to any mitigation measures; however the impacts of the urban extension are considered separately under policy LO2 below and the effect of this policy remains uncertain.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	The supporting text to this policy recognises that there are extensive areas at risk of flooding in Leominster, particularly to the north of the town. The fact that this policy directs most of the new development at Leominster to the south west is therefore positive in terms of steering it away from the areas at most risk from flooding. The supporting text also notes that developers will need to ensure that there are no adverse impacts on flood risk as a result of any new development, and it is assumed that new development will conform to policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	+/-?	This policy requires development to avoid exacerbating air pollution levels within the designated AQMA at Bargates, indicating that a positive effect on air quality is likely. However, it allocates large scale residential development on a strategic urban extension, which may have a negative effect on soil quality, although it is assumed that development will conform to the standards required by other Draft Core Strategy Policies which relate to environmental protection (e.g. SD4: Water Quality and SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency). Overall effects are therefore potentially mixed and uncertain.

Policy LO2: Leominster Urban Extension

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+?	The urban extension which is provided for by this policy relates mainly to residential development, although it states that there will be potential for employment opportunities towards the end of the Plan period, including for live-work units. The provision of new neighbourhood retail units should also result in the creation of a small number of retail jobs in the locality. A potential but uncertain minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	If employment development does come forward at the urban extension, this may offer opportunities for work-based training and skills development, although this is dependent on the nature of the businesses that locate there. The provision of a new 420-place primary school may also have a further positive effect as it would contribute to increasing the educational attainment and skill level of the future local workforce. An overall uncertain minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+?	The urban extension which is provided for by this policy relates mainly to residential development, although it states that there will be potential for employment opportunities towards the end of the Plan period, including for live-work units. This could help to sustain the local economy by encouraging investment in new high quality premises, but the potential positive effect is uncertain as it will depend on the employment development coming forward and it is recognised that this is likely to be later in the Plan period.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character	+	This policy states that the provision of new community facilities at the urban extension will be required. It also requires the

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		provision of on-site open space, which should have a positive effect on the quality of the public realm in that area and provide space for community interaction. As such, a positive effect on this objective is likely.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+?	The policy states that a new 420-place primary school and new pre-school facilities will be provided as part of the urban extension. This should have a positive effect by ensuring that the population growth associated with the new residential development will not result in other local primary schools becoming overloaded. However, there is some uncertainty attached as the policy does not make any reference to capacity at local secondary schools.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	The policy states that the new urban extension will include on-site open space, sports and recreation provision play area, green space and outdoor sports provision. It also requires development to improve walking and cycle links, all of which should have a positive effect on health by encouraging more active lifestyles. While there is no specific reference within the policy to the provision of healthcare facilities, it does make reference to the provision of community facilities which is taken to include services such as doctors' surgeries. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on crime/fear of crime.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different	+	The provision of sustainable transport links within the urban extension and the town centre should have a positive effect in terms of reducing exclusion and ensuring equality of access to

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>		the new services and facilities there for residents elsewhere..
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+/-	This policy specifies that the new urban extension at Leominster will include improved walking and cycle links to the town centre, schools and Enterprise Park, which should have a positive effect by enabling more journeys to be made via modes other than cars. However, the policy also includes provision for a southern link road, and while this would help to relieve congestion on the local road network, it may also encourage car use by making it a more viable and convenient option. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	The policy states that the new urban extension will include on-site open space, sports and recreation provision including play provision for all age groups, indoor and outdoor sports provision and allotments; therefore a positive effect on this objective is likely. This is particularly beneficial given that Leominster has a recognised shortage of semi-natural greenspace, play facilities, parks, gardens and outdoor sport space ⁹⁹ . The policy also requires the provision of new community facilities, which is taken to include recreation and leisure facilities. As such, an overall minor positive effect on this objective is likely.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled	++	This policy specifies that the new urban extension at Leominster will include approximately 1,500 new homes, with a target of 25% of those being affordable. While this target is lower than

⁹⁹ Herefordshire Council and Strategic Leisure Limited (2006) PPG17 Open Spaces Assessment

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>		elsewhere in the county, it is recognised that land values are lower in Leominster ¹⁰⁰ and so this target is considered appropriate. This level of housing provision will help to meet the identified need for housing in Leominster ¹⁰¹ . While not referred to within the policy itself, the supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need ¹⁰² . It is assumed that new homes will all be built to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with Draft Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. The policy should also have a positive effect on the quality of the built environment in which the new housing will be located as it specifies that open space will be provided within the new urban extension which will contribute to the quality of the local environment. An overall significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+/-	The housing to be delivered at the urban extension at Leominster will not be in very close proximity to the existing town centre; however the policy specifies that sustainable transport will be provided to and from the town centre. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in</p>	0?	The effects of the policy on this objective are largely uncertain until more specific proposals for the urban extension site come forward. The supporting text to the policy specifies that archaeological potential has been identified and that the proposed route for the southern link road needs full assessment

¹⁰⁰ Three Dragons with Roger Tym and Partners (February 2010) Herefordshire Council Local Development Framework Viability Study

¹⁰¹ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

¹⁰² Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>		prior to any works taking place. However, the potential for negative effects in this sense are mitigated by the requirement in the policy for an evaluation of the archaeological importance of the area in order to ensure appropriate protection of heritage assets and inform the detailed development proposals. A likely negligible effect on this SA objective is therefore identified, although this is currently uncertain.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and other development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	?	The effects of the new development on energy efficiency will depend on its design, which is largely determined by other Core Strategy policies, and are not influenced by its location. As such, the likely effect on this objective is currently uncertain, although it is assumed that new development will be in conformity with emerging Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from</p>	+/-?	This policy should help to reduce the potential increase in greenhouse gas emissions from transport that can be associated with new development as it requires improved walking and cycle links between the urban extension and the town centre links. In addition, the policy aims to deliver

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
contribution to the problem.	renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		development that is sustainable in terms of its construction materials and methods, use of energy, water and other resources and contributes towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include the use of renewable and low carbon energy sources. However, it also specifies that a southern link road will be provided, which may result in increased car use as it will become a more convenient and viable option. The likely effects of this policy are therefore mixed, with some uncertainty attached to the potential negative effect.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	New large-scale development could potentially result in habitat loss and/or species disturbance, although the effects of development on biodiversity will be largely uncertain until specific proposals for development come forward and it is recognised that there may be opportunities to incorporate biodiversity enhancements. This policy does not make specific reference to the protection of biodiversity, although it provides for new open space which is likely to benefit biodiversity. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is likely to have a significant effect on the River Wye with respects to impacts on water quality. However, the later Appropriate Assessment stage concluded that, provided the measures included in the signed Statement of Intent and the forthcoming Nutrient Management Plan (see HRA report for details) are implemented, these will combine with the protection afforded in policies SS3 and SD4 (and referred to in policy LO1) to result in no significant effects. An overall mixed (both positive and negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore likely and is dependent on the implementation of the identified mitigation.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire,	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments,</p>	-?	Large-scale development such as that proposed by this policy could have a significant effect on the local landscape, particularly as it is to be provided as an extension to the existing urban area. The supporting text to the policy notes

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>		that the landscape in this area is a mixture of low-medium and medium-high sensitivity land areas ¹⁰³ , but that landscape constraints are lower in that area than in other potential sites to the north and west of the town. It is also recognised that it will be necessary to mitigate potential impacts on the landscape, and the policy specifies that to this end, Cockcroft Hill which is a highly sensitive landscape area, will be retained as natural open space. As such, the likely effect of the policy on the local landscape is currently uncertain as it will depend quite heavily on the implementation and success of such mitigation schemes, and at this stage the potential for a negative impact remains.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	The supporting text to this policy recognises that there are extensive areas at risk of flooding in Leominster, particularly to the north of the town. The fact that this policy directs large-scale new development at Leominster to the south west is therefore positive in terms of steering it away from the areas at most risk from flooding. The supporting text also notes that developers will need to ensure that there are no adverse impacts on flood risk as a result of any new development, and it is assumed that new development will conform to policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management. The policy itself requires that development include a comprehensive sustainable urban drainage system to manage ground and surface water drainage and safeguard against increased flood risk therefore an overall minor positive effect on this objective is likely.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	+/-	This policy allocates large scale residential development on a strategic urban extension, which may have a negative effect on soil quality, although it is assumed that development will conform to the standards required by other Draft Core Strategy Policies which relate to environmental protection (e.g. SD4: Water Quality and SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency). The measure included in the policy to encourage sustainable transport could have a positive effect on local air quality, although the construction of the southern relief road could have the opposite effect and facilitate easier car use. An overall mixed effect is therefore likely.

¹⁰³ Herefordshire Council (January 2010) Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis: Hereford and the Market Towns

Policy LB1: Development in Ledbury

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	This policy allocates approximately 12ha of new employment land at Ledbury (mainly to the west of the town), which will have a significant positive effect on increasing employment opportunities for local people and will help to meet the identified need for employment land at Ledbury ¹⁰⁴ . The policy specifies that small-scale employment sites including live-work opportunities will be encouraged, which will have further positive effects in terms of the flexibility of employment opportunities and its proximity to the workforce. The measures within the policy to improve accessibility within Ledbury (through enhanced walking, cycling and public transport links) should also help to ensure that all people will be able to access the new job opportunities that arise from the policy. An overall significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	The provision of around 12ha of employment land at Ledbury is likely to result in new opportunities for work-based training and skills development, although this is dependent on the nature of the businesses that locate there. The policy also allows for the development of community facilities to address any identified deficiencies, and if this includes school facilities this could have further positive effects in terms of improving the educational attainment and therefore skill level of the future workforce.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high	++	The provision of around 12ha of employment land at Ledbury is likely to have a significant positive effect on this objective as it will enable new businesses to locate at the town, in new and high quality premises in areas that are well-linked by public transport, and will allow existing businesses to grow. The employment land allocation to the west of the town adjoins existing land, and the supporting text for the policy states that it will allow for employment diversification. An overall significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.

¹⁰⁴ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.		
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>	+	<p>The measures included in the policy to ensure the ongoing viability of Ledbury town centre should have a positive effect on this objective. The policy encourages new retail developments to be located within the town centre rather than in out of town locations, which should help to reduce the number of vacant properties, at a time when many town centres are struggling to achieve high levels of occupancy. The Retail Study Update 2012 identified a need for further shopping floor space in Ledbury; therefore any measures designed to encourage retail development in the town centre should be particularly beneficial.</p> <p>The policy also encourages the enhancement of green infrastructure (taken to include amenity space) and requires development proposals to contribute to deficiencies in community facilities, which should enable higher levels of community interaction. As such, an overall minor positive effect on this objective is likely.</p>
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+?	<p>This policy does not make specific reference to the provision of education infrastructure, although it requires development proposals to contribute to deficiencies in community facilities. If this were to include school or college places, a minor positive effect would be likely although this is currently uncertain.</p>
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	<p>The policy encourages new developments to enhance green infrastructure and to facilitate walking and cycling, which should help to encourage healthier and more active lifestyles amongst local residents. The policy does not make any specific reference to the provision of healthcare services, although it requires development proposals to contribute to deficiencies in community facilities, which is taken to include healthcare facilities such as doctors' surgeries. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the</p>	0	<p>The policy for development at Ledbury is not expected to have a direct effect on crime/fear of crime.</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
behaviour in the county.	opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.		
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	+/-	The fact that this policy allocates much of the development for Ledbury (including the 12ha of employment land) to the edges of the town could mean that it is less easy for residents within Ledbury to access the new job opportunities and other services and facilities coming forward at the urban extension. However, the policy also encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links such as walking and cycling routes within Ledbury, especially where these increase connectivity to community facilities and employment areas. An overall mixed effect is therefore likely.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	+	This policy encourages development proposals in Ledbury to improve accessibility within the town, including by walking, cycling and public transport, which should increase the use of sustainable transport and reduce the potential traffic-related impacts of new housing and employment development in the town. The fact that much of the development is to come forward at the northern and western edges of the town should also help to reduce the extent to which it contributes to congestion in the town centre. The policy also aims to encourage retail development within the town centre rather than in out of town locations, which should reduce the need to travel by car to reach shops. As such, an overall positive effect on this objective is likely.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure,	+	This policy encourages new developments to enhance green infrastructure, which is taken to include areas of accessible open space. This is particularly beneficial in Ledbury which the Open Space Study and Playing Pitch Strategy identified as being deficient in open space. The policy also requires development proposals to contribute to deficiencies in community facilities, which is taken to include recreation and leisure facilities. As such, an overall minor positive effect on this objective is likely.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.		
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	This policy requires the development of around 800 new homes at Ledbury, although it does not refer to the proportion that will be affordable. The supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need ¹⁰⁵ . It is assumed that new homes will all be built to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with Draft Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. The policy should also have a positive effect on the quality of the built environment as it encourages the enhancement of green infrastructure (taken to include open space) and aims for new development to reflect and enhance the existing built environment in Ledbury. This will enhance the setting of the new residential development, and an overall significant positive effect is likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+?	This policy allocates much of the development to take place in Ledbury to the north and west of the town, which is likely to be primarily greenfield land; however the location of other development to come forward is unknown and therefore so is the extent to which it may take place on previously developed land and whether it will be well-connected by sustainable transport links. However, the policy does encourage new developments to improve accessibility, including by walking, cycling and public transport. The focus within the policy of maintaining the vitality and viability of the town centre means that retail development in particular is more likely to be centrally focussed within Ledbury, which should mean that it is more easily accessible by non car-based modes of transport. As such, an overall uncertain minor positive effect is likely.
20. Value, protect and enhance the	20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other	++	This policy specifies that new development proposals in Ledbury should reflect and enhance the characteristic built historic

¹⁰⁵ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>		<p>elements of the town such as its stone, brick and timber-framed buildings, medieval plan form, conservation areas and setting. The policy also encourages new development proposals to enhance green infrastructure and biodiversity which will enhance the overall quality and appearance of the town. As such, an overall significant positive effect on this objective is likely.</p>
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc. including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	<p>While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and employment development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	?	<p>The effects of the new development on energy efficiency will depend on its design, which is determined by other Core Strategy policies, and are not influenced by its location. However, it is assumed that all new development will conform to emerging Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. Because the location of some of the housing development to come forward in Ledbury is not specified in this policy, it is not currently clear to what extent opportunities will exist to re-use existing buildings, although there is reference to infill development which may mean that there is more chance of being able to do so. As such, the likely effects of the policy on this objective are currently uncertain.</p>
16. Reduce Herefordshire's	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from	+	<p>This policy should help to reduce the potential increase in greenhouse gas emissions from transport that can be</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		associated with new development as it encourages new developments to improve accessibility within Ledbury by walking, cycling and public transport. In the case of new retail provision, it also encourages development to come forward in central locations rather than out of town, which should help to encourage and enable the use of non car-based modes of transport. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance. 13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species. 13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces. 13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value. 13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.	+/-?	While this policy proposes large-scale development which could result in habitat loss or species disturbance, the policy for Ledbury encourages development proposals to enhance biodiversity and green infrastructure, which could result in habitat creation and improved connectivity. In addition, the policy allocates most of the development in Ledbury to the north and west of the town, and these areas are generally less valued for biodiversity than other parts of the town. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall mixed (both positive and negative) effect on this SA objective could therefore occur, and the effects are uncertain until detailed development proposals come forward.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings. 15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management. 15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. 15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.	+/-?	The supporting text for this policy recognises that the town is enclosed on the eastern side by the Malvern Hills AONB; therefore focusing the majority of development at Ledbury to the north and west should mean that the potential impacts on the AONB are reduced. However, the supporting text also notes that on the western side (where the employment land is allocated), the town is constrained by the Leadon Valley and adjoining sensitive landscapes. The policy does, however, directly encourage development proposals in Ledbury to incorporate mitigation measures to protect or enhance the setting of the town from western viewpoints, and also makes reference to enhancing the the Malvern Hills AONB to the east and the Leadon Valley to the west. It also encourages the enhancement of green

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			infrastructure which should have positive effects on open space within and immediately around the town. An overall mixed effect is therefore likely, and is uncertain depending on the incorporation of appropriate mitigation measures to reduce the potential impacts of the employment development on the landscape.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change. 17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems. 17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.	?	This policy allows for large-scale development at Ledbury, with the employment development being focussed to the west of the town, and it is noted that the western side of the town is prone to flooding from the River Leadon. Although this policy does not make specific reference to incorporating flood risk management measures into the new development at Ledbury, it does encourage the enhancement of green infrastructure as part of new development proposals, which will increase the areas of permeable surfaces and allow infiltration. An overall uncertain effect on this objective is therefore likely. The risk of flooding from the western urban extension is addressed separately under policy LB2: Land North of the Viaduct.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.	+	This policy focuses development at Ledbury to the north and west of the town, areas which the supporting text notes are generally less valued for agriculture and soil quality. The measures included in the policy to encourage sustainable transport should have a positive effect on air quality by reducing the extent to which new development may result in increased vehicle traffic and congestion. It is also assumed that development will conform to the standards required by other Draft Core Strategy Policies which relate to environmental protection (e.g. SD4: Water Quality and SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency). As such, an overall minor positive effect on this objective is likely.

Policy LB2: Land North of the Viaduct

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors.	+	This policy does not allocate any employment land at the site north of the Viaduct; therefore it is not expected to have a

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	<p>1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport.</p> <p>1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings.</p> <p>1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.</p>		direct effect on this objective. However, the policy does specify that mitigation will need to be implemented to ensure that the new housing development does not affect the continued operation of existing nearby businesses, which should have a positive effect in terms of maintaining existing employment (particularly that which is within close proximity of, and therefore easily accessible from, the new residential development).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	<p>2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs.</p> <p>2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county.</p> <p>2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.</p>	+?	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this objective, although the provision of a new school as part of the new residential development may have a minor positive effect by improving the educational attainment and skill level of the future local workforce.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	<p>3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy.</p> <p>3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently.</p> <p>3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector.</p> <p>3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example.</p> <p>3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.</p>	+	While this policy does not allocate any new employment land which could encourage inward investment, it does specify that mitigation will need to be implemented to ensure that the new housing development does not affect the continued operation of existing nearby businesses, which should have a minor positive effect in terms of maintaining the suitability of those sites for businesses.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p>	+	<p>This policy requires the provision of and contributions towards any identified need for new community services and facilities alongside the new residential development at the land north of the viaduct, which will help to ensure that the community is viable and sustainable.</p> <p>Development outside of the town centre on the northern edge of Ledbury could be seen to have a potential negative impact on the vitality and viability of the existing high street area and</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		shops; however the services and facilities to be provided at the new urban extension appear to be local-level shops and services, aimed at local residents and as such should not detract from the town centre and the retail offer there. The policy should also help to ensure that the public realm in the new urban extension is of high quality as it requires new open space (including a new linear park connecting with existing open space, allotments etc.) and new play facilities (which will also facilitate community interaction). An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+?	This policy requires the provision of a new 210 place primary school within the new development at the land north of the viaduct, which should have a positive effect on education by ensuring that existing schools are not overloaded by new residents. However, there is some uncertainty attached as neither the policy itself or the supporting text make reference to secondary school or pre-school places.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	While this policy does not make specific reference to the provision of healthcare facilities such as doctors' surgeries for the new residents of the land north of the viaduct, it does state that the new development will be expected to provide for any identified need for other community infrastructure/facilities, which is taken to include healthcare facilities such as doctors' surgeries. The provision of walking and cycle routes within the new development, linking to the town centre and elsewhere, should help to encourage higher levels of active travel which will have a positive effect on health, as will the provision of open space and play facilities within the site. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	This policy is not likely to have an effect on crime and safety.
10. Reduce poverty	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision	0	The fact that this policy allocates development to the north of

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>		Ledbury could mean that it is less easy for residents there to access jobs, services and facilities which tend to be focussed in the town centre, and for residents in other parts of Ledbury to access the new services and facilities that will come forward at the new urban extension, particularly for those without access to private cars. However, the policy also encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links such as walking and cycling routes between the urban extension and the town centre, and it is recognised that the services and facilities to be developed there are intended more for local use by nearby residents as opposed to replacing those offered in other parts of the town. As such, the policy is considered to have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+/-	<p>Development of housing to the north of Ledbury, where there is no allocation for employment land, could result in longer commuting distances and increase the need to travel for work. However, the policy allows for the provision of walking and cycle routes, linking the new urban extension to the town centre, which could encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>The provision of a range of community services and facilities within the new development itself should also help to reduce the need to travel elsewhere to access facilities such as schools, healthcare and leisure facilities and shops. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.</p>
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	++	This policy requires the new development at the land north of the viaduct to provide for new indoor and outdoor play facilities and open space including a new linear park linking with existing open space, allotment etc. These facilities should be easily accessible on foot or by bicycle for local residents as they will be within the same development site as the new housing, and particularly as the policy also requires walking and cycle routes to be provided. The supporting text to this policy notes that the area to the north of the viaduct is identified as a green infrastructure enhancement zone, and this development will help to address the identified deficiencies in open space that were identified by the Open Space Study and Playing Pitch

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			<p>Strategy.</p> <p>In particular, this policy requires the development to contribute towards a restored canal, which should enhance the offering for visitors and promote the use of the inland waterway for recreation.</p> <p>An overall significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	<p>This policy requires the development of around 700 new homes at land north of the viaduct, of which a minimum of 40% will be affordable – something that is particularly beneficial in this high house price area. The supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need¹⁰⁶. It is assumed that new homes will all be built to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with Draft Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. The policy should also have a positive effect on the quality of the built environment within which the new residential development at the site will be located, as it requires contributions towards open space and green infrastructure which will enhance the setting of the new housing. As such, an overall significant positive effect on this objective is likely.</p>
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+/-	<p>The development at the land north of the viaduct will take place as an urban extension on what is assumed to be largely greenfield land. In this sense, a negative effect on the efficient use of land is likely, although the policy specifies that the new development will meet high design and sustainability standards. It also makes good provision for sustainable transport such as walking and cycling to connect the urban extension with the existing town centre. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.</p>

¹⁰⁶ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+?	<p>This policy proposes large-scale development to the north of Ledbury on land which is currently largely undeveloped. In this way it could be seen as being inappropriate in scale. However, the policy specifies that the new development will meet high design standards. Because the urban extension will be newly designed and built in accordance with other emerging Core Strategy policies such as LD1: Local Distinctiveness and LD2: Landscape and Streetscape, it is likely to be a high quality built environment.</p> <p>The policy specifies that development will enhance the setting of the Grade III Listed viaduct and it is assumed that the development will take place in accordance with Core Strategy policy LD5: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets. As such, an minor positive effect on this objective is likely although there are some uncertainties attached until detailed proposals for the site come forward and it is certain that potential impacts on the viaduct will be adequately mitigated.</p>
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc. including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	<p>While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and employment development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high</p>	+	<p>This policy specifies that development at the land north of the viaduct will contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include the use of renewable and low carbon energy sources, indicating that a positive effect on energy efficiency is likely. The measures in the policy to encourage sustainable transport provision should have a further positive effect on reducing resource consumption. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.		
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+	The measures in this policy aiming to encourage sustainable transport use should have a positive effect on reducing the extent to which greenhouse gas emissions from transport are likely to increase as a result of the new development planned. The policy also specifies that the new development will meet high standards of design and will contribute towards the Government's zero carbon buildings policy to include the use of renewable and low carbon energy sources. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	While this policy proposes large-scale development which could result in habitat loss or species disturbance, the creation of a new linear park may offer opportunities for habitat enhancement, and the policy specifies that safeguards must ensure no adverse impacts on water quality and quantity in the River Leadon, which should have a positive effect on aquatic biodiversity. The supporting text notes that the area to the north of the viaduct where this policy allocates employment development is generally less valued for biodiversity than other areas around the town; therefore development there directs housing away from more sensitive areas. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall mixed (both positive and negative) on this SA objective could therefore occur, and effects will depend on detailed development proposals that come forward.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals</p>	+	This policy states that development should enhance the setting of the Malvern Hills AONB which lies to the east of the town. Because this policy focuses development to the north of Ledbury, and therefore away from the AONB, it should have a positive effect in terms of avoiding adverse impacts on that designated landscape. The policy also requires the creation of a new park within Ledbury to link to existing open space, which should help to enhance the quality and setting of open spaces in

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	are minimised. 15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.		the town. An overall minor positive effect is therefore likely.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change. 17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems. 17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.	+/-?	The supporting text to this policy notes that the west of Ledbury is prone to flooding from the River Leadon; therefore focussing residential development to the north of the town means that it will be steered away from this higher flood risk area. However, large-scale development on largely greenfield land will increase the area of impermeable surfaces and could therefore increase runoff rates and flood risk in that area. The supporting text requires that development will need to address any potential future flooding through a surface water management plan; therefore the overall effect on this objective is mixed and is currently uncertain, as it will depend on the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.	+	This policy specifies that sustainable transport links will be provided to ease congestion, which should have a positive effect on local air quality. It also states that safeguards will need to be incorporated to ensure that there is no adverse impact on water quality and quantity in the River Leadon, and the supporting text notes that the areas where development is focussed (including the land north of the viaduct) are generally less valued for soil quality than elsewhere. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.

Policy RW1: Development in Ross-on-Wye

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	This policy allocates approximately 10ha of new employment land at Ross-on-Wye, which will have a significant positive effect on increasing employment opportunities for local people and will help to meet the identified need for employment land at Ross-on-Wye ¹⁰⁷ . The policy specifies that development proposals will be encouraged where they allow for suitable employment sites, including live-work opportunities, which will have further positive effects in terms of the flexibility of employment opportunities and its proximity to the workforce. In addition, the policy allocates the majority of the new housing in Ross-on-Wye to a strategic development to the south east of the town, which is within close proximity of the proposed employment site at Model Farm – this will further benefit residents in terms of access to jobs. The measures within the policy to improve accessibility within Ross-on-Wye (through enhanced walking, cycling and public transport links) should also help to ensure that all people will be able to access the new job opportunities that arise from the policy. An overall significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	The provision of around 10ha of employment land at Ross-on-Wye is likely to result in new opportunities for work-based training and skills development, although this is dependent on the nature of the businesses that locate there. The policy also requires developments to contribute towards new community facilities to address any deficiencies, and if this includes school facilities this could have further positive effects in terms of improving the educational attainment and therefore skill level of the future workforce.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or	++	The provision of around 10ha of employment land at Ross-on-Wye is likely to have a significant positive effect on this objective as it will enable new businesses to locate at the town, in new and high quality premises in areas that are well-linked

¹⁰⁷ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and continued investment.	<p>growth whilst using natural resources efficiently.</p> <p>3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector.</p> <p>3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example.</p> <p>3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.</p>		by public transport, and will allow existing businesses to grow.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>	+	The measures included in the policy to ensure the ongoing viability of Ross-on-Wye town centre should have a positive effect on this objective. The policy encourages new retail, leisure or office developments to be located within the town centre rather than in out of town locations, which should help to reduce the number of vacant properties, at a time when many town centres are struggling to achieve high levels of occupancy. The policy also encourages the enhancement of green infrastructure (taken to include amenity space) and requires development proposals to contribute to deficiencies in community facilities, which should enable higher levels of community interaction. As such, an overall minor positive effect on this objective is likely.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	<p>8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.</p>	+?	This policy does not make specific reference to the provision of education infrastructure, although it requires development proposals to contribute to deficiencies in community facilities. If this were to include school or college places, a minor positive effect would be likely although this is currently uncertain.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	The policy encourages new developments to enhance green infrastructure and to facilitate walking and cycling, which should help to encourage healthier and more active lifestyles amongst local residents. The policy does not make any specific reference to the provision of healthcare services, although it requires development proposals to contribute to deficiencies in community facilities, which is taken to include healthcare facilities such as doctors' surgeries. An overall minor positive

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			effect on this objective is therefore likely.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	The policy for development at Ross-on-Wye is not expected to have a direct effect on crime/fear of crime.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	0	The fact that this policy allocates much of the development for Ross-on-Wye (including the 10ha of employment land) to the south eastern edge of the town could mean that it is less easy for residents within Ross-on-Wye to access the new jobs and other services and facilities coming forward in that area, particularly those without cars. However, the policy also encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links such as walking and cycling routes within Ross-on-Wye, especially where these increase connectivity to community facilities and employment areas. It is also recognised that the services and facilities to be developed there are intended more for local use by nearby residents as opposed to replacing those offered in other parts of the town. As such, the policy is considered to have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+	This policy encourages development proposals in Ross-on-Wye to improve accessibility within the town, including by walking, cycling and public transport, which should increase the use of sustainable transport and reduce the potential traffic-related impacts of new housing and employment development in the town. The fact that much of the development is to come forward at the south eastern edge of the town should also help to reduce the extent to which it contributes to congestion in the town centre. The policy also aims to encourage retail development within the town centre rather than in out of town locations, which should reduce the need to travel by car to reach shops. As such, an overall positive effect on this objective is likely.
6. Improve equality of access to and	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is	+	This policy encourages new developments to enhance green infrastructure, which is taken to include areas of accessible

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>		open space. The policy also requires development proposals to contribute to deficiencies in community facilities, which is taken to include recreation and leisure facilities. As such, an overall minor positive effect on this objective is likely.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	This policy requires the development of around 900 new homes at Ross-on-Wye, although it does not refer to the proportion that will be affordable. This will help to meet the identified need for housing in Ross-on-Wye ¹⁰⁸ . While not referred to within the policy itself, the supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need ¹⁰⁹ . It is assumed that new homes will all be built to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with Draft Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. The policy should also have a positive effect on the quality of the built environment as it encourages the enhancement of green infrastructure (taken to include open space) and aims for new development to reflect and enhance the existing built environment in Ross-on-Wye. This will enhance the setting of the new residential development, and an overall significant positive effect is likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes,	+/-?	This policy allocates much of the development to take place in Ross-on-Wye to an urban extension at the south east of the town, which is likely to be primarily greenfield land; however the location of other development to come forward is unknown and therefore so is the extent to which it may take place on previously developed land and whether it will be well-connected

¹⁰⁸ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

¹⁰⁹ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		<p>by sustainable transport links. In particular, the supporting text notes that the employment allocation at Model Farm is on agricultural land; therefore development there will result in the loss of that land/soil. However, the policy does encourage new developments to improve accessibility, including by walking, cycling and public transport, and states that some of the housing development will come forward through infill development which may offer better opportunities for re-using previously developed sites and buildings. The focus within the policy of maintaining the vitality and viability of the town centre means that retail development in particular is more likely to be centrally focussed within Ross-on-Wye, which should mean that it is more easily accessible by non car-based modes of transport. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.</p>
<p>20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.</p>	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	<p>++</p>	<p>This policy specifies that new development proposals in Ross-on-Wye should reflect and enhance the characteristic built historic elements of the town such as its red sandstone and timber framed Tudor buildings and boundary walls, the medieval plan form, conservation area and natural setting. The policy also encourages new development proposals to enhance green infrastructure and biodiversity which will enhance the overall quality and appearance of the town. As such, an overall significant positive effect on this objective is likely.</p>
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
<p>12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.</p>	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and employment development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments,</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	?	The effects of the new development on energy efficiency will depend on its design, which is determined by other Core Strategy policies, and are not influenced by its location. However, it is assumed that all new development will conform to emerging Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. Because the location of some of the housing development to come forward in Ross-on-Wye is not specified in this policy, it is not currently clear to what extent opportunities will exist to re-use existing buildings, although there is reference to infill development which may mean that there is more chance of being able to do so. As such, the likely effects of the policy on this objective are currently uncertain.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+	This policy should help to reduce the potential increase in greenhouse gas emissions from transport that can be associated with new development as it encourages new developments to improve accessibility within Ross-on-Wye by walking, cycling and public transport. In the case of new retail provision, it also encourages development to come forward in central locations rather than out of town, which should help to encourage and enable the use of non car-based modes of transport. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	While this policy proposes large-scale development which could result in habitat loss or species disturbance, the policy for Ross-on-Wye encourages development proposals to enhance green infrastructure and biodiversity, particularly in the Wye Valley AONB, which could result in habitat creation and improved connectivity. In addition, the policy allocates most of the development in Ross-on-Wye to the south east of the town, and therefore away from the River Wye which runs across the western side of the town. The supporting text to the policy notes that the strategic site is within 10km of two SACs – the Wye Valley Woodlands and the Forest of Dean Bat Sites; however the HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall mixed (both positive and negative) on this SA objective could therefore occur, and effects will depend on detailed development proposals that come forward.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+?	This policy directs the majority of development at Ross-on-Wye to the south east of the town, at a strategic housing site which the supporting text states is on an area of medium-low landscape value and is contained within the rising land and wooded Penyard Hills to the south. Directing most development to that area will therefore help to protect more sensitive landscapes (such as the Wye Valley AONB which covers much of the town, from the potential impacts of development. Other development will come forward within the town through both infill development and peripheral town sites. While infill development may have a positive effect on landscape by directing development within the existing built up area, peripheral sites may have adverse impacts on the sensitive landscape around Ross-on-Wye, depending on their location. The supporting text to this policy also notes that the employment land allocation at Model Farm will include appropriate landscaping as a key element of any proposal, to provide an appropriate eastern edge which is open to long-distance views. An overall minor positive but uncertain effect on this objective is therefore likely as the effect will depend largely on the implementation of appropriate mitigation as described.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	?	This policy allows for large-scale development at Ross-on-Wye, including a strategic housing location to the south east of the town. This large-scale development on what is assumed to be mainly greenfield land could have an adverse impact on flood risk by increasing the area of impermeable surfaces and reducing infiltration. However, the policy encourages new development to incorporate green infrastructure which could have the opposite effect. In addition, the site is outside of flood zones 1 and 2 and therefore directs development largely away from the highest flood risk areas around the River Wye. The

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			supporting text to the policy notes that development other than at the strategic site, which will be dispersed around Ross-on-Wye, should ensure that areas prone to flooding from the River Wye are avoided and that any future flood risk is appropriately addressed. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	+/-?	The measures included in this policy to encourage sustainable transport should have a positive effect on air quality by reducing the extent to which new development may result in increased vehicle traffic and congestion. It is also assumed that development will conform to the standards required by other Draft Core Strategy Policies which relate to environmental protection (e.g. SD4: Water Quality and SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency). However, the policy allocated large scale development to the south east of the town, in an area which the supporting text notes has been identified by the Environment Agency as being on a secondary aquifer and within an outer groundwater source protection zone. As such, measures should be taken to ensure that development does not affect this important water source. As such, an overall mixed and currently uncertain effect on this objective is likely.

Policy RW2: Land at Hildersley

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	This policy does not allocate any employment land at Hildersley; rather it relates to residential development and so is not expected to have a direct effect on this objective. However, the location of the housing development at the land at Hildersley may have a positive effect in relation to the proximity of employment land to the workforce as the site is in close proximity to the Model Farm employment site to the north. This will be particularly beneficial in Ross-on-Wye, where levels of commuting are high (as noted in the supporting text to the policy).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this objective, although the provision of new school places as part of the new residential development may have a minor positive effect by improving the educational attainment and skill level of the future local workforce. The policy specifies that the residential development will involve contributions towards additional pre-school places and infrastructure at the John Kyrle High School for secondary and post-16 education.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	This policy does not allocate any employment land at Hildersley that could otherwise have a positive effect by encouraging investment; rather it relates to residential development and so is not expected to have a direct effect on this objective.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using	+	This policy requires contributions towards any identified need for new/improved community facilities and infrastructure alongside the new residential development at the land at

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		<p>Hildersley, which will help to ensure that the community is viable and sustainable.</p> <p>Development outside of the town centre on the south eastern edge of Ross-on-Wye could be seen to have a potential negative impact on the vitality and viability of the existing high street area and shops; however the services and facilities to be provided at the new urban extension appear to be local-level shops and services, aimed at local residents and as such should not detract from the town centre and the retail offer there.</p> <p>The policy should also help to ensure that the public realm in the new urban extension is of high quality as it requires new green infrastructure to be provided within the new housing development. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+?	This policy requires contributions towards new pre-school school places and additional infrastructure at the John Kyrle High School as a result of the new development, which should have a positive effect on education by ensuring that existing schools are not overloaded by new residents. However, there is some uncertainty attached as neither the policy itself or the supporting text makes reference to primary school places.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	While this policy does not make specific reference to the provision of healthcare facilities such as doctors' surgeries for the new residents at the land at Hildersley, it does state that the new development will contribute towards new community infrastructure/facilities, which is taken to include healthcare facilities such as doctors' surgeries. The provision of walking and cycle routes within the new development, linking to the town centre and elsewhere, should help to encourage higher levels of active travel which will have a positive effect on health, as will the provision of green infrastructure within the site. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p>	0	This policy is not likely to have an effect on crime and safety.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.		
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	0	The fact that this policy allocates residential development to the south east of Ross-on-Wye could mean that it is less easy for residents there to access jobs, services and facilities which tend to be focussed in the town centre, and for residents in other parts of Ross-on-Wye to access the new services and facilities that will come forward at the new urban extension, particularly for those without access to private cars. However, the policy also encourages the provision of new sustainable transport links such as walking and cycling routes between the urban extension and the town centre, and it is recognised that the services and facilities to be developed there are intended more for local use by nearby residents as opposed to replacing those offered in other parts of the town. As such, the policy is considered to have a negligible effect on this SA objective.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+	<p>Development of housing to the south east of Ross-on-Wye, adjacent to the proposed employment land allocation at Model Farm, could reduce commuting distances and reduce the need to travel for work. In addition, the policy allows for the provision of walking and cycle routes, linking the strategic housing site to the town centre, which could encourage the use of more sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>The provision of a range of community services and facilities within the new development itself should also help to reduce the need to travel elsewhere to access facilities such as schools, healthcare and leisure facilities and shops. As such, an overall minor positive effect on this objective is likely.</p>
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport</p>	+	This policy requires the new development at the land at Hildersley to provide for a new sport/recreation space as well as new green infrastructure, the nature of which is not specified. These facilities should be easily accessible on foot or by bicycle for local residents as they will be within the same development site as the new housing, and particularly as the policy also requires walking and cycle routes to be provided. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.		
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	This policy requires the development of around 200 new homes at land at Hildersley, of which a minimum of 40% will be affordable – something that is particularly beneficial in Ross-on-Wye as the supporting text notes that it is a high house price area. This level of housing provision will help to meet the identified need for housing in Bromyard ¹¹⁰ . While not referred to within the policy itself, the supporting text also refers to the fact that housing will be delivered to meet the needs of all sections of the community, including housing for older persons which is a particular identified local need ¹¹¹ . It is assumed that new homes will all be built to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with Draft Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. The policy should also have a positive effect on the quality of the built environment within which the new residential development at the site will be located, as it requires contributions towards green infrastructure which will enhance the setting of the new housing. As such, an overall significant positive effect on this objective is likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+/-	The development at the land at Hildersley will take place as an urban extension on what is assumed to be largely greenfield land. In this sense, a negative effect on the efficient use of land is likely, although the policy specifies that the new development will meet high design standards. It also makes good provision for sustainable transport such as walking and cycling to connect the urban extension with the existing town centre. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.
20. Value, protect	20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas,	+	This policy proposes fairly large-scale development to the south

¹¹⁰ GL Hearn (January 2013) Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment – 2012 Update: Draft Report

¹¹¹ Peter Fletcher Associates and Arc4 (January 2012) A study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>		east of Ross-on-Wye on land which is currently largely undeveloped. In this way it could be seen as being inappropriate in scale. However, the policy specifies that the new development will meet high design standards. Because the strategic housing site will be newly designed and built in accordance with other emerging Core Strategy policies such as LD1: Local Distinctiveness, LD2: Landscape and Streetscape and LD5: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets. In addition, the supporting text to the policy notes that development at the Hildersley site is not expected to have a significant impact on any heritage assets. As such, a minor positive effect on this objective is likely.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	While new development of the scale proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and employment development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+	This policy does not specify whether the housing site at Hildersley will incorporate renewable and low carbon energy sources; however it is assumed that all new development will be in conformity with policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. The measures in the policy to encourage sustainable transport provision should have a positive effect on reducing resource consumption. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
16. Reduce	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change	+?	The measures in this policy aiming to encourage sustainable

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>		transport use should have a positive effect on reducing the extent to which greenhouse gas emissions from transport are likely to increase as a result of the new development planned. The policy also specifies that the new development will meet high standards of design, which is likely to include energy efficiency measures although this is not specified. An overall minor but uncertain positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	This policy allocates a strategic housing site to the south east of Ross-on-Wye, which could result in habitat loss or species disturbance. The supporting text to the policy notes that the site is within 10km of two SACs – the Wye Valley Woodlands and the Forest of Dean Bat Sites. However, it recognises that a study of bat activity in the area in 2010 concluded that the development could take place without incurring adverse impacts on those SACs and the HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. The supporting text to this policy also advises that the proposed landscaping and open space provision within the strategic housing site should be located and designed so as to provide additional and appropriate bat foraging opportunities where possible. The policy itself addresses this issue, stating that new green infrastructure will be provided within the development area in order to benefit local bat populations and other flora and fauna. It also specifies that development must avoid and mitigate adverse impacts from noise pollution and vibration (both during construction and in the longer term) on the River Wye SAC, Wye Valley Woodlands SAC and the Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites. The new open space to be provided may have further benefits for other species, as a result of habitat creation and increased connectivity. An overall mixed (both positive and negative) on this SA objective could therefore occur, and effects will depend on detailed development proposals that come forward.
15. Value, protect,	15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental	+	This policy provides for 200 new homes to the south east of

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>		Ross-on-Wye, at a strategic housing site which the supporting text states is on an area of medium-low landscape value and is contained within the rising land and wooded Penyard Hills to the south. Directing development to that area will therefore help to protect more sensitive landscapes (such as the Wye Valley AONB which covers much of the town, from the potential impacts of development. The policy itself states that development will enhance the setting of the adjacent Wye Valley AONB. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	The strategic housing location to be provided is to the south east of the town. This large-scale development on what is assumed to be mainly greenfield land could have an adverse impact on flood risk by increasing the area of impermeable surfaces and reducing infiltration. In addition, the policy encourages new development to incorporate green infrastructure which could have the opposite effect. The site is also outside of flood zones 1 and 2 and therefore directs development largely away from the highest flood risk areas around the River Wye. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	+	This policy specifies that sustainable transport links will be provided at the strategic housing site to ease congestion, which should have a positive effect on local air quality. It also states that adverse impacts on the Water Source Protection Zone should be avoided or mitigated and that appropriate measures to protect the housing site from the issues such as noise from the neighbouring firing range will be implemented. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.

Policy KG1: Development at Kington

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+?	This policy does not allocate specific sites for employment development within Kington; however it encourages development proposals to make available small-scale employment sites and to enable home working. As such, a potential minor positive effect is likely, although there is some uncertainty attached as employment sites will be brought forward in balance with housing provision and without specific site allocations it is less certain that new employment land will be provided. It is also currently uncertain whether they will be accessible via public transport as the locations are not yet known. It is also noted that the supporting text to the policy states that an additional small-scale rural industrial estate of the type that may be provided may not be able to come forward within or immediately adjacent to the existing town, although it should be within walking distance.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	The small scale of the employment development proposed in this policy means that it is unlikely to result in any significant opportunities for work-based training and skills development, although there may be a minor positive effect in this sense depending on the nature of the businesses that locate in any new small-scale employment sites coming forward.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental	+	This policy does not make any large-scale employment land allocations for Kington; rather it encourages small-scale development proposals and measures to enable home working. While it is not known at this stage whether any employment developments coming forward will make efficient use of natural resources, it is assumed that they will be in conformity with Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. While the small scale of the employment development proposed means that there is unlikely to be a significant effect on the local economy, there may be a minor positive effect on encouraging investment and innovation if new high quality premises are provided. The supporting text to the policy makes reference to the successful recent development of Hatton

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	technology initiatives.		Gardens Industrial Estate as a rural development initiative, and further sustainable employment developments of this nature are likely to have similar positive effects on the local economy.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>	+	The measures included in this policy to ensure the ongoing viability of Kington town centre should have a positive effect on this objective. The policy encourages new retail developments to be located within the town centre, which should help to reduce the number of vacant properties at a time when many town centres are struggling to achieve high levels of occupancy. The policy also encourages the creation and enhancement of green infrastructure and open space that is accessible to the community, and although it doesn't make reference to the provision of new community services and facilities, the supporting text indicates that current levels of provision will be able to accommodate the level of population growth proposed. An overall minor positive effect on sustainable regeneration is therefore likely.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	The policy for Kington is not expected to have a direct effect on this objective as it makes no reference to the provision of education infrastructure. The number of new homes to be provided is relatively small (200); therefore it is unlikely that the resulting population growth will overload existing schools and colleges – the supporting text to the policy also indicates that development of the scale proposed will not necessitate any new community facilities (this is taken to include schools).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	This policy encourages new developments to provide green infrastructure including open space and new or improved walking and cycle routes, which should help to encourage healthier and more active lifestyles amongst local residents. The policy does not make any specific reference to the provision of healthcare services, although the level of development proposed at Kington is relatively small and it is assumed that the population growth associated with 200 new homes would not overload existing facilities. The supporting text to the policy also indicates that development of the scale proposed will not necessitate any new community facilities. The provision of new affordable housing, which is assumed to be high quality, may

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			also have an indirect positive effect on both physical and mental health by ensuring that people on lower incomes have access to good quality housing without facing issues such as damp.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	The policy for development in Kington is not expected to have a direct effect on crime/fear of crime.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	+?	The policy encourages developments in Kington to make provision for walking and cycling, and if new employment sites do this, the resulting job opportunities should be more accessible to all, including those without access to a car. Similarly, residents will be more easily able to access services and facilities, depending on the extent and route of any walking and cycle paths provided. The fact that new development is to come forward within the existing urban area should have a further positive effect on reducing divisions.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+	This policy encourages development proposals in Kington to provide improved walking and cycle links, which should encourage increased use of sustainable transport and reduce the potential traffic-related impacts of new housing and employment development in the town. The fact that the new development is to come forward within the existing urban area also means that it would not result in increased vehicle journeys into and out of the town centre from a peripheral urban extension. The policy also aims to encourage retail development to come forward within the town centre rather than in out of town locations, which should reduce the need to travel by car to reach shops. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
6. Improve equality of access to and	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is	+	This policy encourages new developments to provide amenity space with community access; therefore a positive effect on this

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>		objective is likely. While the policy does not make any reference to the provision of other types of community facilities, the scale of development proposed at Kington is relatively small (200 new homes) and the supporting text to the policy indicates that existing community facilities will be able to accommodate the level of growth planned.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++?	<p>This policy requires the development of 200 new homes, with 35% of those on sites of more than 15 units being affordable. However, because the houses will be developed as small-scale proposals, with no specific site allocations being made, it is not clear how many developments of more than 15 houses there are likely to be and therefore how much affordable housing might be delivered. This is a particularly relevant issue at Kington, where prices are relatively high¹¹² (hence the relatively high 35% affordable housing target). While the level of housing provision in Kington is significantly lower than in the other market towns, this reflects the identified level of housing need there¹¹³ and current low building completion rates.</p> <p>Within the new houses to be constructed, there will be a mix of housing types, and it is assumed that new homes will all be built to high standards of energy efficiency in accordance with Draft Core Strategy Policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency. The policy should also have a positive effect on the quality of the built environment for residents of the new housing as it encourages the provision of open space and other green infrastructure and aims to maintain the character of Kington. An overall significant positive effect is therefore likely, although there is some uncertainty attached in relation to the extent of affordable housing provision.</p>
19. Ensure integrated, efficient	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously	+	This policy does not allocate specific sites for development in Kington, therefore it is not currently known how much of the

¹¹² Three Dragons with Roger Tym and Partners (February 2010) Herefordshire Council Local Development Framework Viability Study

¹¹³ Herefordshire Council (March 2012) Herefordshire's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment 2011-2031.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and balanced land use.	<p>developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		<p>new development planned will take place on previously developed land and whether it will be well-connected by sustainable transport links (although it is recognised that the policy does encourage new developments to make provision for improving walking and cycling links within Kington). However, because the development will come forward within the existing urban area it will offer good opportunities for re-using previously developed sites, in comparison to an urban extension on greenfield land. In addition, the focus within the policy of maintaining the vitality and viability of the town centre means that retail development in particular is more likely to be centrally focussed within Kington, which should mean that it is more easily accessible by non car-based modes of transport. An overall minor positive effect is therefore likely.</p>
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	<p>This policy specifies that new development proposals in Kington should maintain local character, in particular the features that contribute to the Conservation Area and Kington's important buildings. The scale of development proposed in Kington is small, with 200 new homes and limited employment land to be dispersed throughout the town on small-scale sites; therefore it should be able to be appropriately integrated into the form of the built environment. The policy also encourages new development proposals to provide green infrastructure and amenity space which will enhance the overall quality and appearance of the town. An overall significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	<p>While new development as proposed in this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that the new housing and employment development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	?	Because the location of the housing and employment development to come forward in Kington is not specified in this policy, it is not currently clear to what extent opportunities will exist to re-use existing buildings, or whether development will come forward on greenfield or brownfield sites (which can affect the conservation of soils). As such, the likely effects of the policy on this objective are currently uncertain. The effects of the new development on energy efficiency will depend on its design, which is determined by other Core Strategy policies and will not be influenced by its location, although it is assumed that new development will be in conformity with emerging Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+	This policy should help to reduce the potential increase in greenhouse gas emissions from transport that can be associated with new development as it encourages new developments to make provision for new or improved walking and cycle links and focuses development within the existing urban area. It particularly encourages retail development to come forward in central locations rather than out of town, which should help to encourage non car-based modes of transport; therefore reducing transport-based greenhouse gas emissions. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+	While new development can result in habitat loss or species disturbance, the scale of development proposed at Kington is small and the policy encourages the linking of habitats into ecological networks within and surrounding the town and the provision of green space which can result in new habitat creation. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore	15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open	+	This policy encourages development proposals in Kington to make provision for green infrastructure and amenity space,

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>		including community access to open space, and to maintain scenic features and the landscape features surrounding the town. A positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	The supporting text to this policy recognises that potential sites for development in and around Kington are constrained in relation to flooding. As such, site allocations for development in Kington are not made, and it has been considered more appropriate for the housing and employment development required to come forward through small-scale proposals. This approach is likely to have a positive effect on managing the risk of flooding as it avoids new development (and the associated increase in impermeable surfaces) being concentrated in one part of this generally high flood risk area. While the policy does not make specific reference to incorporating flood risk management measures into the new development at Kington, it does encourage the provision of green space within new development which will increase the areas of permeable surfaces and allow infiltration, thereby helping to reduce flood risk. It is also assumed that new development will be in conformity with emerging Core Strategy policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	0	This policy does not make specific reference to the protection or enhancement of environmental resources. The scale of development proposed is relatively small, and it is assumed that development will conform to the standards required by other Draft Core Strategy Policies which relate to environmental protection (e.g. SD4: Water Quality and SD1: Sustainable Design and Energy Efficiency). As such, an overall negligible effect on this objective is likely.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		

Policy RA1: Rural Housing Strategy

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+?	While this policy does not allocate specific land for employment development, it states that the regeneration of the rural economy will be promoted and supported, although it does not specify how this will be achieved. If this involves the provision of employment land, and therefore job opportunities, in rural areas, a positive effect would result as people outside of the main urban areas would be more easily able to access jobs. An uncertain minor positive effect is therefore likely.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	This policy states that the regeneration of the rural economy will be promoted and supported, although it does not specify how this will be achieved. A minor positive effect is therefore likely.
7. Sustainable	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities	+	A minor positive effect on this objective is likely as the

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Regeneration	<p>appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		allocation of around 5,300 new homes in rural areas, as well as the regeneration of the rural economy, will have a positive effect on the sustainable regeneration of Herefordshire's rural areas and help to maintain viable rural communities.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective. While regeneration of the rural economy could potentially reduce crime as a result of increased prosperity, this is an indirect effect and cannot be assumed.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people</p>	+	The regeneration of the rural economy should have a positive effect on improving access to jobs for all, and increase the equality of provision throughout Herefordshire. It will also help to address poverty and disadvantage in the rural areas.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.		
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	+	The regeneration of the rural economy should mean that there are more job opportunities in rural areas, which should enable people in Herefordshire's villages to access job opportunities closer to home and thereby help to reduce commuting distances.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	+?	It is not clear whether the aim of regenerating the rural economy in Herefordshire includes increasing rural tourism. A potential but uncertain minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques,	++	This policy specifies that around 5,300 new homes will be provided in Herefordshire's rural areas up to 2031 to help meet the County's housing needs, with the development of affordable housing being a priority. The policy specifies how these new homes will be distributed across the county, acknowledging that different areas of Herefordshire have different future housing needs and requirements. The policy aims to ensure that housing development respects rural character as well as reflecting future housing needs. An overall significant positive effect on this

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.		objective is therefore likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.	-?	This policy focuses housing development in rural areas, which may mean there are fewer opportunities for re-using previously developed land and buildings. However, this is uncertain until specific sites come forward for rural housing development. In addition, in rural areas, the new housing developments are less likely to be well-connected by sustainable transport modes or within close proximity of employment opportunities which would reduce the need to travel. An overall uncertain minor negative effect on this objective is therefore likely.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings. 20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. 20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place? 20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.	+	This policy specifies that the unique local environment will be protected and, where appropriate, enhanced – while there is no specific reference to built heritage, it is taken to include this.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc. including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	0	While the new residential development proposed by this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that new residential development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	-?	The extent to which new housing development utilises energy efficient design and construction methods such as the incorporation of renewable energy sources will depend on the implementation of other Core Strategy policies such as SD1: Sustainable Design and Construction, and will not be influenced by its location. This policy focuses housing development in rural areas, which may mean there are fewer opportunities for re-using of existing building materials and brownfield sites, although this is uncertain until specific sites are allocated for development.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	-?	Locating 5,300 new homes in rural areas may increase greenhouse gas emissions from transport as people are likely to make more use of private cars and travel longer distances to work and to access services and facilities in Hereford and the market towns. However, this will depend on the exact location of the housing and the provision of sustainable transport links. The incorporation of renewable energy technologies within the new housing development will depend on the implementation of other Core Strategy policies such as SD2: Renewable Energy, and will not be influenced by its location.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	This policy states that the unique local environment will be protected and, where appropriate, enhanced – while there is no specific reference to biodiversity, it is taken to include this. The potential for the development of the 5,300 new homes proposed by this policy to affect biodiversity will depend on the exact design and location of the housing, which is unknown at this stage. While development could impact upon habitats and species (e.g. through habitat loss or disturbance), new development may also offer the opportunity to incorporate biodiversity enhancements such as new green infrastructure. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			<p>Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy would have a likely significant effect upon the River Wye SAC with respect to impacts on water quality. However, the later Appropriate Assessment stage of the HRA concluded that, provided the measures included in the signed Statement of Intent and the forthcoming Nutrient Management Plan (see HRA report for further details) are implemented, these will combine with the protection afforded in policies SS3 and SD4 to result in no significant effects. An overall mixed (both positive and negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore likely and is dependent on the implementation of the identified mitigation.</p>
<p>15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.</p>	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings. 15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management. 15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. 15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	<p>+/-?</p>	<p>This policy states that the unique local environment will be protected and, where appropriate, enhanced – while there is no specific reference to the landscape quality, it is taken to include this. The development of 5,300 new homes in Herefordshire's rural areas could affect the landscape quality depending on the design, location and density of the new developments. In particular, if the development of 730 new homes in the Ledbury HMA is steered towards the Malvern Hills AONB, there could be a negative effect on that designated landscape. However, it is assumed that all new development will take place in accordance with policy LD2: Landscape and Streetscape, and it may be possible to achieve enhancements in the local landscape through sensitive design.</p> <p>The regeneration of the rural economy could have a positive effect on promoting the use of rural areas and open space by all, particularly if this involves enhancing Herefordshire's rural tourism industry. The likely overall effect on this objective is therefore potentially mixed but is currently uncertain.</p>
<p>17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.</p>	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change. 17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems. 17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>The likely effects of 5,300 new homes being developed in Herefordshire's rural areas on flood risk are currently uncertain. While development in rural areas is more likely to take place on greenfield land, which can increase impermeable surfaces, the potential impact on flood risk will depend on the exact location of the housing in relation to high risk flood zones. In addition, new development may offer good opportunities to incorporate SuDS and it is assumed that the new homes will be built in accordance with policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management.</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			The likely effect on this objective is therefore currently uncertain.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.	?	This policy states that the unique local environment will be protected and, where appropriate, enhanced – while there is no specific reference to air, soil and water quality it is assumed that it includes these issues. It is also assumed that the new homes will be developed in accordance with other Core Strategy policies such as WD4: Water Quality. The development of housing in rural areas means that it is more likely that greenfield sites will be used which could have an adverse impact on soil quality, and it may also result in higher levels of car use which can have an adverse effect on air quality. However, until specific proposals for the housing development come forward the likely effects will remain largely uncertain.

Policy RA2: Herefordshire's Villages

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.	+	This policy aims to improve the vitality and viability of Herefordshire's villages and to maintain and strengthen a network of locally sustainable communities across the rural parts of Herefordshire. The policy allows for housing growth in

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		those villages best able to support development, bolstering existing service provision, improving facilities and infrastructure and meeting the needs of their communities. This will have an overall positive effect on the sustainable regeneration of Herefordshire's rural areas. Supporting housing development for a range of different age groups should help to increase the vitality of rural areas.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+	The policy specifies that housing development should be steered to those villages which are best able to support development, bolstering service provision and improving facilities and infrastructure. This is taken to include schools; therefore a positive effect on this objective may occur by avoiding schools that are unable to accommodate growth becoming overloaded by additional pupils.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	The policy allows for extended family to be considered in applications for housing where it enables the applicant to receive medical support, therefore a minor positive effect on health is likely. In addition, the policy specifies that housing development should be steered to those villages which are best able to support development, bolstering service provision and improving facilities and infrastructure. This is taken to include healthcare facilities.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.		
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	+/-?	The development of housing within Herefordshire's villages could have a negative effect on this objective as it is likely to result in greater increases in car traffic than development in more urban areas would. However, the policy specifies that housing development should be steered to those villages which are best able to support development, improving facilities and infrastructure. If this were to result in improved public transport links to those villages, a positive effect may result. An overall mixed but uncertain effect on this objective is therefore likely as effects will depend largely on the specific locations of new housing and the provision of sustainable transport links to support the new development.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	+	The policy specifies that housing development should be steered to those villages which are best able to support development, bolstering existing service provision, improving facilities and infrastructure and meeting the needs of their communities. The supporting text to the policy recognises that many villages with sizeable populations do not currently have an adequate range of services and facilities, and that enabling some housing growth within those communities may make the provision of additional services and facilities more viable and that community needs and aspirations are more likely to be realised. As such, a minor positive effect on this objective is likely.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.	++	This policy provides for housing development in villages to meet future housing needs and requirements within that area. The policy encourages new housing to contribute to the delivery of an appropriate mix of dwelling types and sizes, including affordable housing, to meet the housing needs of all sectors of the community. This reflects the particular demand for affordable housing in Herefordshire's rural areas, where people moving into the countryside has inflated house prices. Housing must meet an identified local need, including provision

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>		<p>of housing for existing local people, people with long-standing family links within the parish, extended family members where they require support (e.g. medical support) and people who are employed locally. The policy also requires housing to be of an appropriate size.</p> <p>The policy requires planning obligations that safeguard occupation of the housing development for the identified local need in perpetuity. An overall significant positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+	<p>This policy requires new housing in the villages to reflect the size, role and function of each village and to be located within or adjacent to the main body of the village so as to not result in free standing, individual or groups of dwellings which are obviously detached from, or peripheral to, the main built up area. The policy also gives priority to the development of suitable brownfield sites, and it encourages housing in villages that have appropriate infrastructure (which may include sustainable transport links) to support the development. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	<p>This policy gives priority to the development of suitable brownfield sites, which could allow for improvements to be made to the existing built character of a village (e.g. through the renovation of derelict sites and buildings). It also requires that development reflects the character of the village and surrounding environment. In addition, the supporting text to the policy states that development will need to be proportionate to the size of the community and that it should ensure villages retain their separate, distinctive and varied characters. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p>	0	<p>While the new development proposed by this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.		expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that new housing development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	?	The extent to which new housing development utilises energy efficient design and construction methods such as the incorporation of renewable energy sources will depend on the implementation of other Core Strategy policies such as SD1: Sustainable Design and Construction, and will not be influenced by its location. This policy focuses housing development in rural areas, which may mean there are fewer opportunities for re-using of existing building materials and brownfield sites, although this is uncertain until specific sites are allocated for development. In addition, the policy does clearly give priority to the development of suitable brownfield sites. Overall effects are therefore currently uncertain.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.	-?	Locating new homes in Herefordshire's villages may increase greenhouse gas emissions from transport as people are likely to make more use of private cars and travel longer distances to work and to access services and facilities in Hereford and the market towns. However, the policy specifies that housing development should be steered to those villages which are best able to support development, improving facilities and infrastructure. If this were to result in improved public transport links to those villages, a positive effect may result. The incorporation of renewable energy technologies within the new housing development will depend on the implementation of other Core Strategy policies such as SD2: Renewable Energy, and will not be influenced by its location. Overall effects are therefore potentially negative but currently uncertain.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance. 13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally	+/-?	The potential for the development of the new homes proposed by this policy to affect biodiversity will depend on the exact design and location of the housing, which is unknown at this

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>		<p>stage. While development could impact upon habitats and species (e.g. through habitat loss or disturbance), new development may also offer the opportunity to incorporate biodiversity enhancements such as new green infrastructure. The policy gives priority to the development of brownfield sites and although this may make habitat loss less likely, brownfield sites can often harbour valuable biodiversity. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy would have a likely significant effect upon the River Wye SAC with respect to impacts on water quality. However, the later Appropriate Assessment stage of the HRA concluded that, provided the measures included in the signed Statement of Intent and the forthcoming Nutrient Management Plan (see HRA report for further details) are implemented, these will combine with the protection afforded in policies SS3 and SD4 to result in no significant effects. An overall mixed (both positive and negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore likely and is dependent on the implementation of the identified mitigation.</p>
<p>15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.</p>	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	<p>+/-?</p>	<p>The development of new homes in Herefordshire's rural villages could affect the landscape quality depending on the design, location and density of the new developments. However, it is assumed that all new development will take place in accordance with policy LD2: Landscape and Streetscape, and it may be possible to achieve enhancements in the local landscape through sensitive design. In addition, this policy gives priority to the development of suitable brownfield sites, which could have a positive effect by steering development away from greenfield sites in more exposed locations that could have more significant landscape effects. The policy specifies that development should reflect the character of the environment surrounding the village, which is taken to include consideration of sensitive landscapes such as the Malvern Hills AONB. The supporting text to the policy states that development of locally sensitive sites will not be acceptable, but it is not clear if this refers to landscape sensitivity. However, it also refers to the importance of the local landscape and the presence of the AONB and states that new dwellings should make a positive</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			contribution to the landscape. The likely overall effect on this objective is therefore potentially mixed but is currently uncertain.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change. 17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems. 17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.	?	The likely effects of new homes being developed in Herefordshire's villages on flood risk are currently uncertain. While development in rural areas is more likely to take place on greenfield land, which can increase impermeable surfaces, the potential impact on flood risk will depend on the exact location of the housing in relation to high risk flood zones. In addition, the policy specifically gives preference to brownfield sites. New development may also offer good opportunities to incorporate SuDS and it is assumed that the new homes will be built in accordance with policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management. The likely effect on this objective is therefore currently uncertain.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.	?	It is assumed that the new homes in the villages will be developed in accordance with other Core Strategy policies such as WD4: Water Quality, and the policy gives priority to brownfield sites for development which may help to preserve soil quality. The development of housing in rural areas may, however, result in higher levels of car use which can have an adverse effect on air quality. However, until specific proposals for the housing development come forward the likely effects will remain largely uncertain.

Policy RA3: Herefordshire's Countryside

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	The fact that this policy allows for residential development in rural areas where it meets an agricultural or forestry need or other farm diversification enterprise for a worker to live permanently at or near their place of work means that opportunities for employees to live near to their workplace and access it easily on foot will be improved. The relatively small number of such proposals that are likely to come forward and be approved means that the likely positive effect is considered to be minor rather than significant.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+	The fact that this policy allows for residential development in rural areas where it meets an agricultural or forestry need or other farm diversification enterprise for a worker to live permanently at or near their place of work means that opportunities for people to work in traditional rural industries and become trained (and train others) in relevant skills will be improved. It will also help to reduce inequalities across the County by making employment opportunities in rural areas more viable. An overall positive effect is therefore likely.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	The fact that this policy allows for residential development in rural areas where it accompanies and is necessary to the establishment or growth of a rural enterprise, means that a positive effect on enhancing the sustainable rural economy is likely.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using	+	This policy should have a positive effect on supporting the vitality of rural areas by enabling appropriate accommodation to be provided for rural workers, and therefore making it more

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		<p>viable for younger people to remain in rural areas.</p>
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.		
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	+	This policy is likely to have a positive effect on reducing the need to travel, by enabling housing to be provided for rural workers in close proximity to their places of employment, and therefore reducing journey lengths and making travel on foot more viable.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.	+/-	This policy allows for residential development in rural areas where it satisfies a range of criteria, and as such may have a positive effect on this objective. However, the policy applies fairly strict criteria for the development of housing in rural areas, which could be seen as restrictive to housing provision. The fact that the policy encourages new rural housing to be of exceptional quality should have a positive effect on the wider built environment. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.		
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+/-	This policy restricts proposals for housing development in rural areas to proposals which meet a range of criteria. In this way it should have a positive effect on ensuring that developments are in appropriate locations. However, housing that comes forward in rural areas is unlikely to be well-linked in terms of sustainable transport and may lead to increased car use. However, the policy encourages proposals for rural housing where they would result in the re-use of a redundant or disused buildings of architectural and/or historical merit which also leads to an enhancement of the immediate setting. As such, an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	This policy encourages proposals for rural housing to involve the replacement of an existing dwellinghouse (that is comparable in size and scale with and in the same position as the existing dwellinghouse. This will help to ensure that new development is not inappropriate in its scale, form or setting. The policy also encourages proposals that would result in the re-use of a redundant or disused buildings of architectural and/or historical merit which also leads to an enhancement of the immediate setting. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on waste generation. It is assumed that new development will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from	+	This policy encourages rural housing to re-use a redundant or disused building which should minimise the need for new build

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
more efficiently.	<p>fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>		<p>and encourage the re-use and enhancement of existing buildings. The fact that the policy encourages houses to be built to the same size and scale of existing buildings that it replaces means that further loss of land/soil is less likely. The extent to which new housing development utilises energy efficient design and construction methods such as the incorporation of renewable energy sources will largely depend on the implementation of other Core Strategy policies such as SD1: Sustainable Design and Construction, although the policy encourages proposals for housing that is of exceptional quality and innovative design, demonstrating how sustainable construction standards have been utilised to achieve a zero carbon building. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.</p>
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+/-?	<p>Development of housing in rural areas could result in increased greenhouse gas emissions from transport as car use is likely to be high. However, the fact that this policy allows for residential development in rural areas where it meets an agricultural or forestry need or other farm diversification enterprise for a worker to live permanently at or near their place of work means that opportunities for employees to live near to their workplace and access it easily on foot will be improved. The incorporation of renewable energy technologies within the new housing development will depend on the implementation of other Core Strategy policies such as SD2: Renewable Energy, and will not be influenced by its location. Overall effects are therefore likely to be mixed but are currently uncertain.</p>
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p>	+/-?	<p>The potential for the development of rural housing to affect biodiversity either positively or negatively will depend on the exact design and location of the housing, which is unknown at this stage. However, the policy encourages houses to be built to the same size and scale of existing buildings that it replaces means that habitat loss is less likely. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. An overall mixed (both positive and negative)</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.		effect on this SA objective is therefore likely and is dependent on the implementation of the identified mitigation.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+	This policy encourages rural housing to involve the replacement of an existing dwellinghouse that is comparable in size and scale with and in the same position as the existing dwellinghouse. This should have a positive effect on reducing the potential landscape impacts of new rural development. It also encourages proposals to re-use a redundant or disused buildings of architectural and/or historical merit which also leads to an enhancement of the immediate setting. The supporting text to the policy also specifies that isolated development in the countryside will not be permitted, to protect the landscape and wider environment. A minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	This policy encourages rural housing to involve the replacement of an existing dwellinghouse that is comparable in size and scale with and in the same position as the existing dwellinghouse. This should have a positive effect on managing flood risk as it should not lead to an increase in the area of impermeable surfaces which could hinder infiltration and increase runoff. The policy also encourages proposals to be of exceptional quality and innovative design, demonstrating how sustainable construction standards have been utilised – this is taken to include the incorporation of SuDS. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	+/-	This policy encourages rural housing to involve the replacement of an existing dwellinghouse that is comparable in size and scale with and in the same position as the existing dwellinghouse. This would reduce the extent of soil loss under new development. Residential development in rural areas may lead to an increase in car use as sustainable transport links are likely to be less good, which could have a detrimental effect on air quality and the use of public transport. However, the fact that this policy allows for residential development in rural areas where it meets an agricultural or forestry need or other farm diversification enterprise for a worker to live permanently at or near their

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			place of work means that opportunities for employees to live near to their workplace and access it easily on foot will be improved. The likely effects on this objective are therefore mixed.

Policy RA4: Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Enterprise Dwellings

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+/-	This policy is likely to have mixed effects on this objective – it allows for dwellings for workers associated with agriculture, forestry and other rural enterprises under some circumstances so in some ways will help to maintain employment in those sectors. However, the criteria are very restrictive and so in another sense may make it more difficult for people to work in these industries.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+/-	This policy is likely to have mixed effects on this objective – it allows for dwellings for workers associated with agriculture, forestry and other rural enterprises under some circumstances so in some ways will help to encourage the development of these types of rural skills. However, the criteria are very restrictive and so in another sense may make it more difficult for people to work in these industries and therefore learn the associated skills
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using	+/-	By allowing for residential development for workers associated with agriculture, forestry and other rural enterprises, this policy may help to retain the vitality and viability of rural areas as

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		places to live and work. However, the policy is very restrictive and so could in some ways be seen to have the opposite effect. An overall mixed effect is therefore likely.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.		
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	+/-	Where people are able to live within close proximity of their workplaces, journey lengths will be reduced and there will be better opportunities for walking and cycling. As this policy allows for dwellings for rural workers in some circumstances it could have positive effects in this sense, although the very restrictive nature of the policy could mean that the opposite effects occurs, with many rural workers (particularly where their businesses are less well-established) being forced to live further away and commute longer distances. Overall effects are therefore likely to be mixed.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.	+/-	This policy sets out criteria for permitting agricultural, forestry and rural enterprise dwellings; therefore it is directly relevant to this SA objective. While the policy allows for such developments in certain circumstances, the criteria it applies are very restrictive (e.g. requiring to form an essential part of a financially sustainable business). One of the requirements of the policy is that applications for the removal of occupancy conditions on such dwellings will involve appropriate contributions towards affordable housing; therefore overall effects on this objective are likely to be mixed.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.		
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+	This policy relates to a very specific type of dwelling, of which there are likely to be a relatively small number in Herefordshire. As such, the fact that it does not focus development in urban areas is not a negative thing, as it relates to housing for rural workers and so locating the houses in rural areas represents a more efficient use of land and will help to reduce the need to travel. While the policy allows for this type of development in certain circumstances, it is very restrictive in terms of when it will be allowed and requires proposals to demonstrate that dwellings could not be located in an existing building. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	The restrictions that this policy places on rural dwellings, both in relation to when they can occur and in terms of their size, scale and design, should help to ensure that such developments help to protect local character and prevent inappropriate development. A minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	This policy will not have a direct effect on waste generation. It is assumed that all development in rural areas will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from	+	The effects of this policy on this SA objective will depend largely on the specific energy sources used in rural dwellings, which is

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
more efficiently.	<p>fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>		not determined by the policy. However, the fact that the policy encourages the re-use of existing buildings where possible in place of new rural dwellings should have a minor positive effect.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+/-	This policy allows for new rural dwellings when specific criteria are met. In this way it may have a positive effect on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport as it will enable rural workers in some cases to live closer to their workplaces and thus commute shorter distances. However, the criteria in the policy are very stringent which could be seen to have the opposite effect, by reducing the number of people who are able to do this. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+?	This policy aims to restrict inappropriate development in rural areas by setting out stringent criteria for the development of dwellings for rural workers. In this way it could have a positive effect on conserving local biodiversity. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around Herefordshire. The policy specifies that dwellings should make a positive contribution to their rural location, and while it is not specified, this could include measures that may benefit biodiversity. A potential but uncertain positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in</p>	+	The overarching aim of this policy is to prevent inappropriate development in rural areas; thereby conserving and enhancing the quality of the landscape. This policy specifies that where rural dwellings are allowed, they must be of a scale and design that is appropriate to the surroundings and make a positive

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
areas and open spaces.	<p>agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>		contribution to the rural location. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	The effects of this policy on flood risk will depend on the specific locations that come forward for the development of rural dwellings and cannot be determined at this stage. However, it is assumed that all developments will be in conformity with policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management. An overall negligible effect is therefore likely.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	The effects of this policy on this SA objective will depend largely on the specific location and design of any rural dwellings that are permitted, which cannot be determined at this stage. It is assumed that all new development will be in conformity with other emerging Core Strategy policies such as SD4: Water Quality. An overall negligible effect is therefore likely.

Policy RA5: Re-use of Rural Buildings

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	<p>1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors.</p> <p>1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport.</p> <p>1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings.</p> <p>1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.</p>	+/-?	This policy is not expected to have a significant direct effect on employment, although the relatively restrictive criteria in the policy regarding the re-use of rural buildings could potentially restrict proposals that could otherwise have resulted in some employment development. However, any such potential negative effect is likely to be minor and is dependent on the nature of proposals coming forward. In addition, the policy specifies that proposals for the re-use of redundant or disused rural buildings must make a positive contribution to rural businesses and enterprise and support the local economy which could have a minor positive effect on employment generation. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	<p>2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs.</p> <p>2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county.</p> <p>2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	<p>3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy.</p> <p>3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently.</p> <p>3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector.</p> <p>3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example.</p> <p>3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.</p>	+	This policy specifies that proposals for the re-use of redundant or disused rural buildings must make a positive contribution to rural businesses and enterprise and support the local economy. It also specifies that proposals for the re-use of redundant or disused rural buildings must be compatible with neighbouring uses including agricultural operations, providing some protection to the agricultural industry from the potential adverse impacts of incompatible nearby development. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character	+/-	This policy should have a positive effect on reducing the number of vacant properties, by allowing for the re-use of existing rural

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		buildings where particular criteria are met, and thereby increasing the vitality of the local area, particularly where such buildings are re-used for community facilities or employment-generating proposals. However, those criteria could also be seen as restrictive to the re-use of existing buildings; therefore an overall mixed effect on this objective is likely.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	+?	This policy could potentially have a positive effect on crime/fear of crime by reducing the number of derelict buildings in rural areas which may be (or may be perceived to be) used for criminal or antisocial activities.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.		
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	+?	Allowing for the re-use of disused or derelict buildings for uses that make a positive contribution to rural businesses could have an indirect positive effect on this objective by providing increased employment opportunities in rural areas for local people, thereby reducing their need to travel further afield for opportunities in Hereford and the market towns. However, this will be dependent on the nature of the proposals coming forward.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	+?	The likely effects of the policy on this objective will depend largely on the nature of the proposals that come forward for the re-use of rural buildings. If they are to be used for recreational or cultural facilities, a positive effect would be likely as this would increase provision in rural areas. Similarly, tourism-related enterprises would also have a positive effect, although it is noted that the supporting text to the policy states that in Herefordshire the commercial re-use of rural buildings has previously tended to revolve around tourism development ¹¹⁴ , and that although there may be further scope for tourism development, there is now greater potential for other types of business to develop. Redeveloping redundant buildings to high standards of design, as required by this policy, would help to improve the quality of the rural environment and therefore assist with the wider aim of promoting the value of Herefordshire's countryside as a tourism destination. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely, with some uncertainty attached.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location,	+/-	This policy includes specific criteria for proposals relating to the re-use of rural buildings for housing. These criteria are quite

¹¹⁴ West Midlands Farmsteads and Landscape Project (2010)

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>		restrictive and so could mean that a negative effect on housing provision is likely. However, the criteria require such proposals to demonstrate that they enhance the quality of the local environment, which should ensure that any houses that do come forward as a result of the re-use of existing buildings are in a high quality setting. The redevelopment of derelict buildings for any use would also have a positive effect on enhancing the setting of existing residential development in rural areas. An overall mixed effect on this objective is therefore likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>	+	This policy relates directly to the re-use of existing buildings, setting out strict criteria for ensuring that this takes place in an appropriate manor. A positive effect on the efficient use of land is therefore likely. It also specifies that proposals for the re-use of redundant or disused rural buildings must involve buildings that are of permanent and substantial construction, capable of conversion without major or complete reconstruction, which should help to reduce the extent to which new materials are required to support the change of use.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	This policy specifies that proposals for the re-use of redundant or disused rural buildings must satisfactorily reflect any heritage assets and their settings. In addition, the supporting text to the policy notes that the re-use of existing buildings can help to conserve buildings of heritage value. The overarching purpose of the policy is to prevent inappropriate development which could otherwise adversely affect the quality and character of the rural environment; therefore an overall positive effect on this objective is likely.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	0	This policy will not have a direct effect on waste generation. It is assumed that all development in rural areas will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	+	The redevelopment of existing buildings will help to reduce the consumption of land and soil, particularly as this policy specifies that proposals must not involve substantial extensions of existing buildings. The effects of the policy on energy efficiency will depend largely on its particular design and will not be influenced by this policy, although it is assumed that new development will be in conformity with emerging Core Strategy policy SD1: Sustainable Design and Construction.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. 16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.	+	The re-use of existing buildings should help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with the use of new building materials. The extent to which renewable energy use is increased will depend on the particular proposals for each re-used building and will not be affected by this objective.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance. 13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species. 13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces. 13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation	+	This policy should reduce the extent of habitat loss as a result of new development, as it encourages the re-use of existing buildings without significantly extending their footprint. It also specifies that proposals for the re-use of redundant or disused rural buildings must make adequate provision for protected and priority species and associated habitats. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy is not expected to have a significant effect on any European sites in and around

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	value. 13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.		Herefordshire. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings. 15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management. 15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. 15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.	+	This policy specifies that proposals for the re-use of redundant or disused rural buildings must involve a building which is capable of accommodating the proposed use without the need for substantial alteration or extension which would adversely affect the character or appearance of the building or have a detrimental impact on its surroundings and landscape setting. The supporting text to the policy expands on this in relation to farmsteads in particular, stating that all proposals for re-use of a farmstead will need to consider the farmstead as a whole and be informed by an assessment of its landscape setting, significance and capacity for change using the evidence and assessment framework provided by the Herefordshire Historic Farmsteads Characterisation Project (2008). The re-use or redevelopment of a derelict building or buildings should also help to improve the overall quality of the rural landscape. A positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change. 17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems. 17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.	+	This policy specifies that proposals for the re-use of redundant or disused rural buildings must not cause undue environmental impacts, which is taken to include an increased risk of flooding. The re-use of an existing derelict building, without significantly increasing its footprint, will have further positive effects by reducing the extent to which new development involves an increase in impermeable surfaces.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.	+	This policy specifies that proposals for the re-use of redundant or disused rural buildings must not cause undue environmental impacts, which is taken to include impacts on air, soil and water. The fact that proposals for the re-use of buildings must not involve a significant increase in the footprint of the existing building also means that positive effects on preserving soil are likely.

Policy RA6: Rural Economy

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	This policy should have a significant positive effect on this SA objective, as its overarching aim is to support employment generating proposals in rural areas. It specifically encourages the diversification of the economy into knowledge-based industries as well as creative industries, environmental technologies and farm diversification project, and it aims to support homeworking which will reduce problems that may exist in rural areas relating to the accessibility of job opportunities.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+	The measures in this policy to support rural diversification should help to improve the skill level and adaptability of the local workforce as they should result in improved opportunities for workplace learning and skills development. The provision of these opportunities in rural areas specifically should help to reduce inequalities between such opportunities in rural and urban areas. The supporting text to the policy specifically refers to the importance of the rural economy for retaining a skilled labour force within the rural area; therefore an overall positive effect on this objective is likely.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	++	This policy is likely to have a significant positive effect on this objective by encouraging diversification of the rural economy into sectors including knowledge based creative industries, environmental technologies and farm diversification projects. The policy aims to support and protect appropriate commercial facilities, which will help to ensure that premises are available for rural enterprise.
7. Sustainable	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities	+	Supporting the rural economy will help to ensure that rural

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Regeneration	<p>appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		communities remain viable and vital, and the policy specifies that employment generating proposals must be appropriate in terms of their scale. It also requires development to ensure that it will not threaten the vitality and viability of a nearby centre. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people</p>	+	Stimulating the rural economy should have a positive effect on improving equality of access to jobs, avoiding discrimination against those in rural areas without access to cars. It should also help to address poverty and disadvantage in rural areas by increasing the available job opportunities.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.		
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	+	Increasing employment opportunities in rural areas and encouraging homeworking should have a positive effect on reducing journey lengths and enabling people to travel on foot or by bicycle as opposed to by car.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	+	The policy aims to recognise the value of using Herefordshire's natural environment as an economic resource, which should mean that positive effects on rural tourism in the County are likely.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques,	0	This policy is not expected to have a direct effect on this SA objective.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.		
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.	+	This policy encourages employment generating proposals that are of an appropriate scale for their location; however the policy focuses on development in rural areas which by its nature will mean it is likely to be less well connected to sustainable transport links. However, providing job opportunities in rural areas, and encouraging homeworking, should help to ensure that the need to commute into urban areas is reduced. The policy encourages support for local food and drinks production, which should help to increase the consumption of local produce. An overall positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings. 20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. 20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place? 20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.	+	This policy requires employment generating proposals to be of an appropriate scale for their location and to protect and respect environmental quality. It also encourages the redevelopment of existing buildings, which may have a positive effect on local character by improving the appearance of derelict sites and buildings.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	0	While the new employment development proposed by this policy will inevitably result in increased waste generation in the area during construction and use of the development, it is not expected to result in an overall increase in waste generation per capita of the population as a whole. In addition, it is assumed that new employment development in rural areas will conform to the requirements of Draft Core Strategy Policy W5: Waste

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			Minimisation and Management in New Developments, which requires all development proposals to include measures to deal with waste in accordance with the waste hierarchy. An overall negligible effect on this objective is therefore likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+	The extent to which new development utilises energy efficient design and construction methods such as the incorporation of renewable energy sources will largely depend on the implementation of other Core Strategy policies such as SD1: Sustainable Design and Construction. However, this policy encourages employment generating proposals to help diversify the economy into areas such as environmental technologies, which may have a long-term positive effect on this objective by contributing to the development of renewable technologies etc. It also encourages the re-use of brownfield sites, which will minimise the consumption of land and soil, and encourages the development of the local food and drinks industry which will increase local sourcing of food. An overall positive effect is therefore likely.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+	Increasing job opportunities in rural areas may have a positive effect on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport as it will enable people to work closer to their homes and therefore commute on foot or by bicycle. The fact that the policy supports generally small-scale and low impact economic development in rural areas means that emissions from industrial sources would not be expected to be affected. The incorporation of renewable energy technologies within new development will depend on the implementation of other Core Strategy policies such as SD2: Renewable Energy, and will not be influenced by its location. Overall effects are therefore likely to be positive.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green</p>	+/?	The effects of this policy on biodiversity will depend largely on the specific locations that come forward for employment generating development in rural areas, which cannot be determined at this stage. The policy encourages the development of brownfield sites which may reduce the likelihood of habitat loss; however brownfield sites can also

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>		<p>harbour valuable biodiversity. The policy does require developments to respect local environmental quality, which is taken to include biodiversity; however the likely effects at this stage are largely uncertain. The HRA work that has been undertaken for the Draft Core Strategy concluded at Screening stage that this policy would have a likely significant effect upon the River Wye SAC with respect to impacts on water quality. However, the later Appropriate Assessment stage of the HRA concluded that, provided the measures included in the signed Statement of Intent and the forthcoming Nutrient Management Plan (see HRA report for further details) are implemented, these will combine with the protection afforded in policies SS3 and SD4 to result in no significant effects. An overall mixed (both positive and negative) effect on this SA objective is therefore likely and is dependent on the implementation of the identified mitigation.</p>
<p>15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.</p>	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	<p>+?</p>	<p>The effects of this policy on the landscape will depend largely on the specific locations that come forward for employment generating development in rural areas and their particular sensitivity to development, which cannot be determined at this stage. The policy encourages the development of brownfield sites which may reduce the likelihood of adverse impacts on the landscape and the policy does require developments to respect local landscape quality. In addition, the policy encourages the use of rural areas by all as it recognises the economic benefits of utilising the landscape. An overall minor positive effect is therefore likely, although there are uncertainties attached until particular development proposals come forward.</p>
<p>17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.</p>	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	<p>+?</p>	<p>The effects of this policy on flooding will depend largely on the specific proposals that come forward for employment generating development in rural areas and their proximity in relation to high flood risk areas, which cannot be known at this stage. However, the policy encourages the use of brownfield sites which indicates that increases in impermeable surfaces should be minimal. It is also assumed that new development will be in accordance with Core Strategy policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management. As such the likely effects on</p>

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			this objective are potentially positive but currently uncertain until more information about specific proposals comes forward.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.	+	This policy encourages the use of brownfield sites which should help to conserve soil quality. While development in rural areas can lead to increases in vehicle traffic (and therefore be detrimental to air quality), this policy aims to enable people to work closer to their homes in rural areas which should reduce car use by reducing journey lengths and could in this way have a positive effect on air quality. An overall minor positive effect on this objective is therefore likely.

Appendix 5

SA matrices for the General Policies

Policy H1: Affordable Housing – Thresholds and Targets

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment opportunities (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the economy and investment (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and	+?	This policy may have a negligible positive impact on reducing the number of vacant properties (SA objective 7.3), in cases where a developer prefers to refurbish an existing dwelling rather than build new dwellings which would trigger the affordable housing requirement. However, this positive impact is expected to be minor and uncertain as it would depend on decisions made by developers.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	support vitality. 7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on reducing inequalities in health (5.2), by improving access to adequate accommodation for low income people. The overall effect on this objective is therefore expected to be minor positive.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	+	An increase in affordable housing availability is likely to have a positive impact on improving quality of life (9.2), by improving access to adequate housing for all residents.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	++	The affordable housing targets set in Policy H1 are likely to have a significant positive impact on those in poverty and disadvantage (10.4) by directly addressing the difficulties of those groups in accessing affordable housing. There may also be minor indirect positive effects on access to services and opportunities for groups with improved access to housing.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic and movement (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community services (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	The affordable housing targets set in Policy H1 are likely to have a significant positive impact on delivering good quality, affordable housing (11), as it directly addresses this objective.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by</p>	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste and recycling (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resources (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by</p>	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
problem.	micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p>	0	The affordable housing targets are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		

Policy H2: Rural exception sites

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment opportunities (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the economy and investment (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on reducing inequalities in health (5.2), by improving access to adequate accommodation for low income people. The overall effect on this objective is therefore expected to be minor positive.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	+	An increase in affordable housing availability is likely to have a positive impact on improving quality of life (9.2), by improving access to adequate housing for all residents.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	++	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas as set out in Policy H2 is likely to have a significant positive impact on those in poverty and disadvantage (10.4) by directly addressing the difficulties of those groups in accessing affordable housing. There may also be minor indirect positive effects on access to services and opportunities for groups with improved access to housing.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	-	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas may have a minor negative impact on sustainable transport by encouraging residential sites in rural areas away from services and therefore it will not reduce the need to travel (SA objective 4.1).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community services (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	++	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas as set out in Policy H2 is likely to have a significant positive impact on delivering good quality, affordable housing (11), as it directly addresses this objective.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste and recycling (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resources (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	0	Allowing for small affordable housing schemes in rural areas is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		

Policy H3: Ensuring an appropriate range and mix of housing

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment opportunities (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	Policy H3 requires residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units to meet the needs of all households, including younger single people, the elderly, and those with additional needs. By improving access to adequate housing for all, the policy is likely to have a positive impact on reducing inequalities in health (5.2). The overall effect on this objective is therefore expected to be minor positive.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	+	Policy H3 requires residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units to meet the needs of all households, including younger single people, the elderly, and those with additional needs. By improving access to adequate housing for all, the policy is likely to have a positive impact on quality of life (9.2). The overall effect on this objective is therefore expected to be minor positive.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic and movement (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	++	Policy H3 requires residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units to meet the needs of all households, including younger single people, the elderly, and those with additional needs. The policy is therefore likely to have a significant positive impact on delivering good quality housing meeting people's needs (11), by improving access to adequate housing for all, and directly addresses this objective.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc. including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste and recycling (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resources (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	0	Requiring residential developments to provide a range and mix of housing units is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		

Policy H4: Travellers Sites

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Providing for the site needs of travellers is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment opportunities (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Providing for the site needs of travellers is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to promoting and securing a higher skilled workforce (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Providing for the site needs of travellers is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the economy and workforce (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Providing for the site needs of travellers is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+?	As the criteria in this policy permits development at locations that afford reasonable access to schools, there may be some minor positive impacts on raising educational standards by enabling access to schools.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on reducing inequalities in health (5.2), by improving access to appropriate accommodation for travellers, and locations that afford reasonable access to health facilities. The overall effect on this SA objective is therefore likely to be minor positive.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	+	The policy is also likely to have a positive impact on improving quality of life (9.2), by improving access to adequate housing for travellers. Providing sites through a Travellers' Development Plan Document may also encourage respect and awareness of people from different backgrounds and the overall effect is expected to be minor positive.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	++	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on disadvantage (10.4) by directly addressing the difficulties for travellers to access suitable housing, and may also have a positive impact on access to services and opportunities (10.1). Overall, the likely effect of policy H4 on this objective is significant positive.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	+	The policy requires pitch sites to be located in areas with reasonable access to local services and facilities, which may have a positive impact on reducing the need to travel (4.1), although this is likely to be minor.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	+	Policy H4 is likely to have a positive impact on this objective as the policy directly addresses access to cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities by requiring pitch sites to be located in areas with reasonable access to local services and facilities.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	++	The policy is likely to have significant positive impact on increasing access to accommodation that meets travellers' needs (11.1), by meeting the identified need for pitch sites in the County.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on ensuring new developments are in appropriate locations (19.1), by establishing criteria that potential pitch sites must meet, including proximity to existing settlements, services and facilities. The positive impact expected on this objective is likely to be minor.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	The policy is also likely to have a positive impact on ensuring new developments are appropriate to the setting or function of a local area (20.2), by establishing criteria that potential pitch sites must meet, including landscaping measures and ensuring that the size and density of sites respect the surrounding area. The policy could have a positive impact on improving the general appearance of an area (20.4) by requiring adequate screening and landscaping is included within the proposal for new sites.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc. including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	+	Policy H4 may have a minor positive impact on promoting the recycling of waste (12.3), as the criteria in the policy requires provision for recycling and waste management within new pitch sites.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+	As criteria in this policy ensure that the number of pitches at a site do not overload the local infrastructure, there may be a minor positive effect on the consumption of energy and water (14.1 and 14.2).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Providing for the site needs of travellers is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Providing for the site needs of travellers is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+	As criteria in this policy ensure that adequate screening and landscaping is included in proposals to protect local landscape character, there may be a minor positive effect on landscape quality (SA objective 15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Providing for the site needs of travellers is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	0	Providing for the site needs of travellers is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		

Policy SC1: Social and Community Facilities

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	Policy SC1 supports development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible. The policy is likely to have an overall positive impact on the economy, as it is likely to support and provide employment opportunities (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	Policy SC1 supports development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible. The policy is likely to have an overall positive impact on the economy, as it is likely to support and provide employment opportunities.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	++	Policy SC1 supports development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible. As such, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on developing services and facilities (7.1).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	++	Policy SC1 requires new development that creates a need for additional social and community facilities (for example, schools, preschools, and children's centres) - that cannot be met through existing facilities - to meet the additional requirements through new provision. As such, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on ensuring that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need (8.1). The policy also actively promotes the provision and enhancement of higher education facilities and the continuing enhancement of existing tertiary education facilities in the county.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on the provision of healthcare services (5.1), as it aims to provide accessible social and community facilities across the County; and encouraging healthy lifestyles (5.3), as it aims to maximise walking and cycling.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	+	Policy SC1 supports development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible, which is likely to have a positive impact on community safety (9.1), as this would include the provision of new police facilities.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	++	Policy SC1 supports development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible, which is likely to have a significant positive impact on the provision of service and opportunities (10.1), as it directly addresses the provision of a range of social services, including housing, healthcare, education, and transport.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all. 4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact in promoting the provision of and access to sustainable transport (4.2, 4.3, 4.4), as it requires proposals to consider the potential for co-location of facilities and be safely accessible on foot, by cycle and by public transport.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	++	Policy SC1 supports development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible. As such, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on increasing the type and quality of community facilities (6.1).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	+?	Supporting development proposals that enhance existing social and community infrastructure may improve the quality of design and appearance of some facilities and improve the wider built environment and sense of place (11.6). However, this would not be known until proposals come forward at the planning application stage, and as such, the minor positive effect expect on housing is therefore uncertain.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking,	+	Policy SC.1 supports proposals for facilities that would be close to existing settlements, that have considered the potential for co-location of facilities, and that are accessible by walking, cycling or public transport, which would help ensure

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		developments are in suitable locations (19.1). A minor positive effect is therefore expected for SA objective 19.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+?	Supporting development proposals that enhance existing social and community infrastructure may improve the quality of design and appearance of some facilities and enhance the character and built quality of settlements (20). However, this would not be known until proposals come forward at the planning application stage, and as such, the minor positive effect expect on cultural heritage is therefore uncertain.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+/-	The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing fossil fuel consumption (14.1) by requiring facilities to be safely accessible on foot, by cycle and by public transport. For all of the potentially positive impacts of this policy, these are most likely to be achieved in the larger growth locations of the market towns and rural service centres, which may leave some of the smaller and more remote rural settlements with a lack of services. This in turn will continue to encourage rural residents to travel to access the services, mostly be private car but also public transport where available, which could have a negative impact on reducing fossil fuel consumption (14.1). Overall a mixed effect is expected on SA objective 14.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+/-	The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions (16.1) by requiring facilities to be safely accessible on foot, by cycle and by public transport. For all of the potentially positive impacts of this policy, these are most likely to be achieved in the larger growth locations of the market towns and rural service centres, which may leave some of the smaller and more remote rural settlements with a lack of services. This in turn will continue to encourage rural residents to travel to access services, mostly by private car but also public transport where available, which could have a negative impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport (16.1). Overall a mixed effect is expected on SA objective 16.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where</p>	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
<p>environment.</p> <p>18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p>	<p>appropriate.</p> <p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	<p>0</p>	<p>Supporting development proposals that protect, retain or enhance existing social and community infrastructure or ensure that new facilities are available as locally as possible is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).</p>

Policy OS1: Requirement for Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Requiring new residential development and larger retail and employment development (i.e. 1000Sqm floor space or the equivalent of 15 FTE or more) to provide appropriate open space or sports and recreation facilities is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Requiring new residential development and larger retail and employment development (i.e. 1000Sqm floor space or the equivalent of 15 FTE or more) to provide appropriate open space or sports and recreation facilities is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Requiring new residential development and larger retail and employment development (i.e. 1000Sqm floor space or the equivalent of 15 FTE or more) to provide appropriate open space or sports and recreation facilities is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	++	By promoting open spaces and recreational facilities as part of new developments, policy OS1 is likely to have a significant positive impact on developing services and facilities appropriate to the community (7.1), and supporting high quality community/amenity space (7.4) by improving the provision of recreation and open spaces.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Requiring new residential development and larger retail and employment development (i.e. 1000Sqm floor space or the equivalent of 15 FTE or more) to provide appropriate open space or sports and recreation facilities is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	By promoting open spaces and recreational facilities as part of new developments, policy OS1 is likely to have a positive impact on improving the health of people in Herefordshire (5.3) by improving the quality and provision of recreation and open spaces.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Requiring new residential development and larger retail and employment development (i.e. 1000Sqm floor space or the equivalent of 15 FTE or more) to provide appropriate open space or sports and recreation facilities is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Requiring new residential development and larger retail and employment development (i.e. 1000Sqm floor space or the equivalent of 15 FTE or more) to provide appropriate open space or sports and recreation facilities is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are	++?	Policy OS1 promotes open space and sports and recreation facilities as part of new developments. The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on increasing cycling and walking (4.4), where improved walking and cycling routes have been included in open or recreational space provision.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		However, the significant positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of open space provided.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	++	Policy OS1 promotes open space and sports and recreation facilities as part of new developments, and therefore, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on increasing the quality and quantity of leisure, sporting and recreational activities (6.1) as it directly promotes the provision of open space and sports facilities.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Requiring new residential development and larger retail and employment development (i.e. 1000Sqm floor space or the equivalent of 15 FTE or more) to provide appropriate open space or sports and recreation facilities is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by</p>	+?	Policy OS1 promotes open space and sports and recreation facilities as part of new developments, and there may be positive impact on meeting local needs locally (19.3), by providing opportunities for food growing, as well as other open space opportunities. The positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of open space provided.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	Policy OS1 promotes open space and sports and recreation facilities as part of new developments. The policy is likely to have a positive impact on protecting features of historical and cultural value (20.1), where opportunities exist to protect or create new open spaces within historic areas or their settings. It is likely to have a significant positive impact on encouraging development which incorporates green space, encourages biodiversity and promotes local distinctiveness (20.3) by requiring development to meet the demand for open space and encouraging creative measures for biodiversity and play. The policy is also likely to have a significant positive impact on improving the general appearance of an area (20.4) by encouraging the enhancement of recreational and open spaces, and supporting the use of developer contributions to provide open spaces.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Requiring new residential development and larger retail and employment development (i.e. 1000Sqm floor space or the equivalent of 15 FTE or more) to provide appropriate open space or sports and recreation facilities is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+?	Policy OS1 promotes open space and sports and recreation facilities as part of new developments. The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing transport related consumption of fossil fuels (14.1), by encouraging walking and cycling where open spaces and recreational facilities have provided suitable facilities. The positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of open space provided.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from</p>	+?	Policy OS1 promotes open space and sports and recreation facilities as part of new developments. The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions (16.1), by encouraging walking and cycling where open spaces and recreational facilities have provided suitable facilities. The

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
contribution to the problem.	renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of open space provided.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	++	Policy OS1 promotes open space and sports and recreation facilities as part of new developments and is likely to have a significant positive impact on protecting biodiversity (13), by protecting and enhancing open space, which is likely to protect certain habitats and species (13.1, 13.2), and help to minimise fragmentation (13.3).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	++	Policy OS1 promotes open space and sports and recreation facilities as part of new developments and is likely to have a significant positive impact on landscape quality (15), by protecting and enhancing open space, which is likely to protect natural environmental assets (15.1), and promote the use of rural areas and open space (15.4) by improving their provision.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Requiring new residential development and larger retail and employment development (i.e. 1000Sqm floor space or the equivalent of 15 FTE or more) to provide appropriate open space or sports and recreation facilities is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p>	++	Policy OS1 promotes open space and sports and recreation facilities as part of new developments and is likely to have a significant positive impact on minimising pollution (18), by protecting and enhancing open space, which is likely to minimise pollution (18.1), protect watercourses (18.2) and improve soil quality (18.3).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		

Policy OS2: Meeting Open Space, Sports and Recreation Needs

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The principles are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The principles are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The principles are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and	++	By supporting on-site provision of open space and recreational facilities site, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on supporting a high quality community/amenity space (7.4) as it seeks to improve the quality and provision of recreation and open spaces. In particular, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on developing services and facilities appropriate to the community (7.1), as it directly

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	support vitality. 7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		promotes the provision of open space and sports facilities as near as possible to new developments.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The principles are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	By supporting on-site provision of open space and recreational facilities site, the policy may have a positive impact on encouraging healthy lifestyles in Herefordshire (5.3) by improving the quality and provision of open spaces or facilities that could be used for sports and recreation. The policy also supports major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford, which may also encourage healthy lifestyles.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The principles are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The principles are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+/-?	By supporting on-site provision of open space and recreational facilities, the policy may have a positive impact on increasing cycling and walking (4.4), where improved walking and cycling routes have been included in open or recreational space provision. However, the positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of open space provided. In addition, as the policy promotes locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford, this may create additional travel for those in rural areas of the County that would want to use major sports facilities. Therefore, the overall effect expected on this policy is mixed.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	++	By supporting on-site provision of open space and recreational facilities, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on increasing the quality and quantity of leisure, sporting and recreational activities (6.1), as it directly promotes the provision of open space and sports facilities.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The principles are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking,	++?	By supporting on-site provision of open space and recreational facilities, the policy may have a significant positive impact on meeting local needs locally (19.3), by providing opportunities for food growing, as well as other open space opportunities.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		The significant positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of open space provided.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	By supporting on-site provision of open space and recreational facilities site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), the policy may have a positive impact on protecting features of historical and cultural value (20.1), where opportunities exist to protect or create new open spaces within historic areas or their settings. It is likely to have a significant positive impact on encouraging development which incorporates green space, encourages biodiversity and promotes local distinctiveness (20.3) by requiring development to meet the demand for open space and encouraging creative measures for biodiversity and play. The policy is also likely to have a significant positive impact on improving the general appearance of an area (20.4) by encouraging the enhancement of on-site recreational and open spaces, and supporting the use of developer contributions to provide open spaces off-site.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc. including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The principles are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design)</p>	+?	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing consumption of fossil fuels (14.1), by encouraging walking and cycling where open and recreational spaces have provided suitable facilities. The positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.		open space provided.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+?	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions (16.1), by encouraging walking and cycling where open and recreational spaces have provided suitable facilities. The positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of open space provided.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	++	By supporting on-site provision of open space and recreational facilities site, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on protecting biodiversity (13), by protecting and enhancing open space, which is likely to protect certain habitats and species (13.1, 13.2), and help to minimise fragmentation (13.3).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	++	By supporting on-site provision of open space and recreational facilities site, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on landscape quality (15), by protecting and enhancing open space, which is likely to protect natural environmental assets (15.1), and promote the use of rural areas and open space (15.4), by improving their provision.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where</p>	0	Policy OS2 outlines principles for open space and sports and recreation provision, including locating the provision of open space, sports and recreation facilities on-site (unless an off-site contribution would be equally beneficial), and locating major sports facilities (which meet an identified regional or sub-

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
environment.	appropriate.		regional need) within or on the edge of Hereford. The principles are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flooding (17)
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	++	By supporting on-site provision of open space and recreational facilities site, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on minimising pollution (18), by protecting and enhancing open space, which is likely to minimise pollution (18.1), and protect watercourses (18.2) and soil quality (18.3).

Policy OS3: Loss of Open Space, Sports or Recreation Facilities

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Protecting existing open space, sports and recreation facilities from developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Protecting existing open space, sports and recreation facilities from developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Protecting existing open space, sports and recreation facilities from developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	++	This policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on developing services and facilities appropriate to the community (7.1), and supporting a high quality community/amenity space (7.4) by restricting proposals which would result in the loss of an open space, sports or recreation facility.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Protecting existing open space, sports and recreation facilities from developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	This policy is likely to have a positive impact on encouraging healthy lifestyles in Herefordshire (5.3) by protecting the provision of open spaces and facilities that could be used for recreation and sports.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Protecting existing open space, sports and recreation facilities from developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Protecting existing open space, sports and recreation facilities from developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	+?	The policy may have a positive impact on increasing cycling and walking (4.4), where improved walking and cycling routes have been protected from development that would result in the loss of an open space, sports or recreation facility. However, the positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of open space that is protected.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	++	Policy OS3 is likely to have a significant positive impact on leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities (6.1) by restricting proposals which would result in the loss of an open space, sports or recreation facility.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	0	Protecting existing open space, sports and recreation facilities from developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and	+?	Policy OS3 restricts proposals which would result in the loss of an open space, sports or recreation facility. The policy may therefore have a positive impact on meeting local needs locally (19.3), by protecting open space activities, such as food growing. However, the positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the location and nature of open space that is protected.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on protecting features of historical and cultural value (20.1), where open spaces within historic areas or their settings are protected. It is likely to have a significant positive impact on encouraging developments to incorporate green space, biodiversity and local distinctiveness (20.3) as developments that affect open spaces are required to provide an equally beneficial replacement facility or enhance existing facilities. The policy is also likely to have a significant positive impact on improving the general appearance of an area (20.4) by protecting recreational and open spaces.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc. including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Protecting existing open space, sports and recreation facilities from developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+?	The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing consumption of fossil fuels (14.1), by encouraging walking and cycling where open and recreational spaces have been protected. However, the positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of open space that is protected.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	+?	The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions (16.1), by encouraging walking and cycling where open and recreational spaces have provided suitable facilities. However, the positive effect is uncertain as it depends on the nature of open space that is protected.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	++	Policy OS3 restricts proposals which would result in the loss of an open space, sports or recreation facility. The policy is likely to have a positive impact on protecting biodiversity (13) by protecting open space, which is likely to protect certain habitats and species (13.1, 13.2), and help to minimise fragmentation (13.3).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	++	Policy OS3 restricts proposals which would result in the loss of an open space, sports or recreation facility. The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on protecting landscape quality (15) by protecting open space, which is likely to protect natural environmental assets (15.1), and promote the use of rural areas and open space (15.4), by protecting their provision.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	Protecting existing open space, and sports and recreation facilities from developments may have a positive impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17.1) if new development proposals are restricted on open spaces and therefore encouraged on previously developed land. This would help protect areas of permeable greenfield land that reduce the risk of flooding.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p>	++	Policy OS3 restricts proposals which would result in the loss of an open space, sports or recreation facility. The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on minimising pollution (18) by protecting open space, which is likely to minimise pollution (18.1), protect watercourses (18.2) and soil quality (18.3).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		

Policy MT1: Traffic Management, highway safety and promoting active travel

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	The requirements set out in Policy MT1 relating to transport management are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	The requirements set out in Policy MT1 relating to transport management are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	The requirements set out in Policy MT1 relating to transport management are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Although the requirements set out in Policy MT1 encourage safe access to all new developments in Herefordshire (7.4), the overall effect that is expected on sustainable regeneration is negligible.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	The requirements set out in Policy MT1 relating to transport management are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	By encouraging sustainable transport through protecting footways, cycleways and bridleways, this policy may have a positive impact on encouraging healthy lifestyles (5.3). However, the existing and forecast demand for car use far exceeds demand for sustainable transport modes (public transport, cycling, walking) ¹¹⁵ ; therefore, the policy is only expected to have a minor positive impact on health, and could take a more proactive role in reducing residents' reliance on private cars.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	The requirements set out in Policy MT1 relating to transport management are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	+	The policy may have a minor positive impact on access to services and opportunities (SA objective 10.1) through promoting integrated transport networks and supporting infrastructure in order to improve access to services.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion,	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in	+	The policy is likely to have mixed effects on the transport and access objectives, as it aims to protect strategic and local

¹¹⁵ Hereford Multi-Modal Model Forecasting Report (JMP Consultants, September 2009).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		footways, cycleways and bridleways, which promote more sustainable transport patterns (4.2). However, it is not clear that sustainable transport patterns will increase overall, given the continued reliance on car use in the County (as forecast by supporting evidence ¹¹⁶ and reflected through policy support for improvements to the highways network). However, the policy's promotion of integrated transport networks is likely to have a positive impact on improving the quality and provision of integrated transport options (4.3), and overall, a minor positive effect is expected on this objective.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	The policy is likely to have a minor positive impact on access to cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities through promoting integrated transport networks that will provide greater access to services using sustainable modes of transport.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	The requirements set out in Policy MT1 relating to transport management are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11), although the requirements within the policy may deter some developers from providing housing. Overall, a negligible effect is likely on this SA objective.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking,	++	The policy requires new development to demonstrate that existing highway network can accommodate development proposals, that footways, cycleways and bridleways are protected, and promotes integrated transport networks. This is

¹¹⁶ Ibid.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		likely to have a positive impact on ensuring developments are accessible by sustainable transport modes (19.1). As the policy directly addresses this issue, the positive effect could be significant.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	The requirements set out in Policy MT1 relating to transport management are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc. including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	The requirements set out in Policy MT1 relating to transport management are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design)</p>	+?	The policy is likely to have some minor positive effects on reducing the consumption of fossil fuels (14.1), as it aims to protect strategic and local footways, cycleways and bridleways, which promote more sustainable transport patterns rather than private car use. However, it is not clear that sustainable transport patterns will increase overall, given the continued reliance on car use in the County (as forecast by supporting evidence ¹¹⁷ and reflected through policy support for improvements to the highways network). Overall, a minor but uncertain positive effect is expected on this objective.

¹¹⁷ Ibid.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.		
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+?	The policy is likely to have some positive effects on reducing the consumption of greenhouse gas emissions (16.1), as it aims to protect strategic and local footways, cycleways and bridleways, which promote more sustainable transport patterns rather than private car use. However, it is not clear that sustainable transport patterns will increase overall, given the continued reliance on car use in the County (as forecast by supporting evidence ¹¹⁸ and reflected through policy support for improvements to the highways network). Overall, a minor but uncertain positive effect is expected on this objective.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Despite requiring safe access to new development sites, the requirements set out in Policy MT1 relating to transport management are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+	As the requirements set out in Policy MT1 protect footways, cycleways and bridleways, the policy will help promote non-car based access to rural areas and open spaces (15.4). The policy also requires new developments to provide safe access to disabled users, and therefore, a minor positive effect can be expected on this SA objective.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the	17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.	0	The requirements set out in Policy MT1 relating to transport management are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective

¹¹⁸ Ibid.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems. 17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.		relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.	+?	The policy is likely to have some minor positive effects on air quality (and the two AQMAs in Herefordshire), as it aims to protect strategic and local footways, cycleways and bridleways, which promote more sustainable transport patterns rather than private car use. However, it is not clear that sustainable transport patterns will increase overall, given the continued reliance on car use in the County (as forecast by supporting evidence ¹¹⁹ and reflected through policy support for improvements to the highways network). Overall, a minor but uncertain positive effect is expected on this objective.

¹¹⁹ Ibid.

Policy E1: Employment Provision

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	Policy E1 seeks to provide a range of locations, types and sizes of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy. The policy is therefore likely to have a significant positive impact on objectives to provide flexible employment land (1.2). The policy is also likely to have a positive impact on objectives to increase the diversity of job opportunities (1.4) by allowing flexibility for non-B class employment-generating uses.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+	The policy's promotion of new business development may offer opportunity for work-based training and learning (2.1), which would have a positive impact on skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	++	Policy E1 seeks to provide a range of locations, types and sizes of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy. The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on objectives to provide appropriate sites for new business growth (3.2). The policy is also likely to have a positive impact on objectives to increase the diversity of businesses (3.1) by allowing flexibility for non-B class employment-generating uses.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on reducing the number of vacant properties and support vitality (7.3) and a positive impact on local viability and services and facilities (7.1) by encouraging the re-use of previously developed land or buildings.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Providing a range of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to educational attainment (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Providing a range of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Providing a range of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	+	Policy E1 seeks to provide a range of locations, types and sizes of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy, and is likely to have a positive impact on the provision of jobs (10.1), by supporting the provision of employment land and allowing for some flexibility for employment-generating non-B class uses.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	+/-	The policy directs most new employment land provision to Hereford and the market towns, which is likely to have a positive impact on reducing the need to travel (4.1) for residents within these urban areas, and increasing the use of public transport (4.4), as it will increase the proportion of employment sites within proximity to the existing public

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		transport services available in these urban areas. The above positive impacts are most likely to occur in Hereford and the market towns, as the policy states that most new employment land provision will be focused there. However, the policy does also allow for the provision of smaller employment sites to meet local needs and encourage new business development, which should enable much needed employment provision within some of the smaller rural settlements, although it is not entirely clear that this is where the smaller sites might be located. Provision of small scale employment land in rural areas would help to encourage creation of small start-up businesses, which are often highly successful in rural areas, and it should also help to reduce the need to travel by car (4). Overall a mixed effect is expected on SA objective 4.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Providing a range of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Providing a range of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy, does not address elements of design or character, and therefore is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously	0	Providing a range of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy, does not address

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and balanced land use.	<p>developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		elements of design or character, and therefore is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Providing a range of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy, does not address elements of design or character, and therefore is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc. including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	-?	The policy's promotion of new business development will inevitably lead to increased waste generation locally, and therefore may have a negative impact on reducing waste in Herefordshire. However, other policies in the Core Strategy require the use of sustainable design and construction techniques, which should help to minimise any potential negative effect on this SA objective.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design)</p>	+/-	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on the reuse of existing buildings (14.3), as it promotes the use of previously developed land or buildings. However, the policy's promotion of new business development is likely to have a negative impact on minimising the need for new build (14.3), while support for new business development could have a negative impact on the consumption of raw materials (14.2) from construction. Overall, a mixed effect is likely for SA objective 14.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.		
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+/-	The focus of development in the County's main urban areas is likely to have a positive impact on transport emissions (16.1), enabling use of existing public transport infrastructure; however, support for new business development could have a negative impact on commercial and industrial emissions (16.1) from construction. Overall, a mixed effect is likely for SA objective 16.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+?	The direction of employment development to existing urban areas and the priority given to the reuse of existing premises and brownfield land are likely to have a positive impact on the protection of biodiversity (13). However, local impacts will vary on a site-by-site basis (for example, a brownfield site may have high biodiversity value), therefore the positive impacts is uncertain.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+?	The direction of employment development to existing urban areas and the priority given to the reuse of existing premises and brownfield land are likely to have a positive impact on the protection of landscape (15). However, local impacts will vary on a site-by-site basis (for example, a rural site may be able to accommodate development without a negative impact on landscape quality), therefore the positive impacts is uncertain.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Providing a range of employment buildings, land and offices to meet the needs of the local economy, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the	+	The reuse of previously developed land or buildings as promoted in Policy E1 may have a positive impact on soil quality

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>		(18.3), where a site is restored as part of development.

Policy E2: Redevelopment of existing employment land and buildings

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	++	Policy E2 safeguards employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses, and is likely to have a significant positive impact on employment – in particular, on the provision of employment land (1.2) and increasing the diversity of job opportunities (1.4), by ensuring an adequate supply of a range of employment land.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+	Policy E2 safeguards employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses, and may offer opportunity for work-based training and learning (2.1), which would have a positive impact on skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	++	Policy E2 safeguards employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses, and is likely to have a significant positive impact on the provision of appropriate facilities for new businesses (3.2), and may also have a minor positive impact on improving the diversity of the economy (3.1) and supporting the development of new technologies (3.5) by providing adequate and appropriate employment land.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to educational attainment (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	+	Policy E2 safeguards employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses. The policy is likely to have a positive impact on the provision of and access to jobs (10.1); however, because access to jobs is influenced by many factors in addition to the provision of employment land (e.g. education and skills, income), the impact of this policy is considered minor.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Policy E2 safeguards employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses. As the policy does not address the type or character of employment development, it is not considered to have an impact on objectives to increase the type or quality of services or facilities (6.1, 6.3).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	0	Policy E2 safeguards employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses. As the policy does not address the type or character of employment development, it is not likely to have an impact on objectives to ensure development is appropriately located (19.1) or of an appropriate density and use (19.2).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resource consumption (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as "best" and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+	Policy E2 safeguards employment land and buildings rated as “best” and “good” from redevelopment to other non-employment uses. In scoring the quality of existing and potential employment sites in the County, the Herefordshire Employment Land Study ¹²⁰ attributed a score according to the degree to which a site was constrained by nature conservation designations, giving a high score to those sites with less constraint. Therefore, “best” and “good” quality employment sites safeguarded in this policy are likely to coincide with areas outside of nature conservation designations, which is likely to have a positive impact on SA objectives to protect these areas (13.1, 13.2).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB’s, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+	Policy E2 safeguards employment land and buildings rated as “best” and “good” from redevelopment to other non-employment uses. In scoring the quality of existing and potential employment sites in the County, the Herefordshire Employment Land Study ¹²¹ attributed a score according to the degree to which a site was constrained by landscape designations, giving a high score to those sites with less constraint. Therefore, the “best” and “good” quality employment sites safeguarded in this policy are likely to coincide with areas outside of landscape designations, which is likely to have a positive impact on SA objectives to protect these areas (15.1).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	Policy E2 safeguards employment land and buildings rated as “best” and “good” from redevelopment to other non-employment uses. In scoring the quality of existing and potential employment sites in the County, the Herefordshire Employment Land Study ¹²² attributed a score according to the degree to which a site was constrained by flood risk, giving a high score to those sites with less constraint. Therefore, the “best” and “good” quality employment sites safeguarded in this policy are likely to coincide with areas outside of areas of high flood risk, which is likely to have a positive impact on SA objectives to reduce flood risk (17.1, 17.2).
18. Minimise local	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and	0	Safeguarding employment land and buildings rated as “best”

¹²⁰ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

¹²¹ Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

¹²² Drivers Jonas Deloitte (November 2012) Herefordshire Employment Land Study

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>		and "good" from redevelopment to other non-employment uses is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

Policy E3: Home Working

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	Policy E3 supports home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home. This may have a positive impact on accessibility to employment and decent working conditions (1.3).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	Policy E3 supports home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home. This may have a positive impact on businesses (3.1), by making jobs accessible to those not usually able to travel to work.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+/-	Policy E3 supports home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home. This may have a positive impact on health by providing equal access to jobs for those less able to travel to work due to health reasons. However, there may be health risks related to working from home, therefore the current expected effect on this SA objective is mixed and uncertain.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	+	Supporting home working may lead to a positive effect on access to jobs (10.1), especially for those with difficulties in travelling to work. Overall a minor positive effect is expected on social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	+	Policy E3 supports home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home. This is likely to have a positive impact on reducing the need to travel (4.1).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+	Policy E3 supports home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home. This may have a positive impact on providing housing that meets people's needs (11.1), and a minor positive effect is expected on SA objective 11.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+	Policy E3 supports home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home. This is likely to have a positive impact on reducing consumption of fossil fuels (14.1) that would otherwise result from travel to work.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	+	Policy E3 supports home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home. This is likely to have a positive impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions (16.1) that would otherwise result from travel to work.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	0	Supporting home working by allowing some material change of use to part of a dwelling and allowing small extensions or conversions related to working from home is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		

Policy E4: Tourism

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	<p>1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors.</p> <p>1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport.</p> <p>1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings.</p> <p>1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.</p>	+	Policy E4 promotes Herefordshire as a sustainable tourism destination. The expansion of the tourist industry within Herefordshire is likely to have a positive impact on local employment opportunities (SA objective 1) as a result of job creation in hotels, restaurants and other facilities associated with tourism. However, the employment created in this industry tends to be low skilled and is often poorly paid (reflected in the fact that a third of all tourism-related employment in the county is currently in the food and drink sector) and is therefore inconsistent with the aim to provide higher-skilled and more diverse (1.4) job opportunities within the county. Although not stated within the policy itself, the supporting text advocates focussing most of the tourist accommodation development within Hereford and the Market towns in order to reduce car use, which may result in a skew in the geographical location of the employment opportunities arising, although these towns are more easily accessible by public transport than more rural locations (1.2).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	<p>2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs.</p> <p>2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county.</p> <p>2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.</p>	0	The employment opportunities that would arise from growth in tourism promoted in this policy are unlikely to offer significant opportunities for training and skills development (2.1) in comparison to other more highly skilled industries and commercial activities. As such, a negligible effect is expected on the SA objective that relates to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	<p>3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy.</p> <p>3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently.</p> <p>3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector.</p> <p>3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example.</p> <p>3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.</p>	+	The emphasis on developing Herefordshire's sustainable tourism industry, based on a strong regard for environmental conservation, indicates that there may be positive impacts on the development of a sustainable economy. However, tourism-related development is not considered to really diversify from the existing economic activities which are already dominant within the county, and will not particularly increase the county's resilience to economic change (3.1). The positive effect on SA objective 3 is therefore expected to be minor.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
7. Sustainable Regeneration	<p>7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>	+	<p>Encouraging the development of the tourism industry within Herefordshire may have an indirect positive impact in terms of reducing the number of vacant properties in the county (7.3) as tourism-related businesses such as accommodation providers and restaurants will require premises in which to locate. However, this would depend on the location and nature of the vacant properties available and whether they are appropriate for such uses.</p> <p>The emphasis within the policy on preserving and valuing the historic character of Hereford and the other market towns within Herefordshire is likely to have a positive impact on the quality of the public realm (7.4), with the importance of maintaining a high quality environment for attracting visitors being recognised. A positive impact is also likely in relation to sustainable regeneration (7.1.) as a result of the emphasis that the policy places on developing tourism in a sustainable manner and on ensuring that development does not impact on environmental quality.</p>
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Promoting Herefordshire as a sustainable tourism destination is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+	The policy encourages active modes of transport (walking and cycling) through the provision of appropriate routes which can be utilised by local people as well as tourists. As such, there may be a positive impact on increasing the level of physical activity amongst local people, and having a positive effect on public health (5.3).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	Promoting Herefordshire as a sustainable tourism destination is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity,	0	Promoting Herefordshire as a sustainable tourism destination is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>		
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+/-	Encouraging walking and cycling by providing long-distance routes should help to encourage travel by these modes as opposed to the private car for some journeys (4.4). This will be particularly beneficial in Hereford itself which already suffers from significant congestion problems (4.2). The supporting text to the policy recognises the potential adverse impacts of tourism in a rural county in terms of increased car use and associated carbon emissions, and as such advocates focusing the development of tourist accommodation within Hereford and the market towns which may facilitate greater use of public transport by visitors (4.4). However, it is considered that overall, a net increase in car use and vehicle traffic within the county is likely to result from the development of Herefordshire's tourism industry. As such, mixed effects are expected on SA objective 4.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	A significant positive impact is likely in relation to the promotion of Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists (6.2) as the overarching purpose of the policy is to enhance the tourism offering within the county. The policy makes particular reference to the importance of conserving and enhancing the heritage assets which are of particular value in attracting tourism by contributing to local historic character.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty</p>	0	Promoting Herefordshire as a sustainable tourism destination is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.		
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.	+	The supporting text to the policy supports focussing the majority of tourism accommodation within Hereford and the market towns, in order to mitigate the increase in car use which is likely to result from tourism development in general. As such, a positive impact on efficient land use (19.1) is likely, with opportunities more likely to exist for the reuse of existing sites and buildings.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings. 20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. 20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place? 20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.	+	The policy recognises that the character and quality of Herefordshire's built environment is one of the key assets that will attract visitors, and therefore that tourism must occur in a sustainable way with regards for the heritage assets of the county. In this sense, a positive impact on valuing, protecting and enhancing such assets is likely (SA objective 20.1).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	0	Promoting Herefordshire as a sustainable tourism destination is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+/-	Focusing a large proportion of tourism-related developments within existing urban areas is likely to maximise the opportunities available for re-using existing buildings and minimising the need for new builds (14.3). This may also facilitate greater use of public transport by visitors, and reduce consumption of fossil fuels (14.1). However, it is considered that overall, a net increase in traffic (and related fossil fuel consumption) is likely to result from the development of Herefordshire's tourism industry. As such, a mixed effect is expected on the SA objective that relates to natural resources.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+/-	Focusing a large proportion of tourism-related developments within existing urban areas is likely to facilitate greater use of public transport by visitors, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions (16.1). However, it is considered that overall, a net increase in traffic (and greenhouse gas emissions) is likely to result from the development of Herefordshire's tourism industry. As such, a mixed effect is expected on the SA objective that relates to climate change.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+	The policy emphasises the importance of developing tourism in a way that avoids harm to the environment, although biodiversity is not explicitly mentioned. However, the wording of the policy indicates that 'detrimental impact on environmental assets and environmental designations' will be a priority consideration, which suggests a positive effect for biodiversity (13). However, the wording refers to the need to avoid harm to the environment, but does not acknowledge the potential for developments to enhance biodiversity assets, for example by providing green corridors and open space, which may be particularly relevant to the type of developments associated with leisure and tourism. As such, the positive effect on biodiversity is expected to be minor.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality	15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.	+	Focusing a large proportion of tourism-related developments within existing urban areas is likely to avoid any adverse impact on the landscape quality of Herefordshire (15.1). A positive

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>		impact is likely to result in relation to promoting access to open space and rural areas (15.4), as the proposal advocates improving sustainable transport routes around the county, such as walking and cycling routes.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Promoting Herefordshire as a sustainable tourism destination is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	Promoting Herefordshire as a sustainable tourism destination is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

Policy E5: Town Centres

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	Supporting retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development, and the use of upper floors for office uses within town centres is likely to have a positive effect on employment rates in the retail and leisure sectors, but is unlikely to increase employment in knowledge and technology intensive sectors (1.1), or the diversity of job opportunities (1.4). The positive effect expected on SA objective 1 is therefore likely to be minor.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	There is likely to be limited opportunities for work-based training related to retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development, therefore Policy E5 is unlikely to lead to any effect on attracting and retaining a highly skilled workforce (2.1).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	Supporting retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development, and the use of upper floors for office uses within town centres is likely to improve the resilience of businesses in the retail and leisure sectors (3.1). However, as Policy E5 is unlikely to support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, the positive effect on SA objective 3 is likely to be minor.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	++	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is likely to help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers (7.2), while supporting a high quality public realm (7.4), and a significant positive effect is expected on SA objective 7.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	+/-	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is likely to reduce the need to travel (4.1) by creating opportunities for residents in urban areas to walk, cycle or use public transport to access these facilities (4.4). However, residents in rural areas would need to travel further to access facilities, most likely by car; therefore

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.		the overall effect expected on SA objective 14 is expected to be mixed.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	+	Supporting retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development, and the use of upper floors for residential and office uses within town centres is likely to promote and increase the quality of facilities (6.1 and 6.2) in Herefordshire.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	+	Supporting the use of upper floors within town centres for residential use is likely to increase the availability of housing in town centres, while supporting retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development in town centres is likely to improve the wider built environment and sense of place (11.6). A positive effect is therefore likely on SA objective 11.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and	++	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is likely to have a significant positive effect on ensuring new developments are in appropriate locations (19.1) by focussing development in urban areas that are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. Development in town centres may also provide opportunity for using previously developed land or buildings.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	Supporting retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development in town centres may affect built heritage in those areas. However, Policy E5 requires that any developments are of a scale and design appropriate to the size, role, character and heritage of the centre, and therefore the overall effect expected on cultural heritage is expected to be positive.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+/-	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is likely to reduce fossil fuel consumption by road traffic (14.1) by creating opportunities for residents in urban areas to walk, cycle or use public transport to access these facilities. However, residents in rural areas would need to travel further to access facilities, most likely by car; therefore the overall effect expected on SA objective 14 is expected to be mixed.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	+/-	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is likely to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from road traffic (16.1) by creating opportunities for residents in urban areas to walk, cycle or use public transport to access these facilities. However, residents in rural areas would need to travel further to access facilities, most likely by car; therefore the overall effect expected on SA

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		objective 16 is expected to be mixed.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+?	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres may have a positive impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13), where development is steered away from international, national, regional or local designated sites (13.1 and 13.2)
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+?	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres may have a positive impact on the SA objective relating to landscape quality (15), where development is steered away from AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, or parks and gardens (15.1).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	Focussing retail, commercial, leisure, cultural and tourism development within town centres is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

Policy E6: Primary and Secondary Shopping Frontages

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+/-	Policy E6 seeks to protect and enhance the retail trading character of the primary and secondary shopping frontages. This is likely to have a positive impact on employment by supporting the retail sector (Class A1) in town centre locations, but by restricting non-retail uses such as banks, restaurants and cafes, drinking establishments and hot food takeaways (Classes A2-A5) in primary shopping frontages, the overall effect on employment is expected to be mixed.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+/-	Policy E6 seeks to protect and enhance the retail trading character of the primary and secondary shopping frontages. This is likely to have a positive impact improving the resilience of businesses the retail sector (Class A1) in town centre locations, but by restricting non-retail uses such as banks, restaurants and cafes, drinking establishments and hot food takeaways (Classes A2-A5) in primary shopping frontages, the overall effect on the resilience and diversity of businesses and the economy (3.1) is expected to be mixed.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	++	Policy E6 seeks to protect and enhance the retail trading character of the primary and secondary shopping frontages. Shops (Class A1) will be supported in primary shopping frontages, and secondary frontages may include non-retail uses such as banks, restaurants and cafes, drinking establishments and hot food takeaways (Classes A2-A5). Proposals must also respect the character of the frontage and be appropriate in location, unit size and frontage width. The policy is therefore

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		likely to have a significant positive effect on creating an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers (7.2), and supporting a high quality public realm (7.4).
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	+	Policy E6 seeks to protect and enhance the retail trading character of the primary and secondary shopping frontages, which may maintain retail and leisure uses in town centres, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport (6.1).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	+	Policy E6 requires development proposals to protect and enhance the retail trading character of the primary and secondary shopping frontages. Proposals will need to respect the character of the frontage and be appropriate in location, unit size and frontage width, which likely to have a positive effect on improving the wider built environment and sense of place.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and	+	Policy E6 seeks to protect and enhance the retail trading character of the primary and secondary shopping frontages. Shops (Class A1) will be supported in primary shopping frontages, and secondary frontages may include non-retail uses such as banks, restaurants and cafes, drinking establishments and hot food takeaways (Classes A2-A5). The policy is therefore likely to have a positive effect on ensuring new developments are in appropriate locations (19.1).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	Policy E6 requires development proposals to protect and enhance the retail trading character of the primary and secondary shopping frontages. Proposals will need to respect the character of the frontage and be appropriate in location, unit size and frontage width, which likely to have a positive effect on preventing development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. As the policy only applies to town centre areas, the positive effect is likely to be minor.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to natural resource consumption (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	Protecting and enhancing the retail trading character of primary and secondary shopping frontages is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective that relates to pollution (18).

Policy LD1: Local Distinctiveness

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, restore and improve locally distinctive assets and designations is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, restore and improve locally distinctive assets and designations is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, restore and improve locally distinctive assets and designations is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	+	By requiring development proposals to incorporate green infrastructure, Policy LD1 is likely to have a positive impact on supporting a high quality community/amenity space (7.4) by improving the quality and provision of open spaces.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, restore and improve locally distinctive assets and designations is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	By requiring development proposals to incorporate green infrastructure, Policy LD1 is likely to have a positive impact on encouraging healthy lifestyles (SA objective 5.3) by improving the quality and provision of open spaces that could be used for recreation.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, restore and improve locally distinctive assets and designations is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, restore and improve locally distinctive assets and designations is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	+	By requiring development proposals to incorporate green infrastructure, Policy LD1 is likely to have a positive impact on increasing cycling and walking (SA objective 4.4) by improving the quality and provision of open spaces that could be used for recreation.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	This policy requires development proposals to incorporate landscape, biodiversity, the historic environment and green infrastructure. The policy is therefore likely to have a positive impact on increasing the type or quality of cultural and community facilities (SA objective 6.1) by protecting local sites of heritage and environmental value. It may also have a positive impact on encouraging appreciation for the County's heritage (6.2) by encouraging the protection and enhancement of existing sites.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+	This policy requires development proposals to incorporate landscape, biodiversity, the historic environment and green infrastructure. The policy is therefore likely to have a positive impact on improving a sense of place (11.6), by protecting and enhancing local environmental and heritage features and landscapes which help to shape local the identity of local places.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	+	This policy requires development proposals to incorporate landscape, biodiversity, the historic environment and green infrastructure. The policy may therefore have a positive impact on meeting local needs locally (19.3), by providing opportunities for food growing, as well as other open space opportunities such as routes for walking and cycling.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	This policy requires development proposals to incorporate landscape, biodiversity, the historic environment and green infrastructure. The policy is therefore likely to have a positive impact on improving a sense of place (20.3), by protecting and enhancing local environmental and heritage features and landscapes which help to shape local the identity of local places. The policy also requires development proposals to be accompanied with sufficient information to determine the likelihood of impact upon locally distinctive assets, which is likely to have a significant positive impact on encouraging development which promotes local distinctiveness (20.3).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, restore and improve locally distinctive assets and designations is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, restore and improve locally distinctive assets and designations is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resources (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Supporting development proposals that protect, restore and improve locally distinctive assets and designations is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	++	This policy requires development proposals to incorporate landscape, biodiversity, the historic environment and green infrastructure. The policy is therefore likely to have a significant positive impact on biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	++	Policy LD1 requires development proposals to incorporate landscape, biodiversity, the historic environment and green infrastructure. The policy is therefore likely to have a significant positive impact on landscape quality (15). The policy also states that the adopted management plans of the Malvern Hills AONB and Wye Valley AONB will be material to future development proposals, which should have a significant positive effect on the protection of AONBs (15.1)
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	By requiring development proposals to incorporate green infrastructure, Policy LD1 is likely to have a positive impact on reducing flood risk (17), as GI provision provides opportunities to direct appropriate development to the floodplain (e.g. agriculture, recreation, nature conservation, flood attenuation), and to create sustainable drainage systems.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p>	+?	By requiring development proposals to incorporate green infrastructure, Policy LD1 may have a positive impact on minimising pollution (18) by protecting and enhancing open and green spaces; however the effect is likely to be uncertain until specific development proposals are submitted.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		

Policy LD2: Landscape and Townscape

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	This policy seeks to ensure that areas of lower sensitivity in terms of natural and historical assets are developed prior to more sensitive areas. The policy is likely to have a positive impact on increasing the type or quality of cultural and community facilities (SA objective 6.1) by protecting local sites of heritage and environmental value. It may also have a positive impact on encouraging appreciation for the County's heritage (6.2) by encouraging the protection and enhancement of existing sites.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on improving a sense of place (11.6), by protecting and enhancing local environmental and heritage features and landscapes which help to shape the identity of local places.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on improving a sense of place (20.3), by protecting and enhancing local environmental and heritage features and landscapes which help to shape the identity of local places. The policy is also likely to have a significant positive impact on the protection of historic features and areas of heritage and cultural value (20.1), by protecting important archaeological sites and local built heritage assets.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resource consumption (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Although there may be some indirect benefits for biodiversity (13) from requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives, due to improved habitats, the overall effect of Policy LD2 on this SA objective is negligible.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	++	Policy LD2 requires development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments. The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on objectives to protect landscape quality (15), as it addresses landscape directly.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to be in accordance with landscape management objectives and townscape assessments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

Policy LD3: Biodiversity and Geodiversity

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+?	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire may have some positive effects for encouraging healthy lifestyles (5.3) if this would lead to improved provision of open space that would encourage sports and recreational facilities. However, as this would depend on the nature of conservation, restoration or enhancement, the effect is uncertain.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to travel (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on improving a sense of place (11.6), by protecting and enhancing local environmental features which help to shape local the identity of local places.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on improving a sense of place (20.3), by protecting and enhancing local environmental features which help to shape local the identity of local places.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resource consumption (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on objectives to protect biodiversity (13), as it directly seeks to conserve, restore and enhance biodiversity assets in Herefordshire. The policy applies to sites, habitats, networks and species of European, national and local importance and those identified within the Biodiversity and Geodiversity Action Plans.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to conserve, restore and enhance the biodiversity and geodiversity assets of Herefordshire is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

Policy LD4: Green Infrastructure

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Requiring development proposals to protect, manage and plan for the preservation and delivery of new green infrastructure is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Requiring development proposals to protect, manage and plan for the preservation and delivery of new green infrastructure is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Requiring development proposals to protect, manage and plan for the preservation and delivery of new green infrastructure is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	++	By requiring development proposals to protect, manage and plan for the preservation and delivery of new green infrastructure, Policy LD4 is likely to have a significant positive impact on supporting a high quality community/amenity space (7.4) by improving the quality and provision of open spaces. The policy is also likely to have a significant positive impact on developing services and facilities appropriate to the community (7.1), as it promotes the provision of open and recreational

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		spaces at a County and local level (as identified in the table in the supporting text).
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Requiring development proposals to protect, manage and plan for the preservation and delivery of new green infrastructure is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	This policy is likely to have a positive impact on encouraging healthy lifestyles (SA objective 5.3) by improving the quality and provision of open spaces that could be used for recreation.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	+?	Improving the provision and quality of Green Infrastructure may have a minor positive impact on encouraging respect for the environment (9.3), although this is difficult to predict and the positive effect is therefore uncertain.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Requiring development proposals to protect, manage and plan for the preservation and delivery of new green infrastructure is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on increasing cycling and walking (4.4), where such routes are enhanced through the provision of an integrated GI network.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking. 4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans. 4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel. 4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport. 6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all. 6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on increasing the quality of leisure, sporting and recreational activities (6.1), as it promotes the provision of open and recreational spaces at a County and local level (as identified in the table in the supporting text). The policy is also likely to have a positive impact on promoting the use of inland waterways (6.3), by recognising these features as GI assets.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people). 11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing. 11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes. 11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health. 11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction. 11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.	0	Requiring development proposals to protect, manage and plan for the preservation and delivery of new green infrastructure is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and	+	The policy may have a positive impact on meeting local needs locally (19.3), by providing opportunities for food growing, as well as other open space opportunities such as routes for walking and cycling.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on protecting features of historical and cultural value (20.1), where opportunities existing to protect or create new GI features/spaces within historic areas or their settings. It is likely to have a significant positive impact on encouraging development which incorporates green space, encourages biodiversity and promotes local distinctiveness (20.3). The policy is also likely to have a significant positive impact on improving the general appearance of an area (20.4) by requiring on-site improvements to existing GI, soft landscaping, and protecting trees.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Requiring development proposals to protect, manage and plan for the preservation and delivery of new green infrastructure is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12)
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing transport emissions (14.1) by improving facilities for walking and cycling, where these have been protected or provided through GI measures. However, as this benefit is dependent upon specific proposals, the policy has been assessed as having a negligible on these sustainability objectives.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing transport emissions (16.1) by improving facilities for walking and cycling, where these have been protected or provided through GI measures. However, as this benefit is dependent upon specific proposals, the policy has been assessed as having a negligible impact on these sustainability objectives.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on protecting biodiversity (13). Specifically, by protecting and enhancing open and green spaces, the policy is likely to protect certain habitats and species (13.1, 13.2) and help to maintain wildlife corridors (13.3).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on landscape quality (15). Specifically, by protecting and enhancing open and green spaces, the policy is likely to protect natural environmental assets (15.1) and promote the use of rural areas, through the designation of Fringe Zones, and of open space (15.4).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on reducing flood risk (17), as GI provision provides opportunities to direct appropriate development to the floodplain (e.g. agriculture, recreation, nature conservation, flood attenuation), and to create sustainable drainage systems.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on minimising pollution (18). Specifically, by protecting and enhancing open and green spaces, the policy is likely to minimise pollution (18.1), and protect watercourses (18.2) and soil quality (18.3).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		

Policy LD5: Historic Environment and Heritage Assets

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	This policy seeks to ensure that areas of lower sensitivity in terms of historical assets are developed prior to more sensitive areas. The policy is likely to have a positive impact on increasing the type or quality of cultural and community facilities (SA objective 6.1) by protecting local sites of heritage value. It may also have a positive impact on encouraging appreciation for the County's heritage (6.2) by encouraging the protection and enhancement of existing sites.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on improving a sense of place (11.6), by protecting and enhancing local heritage features which help to shape local the identity of local places.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on improving a sense of place (20.3), by protecting and enhancing local heritage features which help to shape local the identity of local places. The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on the protection of features/areas of heritage and cultural value (20.1), by protecting important archaeological sites and local built heritage assets.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resources (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+	The policy may have a positive impact on objectives to protect landscape quality (15), as it seeks to protect the setting of heritage assets.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	As Policy LD5 requires development proposals to conserve and enhance heritage assets that may be adversely affected, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

Policy SD1: Sustainable design and energy efficiency

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to demonstrate how they have considered design and energy efficiency considerations outlined in the policy. As such, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to demonstrate how they have considered design and energy efficiency considerations outlined in the policy. As such, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to demonstrate how they have considered design and energy efficiency considerations outlined in the policy. As such, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	++	The quality of the public realm and local amenity (7.4) should be positively affected by the design considerations included within the policy that new development must adhere to, for example the requirement for developments to complement the existing character and appearance of the surrounding area. A significant positive impact is considered likely in relation to sustainable regeneration (7.1) as the overarching purpose of the policy and the measures included within it is to ensure that

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		development (including that of community services and facilities) is undertaken using sustainable and resource efficient designs.
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to demonstrate how they have considered design and energy efficiency considerations outlined in the policy. As such, the policy is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	++	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to consider residential amenity (including ensuring no adverse noise, light, air and ground pollution arises), which should have a significant positive effect on improving the health of people in Herefordshire (5). The policy also allows for a range of sustainable transport modes, which should have a positive effect on encouraging healthy lifestyles (5.3) by increasing levels of walking and cycling activity amongst the local population.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	++	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to create safe environments, and address crime prevention and community safety. Therefore, the policy is likely to have a significant positive effect on enhancing community safety and reducing fear of crime (9.1) as it directly addresses these issues, and there is likely to be further positive effects on improving quality of life (9.2) through the other design considerations included in the policy.
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	+	The fact that new development proposals are required to allow easy access for all members of the community should result in a positive impact on reducing social inequalities (10.1). In particular, allowing for a range of sustainable transport modes is likely to enable developments to be easily reached by walking and cycling, which will help to ensure that those without access to a private car are not disadvantaged in terms of access.
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,	+	Requiring new development proposals to allow for a range of sustainable transport modes, should help to encourage the use of alternative transport modes to car travel (4.2 and 4.4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		However, due to the rural nature of Herefordshire, car travel is likely to continue to dominate travel choices in the County, and the positive effect on SA objective 4 is expected to be minor.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	+	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to demonstrate how they have considered design and energy efficiency considerations outlined in the policy, and may have a positive effect on the provision of facilities and services which are accessible by public transport (6.1), as it requires developments to allow easy access for all members of the community throughout the development, and allow for a range of sustainable transport modes. Requiring developments to adhere to high standards of design may have some indirect effect in terms of promoting Herefordshire's facilities to local people and visitors as the resulting improvements in the visual appearance of an area, and the quality of the built environment, may help to encourage levels of tourism (6.2), from both within the surrounding area and further afield.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on the quality of housing developments within Herefordshire (11.1) as a result of the requirements it places on all developments to meet high standards of design, in particular ensuring that designs can be easily adapted and accommodate new technologies to meet changing needs throughout the lifetime of the development, and requiring developments to incorporate energy efficiency measures and on-site renewable energy generation, which will help to improve energy efficiency and reduce fuel poverty (11.4). The overarching principle of the proposal is to increase the use of sustainable design techniques (11.6); therefore a significant positive impact is likely.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will	++	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to demonstrate how they have considered design and energy efficiency considerations outlined in the policy. The fact that the proposal requires development proposals to give priority to optimise the use of previously developed land and buildings should have a

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		positive impact on the efficient use of land (19). The policy also requires that proposals make efficient use of land, which suggests that the positive effect on SA objective 19 is likely to be significant.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to demonstrate how they have considered design and energy efficiency considerations outlined in the policy. The proposal requires development to be complementary to the existing character and appearance of the surrounding area, and be designed to preserve and enhance distinctive built characteristics and features of the existing building or locality. Therefore, a significant positive impact is expected on the character and quality of built settlements (20) as this is directly addressed in the policy.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	+	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to demonstrate how they have considered design and energy efficiency considerations outlined in the policy, including utilising sustainable construction methods which minimise the use of non-renewable resources and maximise the use of recycled and sustainably sourced materials. This suggests that a positive impact is likely on minimising the use of non re-usable materials (12.1), and promoting the re-use, recovery and recycling of waste (12.3).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for</p>	++	A positive impact on the use of energy (14.1) is likely, as the proposal requires all developments to incorporate energy efficiency measures into the design and, where appropriate, to incorporate on-site renewable energy generation. In addition, requiring developments to optimise the use of previously developed land and buildings will help to minimise the need for new build (14.3), and requiring the utilisation of sustainable construction methods which minimise the use of non-renewable resources and maximise the use of recycled and sustainably sourced materials, is likely to have a positive effect on minimising the consumption of natural resources (14.2).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	new build.		Overall, the positive effect expected on SA objective 14 is likely to be significant.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+	Policy SD1 specifies that development should be resilient to the impacts of climate change (16); although no specific details are given with regards to how this would be achieved, for example through the use of SuDS. The policy also requires developments to be energy efficient and where appropriate, to incorporate on-site renewable energy generation, which should have a positive impact on reducing the consumption of non-renewable energy (16.2).
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+?	The likely impacts of development on biodiversity (13) will depend largely on its location, which is not determined by this policy, but is contained within the specific policies for Hereford, the market towns and rural areas. However, the design of development may have some impacts, for example designing green infrastructure into new development may help to increase habitat connectivity and prevent fragmentation. Policy SD1 makes no reference to any such measures, although the policy does require developments to preserve and enhance distinctive natural characteristics and features through appropriate layout, siting, scale, height, proportions and massing, orientation, architecture, landscaping and use of materials. The overall effect is expected on SA objective 13 is therefore minor positive and uncertain.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+?	The likely impacts of development on landscape quality (15) will depend largely on its location, which is not determined by this policy, but is contained within the specific policies for Hereford, the market towns and rural areas. However, Policy SD1 requires developments to complement the existing character and appearance of the surrounding area, and to preserve and enhance distinctive built and natural characteristics and features of the existing building or locality - through appropriate layout, siting, scale, height, proportions and massing, orientation, architecture, landscaping and use of materials. The overall effect is expected on SA objective 15 is therefore minor positive and uncertain.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where</p>	+	The likely impacts of development on the risk of flooding (17) will also depend largely on its location, but again the design of development can also influence the risk of it flooding, for example through the incorporation of SuDS (17.3). Policy SD1 requires development to be resilient to the impacts of climate

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
environment.	appropriate.		change, including minimising flood risk. It is assumed that this would include incorporation of sustainable drainage measures, and overall, a positive impact is expected on this policy.
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	++	Policy SD1 requires new development proposals to demonstrate how they have considered design and energy efficiency considerations outlined in the policy. Developments are required to safeguard residential amenity, including ensuring no adverse noise, light, air and ground pollution arises (18.1), to ensure that proposals make efficient use of land, taking into account the local context and site characteristics, including land stability and contamination (18.3) and to be water efficient (18.5). Overall a significant positive impact is expected on SA objective 18 as developments are required to directly address pollution issues.

Policy SD2: Renewable Energy

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	Policy SD2 supports developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets, and is likely to have a positive impact on employment creation within Herefordshire (1.1) due to the resulting investment and focus on developing and installing renewable energy technologies. In addition, the employment created should help to diversify the range of employment opportunities available in the county (1.4) as this relatively new industry emerges.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+	Policy SD2 supports developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets, and the development of the industry associated with renewable energy should help to increase the opportunities for work-based training and skills development; therefore increasing the overall skill level of Herefordshire's workforce (2.1) as the employment opportunities available are likely to include a good proportion of more highly skilled and technical roles.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	++	Policy SD2 should result in a significant positive impact on the development of low-impact technologies (3.5) as its overarching focus is on developing Herefordshire's renewable energy infrastructure.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and	0	Supporting developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	support vitality. 7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Supporting developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Supporting developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Supporting developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Supporting developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are	0	Supporting developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Supporting developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+/-	Renewable energy installations may have potential for negative impacts on the quality of people's homes (11) if impacts such as noise pollution and visual intrusion were allowed to occur. Policy SD2 requires that renewable and low carbon energy developments do not result in any significant detrimental impact upon the quality of the built environment, but does not refer specifically to residential amenity. As the policy supports developments that improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes (11.4), the overall effect expected on SA objective 11 is mixed.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by</p>	+	The policy supports renewable energy developments that would be used on-site to meet the needs of a specific end user, which should have a positive impact on meeting energy needs locally (19.3).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	-?	Policy SD2 requires that renewable and low carbon energy developments do not result in any significant detrimental impact upon the quality of the built environment, which should have positive impact on the overall quality of the built environment (20.2). However, 'significant detrimental impact' indicates that some level of adverse impact will be considered acceptable. As such, there is the potential for negative impacts on the quality of the built environment if impacts such as noise pollution and visual intrusion were allowed to occur. An uncertain minor negative effect is therefore expected on SA objective 20.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	+?	The policy may result in a positive impact on waste management within Herefordshire (12.3) if energy from waste is encouraged as a source of renewable energy, as this would help to divert waste away from landfill; however no specific mention is made of this method of energy generation either within the policy itself or within the supporting text, therefore the positive effect expected on SA objective 12 is uncertain.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	++	Policy SD2 supports developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets, which is expected to result in a significant positive effect on minimising the consumption of non-renewable energy (14.1).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by</p>	++	Policy SD2 supports developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets, which is expected to minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy. This should have a significant positive impact on reducing Herefordshire's contribution to climate change through greenhouse gas emissions (16.1).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
problem.	micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+	The proposal states that renewable energy proposals should not adversely impact upon the objectives of international or national designations for the conservation of the natural environment; suggesting that a positive impact is likely in relation to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	-?	Policy SD2 requires that renewable and low carbon energy developments do not result in any significant detrimental impact upon the quality of the landscape character, which should have positive impact on overall landscape quality (15). However, 'significant detrimental impact' indicates that some level of adverse impact will be considered acceptable. As such, there is the potential for negative impacts on landscape quality if impacts such as visual intrusion were allowed to occur. An uncertain minor negative effect is therefore expected on SA objective 15.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Supporting developments that seek to deliver renewable and low carbon energy targets is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flooding (17)
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	++	Supporting the development of renewable and low carbon energy is the overarching purpose of the policy; therefore a significant positive impact is likely in relation to the use of clean technologies (18.5). There may also be positive impacts on levels of air pollution (18.1) as a result of the increased use of renewable energy generation and therefore a decrease in emissions from non-renewable energy sources.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		

Policy SD3: Sustainable Water Management and Water Resources

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, protecting water quantity, protecting and enhancing groundwater resources and providing opportunities to enhance biodiversity, health and recreation, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, protecting water quantity, protecting and enhancing groundwater resources and providing opportunities to enhance biodiversity, health and recreation, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	As policy SD3 requires sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, to be incorporated into new developments, it should help to improve the resilience of local businesses (3.1) by ensuring that they are less vulnerable to the risk of flooding, which can cause considerable economic damage. The fact that parts of Herefordshire are at high risk from flooding, in particular the Lower-Wye sub-catchment which includes Hereford itself, may deter investment in particular locations; however if it is demonstrated that a high level of flood protection and avoidance measures are in place, this may not be the case.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	+	The requirement for all developments to incorporate sustainable water management measures, including reducing flood risk, should have a positive impact in terms of ensuring that services and facilities are developed according to sustainable and resource-efficient designs (7.1).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, protecting water quantity, protecting and enhancing groundwater resources and providing opportunities to enhance biodiversity, health and recreation, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	Policy SD3 seeks to maximise the separation of foul and surface water on new developments, and seeks to improve and enhance water quality in the County, which should ensure good water quality within Herefordshire, and have a positive impact on public health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, protecting water quantity, protecting and enhancing groundwater resources and providing opportunities to enhance biodiversity, health and recreation, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, protecting water quantity, protecting and enhancing groundwater resources and providing opportunities to enhance biodiversity, health and recreation, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are	0	Sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, protecting water quantity, protecting and enhancing groundwater resources and providing opportunities to enhance biodiversity, health and recreation, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to reducing the need to travel (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, protecting water quantity, protecting and enhancing groundwater resources and providing opportunities to enhance biodiversity, health and recreation, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+	The measures required within policy SD3 for sustainable water management, such as ensuring the widespread implementation of the Code for Sustainable Homes, should help to ensure that homes are water-efficient (11.4), and should also help to improve the overall quality of housing, indicating that a positive impact on levels of access to good quality housing is likely (11.1).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by</p>	+	The measures required within policy SD3 for sustainable water management, and water-efficient designs in all built developments should result in a positive impact on efficient land use (19.2).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	As policy SD3 requires new developments to incorporate sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, protecting water quantity, protecting and enhancing groundwater resources and providing opportunities to enhance biodiversity, health and recreation, the policy will help to ensure that all development contributes to the high quality of Herefordshire's built environment (20.3) by ensuring that they are completed to high standards of resource efficiency.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	+	Policy SD3 seeks to maximise the separation of foul and surface water on new developments, and seeks to improve and enhance water quality in the County, which should address the need for adequate treatment of waste water to be in place for any major development, and a positive effect can be expected for SA objective 12)
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	++	Policy SD3 is likely to have a significant positive impact in relation to the use of natural resources due to the overarching purpose of the policy to increase water efficiency within Herefordshire (14.2), for example through ensuring the widespread implementation of the Code for Sustainable Homes.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by</p>	++	Policy SD3 requires new developments to incorporate sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk. A significant positive impact is likely in terms of reducing the county's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change (16), as requirements such as the inclusion of sustainable drainage systems within developments will help to respond to the

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
problem.	micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		increasing flood risk which is expected as a result of climate change.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+	The policy states that water management will help to achieve benefits for biodiversity (13). Maintaining good water quality within Herefordshire through the appropriate management of waste water will help to conserve the quality of local watercourses, in particular the River Wye which is designated as an SAC and runs through the centre of the county. A minor positive impact will therefore be expected in terms of the conservation of this important habitat and the species within it (13.1 and 13.2).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Sustainable water management, including reducing flood risk, protecting water quantity, protecting and enhancing groundwater resources and providing opportunities to enhance biodiversity, health and recreation, is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	++	Policy SD3 requires new developments to incorporate sustainable water management measures, with an overarching objective to reduce the risk of flooding; therefore a significant positive impact is likely in relation to this issue (17). Specific reference is made to the inclusion of sustainable drainage systems in development (17.3).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	++	Policy SD3 seeks to maximise the separation of foul and surface water on new developments, which should reduce water pollution through appropriate management of waste water (18.1). This will also have knock-on benefits in terms of maintaining the quality of local watercourses (18.2). The policy also seeks to minimise the use of water, which will further contribute to the protection of environmental resources (18.5). These benefits are therefore likely to have a significant positive effect on SA objective 18.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		

Policy SD4: Wastewater treatment and river water quality

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+	Policy SD4 refers to water quality and aims to ensure that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments, and is likely to have a positive effect on protecting the health of people in Herefordshire (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to travel (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+	Policy SD4 seeks to protect water quality and aims to ensure that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments, through achieving water efficiency and reduction in surface water discharge to the mains sewer network should help to ensure that homes are water-efficient (11.4), and should also help to improve the overall quality of housing, indicating that a positive impact on levels of access to good quality housing is likely (11.1).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	+	Policy SD4 seeks to protect water quality and aims to ensure that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments, through achieving water efficiency and reduction in surface water discharge to the mains sewer network, and should result in a positive impact on efficient land use (19.2).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	Policy SD4 seeks to protect water quality and aims to ensure that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments, through achieving water efficiency and reduction in surface water discharge to the mains sewer network, and will help to ensure that all development contributes to the high quality of Herefordshire's built environment (20.3) by ensuring that they are completed to high standards of resource efficiency.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	++	Policy SD4 requires developments to seek to connect to the existing mains wastewater infrastructure network without nutrient levels exceeding conservation objectives targets, or mitigate fully the adverse effects of wastewater discharges into rivers caused by the development. As the policy ensures that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments, there is likely to be a significant positive effect on the SA objective that relates to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+	Policy SD4 is likely to have a positive impact in relation to the use of natural resources by requiring new developments to achieve water efficiency and reduction in surface water discharge to the mains sewer network, which should minimise water consumption (14.2).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from</p>	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
contribution to the problem.	renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	++	Policy SD4 protects water quality conservation objectives for the Rivers Wye and Clun SACs, and ensures that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments. The policy will therefore help to achieve benefits for biodiversity (13), by maintaining good water quality within Herefordshire, in particular the SAC designations. A significant positive impact will therefore be expected in terms of the conservation of this important habitat and the species within it (13.1 and 13.2).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Protecting water quality in protected rivers and ensuring that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	Policy SD4 requires new developments to achieve water efficiency and reduction in surface water discharge to the mains sewer network, which is likely to have indirect positive effect on reducing flood risk (17.1).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p>	++	Policy SD4 requires developments to seek to connect to the existing mains wastewater infrastructure network without nutrient levels exceeding conservation objectives targets, or mitigate fully the adverse effects of wastewater discharges into rivers caused by the development. As the policy ensures that adequate infrastructure is in place to deal with waste water arising from new developments, there is likely to be a significant positive effect on minimising water pollution (18.1) and watercourse quality (18.2).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		

Policy M1: Minerals Safeguarding Areas

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	The policy is likely to have a minor positive impact on improving business resilience (3.1) and facilitating new business growth (3.2), by safeguarding mineral sites for future development.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments may restrict development of services, facilities and retail developments in safeguarded areas, but the overall effect expected on SA objective 7 is likely to be negligible.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments may restrict development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities in safeguarded areas, but the overall effect expected on SA objective 6 is likely to be negligible.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments may restrict development of housing in safeguarded areas, but the overall effect expected on SA objective 11 is likely to be negligible.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments may restrict unsuitable development in safeguarded areas, but the overall effect expect on SA objective 19 is likely to be negligible.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	If sites for extraction of local building stone are used in safeguarded areas, the policy may have a minor positive impact on protecting and enhancing features of heritage and cultural value (20.1), by supplying building stone that is in keeping with the character of existing buildings in the local area.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	-	The policy is likely to have a negative impact on minimising the consumption of raw materials (14.2), as it enables future development of the mineral workings. As the policy does not explicitly promote mineral workings, the negative effect is expected to be minor.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	-?	The policy is likely to have no impact on biodiversity (13), although it is recognised that the eventual working of safeguarded sites could have significant impacts on local habitats and species. As such, an uncertain minor negative impact is given to this objective.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	-?	The policy is likely to have no impact on landscape (15), although it is recognised that the eventual working of safeguarded sites could have significant impacts on local landscape features. As such, an uncertain minor negative impact is given to this objective.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (12).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	Allocating safeguarded areas for mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (12).

Policy MN2: Annual Apportionments for Aggregate Provision

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	This policy establishes targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock, and notes that revised apportionments will need to be established beyond 2016. Establishing targets is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	The policy's establishment of supply targets is likely to have a minor positive impact on mineral developers, and therefore on the economy (SA objective 3.1) by providing clear guidance for developers on how much aggregate should be produced within the county. The sustainability implications of the particular apportionment targets and alternative apportionment options were assessed at the regional scale during preparation of the Regional Spatial Strategy. The potential implications of a higher or lower apportionment for sand and gravel or crushed rock in Herefordshire should be assessed as part of the Natural Resources DPD SA work. The potential impacts of developing minerals sites to meet these apportionments have been assessed as part of the other minerals policies within the Core Strategy.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	-?	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock will provide clarity for minerals developers and allow for extraction of natural resources, which may have a negative effect on the consumption of minerals (14.2). The potential implications of a higher or lower apportionment for sand and gravel or crushed rock in Herefordshire should be assessed as part of the Minerals and Waste DPD SA work, and therefore, there is an element of uncertainty related to the negative effect.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	Establishing targets for the supply of sand and gravel and for crushed rock is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

Policy MN3: Criteria for the Assessment of Minerals Related Development

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	In providing clear guidance on the development of minerals within the County, the policy is likely to have a minor positive impact on facilitating new business growth (3.2).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	+	As the policy promotes community/leisure uses as an after-use of minerals sites, it may have a minor positive impact on creating community amenity spaces (7.4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	The policy may help to promote the transport of freight by rail (4.7) as it aims to maximise the use of sustainable transport measures; however, this impact will depend upon specific transportation arrangements of individual sites (therefore, this potentially positive impact for transport and access has been assessed as negligible).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	The policy emphasises the need to mitigate any impact on archaeology or heritage interests, which is likely to have a minor positive impact on objectives to protect and enhance features of heritage and cultural value (20.1).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	-	As the policy addresses primary mineral extraction, it is likely to have an inherent negative impact on objectives to minimise the consumption of raw materials (14.2).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	-	As the policy addresses primary mineral extraction, it is likely to have an inherent negative impact on objectives to minimise greenhouse gas emissions (16.1).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	In allowing for the extraction of minerals, the policy is likely to have a negative impact on habitats and species (13), in cases where habitats are disrupted by landtake or associated development (e.g. disturbance from transport of minerals). However, the policy requires mineral developments to mitigate potential impacts on biodiversity interests, and prioritises habitat creation for the after-use of minerals sites. Therefore, the impact of the policy on biodiversity is considered to be dependent on individual site specifications, and has been assessed as mixed and uncertain.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+/-	The policy prohibits further granite extraction from the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB) and requires mitigation of landscape impacts, especially in AONBs, which is likely to have a positive impact on protecting these valued landscapes (15.1, 15.3). Nonetheless, the policy's support for mineral extraction could still have a negative impact on landscapes in other parts of the county. Therefore, the impact of this policy on landscape quality (15) has been assessed as mixed.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	Setting criteria for the assessment of mineral developments is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

Policy MN4: Small Scale non-Aggregate Building Stone and Clay Production

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is likely to have a positive impact on supporting employment and job opportunities (1.4), by allowing for the continuance of a local source of employment.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is likely to have a positive impact on improving the diversity of the economy (3.1), by allowing for the continuance of a local source of employment.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is unlikely to have an effect on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+/-?	Mineral extraction even at a small scale could still have a negative impact on the amenity of residents (5) in close proximity to the extraction site due to noise and/or dust. However, any proposal would also be assessed against policy M3, which requires mineral developments to mitigate potential impacts on the amenity of nearby residential properties. Therefore, the impact of the policy on residential amenity is considered to be dependent on individual site specifications, and has been assessed as mixed and uncertain.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are	0	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	By supporting the provision of local building stone, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on the development of homes in pleasant local environments, which contribute to a sense of place (11.6).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by</p>	++	By supporting the provision of local building stone, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on meeting demand for local materials locally (19.3).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	++	By supporting the provision of local building stone, the policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on the development of homes which contribute to protecting heritage features (20.1), ensuring development is appropriate to its local setting (20.2) and promoting local distinctiveness (20.3).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	+/-	The extraction of a local building material is likely to have a positive impact on reducing the use of fossil fuels (14.1), as alternative building materials are likely to incur higher transportation emissions. However, the policy supports an increase in the consumption of raw materials (14.2), which will have a negative impact, and overall a mixed effect can be expected.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by</p>	+	The extraction of a local building material is likely to have a positive impact on reducing the use of greenhouse gas emissions (16.1), as alternative building materials are likely to incur higher transportation emissions. The positive impact is likely to be minor.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
problem.	micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	Mineral extraction even at a small scale could still have a negative impact on biodiversity (13). However, any proposal would also be assessed against policy M3, which requires mineral developments to mitigate potential impacts on biodiversity interests. Therefore, the impact of the policy on biodiversity is considered to be dependent on individual site specifications, and has been assessed as mixed and uncertain.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+/-?	Mineral extraction even at a small scale could still have a negative impact on landscape (15). However, any proposal would also be assessed against policy M3, which requires mineral developments to mitigate potential impacts on landscapes. Therefore, the impact of the policy on landscape is considered to be dependent on individual site specifications, and has been assessed as mixed and uncertain.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	0	This policy to allow for small-scale extraction of locally distinct building stone is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		

Policy MN5: Secondary (Reused and Recycled) Aggregates

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Promoting the recycling of reuse of aggregates is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Promoting the recycling of reuse of aggregates is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	This policy is expected to have a positive impact on the promotion of resource-efficient technologies (3.5) by encouraging the supply and use of recycled aggregates. Promoting resource-efficiency will also encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility (3.4). Overall, a minor positive effect can be expected on this objective.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Promoting the recycling of reuse of aggregates is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Promoting the recycling of reuse of aggregates is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+/-?	By reducing the need for new mineral extraction, the policy is likely to have a positive impact on minimising the impact of minerals operations on residential amenity (5). However, the processing, treatment and storage of secondary (reused and recycled) aggregates may give rise to negative effects on the environment and amenity of nearby residents. The final criterion in the policy attempts to ensure that proposals would not be permitted where these effects were 'unacceptable'. Therefore, the impact of the policy on residential amenity is considered to be dependent on individual site specifications, and has been assessed as mixed and uncertain.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Promoting the recycling of reuse of aggregates is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Promoting the recycling of reuse of aggregates is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,	+	The policy may have a minor positive impact on reducing the need to travel (4.1), as it allows for the development of recycled waste processing facilities ancillary to a development,

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		which is likely to reduce the need to transport materials to the development site.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Promoting the recycling of reuse of aggregates is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on increasing the use of sustainable building materials in construction (11.5), as it encourages on-site re-use of demolition waste.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses</p>	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on meeting local needs locally (19.3), as it encourages on-site re-use of demolition waste.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	using sustainable resource-efficient design. 19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings. 20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. 20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place? 20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.	0	Promoting the recycling of reuse of aggregates is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials. 12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste. 12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste. 12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on minimising waste (12.2), promoting the re-use, recovery and recycling of waste (12.3), as it encourages on-site re-use of demolition waste.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. 14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. 14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.	++	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on minimising the consumption of raw materials (14.2) as it encourages on-site re-use of demolition waste. There may also be positive impacts on minimising the consumption of fossil fuels (14.1), if fewer deliveries of aggregates were made due to recycled materials being used.
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.	+	There may be positive impacts on minimising greenhouse gas emissions (16.1), if fewer deliveries of aggregates were made due to recycled materials being used.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
change as well as its contribution to the problem.	16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+/-?	By reducing the need for new mineral extraction, the policy is likely to have a positive impact on minimising the environmental impact of minerals operations on habitats and species (13.1 and 13.2). However, the processing, treatment and storage of secondary (reused and recycled) aggregates may give rise to negative effects on the environment. The final criterion in the policy attempts to ensure that proposals would not be permitted where these effects were 'unacceptable'. Therefore, the impact of the policy on biodiversity is considered to be dependent on individual site specifications, and has been assessed as mixed and uncertain.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+/-?	By reducing the need for new mineral extraction, the policy is likely to have a positive impact on minimising the environmental impact of minerals operations (15.3). However, the processing, treatment and storage of secondary (reused and recycled) aggregates may give rise to negative effects on the environment. The final criterion in the policy attempts to ensure that proposals would not be permitted where these effects were 'unacceptable'. Therefore, the impact of the policy on landscape is considered to be dependent on individual site specifications, and has been assessed as mixed and uncertain.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Promoting the recycling of reuse of aggregates is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality</p>	0	Promoting the recycling of reuse of aggregates is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking. 18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		

Policy MN6: Moreton-on-Lugg Railhead.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	There are likely to be employment opportunities connected to the storage, loading and transportation of minerals at the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg, however as Policy MN6 relates to one development only, the opportunities are likely to be limited and a minor positive effect is expected on SA objective 1.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	++	The protection of the railhead for minerals transportation at Moreton-on-Lugg is likely to have a significant positive impact on objectives to prioritise the transportation of freight by rail (4.7).
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	++	The protection of the railhead for minerals transportation at Moreton-on-Lugg is likely to have a significant positive impact on reducing the use of fossil fuels (14.1) by prioritising the transportation of freight by rail.
16. Reduce	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change	++	The protection of the railhead for minerals transportation at

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>		Moreton-on-Lugg is likely to have a significant positive impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions (16.1) by prioritising the transportation of freight by rail.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or</p>	0	Encouraging the continued use of the railhead at Moreton-on-Lugg for the storage, loading and transport of minerals by rail is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
resources.	<p>reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>		

Policy W1: Waste Streams and Targets

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	-?	Policy W1 identifies the need for 2ha of land for additional waste management facilities. Depending on the location of these additional facilities, there could be a negative impact upon human health and residential amenity (SA objective 5). However, these effects are uncertain and would need to be assessed when a site is allocated in the Minerals and Waste DPD or proposed in a planning application. Policy W2 sets out some of the criteria that new waste facility proposals would be assessed against, and affords some protection to the natural environment.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p>	0	Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	-?	The policy identifies the need for 2ha of land for additional waste management facilities. Depending on the location of these additional facilities, there could be a negative impact upon the setting of a local area (20.2). However, these effects are uncertain and would need to be assessed when a site is allocated in the Minerals and Waste DPD or proposed in a planning application. Policy W2 sets out some of the criteria that new waste facility proposals would be assessed against, and affords some protection to the cultural and historic environment.
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	++	This policy encourages the re-use of materials, e.g. construction and demolition waste on-site (SA Objective 12.3), and establishes targets to maximise diversion from landfills. The policy makes provision for sufficient waste facilities to help the County promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste (12.3) and deal with its waste locally (12.4), and supports the development of a joint energy-from-waste facility with Worcestershire County Council, which supports the recovery of waste (12.3). As such, a significant positive effect can be expected on the SA objective relating to waste (12).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	++	This policy encourages the re-use of materials, e.g. construction and demolition waste on, which may help to minimise the consumption of natural materials (14.2). The policy also supports the development of a joint energy-from-waste facility with Worcestershire County Council, which contributes to a reduction in the consumption of fossil fuels (14.1). As such, a significant positive effect can be expected on the SA objective relating to natural resources (14).
16. Reduce	16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change	++	This policy encourages the re-use of materials, e.g. construction

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>		<p>and demolition waste on-site, which may help to reduce transport emissions (16.1).</p> <p>The policy establishes targets to maximise diversion from landfills, which is likely to have a positive effect on reducing greenhouse gas emissions, i.e. methane (16.1).</p> <p>The policy also supports the development of a joint energy-from-waste facility with Worcestershire County Council, which increases the amount of energy generated from renewable sources (16.2).</p> <p>As such, a significant positive effect can be expected on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).</p>
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	-?	<p>The policy identifies the need for 2ha of land for additional waste management facilities. Depending on the location of these additional facilities, there could be a negative impact upon habitats or species (13.1), due to land take. However, these effects are uncertain and would need to be assessed when a site is allocated in the Minerals and Waste DPD or proposed in a planning application. Policy W2 sets out some of the criteria that new waste facility proposals would be assessed against, and affords some protection to the natural environment.</p>
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	-?	<p>The policy identifies the need for 2ha of land for additional waste management facilities. Depending on the location of these additional facilities, there could be a negative impact upon landscape quality (SA objective 15). However, these effects are uncertain and would need to be assessed when a site is allocated in the Minerals and Waste DPD or proposed in a planning application. Policy W2 sets out some of the criteria that new waste facility proposals would be assessed against, and affords some protection to the natural environment.</p>
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	<p>Reducing waste and setting specific targets for the reduction of municipal and commercial and industrial waste is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).</p>
18. Minimise local	18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and	-?	The policy identifies the need for 2ha of land for additional

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>		waste management facilities. Depending on the location of these additional facilities, there could be an increase in pollution of land, water, or air (18.1). However, these effects are uncertain and would need to be assessed when a site is allocated in the Minerals and Waste DPD or proposed in a planning application. Policy W2 sets out some of the criteria that new waste facility proposals would be assessed against, and affords some protection to the natural, cultural and historic environment.

Policy W2: Location of new Waste Management Facilities

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	Construction and operation of new facilities could have a minor positive effect on employment opportunities in the County, albeit the number of employees would vary depending on the type of facility and is unlikely to be significant compared with other sectors in the County.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	+?	In general, Policy W2 seeks to locate waste facilities in suitable locations where any potential impacts on amenity should be minimised, including health risks, which suggests that a positive impact is likely for SA objective 5. However, the policy also allows for a 'trial period' of permission to ensure there is no local environment impact. This suggests that development could take place before environmental impacts have been properly assessed, and thus the policy may not offer effective protection, and the positive effect is uncertain.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to traffic (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by</p>	+	Policy W2 encourages new waste management facilities to be located in previously developed areas (such as active mineral working sites or landfills, existing or allocated industrial land, or land within or adjacent to sewage treatment works). This would have a positive effect on ensuring new developments are in appropriate locations (19.1), by steering waste developments away from unsuitable locations.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	+	The development of new waste facilities will help the County promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste (12.3) and deal with its waste locally (12.4), providing a positive impact on SA objective 12. As the policy does not explicitly promote recycling, the positive impact is expected to be minor.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	The criteria set for the location of new waste management facilities are unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resource consumption (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by</p>	+	The development of new waste facilities will help the County deal with its waste locally, providing a minor positive impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport that would otherwise travel further to waste facilities.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
problem.	micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+?	In general, Policy W2 seeks to locate waste facilities in suitable locations where any potential impacts on the natural environment should be minimised, including biodiversity, which suggests that a positive impact is likely for SA objective 13. However, the policy also allows for a 'trial period' of permission to ensure there is no local environment impact. This suggests that development could take place before environmental impacts have been properly assessed, and thus the policy may not offer effective protection, and the positive effect is uncertain.
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+?	In general, Policy W2 seeks to locate waste facilities in suitable locations where any potential impacts on the natural, cultural and historic environment should be minimised, which suggests that a positive impact may be likely for landscape quality (15). However, the policy also allows for a 'trial period' of permission to ensure there is no local environment impact. This suggests that development could take place before environmental impacts have been properly assessed, and thus the policy may not offer effective protection, and the positive effect is uncertain.
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Although Policy W2 seeks to locate waste facilities in suitable locations where any potential impacts on the natural environment should be minimised, as there is no explicit reference to flood risk, a negligible effect is expected on the SA objective relating to flooding (17)
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p>	+?	In general, Policy W2 seeks to locate waste facilities in suitable locations where any potential impacts on the natural environment should be minimised, which suggests that a positive impact may be expected for minimising pollution (18). However, the policy also allows for a 'trial period' of permission to ensure there is no local environment impact. This suggests that development could take place before environmental impacts have been properly assessed, and thus the policy may not offer effective protection, and the positive effect is

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		uncertain.

Policy W3: Existing and Permitted Waste Treatment Sites

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	Safeguarding existing waste sites would help to maintain employment within those facilities, contributing positively to the maintenance of employment opportunities (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to reducing the need to travel (4).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	+	Policy W3 is expected to help the County deal with its waste locally (SA Objective 12.4), by safeguarding local existing waste sites. However, as the policy does not explicitly promote recycling, the positive effect on SA Objective 12 is expected to be minor.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resource consumption (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to climate change (16).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water</p>	0	Safeguarding existing waste sites is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	minimisation techniques.		

Policy W4: Technologies for Biological Treatment of Waste

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	This policy supports the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies, not restricted to the broad locations for waste facilities. Therefore, it is likely to have a positive impact on increasing employment opportunities (1.2, 1.4).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.	+	Policy W4 requires that potentially adverse local environmental effects related to the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies can be adequately managed and mitigated, including traffic implications. This is likely to have a positive effect on SA objective 4.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to housing (11).
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and</p>	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to land use (19).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	++	This policy supports the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies, not restricted to the broad locations for waste facilities. Therefore, it is likely to have a significant positive impact on the recovery of waste (12.3), by increasing the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to natural resource consumption (14).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power</p>	++	This policy supports the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies, not restricted to the broad locations for waste facilities. Therefore, it is likely to have a significant positive impact on increasing the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources (SA Objective 16.2).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	(CHP), district heating and in transportation.		
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	0	Supporting the development of anaerobic digesters and other emerging technologies is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

Policy W5: Waste Minimisation and Management in New Developments

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to employment (1).
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to skills (2).
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the sustainable economy (3).
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs. 7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers. 7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to sustainable regeneration (7).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.		
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to education (8).
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport. 5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health. 5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to health (5).
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. 9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures. 9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to crime (9).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age. 10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups. 10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment. 10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to social inclusion (10).
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health	4.1 Reduce the need to travel. 4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion, 4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are	+?	Policy W5 encourages waste from new developments to be managed on site and requires proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins, detailing the transportation of waste away from the proposed development. This may have a

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>		positive effect on SA objective 4, but this is uncertain as it depends on individual development proposals.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to the development of cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational or community facilities (6).
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	++/-	The policy is likely to have a significant positive impact on increasing the use of sustainable building materials in construction (11.5). However, the requirements of the policy may deter developers from providing housing in Herefordshire, and as such, a mixed effect is expected overall on SA objective 11.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	<p>19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by</p>	+	The policy is likely to have a positive impact on meeting local needs locally (19.3), as it encourages on-site re-use of demolition waste, which could be used during the construction of new developments.

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.		
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to cultural heritage (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	++	Policy W5 is supportive of the principles of the Waste Hierarchy and requires proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins. The policy is therefore likely to have a significant positive impact on minimising development waste and encouraging the on-site re-use of development waste (SA Objectives 12.2, 12.3, 12.4).
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.</p>	++	Policy W5 is supportive of the principles of the Waste Hierarchy and requires proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins. The policy is therefore likely to have a significant positive impact on minimising development waste and encouraging the on-site re-use of development waste, and therefore the reduction in the consumption of raw materials (14.2). If effective in encouraging waste reduction and re-use, the policy may also reduce transport emissions associated with moving waste off-site (14.1).
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by</p>	+	Policy W5 encourages waste from new developments to be managed on site and requires proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins, detailing the transportation of waste away from the proposed development. If effective in encouraging waste reduction and re-use, the policy may reduce

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
problem.	micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.		greenhouse gas emissions associated with moving waste off-site (16.1). A minor positive effect is expected on this objective.
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity .	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to biodiversity (13).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to flood risk (17).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p>	0	Dealing with waste arising in accordance with the principles of the Waste Hierarchy, and requiring proposals which could generate significant volumes of waste to submit a waste management plan before development begins is unlikely to have an impact on the SA objective relating to pollution (18).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.		

Policy ID.1: Infrastructure Delivery

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
Education and Employment			
1. Support, maintain or enhance the provision of high quality, local or easily accessible employment opportunities, suited to the changing needs of the local workforce.	1.1 Maintain or increase current employment rates in knowledge and technology intensive sectors. 1.2 Provide flexible employment land near to the workforce or provide opportunities easily accessible by public transport. 1.3 Encourage fair and decent work conditions and increase median weekly earnings. 1.4 Help to increase diversity of job opportunities.	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. This is likely to have a positive effect on supporting businesses that offer employment opportunities, by helping to deliver highway schemes, renewable energy generation and broadband provision.
2. Secure a more adaptable and higher skilled workforce.	2.1 Provide or facilitate through investment, appropriate training and learning to help build, attract and retain a highly skilled workforce that meets existing and future needs. 2.2 Reduce inequalities in skills across the county. 2.3 Promote the voluntary sector, lifelong learning and life/environmental skills.	+?	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy states that mandatory tariffs would help deliver social infrastructure such as education facilities, and physical infrastructure such as highway schemes, renewable energy generation and broadband provision that would help support businesses that could provide work-based training. Overall, a positive but uncertain effect is expected on SA objective 2.
3. Maintain or enhance conditions that enable a sustainable economy and continued investment.	3.1 Improve the resilience and/or diversity of business and the economy. 3.2 Provide or facilitate availability of appropriate sites and properties for new business opportunities or growth whilst using natural resources efficiently. 3.3 Encourage and support a culture of enterprise and innovation, including social enterprise or the voluntary sector. 3.4 Encourage corporate social and environmental responsibility, with county organisations leading by example. 3.5 Promote and support the development of new high value and low impact technologies, especially resource-efficient technologies and environmental technology initiatives.	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. This is likely to have a positive effect on supporting the resilience of businesses (3.1), by helping to deliver highway schemes, renewable energy generation and broadband provision.
7. Sustainable Regeneration	7.1 Support viability or develop services and facilities appropriate to the community, function, character	++	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	<p>and scale of the centre and existing facilities using sustainable, resource- efficient designs.</p> <p>7.2 Help create an appropriate range of independent, competitive and national retailers.</p> <p>7.3 Help reduce the number of vacant properties and support vitality.</p> <p>7.4 Support or create high quality public realm and community/amenity space that is safe and encourages positive community interaction.</p>		<p>communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy states that mandatory tariffs would help deliver physical, social and green infrastructure such as pedestrian, cycle and bus routes, public realm improvements, community facilities and open spaces. These would all contribute to creating a high quality public realm and community/amenity space (7.4), support services and facilities appropriate to the community (7.1). As such, a significant positive effect is likely on sustainable regeneration.</p>
8. Raise Educational achievements throughout the County	8.1 Ensure that education infrastructure meets projected future demand and need.	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. Infrastructure delivered may include educational facilities; therefore a positive effect is expected on SA objective 8.
Healthy and Prosperous Communities			
5. Improve the health of the people of Herefordshire, reduce disparities in health geographically and demographically and encourage healthy living for all.	<p>5.1 Help to ensure there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs, which are accessible by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5.2 Help to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <p>5.3 Encourage healthy lifestyles, e.g. reducing car use and maintaining or enhancing access to physical sports, green space and recreation.</p>	+/-	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. Infrastructure delivered may include healthcare facilities; therefore a positive effect is expected on ensuring there is adequate provision of healthcare services appropriate to local needs (5.1). However, as deliver of major highway schemes would encourage car use, the policy may have negative effects on encouraging healthy lifestyles, and a mixed effect is expected on SA objective 5 overall.
9. Reduce and prevent crime/fear of crime and antisocial behaviour in the county.	<p>9.1 Enhance community safety, security and reduce crime or fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.</p> <p>9.2 Help improve quality of life and address the opportunity for crime or anti-social behaviour through design measures.</p> <p>9.3 Encourage respect for people and the environment.</p>	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. Social infrastructure delivered may include emergency services; therefore a positive effect is expected on enhancing community safety and security, and reducing fear of crime and anti-social behaviour (9.1).
10. Reduce poverty and promote equality, social inclusion by closing the gap between the most deprived areas in the county and the rest of the county.	<p>10.1 Ensure easy and equitable access to and provision of services and opportunities, including jobs and learning, and avoid negative impacts on different groups of people because of their ethnicity, gender, religion, disability, sexuality or age.</p> <p>10.2 Enable the involvement of all affected parties, including hard to reach groups.</p> <p>10.3 Promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment.</p> <p>10.4 Address poverty and disadvantage, taking into</p>	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. Infrastructure delivery may include pedestrian, cycle and bus routes, social infrastructure and green infrastructure, which may ensure easy access to services and opportunities for residents (10.1) and promote equality, fairness and respect for people and the environment (10.3).

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	account the particular difficulties of those facing multiple disadvantages.		
Transport and Access			
4. Reduce road traffic and congestion, pollution and accidents and improve health through physical activity by increasing the proportion of journeys made by public transport, cycling and walking.	<p>4.1 Reduce the need to travel.</p> <p>4.2 Promote more sustainable transport patterns in areas suffering from congestion,</p> <p>4.3 Improve the quality and/or provision of integrated transport options in areas of need and that are accessible to all.</p> <p>4.4 Increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>4.5 Secure the implementation of green travel plans.</p> <p>4.6 Minimise risks associated with car travel.</p> <p>4.7 Promote a shift of freight from road to rail.</p>	+/-	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. Infrastructure delivery may include pedestrian, cycle and bus routes which would help increase the use of public transport, cycling and walking (4.4). However, as the policy also supports major transport infrastructure such as the Hereford Relief Road, residents may be encouraged to travel by car (4.1 and 4.6); therefore the overall effect expected on SA objective 4 is mixed.
6. Improve equality of access to and engagement in quality cultural, educational, leisure, sporting, recreational and community activities for all.	<p>6.1 Maintain or increase the type or quality of facilities (including open space) in areas where there is need, ensuring easy and equitable access by sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>6.2 Promote Herefordshire's facilities to local people and tourists encouraging appreciation of the heritage of the county and participation by all.</p> <p>6.3 Promote the use of inland waterways for leisure, recreation, telecommunication, freight transport and/or as a catalyst for urban and rural regeneration.</p>	++	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy is therefore likely to have a significant positive effect on increasing the quality of facilities (including open space), and ensuring access by sustainable modes of transport, by supporting the delivery of social infrastructure, green infrastructure and pedestrian, cycle and bus routes.
The Built Environment			
11. Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing of the right type and tenure, in clear, safe and pleasant local environments.	<p>11.1 Increase access to good quality housing meeting people's needs (e.g. tenure, aspirations, location, affordability, size and type, accessible to disabled people).</p> <p>11.2 Increase the supply of affordable housing.</p> <p>11.3 Reduce the percentage of unfit homes/empty homes.</p> <p>11.4 Improve the energy and resource efficiency of homes and reduce fuel poverty and ill-health.</p> <p>11.5 Increase the use of sustainable design techniques, improve the quality of housing and use sustainable building materials in construction.</p> <p>11.6 Improve the wider built environment and sense of place.</p>	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy requires contributions by housing developers through a mandatory tariff, which may deter investment in housing developments. However, the strategic infrastructure supported in this policy, including physical, social and green infrastructure is likely to increase access to good quality housing and improve the wider built environment and sense of place (11.6). Overall, a positive effect is expected on SA objective 11.
19. Ensure integrated, efficient	19.1 Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously	+?	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
and balanced land use.	<p>developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>19.2 Encourage an appropriate density and mix of uses using sustainable resource-efficient design.</p> <p>19.3 Promote ways of meeting local needs locally by encouraging local sourcing of food, goods and materials.</p>		communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy states that mandatory tariffs would help deliver physical, social and green infrastructure such as pedestrian, cycle and bus routes, public realm improvements, community facilities and open spaces, which may contribute to meeting local needs locally, and ensuring new developments are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport. However, as the locations of infrastructure delivered through the Core Strategy are currently unknown, any positive effects on efficient land use is currently uncertain.
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's historic environment and cultural heritage.	<p>20.1 Preserve, protect and enhance Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings.</p> <p>20.2 Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area.</p> <p>20.3 Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place?</p> <p>20.4 Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area.</p>	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy states that mandatory tariffs would help deliver green infrastructure such as landscaping and heritage assets, which is likely to have a positive effect on encouraging a high quality built environment (20).
Resource Consumption and Climate Change			
12. Reduce the amount of waste requiring disposal and minimise the use of non-reusable materials and encourage recycling.	<p>12.1 Minimise the use of non re-usable materials.</p> <p>12.2 Minimise waste from households, businesses etc including hazardous waste.</p> <p>12.3 Promote re-use, recovery and recycling of waste.</p> <p>12.4 Deal with waste locally and/or through the best Practical Environmental Option.</p>	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy states that mandatory tariffs would help deliver infrastructure such as strategic sewerage, which may have a positive effect on dealing with waste water locally and through the best Practical Environmental Option (12.4). A minor positive effect is likely.
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	<p>14.1 Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels.</p> <p>14.2 Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource-efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials.</p> <p>14.3 Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design)</p>	+/-	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. Infrastructure delivery may include renewable energy with would have a direct positive effect on minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy (14.1). However, as the policy also supports major transport infrastructure such as the Hereford Relief Road, residents may be encouraged to travel by car and increase the consumption of fossil fuels; therefore the overall effect expected on SA objective 4 is mixed

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
	of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build.		
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	<p>16.1 Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources.</p> <p>16.2 Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation.</p>	+/-	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. Infrastructure delivery may include renewable energy, and pedestrian, cycle and bus routes which would help reduce greenhouse gas emissions from car travel (16.1). However, as the policy also supports major transport infrastructure such as the Hereford Relief Road, residents may be encouraged to travel by car; therefore the overall effect expected on SA objective 16 is mixed
The Natural Environment			
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	<p>13.1 Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance.</p> <p>13.2 Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species.</p> <p>13.3 Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces.</p> <p>13.4 Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value.</p> <p>13.5 Create new appropriate habitats.</p>	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy states that mandatory tariffs would help deliver green infrastructure such as green spaces and habitat creation, which is likely to have a positive effect on protecting and enhancing habitats of international, national, regional or local importance (13.1).
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>15.1 Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings.</p> <p>15.2 Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management.</p> <p>15.3 Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised.</p> <p>15.4 Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.</p>	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy states that mandatory tariffs would help deliver green infrastructure such as green spaces, parks and heritage assets, which is likely to have a positive effect on landscape quality (15).
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.	<p>17.1 Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change.</p> <p>17.2 Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <p>17.3 Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate.</p>	+	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy states that mandatory tariffs would help deliver strategic flood defence and green infrastructure such as green spaces that may help reduce flood risk. In addition, S106 contributions will

SA Objective	Appraisal Question	SA Score	Justification
			be used to service specific on and off site infrastructure requirements, such as water management including sustainable drainage and a positive effect is therefore expected on sustainable urban drainage systems (17.3).
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>18.1 Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution.</p> <p>18.2 Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses.</p> <p>18.3 Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land.</p> <p>18.4 Help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans through for e.g. increasing use of public transport, cycling and walking.</p> <p>18.5 Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.</p>	+/-	Policy ID1 supports the provision of new infrastructure, services and facilities to support development and sustainable communities, while enhancing existing provision. The policy states that mandatory tariffs and S106 contributions would help deliver green infrastructure such as strategic sewerage and water management, which may protect and enhance the quality of watercourses (18.2) and encourage water minimisation techniques (18.5). The policy also supports the delivery of green spaces which may improve soil quality in some areas (18.3), and pedestrian, cycle and bus routes which may help achieve the objectives of Air Quality Management Plans (18.4). However, as the policy also supports major transport infrastructure such as the Hereford Relief Road, residents may be encouraged to travel by car and there may be also be some negative effects on air quality (18.1 and 18.4).

