

Environmental Report



Eardisland Neighbourhood Area

November 2015

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Appendix 1: Initial SEA Screening Report

Appendix 2: SEA Scoping Report incorporating Tasks A1, A2, A3 and A4

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Non-technical summary

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

Eardisland Parish Council has undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. Eardisland parish lies within north west Herefordshire, 15 miles north of Hereford and 5 miles outside Leominster. The main village area centres on the crossing point of the River Arrow. The river flood plain runs west to east across the parish.

The village and its surroundings were designated a conservation area in 1996. Timber framed buildings are the traditional local vernacular however a range of building styles also exists. Eardisland current has two public houses, two tea rooms, a community shop and a village hall.

The Draft Eardisland NDP includes 6 objectives, which are designed to deliver the overarching vision on the ground, and it is intended that these objectives will be supported by 18 criteria based planning policies; no site allocations are proposed here. Alternative options were considered prior to reaching a decision over the format of the draft plan.

The environmental appraisal of the Eardisland NDP has been undertaken in line with the Environmental Assessment of Plan and Programmes Regulations 2004. Stage A of the SEA process involved Scoping and Stage B provided a review and analysis of the NDP. Stage C involved preparing an Environmental Report and Stage D comprises a formal consultation on both this and the Draft Plan itself.

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening has been carried out as the Parish falls within the hydrological catchment for the River Wye, which is a European site (Special Area of Conservation). The HRA assesses the potential effects of the NDP on the River Wye SAC.

On the whole, it is considered that the Eardisland NDP is in general conformity with both national planning policy contained in the National Planning Policy Framework and strategic policies set within the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). Nor does it propose any growth that would be over and above that prescribed by strategic policies. Therefore no changes to the NDP are recommended as a result of the SEA.

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

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Eardisland Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 The Eardisland NDP does not propose any site allocations. Eardisland village is highlighted for proportional levels of growth in Policy RA2 of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy). The NDP will, however, provide general policies for guiding future development across the parish as a whole.

Purpose of the SEA

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

Parish Neighbourhood Plan Context

- 1.6 Eardisland Parish Council has undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. Eardisland parish lies within north west Herefordshire, 15 miles north of Hereford and 5 miles outside Leominster. The main village area centres on the crossing point of the River Arrow. The river flood plain runs west to east across the parish.
- 1.7 The village and its surroundings were designated a conservation area in 1996. Timber framed buildings are the traditional local vernacular however a range of building styles also exists. Eardisland currently has two public houses, two tea rooms, a community shop and a village hall.
- 1.8 The parish has 1 conservation area and 3 others nearby, 13 special wildlife sites, 4 Unregistered park and garden, 6 Scheduled Ancient Monuments, 1 Sites of Scientific Interest and 4 Ancient woodlands..
- 1.9 The vision for Eardisland in 2031 is to 'conserve our heritage and enhance our community'
- 1.10 The 6 NDP objectives which underpin this vision are:
- 1) To enable that the visual effect of all development complements and enhances the parish
 - 2) To ensure that services, facilities and amenities are provided and improved to meet the current and future needs of the parish
 - 3) To enable sufficient and appropriate housing, based upon sound environmental and sustainable principles, to meet the future needs of the community
 - 4) To support residents by providing a safe and thriving parish
 - 5) To ensure that new and existing business enhances the character of the parish
 - 6) To promote a sense of community responsibility with regards to development, community facilities and infrastructure

Context of Neighbourhood Plans

- 1.11 NDPs are a relatively new type of planning document that form a key part of the Government's localism agenda. They enable local communities to develop plans that reflect local aspirations, in accordance with strategic policies.
- 1.12 The Eardisland NDP must therefore conform to national planning policy set within the NPPF and strategic level local policy including the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 1.13 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) was adopted on 16 October 2015.
- 1.14 Paragraph 2016 of the NPPF and Planning Practice Guidance set out the weight that may be given to relevant policies in emerging plans, including NDPs, and indicated that weight may be given to relevant policies in emerging NDPs according to:
- The stage of preparation of the emerging plan (the more advanced the preparation, the greater the weight that may be given);
 - The extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies (the less significant the unresolved objections, the greater the weight that may be given); and
 - The degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the policies in this Framework (the closer the policies in the emerging plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).
- 1.15 This part of the NPPF is reinforced by Planning Practice Guidance published in March 2014, which is clear that an emerging NDP may be a material planning consideration once it has completed submission/local authorities publication stage (Regulation 16). This is reinforced by recent ministerial statements and case law (West Sussex), all of which have demonstrated that an emerging NDP may be a material consideration at the Regulation 16 stage.
- 1.16 Table 4.15 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) lists Eardisland among the settlements which it considers to be sustainable locations for proportional growth in line with the provisions of Policy RA2. This policy is expected to facilitate the delivery of 5,300 homes across the areas outside Hereford and the Market Towns in accordance with Policy RA1 and it anticipates that NDPs will be the principle mechanism for delivering growth in the rural areas.
- 1.18 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the Eardisland NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the parish, by setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined.

Structure of SEA

- 1.19 The structure of the document is as follows:
- Section 2 – Explains the SEA methodology and summarises the comments received in respect of the SEA Scoping Report
 - Section 3 - Introduces the Eardisland NDP objectives and the SEA framework
 - Section 4 - Appraises the objectives set within the NDP against the SEA framework
 - Section 5 - Appraises the options set within the NDP against the SEA framework
 - Section 6 – Appraises the policies set within the NDP against the SEA framework
 - Section 7 – Discusses the implementation and monitoring of the NDP
 - Section 8 - Concludes the SEA report by outlining next steps

2.0 Methodology

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

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

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

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

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

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

2.5 Producing an Environmental Report was therefore a legal requirement and the submission of this report to Herefordshire Council forms Stage D of the SEA process.

Scoping Report Consultation

2.6 With regard to the SEA scoping assessments, documents A1 to A4 were completed by a Herefordshire Council Planning Officer and sent to the Parish Council for comment, in readiness for a 5 week consultation with statutory bodies, pursuant to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

2.7 After the document was approved by the Parish Council, the Eardisland SEA Scoping Report was available to four¹ statutory bodies for consultation from 14 August to 19 September 2014.

Consultation outcomes from Statutory Consultees

2.8 The consultation resulted in 2 responses, both of which are attached at Appendix 3.

2.9 Both responses were collated and incorporated within this document where relevant.

¹ Statutory consultation bodies: Natural England; English Heritage; Environment Agency Natural Resources Wales

Natural England: welcome the inclusions of SSSI indicators. Reference should also be made to geodiversity. Welcome inclusion of information regarding land classification. Additional reference should be made to landscape character, biodiversity and agricultural land in appendix 4.

Response: Comments are noted and relevant indicators are now included within the appendix A4

English Heritage: No substantive objection. However encourage to use the term “heritage assets” into the SEA templates wherever reference is made to the cultural heritage

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

Environment Agency: No comments received

Natural Resources Wales: No comments received

3.0 The SEA Framework

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

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

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

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

Policy context

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

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

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

3.5 The following plans, policies and programmes have been reviewed and, where appropriate, incorporated within the SEA Framework objectives:

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

- *The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)* - Designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering Government policy.
- *Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy (2009)* - Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will more effectively meet its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.
- *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012)* - Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.
- *Planning Practice Guidance (2013)* - Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.
- *Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP) 2013-2015* - Sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period April 2013 to April 2015.
- *Understanding Herefordshire Report (2014)* - Important to understand the place such as the local economy natural and built environment in which people live, learn and work as part of understanding their quality of life. Enable development for economy and housing to required levels and growth should be supported by sustainable transport measures.
- *Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2014-2018 (20014)* - Identifies the issues and challenges facing the special features of the area and contains 24 guiding principles and 46 strategic objectives which will help address them.
- *Wye Valley AONB management Plan 2014-2017 (20014)* - The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision for the area and the priorities for its management.
- *Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016* - Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to support business growth up to 2016.
- *Herefordshire Employment Land Study (2012)* - Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.
- *Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (2009)* - The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:
 - Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development
 - Assessing sites for their housing potential; and
 - Predicting when a site could be developed for housing.
- *Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) (2013)* - Builds on an earlier Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) developed for Herefordshire and Shropshire. Its purpose is to inform the Local Plan's policies regarding housing need and demand (for market and affordable housing) within each of the 7 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031.

- *Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study (2012)* - Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.
- *Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report (2013)* - Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy
- *Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment (2013)* - Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2007)* - Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.
- *Building Biodiversity into the LDF (2009)* - Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010)* - Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.
- *Renewable Energy Study (2010)* - Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.
- *Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment (2012)* - Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.
- *Open Spaces Study (2006)* - The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snapshot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.
- *Play Facilities Study (2012)* - The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.
- *Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study (2009) and Addendums (2015)* - The SFRA provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development. The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.

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

SEA Objectives and baseline characteristics

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

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

- 3.8 The SEA objectives detailed above conform to the SEA Directive, and are derived from the Sustainability Appraisal undertaken for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) 2011-2031.
- 3.9 Baseline information gathered during Stage A of the SEA process provided details of the current environmental characteristics of the neighbourhood area and the status of its natural assets and features (refer to Appendix 2). This information was analysed as part of Task B2 of SEA, which looked at the extent to which the emerging NDP policies will help or obstruct these characteristics. There are four objectives for which there is no local information available, which provides a limitation on the baseline data and whether the NDP policies are likely to improve or exacerbate existing problems and issues relating to these themes.
- 3.10 Following the completion of Task B2 of SEA it was apparent that the two largest environmental issues within the parish are flooding and water quality which has an impact on the County as a whole. The River Arrow flows through the centre of the village and is part of the hydrological catchment of the River Wye. Although the River Wye is currently meeting all its conservation objectives, it will require effective management, in order to ensure that the quality of water does not deteriorate to the point that nutrient targets are missed further downstream.
- 3.11 The NDP does not propose that sites be allocated for development and contains only criteria-based policies due to the flooding constraints within the village posed by the River Arrow. The River Wye does not pass through the parish, although the River Arrow is part of the hydrological catchment of the River Wye. On this basis, the delivery of the NDP should not exacerbate existing problems regarding water quality or have an unacceptable adverse impact.

4.0 Assessing the NDP Objectives

4.1 The following objectives, as set out in the NDP, aim to realise the vision for Eardisland in 2031:

- 1) To enable that the visual effect of all development complements and enhances the parish
- 2) To ensure that services, facilities and amenities are provided and improved to meet the current and future needs of the parish
- 3) To enable sufficient and appropriate housing, based upon sound environmental and sustainable principles, to meet the future needs of the community
- 4) To support residents by providing a safe and thriving parish
- 5) To ensure that new and existing business enhances the character of the parish
- 6) To promote a sense of community responsibility with regards to development, community facilities and infrastructure

4.2 The table below tests these NDP objectives against the SEA objectives, providing a summary of the results of Task B1 of SEA. The full results are available at Appendix 4 of this report.

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

4.4 It is impossible to appraise the full implications of many of the NDP objectives at this stage given the lack of detail over the exact locations of development that may come to fruition as a result of the implementation of this objectives; however, it is accepted that further development of the planning policies that relate to these objectives would move them towards a compatible outcome.

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

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

5.0 Assessing the NDP Options

- 5.1 All options that were considered by the NDP steering group during the development of their plan have been assessed as part of the SEA and the summary matrix of the assessment can be found in Table B2 at Appendix 4.
- 5.2 The options covered were as follows;
- Do nothing
 - Manage future growth with a settlement boundary
 - Manage future growth through a criteria policy
 - Limit housing numbers on individual sites
 - Protect special publically accessible views
- 5.3 A 'do nothing' option was also considered, i.e. not undertaking an NDP, however this was disregarded at an early stage by the Parish Council as it was considered the majority of the community would support the work undertaken for an NDP.
- 5.4 The option of designating settlement boundary would also have seen a positive effect on the baseline. The designation of a settlement boundary would give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside. This can aid the direction of further growth to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. There is less certainty over the positive effects on the baseline as any growth will be adjudged by criteria based policy.
- 5.5 The option of producing development management criteria policies was chosen together with the designation of a settlement boundary. Criteria based policy does not give the same level of certainty as the other options, as it will be more reactionary than proactive in terms of growth proposals. However, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline, provided that criteria are added to the policies to safeguard or mitigate against any harm. Given the environmental constraints within the settlement, allocation of sites was problematic.
- 5.6 The final two options considered were concerning particularly aspects of developments and protection of views. These will be considered further in the policy analysis.

NDP Policies	SEA objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA	NA	NA	13
Option 1 -Do nothing	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x
Option 2 - Manage future housing using a settlement boundary	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	++	+	++	+				++
Option 3 - Manage future housing through a criteria policy	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Option 4 - Limit housing numbers on one development site	?	+	?	?	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	?				+
Option 5 - Protect special publically accessible views	+	++	++	+	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				+

6.0 Appraisal of the policies

6.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Eardisland NDP is developing a range of options and testing these, so that a preferred way forward can be selected.

6.2 The plan has been organised with a set of general overarching policies for the whole neighbourhood area and these emerging set of draft policies have been appraised for the purposes of Stage B of the SEA:

- Policy E1 General Development Principles
- Policy E2 Protecting Heritage Assets
- Policy E3 Landscape Character
- Policy E4 Protection and enhancement of features of ecological value
- Policy E5 Design to reduce surface water run off
- Policy E6 Dark Skies
- Policy E7 New Communications Technologies
- Policy E8 Protection of Local Community Facilities
- Policy E9 Scale and type of new residential development
- Policy E10 Ensuring an appropriate range of tenures, types and sizes of houses
- Policy E11 Protection of Local Green Spaces
- Policy E12 Public rights of way / connectivity
- Policy E13 Managing agricultural land and businesses
- Policy E14 New agricultural development
- Policy E15 Supporting existing local employment
- Policy E16 New local employment opportunities
- Policy E17 Supporting tourism and local business development
- Policy E18 Community facilities and public funds

Stage B of SEA

6.3 In the context of Task B1 of SEA, the previous section of this report identified that many of the NDP objectives are compatible with the SEA framework, although policy safeguards within the NDP and Local Plan (Core Strategy) would help mitigate any possible conflicts.

6.4 With regard to Task B2 of SEA, the NDP policies were measured against both the SEA framework and the baseline characteristics identified during Stage A of the process; here, there was no baseline data available in respect of SEA Objectives 3, 13, 14 and 15. Full details of this appraisal are attached at Appendix 4.

6.5 The policies largely score as positive against the SEA objectives and will not, therefore, have an adverse impact on the baseline characteristics or immediate environmental impacts. This is because they are criteria based policies which only consider schemes on their own merits, as and when planning applications are submitted to the local planning authority.

NDP Policies	SEA objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA	NA	NA	13
Policy E1	++	+	++	+	+	++	++	++	+	+	++	+				+
Policy E2	x	++	++	++	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				++
Policy E3	+	++	++	+	+	x	x	x	++	+	x	?				++
Policy E4	++	++	++	+	+	x	+	+	+	x	x	+				+
Policy E5	++	+	++	+	x	x	+	++	+	x	++	+				+
Policy E6	+	+	+	+	x	x	+	x	x	x	x	x				x
Policy E7	?	?	?	x	x	+	+	?	x	x	x	x				x
Policy E8	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	x	x	+	+				+
Policy E9	++	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+				+
Policy E10	X	+	+	+	x	+	X	x	x	x	x	x				x
Policy E11	+	++	++	++	x	x	x	+	x	x	+	?				+
Policy E12	++	+	+	?	+	+	+	?	x	x	x	?				?
Policy E13	+	+	+	+	x	?	?	+	+	x	+	?				+
Policy E14	+	+	+	?	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				X
Policy E15	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	0	+	?				+
Policy E16	+	?	+	x	+	+	x	x	x	x	x	x				X
Policy E17	?	+	+	+	0	0	?	?	+	+	+	?				+
Policy E18	?	?	+	+	x	+	x	x	x	x	x	x				x

- 6.6 The results of Task B3, as shown at Appendix 4, demonstrate that the cumulative impact of the NDP policies over the course of the plan period is generally positive.
- 6.7 Task B4 of SEA brings together the results of earlier tasks and thus identifies the cumulative impact of the entire of the NDP. This task, which is also attached at Appendix 4, reveals that the objectives and policies contained in the Eardisland NDP are by and large in general conformity with the Local Plan (Core Strategy), which means that the cumulative effect of the plan will contribute to the achievement of the SEA objectives.
- 6.8 None of the NDP policies are considered to be in direct conflict with or propose greater levels of growth and development than strategic policies contained in the Local Plan (Core Strategy), which themselves have undergone a full Sustainability Appraisal.

7.0 Implementation and monitoring

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

8.0 Next steps

- 8.1 This report will be subject to a formal public consultation of 6 weeks duration alongside the Draft Eardisland NDP.
- 8.2 Responses on the Draft NDP will be reviewed and the plan amended where appropriate.
- 8.3 Any changes made to the NDP as a consequence of the Regulation 14 consultation with those who live, work or carry out business in the neighbourhood area, as well as statutory consultation bodies, will trigger a review of the SEA, unless they do not materially affect the outcomes of Stage B of the SEA process.

Appendix 1

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

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

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d)

Neighbourhood Area:	Eardisland Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Eardisland Parish Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	19/02/2014

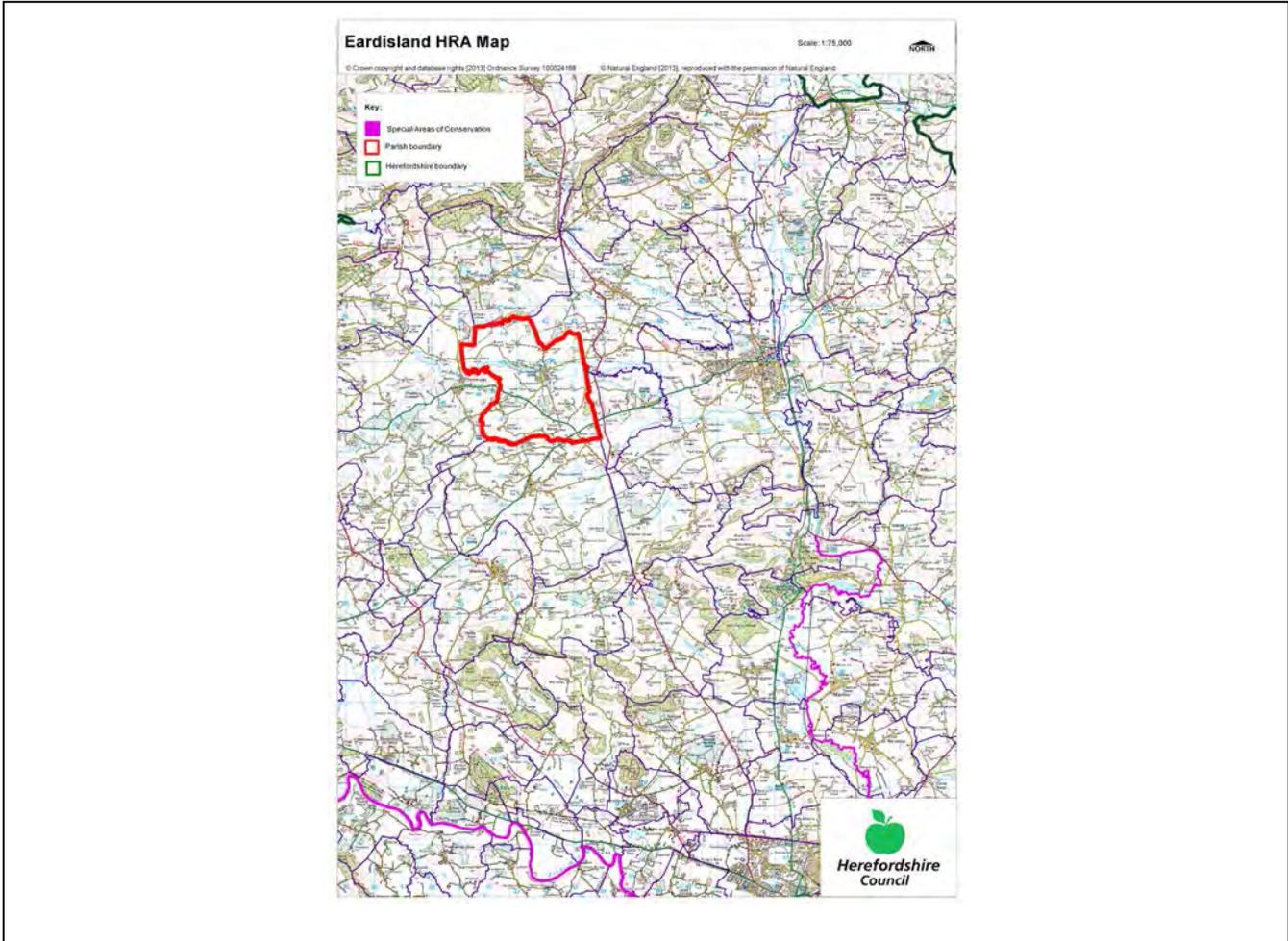
Introduction

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

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

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



Initial HRA Screening

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC:

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	The River Wye/Lugg SAC is 8.3km away from the Parish.
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	Y	The Parish is within the hydrological catchment of the River Arrow.
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	N	There is no mains drainage in Eardisland.

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 12.3km away from the Parish.
-------------------------------------------------------------	---	-----------------------------------------------

River Clun SAC:

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

Usk Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 45km away from the Parish.
------------------------------------------------------------	---	----------------------------------------------

Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites are 42.1km away from the Parish.
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---	--------------------------------------------------------------------------

Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	Wye Valley Woodlands are 45.5km away from the Parish.
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---	-------------------------------------------------------

HRA Conclusion:

The assessment above highlights that the following European Sites will need to be taken into account in the future Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Eardisland Neighbourhood Area and a Full HRA Screening will be required.

European Site

(List only those which are relevant from above)

River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC

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

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

SEA features	Total	Explanation	SEA required
Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA)	0	There are no AQMAs within the Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	4	Tank Wood; Broadmarsh Coppice; Henwood Wood (border); Vallet Coppice (border)	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest (AAI)	0	There are no AAIs within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	0	There are no AONBs within the Parish	N
Conservation Areas	4	Eardisland; Pembridge (border); Kingsland (border); Dilwyn (border)	Y
European Sites (SAC)	0	There are no SACs within the Parish	N
Flood Areas/Zones		Flood Zones run along the River Arrow and also a brook in the south of the Parish	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous listed buildings throughout the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCS/RIGS)	13 (SWS)	Pinsley Brook (border); Marsh Covert (border); River Arrow; Monkland Common (border); Land at Stretford Bridge (border); Stretford Brook (border); Pigmore Common; Tippets Brook; Land at Bearwood (border); Fields near Bearwood (border); Heath Wood (border); Land adjacent to Moseley Common (border); Moseley Common (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	0	There are no long distance footpaths/trails within the Parish	N
Mineral Reserves	5	North west of Eardisland; South west of Eardisland; North of Lower Burton; East of Sollars Dilwyn – Tyrells Court to Stretford; Manor Farm, Monkland to Wallend (border)	Y
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	0	There are no NNRs within the Parish	N
Registered & Unregistered Parks and Gardens	4 Unregistered	Lynch Court; Burton Court, Eardisland; Henwood Farm (border); Court of Noke (border)	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)	6	Monks Court; Mound north of the church; North Herefordshire Rowe Ditch (border); Bowl Barrow 490m south east of Milton Cross (border); Moated site at Court House Farm (border); Dovecote at Luntley Court (border)	Y

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	1	Moseley Common (Unfavourable Recovering) (border)	Y
---------------------------------------------	---	---------------------------------------------------	---

Decision Notification:

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

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

Assessment date: 10/01/2014

Assessed by: James Latham

Appendix 1: European Sites

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

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

Usk Bat Site

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

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

Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites

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

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

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

NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider:

Woodland habitat buffer.

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

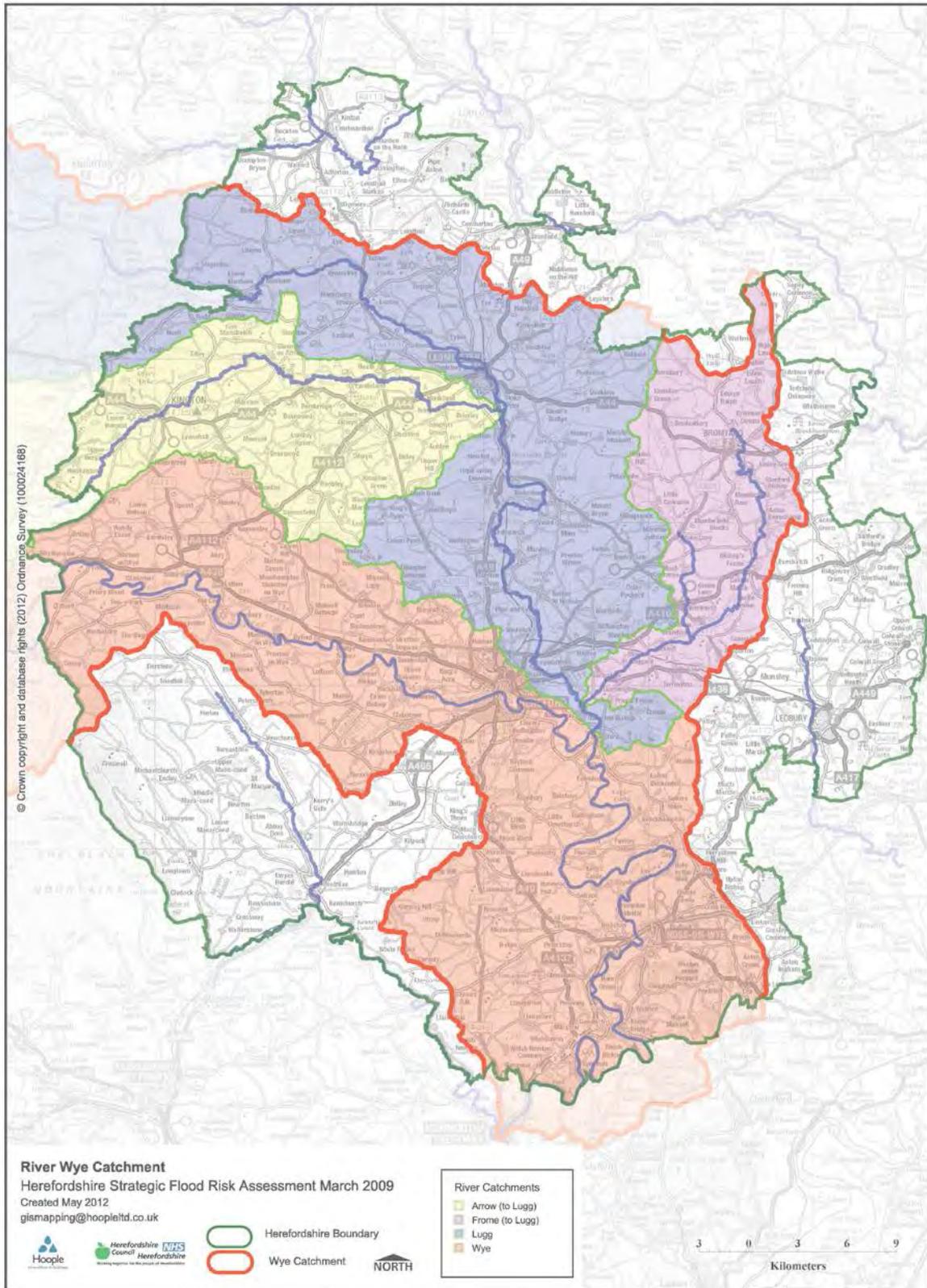
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation.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

Wye Valley Woodlands

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

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

Appendix 2: Wye Catchment Map

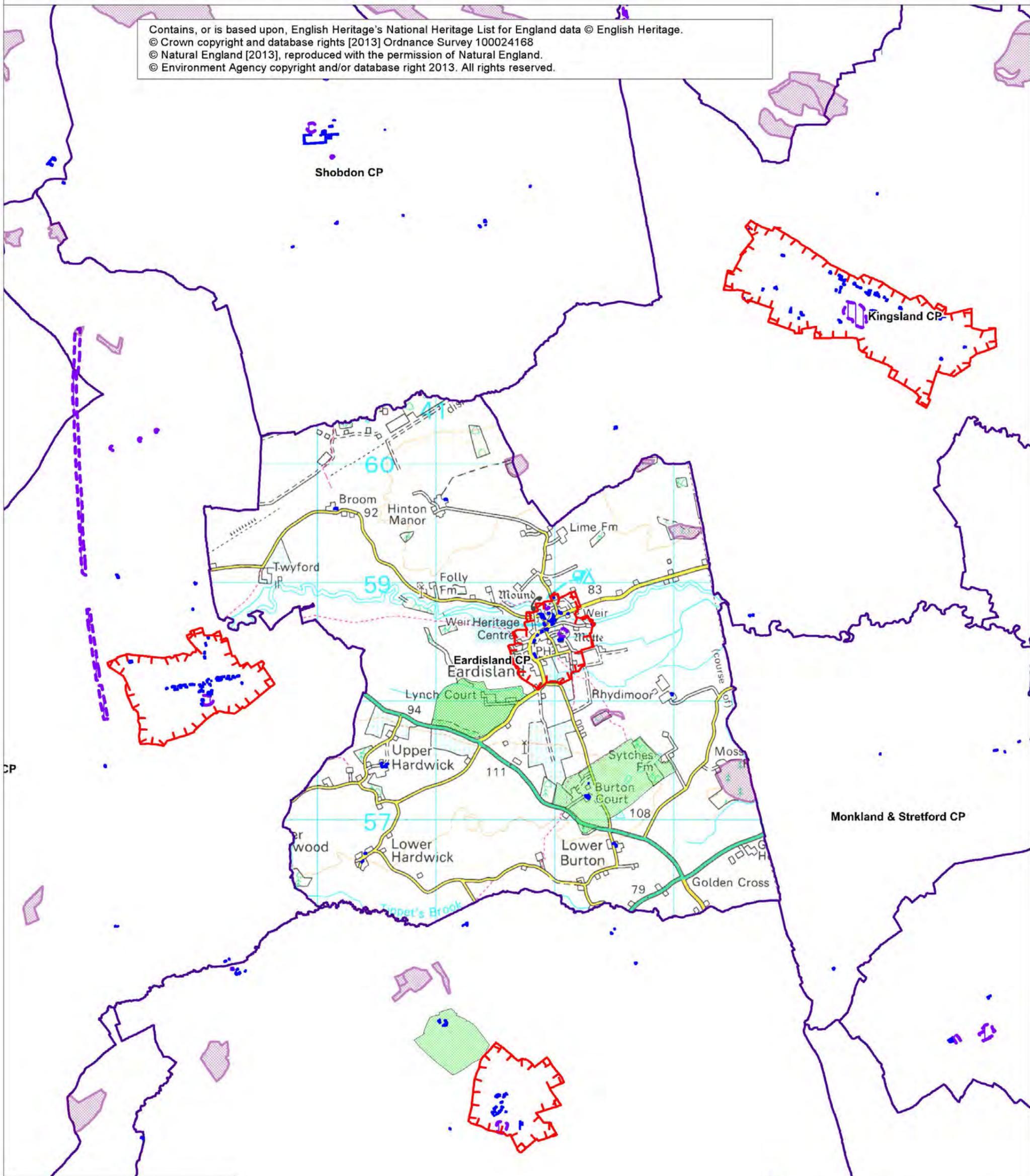


Eardisland SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:30,000



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Key:

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

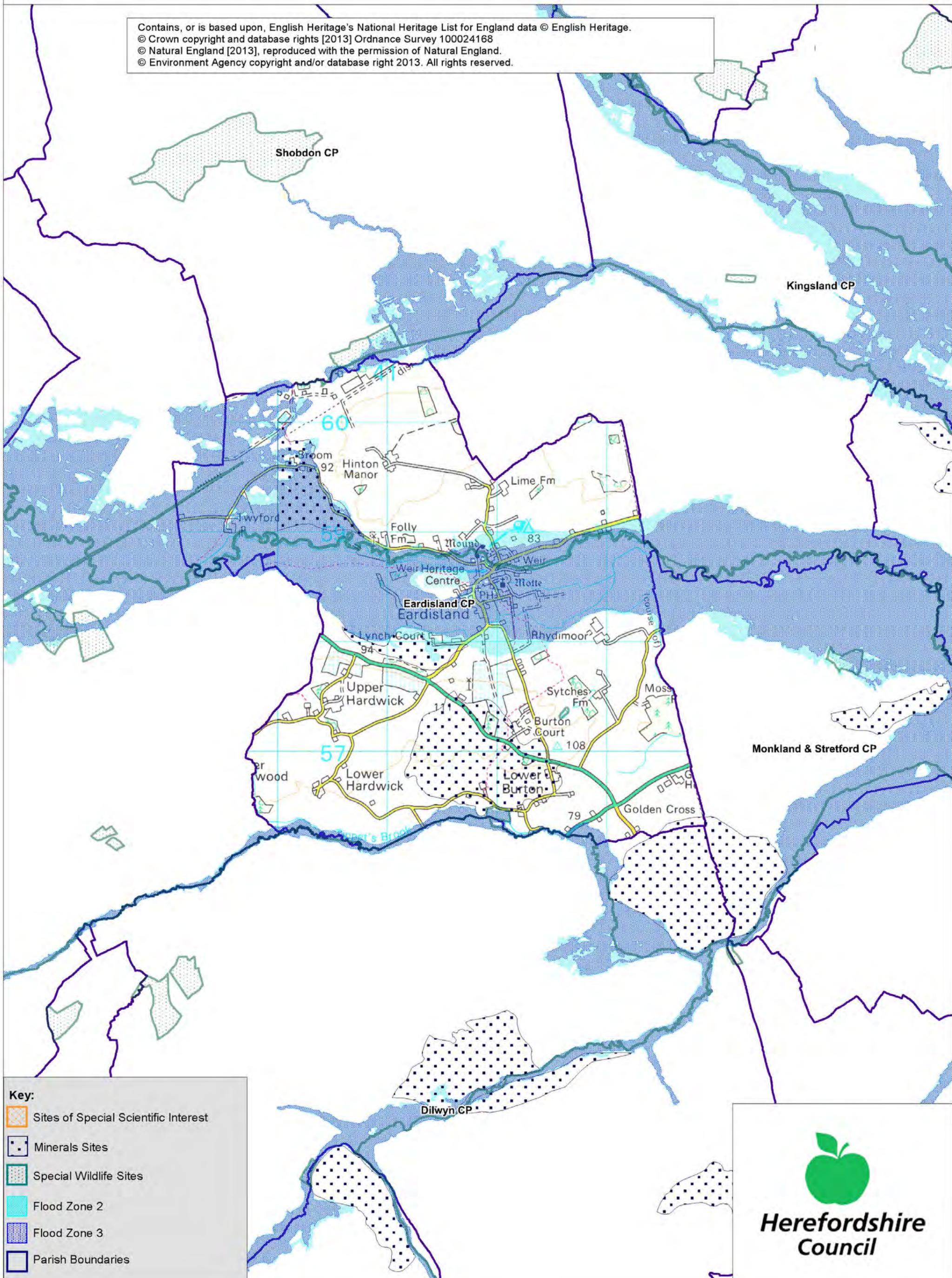
**Herefordshire
Council**

Eardisland SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:30,000



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Key:

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



Appendix 2

Strategic Environmental Assessment



Eardisland Neighbourhood Area

Scoping Report

October 2014

Consultation on the Scoping Report

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

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

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

The three consultation bodies are as follows:

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



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

Parish Council Name: Eardisland

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Eardisland Plan

Date completed: July 2014

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations	European Union Legislation	2010	These regulations transpose the Habitats Directive in England, Wales and to a limited extent Scotland by ensuring that activities are carried out in accordance with the Habitats Directive, which is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna.	The Regulations make it an offence (subject to exceptions) to deliberately capture, kill, disturb, or trade in the animals listed in Schedule 2, or pick, collect, cut, uproot, destroy, or trade in the plants listed in Schedule 4. However, these actions can be made lawful through the granting of licenses by the appropriate authorities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biodiversity Cultural heritage and the landscape 	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
The EC	European	2000	Commits all EU	Aims for 'good status' for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water 	The Neighbourhood

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

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

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

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
			policy.			
Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy	European Union Strategy	2009	Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will more effectively meet its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.	Recognises the need to gradually change current unsustainable consumption and production patterns and move towards a better integrated approach to policy making. The Strategy sets overall objectives, targets and concrete actions for seven key priority challenges, predominantly environmental: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate change and clean energy; • Sustainable transport • Sustainable production and consumption; • Public health threats; • Better management of natural resources; • Social inclusion, demography and migration; • Fighting global poverty. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Population and human health 	The Neighbourhood Plans should take into account the objectives of the strategy. The aim of sustainable development should be implicit in its approach.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	National planning policy.	2012	Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the 	The NDP should take into account the relevant policies set within the NPPF.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
			document.		landscape <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	
Planning Practice Guidance	Government Guidance	2014	Provides guidance to local planning authorities and others on the operation of the planning system.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The NDP should take into account the planning guidance provided within these documents.
Herefordshire Core Strategy, Pre-submission document 2011-2031	Development Plan Document (DPD)	2013	Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide	Outlines the emerging suite of countywide planning policies relating to housing, economic development and the environment, which the NDP will need to be in conformity with where relevant.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets 	The NDP should take account of relevant policies set within in the Core Strategy. Where necessary, the NDP should provide services, facilities and

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
			development across the county up to 2031.	<p>The Core Strategy includes a range of objectives, five of which directly relate to rural areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community • To improve access to services in rural areas • To strengthen the economic viability of the villages and their rural hinterlands • To achieve sustainable communities and protect the environment • To conserve, promote, utilise and enjoy our natural, built, historic and cultural assets for the fullest benefit of the whole community <p>To achieve a thriving rural Herefordshire, the Core Strategy seeks to enhance the role the villages have traditionally played in as accessible, sustainable centres for their rural catchments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	<p>employment opportunities that are accessible to both local and neighbouring communities.</p> <p>Approx 20 dwellings will need to be delivered within Eardisland.</p> <p>Eardisland is within the Leominster HMA. It is allocated under RA1 policy and should take into consideration the criteria set within this policy.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				Seeks proportional growth of up to 14% in Eardisland (Leominster HMA) over the plan period.		
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP) 2013-2015	Corporate	2013	Sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period April 2013 to April 2015.	The document includes three key objectives, one which seeks to maintain access for rural residents and people without access to a car. Intrinsic to this is the retention of a 'core network' of bus services which focus on journeys between Hereford and the market towns, along with main transport corridors close to larger rural settlements. To this end, the strategy aims to increase the number of bus users by 1.3% (4,700 journeys) by 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Climate factors • Population and human health 	The LTP does not explore current transport issues in the Eardisland Plan neighbourhood area, but any new development proposed through the NDP should seek to reduce the environmental impacts of transport.

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2009-2014	Corporate	2009	Identifies the issues and challenges facing the special features of the area and contains 24 guiding principles and 46 strategic objectives which will help address them.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The Eardisland Plan neighbourhood Area is not within or adjacent to the Malvern Hills AONB.
Wye Valley AONB management Plan 2009-2014	Corporate	2009	The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision for the area and the priorities for its management.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The Eardisland Plan neighbourhood Area is not within or adjacent to the Wye Valley AONB.

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

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Evidence	2009	<p>The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development Assessing sites for their housing potential; and Predicting when a site could be developed for housing. 	<p>In terms of Eardisland, SHLAA identifies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15 additional dwellings could be provided on 1 site (Land South of the Elms) in and around the existing settlement, however this site had significant constraints. Of the 15 dwellings, 15 could be provided over 10-20 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Biodiversity Climate factors Cultural heritage and the landscape Flora and fauna Population and human health Soil Water 	<p>The SHLAA assesses the potential availability of land for housing in Eardisland.</p> <p>The Eardisland NDP should be informed by the findings of the SHLAA, and an up to date local site assessment should be undertaken if any site allocations are to be provided.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA)	Evidence	2013	Builds on an earlier Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) developed for Herefordshire and Shropshire. Its purpose is to inform the Local Plan's policies regarding housing need and demand (for market and affordable housing) within each of the 7 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031.	<p>Eardisland falls within the Leominster Housing Market Area. Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55% of households are unable to afford market housing. • Total need of 1035 (2012-17) in the Leominster area. • There is an annual requirement for 22 affordable dwellings between 2012 and 2017. <p>The study identifies that, in rural parts of the Leominster HMA between 2011-2031, need :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 548 affordable houses • 183 market houses . <p>The study highlights that within the Leominster HMA the overall estimated housing need by size 2012-2017 is as follows: 1 Bed - 77.1%, 2 bed - 21.6%, 3 bed -10.4%, 4 bed- 11.7%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	<p>The LHMA provides an indication of housing needs and affordability within the Leominster HMA.</p> <p>It provides evidence that could be used to inform policies or market and affordable housing requirements in the NDP.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study	Evidence	2012	Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.	<p>The delivery of 5,300 homes in the rural areas would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support growth in the rural population by 6% • Increase the number of households by 14.5% <p>Forecasts also predict that growth in the population of the rural areas is likely to be primarily through an increase in those aged over 75.</p> <p>Moderate growth is expected in the 30-44 and 60-74 age brackets.</p> <p>The Local Housing Requirements Study therefore anticipates continuing improvements in life expectancy; significant growth is expected of those in their 80s, with the existing population in their 40s and 50s moving into retirement. As a consequence, the rural areas will face an increasing urgency to provide more 3 bedroom homes, with more 1 and 2 bed homes required in the affordable sector.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	<p>This study provides an indication of housing requirements in the rural areas and the Leominster HMA.</p> <p>This evidence can be used to inform the content of the Eardisland NDP, which could include policies to facilitate the provision of the right types of homes in the right places.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report	Evidence	2013	Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy	The settlement of Eardisland is categorised as an RA1 settlement, which means it is considered a sustainable location for proportional growth of up to 14% (Leominster HMA).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The Eardisland NDP will need to be in conformity with the provisions of Policy RA1.

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

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

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment	Evidence	2012	Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.	<p>The study updates components of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework 2010 such as updating population forecasts, setting local standards for synthetic turf pitches and grass playing fields within Herefordshire. It identifies any current gaps in provision, and looks forward to 2031 to assess what facilities are likely to be required by that date.</p> <p>In terms of Eardisland Parish itself, the study reveals that there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.58 ha of Playing pitch area, 100% of this has no secured community access. • 1 Junior football pitch within the recreation ground, 1 Bowling Green both rated as in good condition. Both are used informally by the community. • There is also one unused cricket pitch. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	<p>The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Eardisland NDP.</p> <p>Additional local evidence may be required to identify if there is a need for any secured playing pitch facilities within the Parish.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Open Spaces Study	Evidence	2006	The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snapshot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.	<p>This study allocated Eardisland within the Kington Area, which has the lowest provision of green space, Parks and Gardens per person (0.14 per ha per 1000p) in the county.</p> <p>The study reveals that within the Kington Area, there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive under provision of parks and gardens. • Extensive over provision of natural and semi natural greenspace. • Under provision of amenity greenspace and outdoor sport. • Average provision for children and young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	The open space audit and assessment of need does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in Eardisland Parish.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Play Facilities Study	Evidence	2012	The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.	<p>In terms of Eardisland itself, the study reveals that the play facility;</p> <p>Eardisland parish has a population of 520 (Census 2001), and falls within the Kingsland Primary school – there is no formal play within Kingsland Primary.</p> <p>Eardisland Village hall is a form of play space for youths. There is a low usage and access is limited. Therefore there is not a high priority for investment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Eardisland NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study	Evidence	2009	<p>The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development.</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.</p>	<p>Eardisland has a noted history of flooding. Historical flooding can be a useful pointer to future flood risk, because the causes of the flooding are likely to persist.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Middle Arrow catchment has a 33.4% standard run percentage run off by sub catchment. This is potentially moderately unsuitable for infiltration source control • Middle Arrow has a moderately slow response (Tp-time to peak) time at around 16.4 hours. • The WCS states that parishes within the river arrow catchment are more susceptible to hazard flooding. • River Arrow is designated as in ecologically poor condition. Within the Arrow there is an unsatisfactory combined sewer overflow performance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Material assets • Population and human health • Water 	<p>New development proposed through the Eardisland NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure.</p> <p>Up-to-date flood risk information should be gathered from the Environment Agency, in order to ensure that any flood risks are considered when preparing the Eardisland NDP.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Eardisland Community Led Plan	Local evidence / Parish Plan	2012/2013	The parish plan enabled every parishioner to participate in improving and protecting the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of the parish.	The aim of this plan is to identify priorities and issues which can be developed into a rolling action list for the benefit of Eardisland community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Population and human health • Material assets • Cultural Heritage and the landscape • Flora and Fauna 	The NDP should take into account the planning and land use elements for inclusion in the policies.

Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Eardisland

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

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</i>							
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. 04/08/14 Moseley Common (border) – unfavourable recovering condition.	2006: 22% 2007: 22% 2008: 22% 2010: 24 % Proportion of SSSI land that was in unfavourable condition but recovering increased between 2010 and 2012 going from 41% to 65%. Proportion in unfavourable and declining condition had also decreased from 4% to 1%.	% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)	Herefordshire's SSSIs are in extremely poor condition relative to England as whole, where 96.1% of all SSSI land was in favourable condition in April 2014. The proportion of SSSI in unfavourable condition but recovering is greater than England as a whole, where the figure currently stands at 58.6%.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013). NE SSSI website information (August 2014)

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

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	Percentage of opportunities taken	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	Eardisland Neighbourhood Area falls inside the catchment area for the River Wye, this area is classed as the River Lugg sub-catchment area for the purposes of the Nutrient Management Plan. The River Lugg section of the SAC is currently exceeding phosphate targets.	The River Wye SAC was subject to a review of consents in 2010, as a number of sections of the river were found to have greater phosphate levels than those identified in Natural England's favourable condition tables.	The roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan will determine future targets.	New development within the area could lead to the water quality failing the phosphate levels and conservation objectives.	Nutrient Management Plan (2014)

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

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

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

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

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

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

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate	Total CO2 emissions per capita	Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO ₂) <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This trend hides an increase in emissions between 2009 and 2010 when total emissions in the county increased by 5% the same as across the UK (+5%).	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.	CO ₂ emissions produced are decreasing.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water</i>							
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public wellbeing, the economy and the environment.	Natural environment	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 2010/11: None <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.	None identified.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water, air, soil, material assets</i>							
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	Natural environment	Agricultural land usage by quality. LA to monitor the number of hectares of the best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 3a and higher) lost to development.	The agricultural land classification around Eardisland is mainly Grades 2 and 3 (Very good to moderate).	-	Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	- DEFRA 'Magic' website for land classification (August 2014)

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

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Housing densities in urban and rural areas	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Level of development in urban areas compared to rural.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i> This indicator would not be applicable to rural NDPs.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Cultural heritage</i>							

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR and which is due to be published in 2014. However, this data would be too large to incorporate into this template. There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and two SAMs. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.	There were 70 heritage assets in Herefordshire that were considered to be at high risk and included in the Heritage at Risk Register 2014.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status	None of Eardisland listed buildings or SAMs is considered to be at risk at present.	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; search July 2014)

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning aspects of local loss of heritage assets, locally important buildings within the parish and particularly within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets locally important buildings particularly within a conservation area within Eardisland at present.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the four conservation areas.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched July 2014)

Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the Eardisland baseline

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

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

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

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

Template A4: SEA Framework

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

Parish Council Name: Eardisland

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Eardisland Plan

Date completed: July 2014

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

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

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

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			area.		
Air and Climate	<p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p> <p>Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.</p>	<p>To improve air quality</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>To reduce contributions to climate change</p> <p>To reduce vulnerability to climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. Protect or enhance the quality of watercourses. Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation. 	<p>Transport patronage by mode</p> <p>Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.</p> <p>Total CO2 emissions per capita</p>	<p>To increase the take up of alternative modes to the private car.</p> <p>To contribute towards the national target.</p> <p>To reduce the overall carbon emissions.</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
Water	<p>Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment.</p> <p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p>	<p>To improve water quality</p> <p>To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change. Prevent inappropriate development of the floodplain, and include flood protection systems. Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate. Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. Protect or enhance the quality of watercourses. 	<p>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.</p> <p>Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality</p> <p>Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.</p>	<p>To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.</p> <p>To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality as set out in the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>To meet the targets set out in the Nutrient Management Plan (2014)</p>
Soil	<p>Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.</p>	<p>To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 	<p>Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.</p> <p>Amount of land identified as best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development.</p>	<p>To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy.</p> <p>Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.</p>

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SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
	Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 		
Population and Human Health	Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>To improve health of the population</p> <p>To reduce crime and nuisance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings. • Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management. • Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. • Promote the use of 	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design	No specific targets identified.

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

Appendix 3

Date: 15 September 2014
Our ref: 129485
Your ref: None



James Latham
Technical Support Officer
Neighbourhood Planning, Strategic Planning & Conservation teams
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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Latham

Eardisland Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 15 August 2014 which was received by Natural England on the same date.

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

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

Where Neighbourhood Plans could have significant environmental effects, they may require a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) under the Environment Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.

Further guidance on deciding whether the proposals are likely to have significant environmental effects and the requirements for consulting Natural England on SEA are set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance at:
<http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/strategic-environmental-assessment-and-sustainability-appraisal/does-a-neighbourhood-plan-require-a-sustainability-appraisal/>

We welcome the production of this SEA Scoping report. The following comments are intended to further improve the SEA and its usefulness in assessing the Neighbourhood Plan.

Appendix A1 – Plans, policies and programmes

Natural England approves of the plans, policies and programmes listed.

Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Eardisland Parish

Biodiversity, flora and fauna

Under the indicator “*Net change in condition of SSSIs*”, we welcome the inclusion of data on SSSI’s within this neighbourhood plan area.



Under the proposed indicator “*Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan*”, *Magic*, Defra’s GIS package for environmental assets (www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk), could be referred to as a data source.

Baseline information on the landscape and open spaces needs to be included under SA objective 15: “*Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces*”. Reference could be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment.

Water, air, soil and material assets

This section (or suitable alternative) should include information on geodiversity (see NPPF paragraphs 113 & 117). The baseline and assessment should make reference to geological conservation and the need to conserve, interpret and manage geological sites and features, both in the wider environment and in relation to designated features. The Herefordshire & Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust may be of assistance.

We welcome the inclusion of information on Agricultural Land Classification data against the indicator “*Agricultural land usage by quality*”, as per our previous recommendations in response to other neighbourhood plan SEA Scoping reports.

Soil

We note that the best and most versatile agricultural land has not been considered here (although it has been as per above). We suggest including an indicator to monitor the hectares of the best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development.

Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from Eardisland Parish baseline

We welcome the recognition that development can be a pressure on biodiversity and the inclusion of landscape and soils as environmental issues, as per our previous recommendations in response to other neighbourhood plan SEA Scoping reports.

Appendix A4 – SEA Framework

We welcome the incorporation of some of the recommendations which we have previously made in response to other neighbourhood plan SEA Scoping Report consultations in the county.

Under the SEA topic “*Nature Conservation (Biodiversity, flora and fauna)*”, we would welcome the inclusion of an indicator/target around the impact/benefit to ecological networks (NPPF paragraph 109, 113 and 117). We note that no targets have been identified against the indicator “*After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation*”; we suggest that perhaps the percentage of opportunities taken could be monitored. Against “*Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan*”, we suggest that as a minimum there should be no net losses. The NPPF sets out a requirement to move to net gains for nature (paragraph 9), drawing on the Natural Environment White Paper.

Under the SEA topic “*Landscape*” we suggest that reference could be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Characterisation studies. We welcome the sub-objective on the loss of open space.

Under the SEA topic “*Soil*”, we welcome the inclusion of an indicator around losses of best and most versatile agricultural land, as per our previous recommendations in response to other neighbourhood plan SEA Scoping reports.

Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

Where a Neighbourhood Plan could potentially lead to significant environmental effects it will be necessary to screen the Plan in relation to the Habitats and Species Regulations (2010), as amended (the 'Habitats Regulations'). One of the basic conditions that will be tested at Examination is whether the making of the plan is compatible with European obligations and this includes requirements relating to the Habitats Directive.

In relation to the Habitats Regulations, a Neighbourhood Plan cannot progress if the likelihood of significant effects on any European Site, either alone (or in combination with other plans and projects) cannot be ruled out (see Schedule 2, The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012). Therefore measures may need to be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Plan to ensure that any likely significant effects are avoided in order to secure compliance with the Regulations. A screening exercise should be undertaken if there is any doubt about the possible effects of the Plan on European protected sites. This will be particularly important if a Neighbourhood Plan is to progress before a Local Plan has been adopted and/or the Neighbourhood Plan proposes development which has not been assessed and/or included in the Habitats Regulations Assessment for the Local Plan.

We note the recommendation that a full Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening is undertaken due to proximity to the River Wye Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

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

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Hayley Fleming on 0300 060 1594. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

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

Yours sincerely

Hayley Fleming
Lead adviser – Planning
South Mercia Area Team
(Gloucestershire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Coventry and Solihull)



ENGLISH HERITAGE

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

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09 September 2014

Dear Sir or Madam

CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS IN: (Brilley; Eardisland; Garway; Kings Cagle; Luston; Marden).

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

I hope this is helpful.

Yours faithfully

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

Appendix 4

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

SEA Objectives

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

NDP objectives	SEA Objectives																Conclusions	Recommendations	SMART Test of NDP objective	After SMART objectives
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
Objective 1- To ensure that the visual effect of all development complements and enhances the parish	?	+	+	+	X	X	?	+	?	X	?	?	?	+	+	+	At this stage more information is required to assess the compatibility with the SEA objectives. This will emerge as the policies are assessed. However, this has the ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy.	No recommendations	Element of this objective can be monitored by the determination of planning applications. The plan is programmed for a review every five years.	No changes recommended
Objective 2- To ensure that services, facilities and amenities are provided and improved to meet the current and future needs of the parish.	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	X	X	?	?	?	+	+	+	At this stage, more information is required to assess the compatibility with the SEA objectives. This will be emerging as the policies are developed. However, this has ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy.	No recommendations	Many of the actions will be outside of the parish control. However, broadband provision is monitored as it highway safety issues. The objective relates to the vision and is time bound by a review which is indicated every five years.	No changes recommended
Objective 3- To enable sufficient and appropriate housing, based upon sound environmental and sustainable principles, to meet the future needs of the community.	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	?	+	+	?	0	0	?	?	+	At this stage, more information is required to assess the compatibility with the SEA objectives. This will be emerging as the policies are developed. However, this has ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy.	No recommendations	This objective will be monitored via the Annual Monitoring Report. A review is planned for every five years and the objective is achievable.	No changes recommended
Objective 4- To support residents to participate within a safe and thriving parish.	?	?	+	+	?	+	?	?	?	?	+	?	?	+	+	?	At this stage, more information is required to assess the compatibility with the SEA objectives. This will be emerging as the policies are developed. However, this has ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy.	No recommendations	The objective is achievable and measurable. There is also a planned review of NDP policies every five years to ensure	No changes recommended

<p>Objective 5-To ensure that new and existing business enhances the character of the parish.</p>	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	X	?	?	?	?	O	+	<p>At this stage, more information is required to assess the compatibility with the SEA objectives. This will be emerging as the policies are developed. However, this has ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy.</p>	No recommendations	<p>The provision of additional business opportunities can be monitored via the Annual Monitoring Report. It may be more difficult to management and monitor agricultural elements outside of planning control.</p>	No changes recommended
<p>Objective 6-To promote a sense of community responsibility with regards to development, community facilities and infrastructure.</p>	?	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	X	X	X	+	X	+	+	+	<p>At this stage, more information is required to assess the compatibility with the SEA objectives. Essential the objective is regarding the support for further infrastructure and facilities via developer contributions</p>	No recommendations	<p>This objective is achievable and measurable and time bound. The plan is proposed to be reviewed every 5 years.</p>	No changes recommended

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

SEA Objectives	Baseline carried over from Stage A
1- To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	1-The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. 04/08/14 – status of the SSSIs is: Common (border) – unfavourable recovering condition. Eardisland Neighbourhood Area falls inside the catchment area for the River Wye, this area is classed as the River Lugg sub-catchment area for the purposes of the Nutrient Management Plan.The River Lugg section of the SAC is currently exceeding phosphate targets. The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire. Eardisland has: SSSI: 1, SWS: 13. There are no SACs, NNRs, SINCs and LNRs within the parish.
2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	2-There are numerous scheduled monuments in Eardisland according to the latest version of the register. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings within within Eardisland at present.
3- To improve quality of surroundings	3-Eardisland parish has a population of 520 (Census 2011), and falls within the Kingsland Primary school –there is no formal play within Kingsland Primary. Eardisland Village hall is a form of play space for youths. There is a low usage and access is limited. Therefore there is not a high priority for investment. In terms of Eardisland Parish itself, the study reveals that there is:0.58 ha of Playing pitch area, 100% of this has no secured community access. 1 Junior football pitch within the recreation ground, 1 Bowling Green both rated as in good condition. Both are used informally by the community. There is also one unused cricket pitch.
4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	4- There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and two SAMs. None of Eardisland listed buildings or SAMs is considered to be at risk at present.
5- To improve air quality	5-Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This suggests that air quality is improving.
6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	6-% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1%, Foot: 14.7%;Bicycle: 4.3%,Bus: 2%, Train: 0.8%,Motorbike: 0.8%,Taxi: 0.3%,Other: 7%.
7- To reduce contributions to climate change	7-Herefordshire latest figure of CO2 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO ²)
8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change	8-Reduce the risk of flooding-There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.
9- To improve water quality	9-Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive. Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84%.
10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	10-Eardisland has a noted history of flooding. Historical flooding can be a useful pointer to future flood risk, because the causes of the flooding are likely to persist. The WCS states that parishes within the river arrow catchment are more susceptible to hazard flooding.
11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	11-Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds. The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.
12- To conserve soil resources and quality	12-The agricultural land classification around Eardisland is mainly Grades 2 and 3 (Very good to moderate). Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.2010/11: 67%2011-13: 57%.
13- To minimise the production of waste	13-There are no historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the four conservation areas. The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Settled farmlands on River terrace; principal settled farmlands; principal timbered farmlands
14- To improve health of the population	
15- To reduce crime and nuisance	
16- To conserve natural and manmade resources	

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA	NA	NA	13			
Option 1 Do nothing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	Do nothing option is essential not to produce a neighbourhood plan and rely on the criteria policies within the Core Strategy to guide further development. Specific policies and proposals for the parishes would not exist.	All developments would need to be in conformity with the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy has been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal and policies met the SEA objectives.	n/a
Option 2 Manage future housing using a settlement boundary	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	++	++	+	++	+				++	The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside. This can aid the direction of further growth to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. There is less certainty over the positive effects on the baseline as any growth will be adjudged by criteria based policy.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 3 Manage future housing through a criteria policy	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Criteria based policy does not give the same level of certainty as the other options as it will be more reactionary than proactive in terms of growth proposals. However, provided criteria is added to the policy to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline.	Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 4 Limit housing numbers on one development site	?	+	?	?	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	?				+	This option seeks to limit the number of dwellings on any development site. The Core Strategy indicates a proportionate level of housing growth for the parish, therefore this policy would not alter the amount of housing in total just increase the number of locations. Criteria would need to be added to any policies to ensure that the option would have a positive effect on the baseline.	Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 5 Protect special publically accessible views	+	++	++	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				+	This option has a positive effect on the landscape and quality of surroundings objectives. However this option has little relationship with many of the other objectives	This option looks at one aspect of the plan and little relationship with 8 other SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

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

SEA Objectives	Baseline carried over from Stage A
1- To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	1-The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. 04/08/14 – status of the SSSIs is: Common (border) – unfavourable recovering condition. Eardisland Neighbourhood Area falls inside the catchment area for the River Wye, this area is classed as the River Lugg sub-catchment area for the purposes of the Nutrient Management Plan.The River Lugg section of the SAC is currently exceeding phosphate targets. The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire. Eardisland has: SSSI: 1, SWS: 13. There are no SACs, NNRs, SINCs and LNRs within the parish.
2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	2-There are numerous scheduled monuments in Eardisland according to the latest version of the register. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings within Eardisland at present.
3- To improve quality of surroundings	3-Eardisland parish has a population of 520 (Census 2011), and falls within the Kingsland Primary school –there is no formal play within Kingsland Primary. Eardisland Village hall is a form of play space for youths. There is a low usage and access is limited. Therefore there is not a high priority for investment. In terms of Eardisland Parish itself, the study reveals that there is:0.58 ha of Playing pitch area, 100% of this has no secured community access. 1 Junior football pitch within the recreation ground, 1 Bowling Green both rated as in good condition. Both are used informally by the community. There is also one unused cricket pitch.
4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	4- There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and two SAMs. None of Eardisland listed buildings or SAMs is considered to be at risk at present.
5- To improve air quality	5-Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This suggests that air quality is improving.
6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	6-% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1%, Foot: 14.7%,Bicycle: 4.3%,Bus: 2%, Train: 0.8%,Motorbike: 0.8%,Taxi: 0.3%,Other: 7%.
7- To reduce contributions to climate change	7-Herefordshire latest figure of CO2 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO ²)
8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change	8-Reduce the risk of flooding-There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.
9- To improve water quality	9-Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive. Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84%.
10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	10-Eardisland has a noted history of flooding. Historical flooding can be a useful pointer to future flood risk, because the causes of the flooding are likely to persist. The WCS states that parishes within the river arrow catchment are more susceptible to hazard flooding.
11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	11-Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds. The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.
12- To conserve soil resources and quality	12-The agricultural land classification around Eardisland is mainly Grades 2 and 3 (Very good to moderate). Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.2010/11: 67%2011-13: 57%.
13- To minimise the production of waste	13-There are no historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the four conservation areas. The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Settled farmlands on River terrace; principal settled farmlands; principal timbered farmlands
14- To improve health of the population	
15- To reduce crime and nuisance	
16- To conserve natural and manmade resources	

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA	NA	NA	13			
Policy E1	++	+	++	+	+	++	++	++	+	+	++	+				+	This policy has a positive effect on all the SEA objectives. This is the overarching development principles policy.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline objectives as it sets the criteria requirements for development. No recommendations	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy E2	X	++	++	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				++	This policy has a positive effect on the landscape, townscape and historic environment SEA objectives as it is seeking to protect heritage assets	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline objectives as it sets the criteria requirements for development. No recommendations	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy E3	+	++	++	+	+	X	X	X	++	+	X	?				++	This policy has a positive effect on the landscape and surrounding elements of the SEA objectives. This will have a knock on effect to air quality and nature conservation.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline objectives as it sets the criteria requirements for development. No recommendations	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy E4	++	++	++	+	+	X	+	+	+	X	X	+				+	This policy is seeking to protect and enhance the ecological features within the parish.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline objectives as it sets the criteria requirements for development. No recommendations	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy E5	++	+	++	+	X	X	+	++	+	X	++	+				+	This policy has a positive effect on the SEA objectives. It is seeking to address some of the flooding issues which exist within the parish which will help to have a positive effect on other SEA objectives and indicators.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline objectives as it sets the criteria requirements for development. No recommendations	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of the SEA
Policy E6	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	X	X	X	X	X				X	This policy is seeking to reduce the pollution within the night sky from lighting. This will have a positive effect on the any bat species within the parish.	Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline objectives as it sets the criteria requirements for development. No recommendations	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirement for the purposes of

Key:

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- - Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	N/A No relationship
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Policy E1 –General Development Principles

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	++	++	Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure nature conservation is taken into consideration.	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA objectives. Policy criteria includes sense of place, local identify, views and landscape design issues.	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	++	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA objectives. Policy criteria includes sense of place, local identify, views and landscape	-

				design issues	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA objectives. The policy itself does not reference heritage however a specific policy is included within the plan to safeguard these issues (Policy E2).	-
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA objectives. It seeks to reduce the need to travel, provide and protect open spaces both of which contribute to improving air quality	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA objectives. It seeks to reduce the need to travel and encourage safe and efficient road infrastructure within the parish.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA objectives. There are a number of criteria within the policy which seek to reduce the use of natural resources, reduce the need to travel, encourage energy efficiency.	-
To reduce vulnerability to	+	+	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of the	-

climate change				SEA objectives. The policy criteria acknowledge issues regarding flooding within the village and including appropriate flood resilience measures, the use of SuDs and not developing within the flood plain.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	The plan acknowledges its position within the River Wye SAC hydrological catchment and a criterion is included within the policy to safeguard water quality.	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA objectives	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	++	The policy acknowledges the settlements position adjacent to the River Arrow and the flooding issues which exist. Policy criteria has been added to locate development outside the flood plain.	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA objectives. Policy criteria is included which seeks to use of brownfield as a priority.	-
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the					

population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA objectives	-
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall the policy is positive in relation to the baseline. Policy criteria exists which will provide safeguards to the objectives.				

Policy E2 – Protecting heritage assets

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	x	x	x	No direct relationship. The preservation of historic buildings and details could have a positive effect on any existing wildlife. This element is directly reflected in the policy criteria	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes	++	++	++	This policy is concerning the safeguarding of heritage assets.	-

and townscapes				This will have a positive effect on the townscape and the conservation area.	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy is concerning the safeguarding of heritage assets. This will have a positive effect on the quality of the surroundings.	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This policy is concerning the safeguarding of heritage assets. This will have a positive effect on the quality of the surroundings, cultural heritage and the historic environment.	-
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No direct relationship	

To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	This policy seeks to protect and enhance heritage assets within the parish	-
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy is specifically concerning the protection and enhancement of heritage assets around the parish and particularly the conservation area. This will have a positive effect on the relative SEA objective and other policies existing such as E1 to provide additional safeguards.				

Policy E3 – Landscape character

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to protect the lowland character of the area. Policy criteria exist to safeguard features including hedgerows,	-

fauna)				trees, woodlands, meadows and orchards. This will have a positive effect on other flora and fauna.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	++	++	This policy is seeking to protect the lowland character of the area. Policy criteria exist to safeguard features including hedgerows, trees, woodlands, meadows and orchards. This will have a positive effect on the landscape and townscape	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	++	++	This policy is seeking to protect the lowland character of the area. Policy criteria exist to safeguard features including hedgerows, trees, woodlands, meadows and orchards. This will have a positive effect on the surroundings of Eardisland	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to protect the lowland character of the area. Policy criteria exist to safeguard features including hedgerows, trees, woodlands, meadows and orchards. This will have a positive effect the historic environment and setting of the conservation area	-
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to protect the lowland character of the area. Policy criteria exist to safeguard	-

				features including hedgerows, trees, woodlands, meadows and orchards. This will have a positive effect on air quality	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationships	
To improve water quality	+	++	++	The protection of many of these features will have a positive effect on watercourses which are part of the River Wye hydrological catchment.	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	The protection of many of these features will have a positive effect on watercourses which are part of the River Wye hydrological catchment.	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect landscape and its features. This will have a positive effect on soil resources and quality.	-

To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect and enhance natural features within the environment	-
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy is seeking to protect, enhance landscape features together with other policies within the plan, this will have a positive effect on the baseline.				

Policy E4 – Protection and enhancement of features of ecological value

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

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This policy is concerning the protection and enhance of ecological features and networks	A mention of the hydrological catchment and water quality would help strengthen the policy further.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The protecting and enhancement of landscape features including trees, vistas are included within the policy criteria	-
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy is concerning the protection and enhance of ecological features and networks, this will have a positive effect on the quality of the surroundings.	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy is concerning the protection and enhance of ecological features and networks, this would have a positive effect on the culture heritage and setting,	-
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The protection of these features will help to improve air quality.	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The protection of these features will help to contributed to reductions in climate change	-
To reduce vulnerability to	+	+	+	Protection of ecological networks can have a relationship to the	-

climate change				protection of flood plain areas, thus reducing the impact of flooding to other areas.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+		
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x		
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x		
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy is concerning the protection and enhance of ecological features and networks	A mention of the hydrological catchment and water quality would help strengthen the policy further.
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy is concerning the protection and enhance of ecological features and networks	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy is seeking to protect ecological features and networks within the plan area. The addition of reference to the hydrological catchment of the River Wye and its associated water quality management would help strengthen the policy further.				

Policy E5 – Design to reduce surface water run off

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	++	++	Policy criteria has been included to recognise the issues around water quality and the hydrological catchment of the River Wye SAC.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The policy seeks to reduce the impact on flooding on the village of Eardisland and thus enhance the quality of the townscape	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	++	++	The policy seeks to reduce the impact on flooding on the village of Eardisland and thus enhance the quality of the surroundings	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The policy seeks to reduce the impact on flooding on the village of Eardisland and thus enhance the quality of the townscape	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The criteria includes measure to recycle rainwater and increase flood storage	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	++	++	++	The policy is aims to reduce the risk of flooding within the village	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Criteria is include to safeguard the River Wye SAC	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	++	++	++	This policy is intended to avoid, reduce and manage flood risk both from the River Arrow and surface water.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	Managing flood storage could help to protect other areas of the village and farmland	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to recycle rainwater and provide storm water	

				storage areas.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy acknowledged the specific issues within Eardisland with regards to flooding both from the River Arrow and surface water. The criteria with other policy safeguards will assist with this issue and have a positive benefit on a number of SEA objectives.				

Policy E6 – Dark skies

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The reduction of lighting into the night sky can have a positive benefit for bats and other nocturnal species	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The reduction in lighting of the night sky could enhance the appearance of the natural landscape. However some maybe concerned about the reduction in lighting on safety	

				grounds	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The reduction in lighting of the night sky could enhance the appearance of the natural landscape. However some maybe concerned about the reduction in lighting on safety grounds	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The reduction in lighting of the night sky could enhance the appearance of the natural landscape. However some maybe concerned about the reduction in lighting on safety grounds	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The reduction in lighting will mean a reduction in energy use	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No direct relationship	

To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The reduction in lighting of the night sky could enhance the appearance of the natural landscape and a positive benefit for a number of nocturnal species. However some maybe concerned about the reduction in lighting on safety grounds				

Policy E7 – new communications technologies

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

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	?	?	?	This will be dependent on location. Other policies of the plan contain development criteria which would provide a safeguard	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	?	?	?	This will be dependent on location. Other policies of the plan contain development criteria which would provide a safeguard	
To improve quality of surroundings	?	?	?	This will be dependent on location. Other policies of the plan contain development criteria which would provide a safeguard	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The increase in broadband provision can increase the ability of residents to be able to work from home or small businesses to thrive in the area. This could reduce the need to travel.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The increase in broadband provision can increase the ability of residents to be able to work from home or small businesses to thrive in the area. This could reduce the	

				need to travel.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	?	?	This will be dependent on location. Other policies of the plan contain development criteria which would provide a safeguard	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This impact of this policy is locational and there are a number of criteria based policies within the plan which would provide policy safeguards.				

Policy E8 –Protection of local community facilities

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This policy seeks to safeguard existing community uses. This will help reduce the requirement for new sites which could affect the natural environment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy seeks to safeguard existing community uses. This will help reduce the requirement for new sites which could affect the landscape and ensure the continuing use of existing buildings and facilities	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy seeks to safeguard existing community uses. This will help reduce the requirement for new sites which could affect the landscape and ensure the continuing use of existing buildings and facilities	

To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy seeks to safeguard existing community uses. This will help reduce the requirement for new sites which could affect the landscape and ensure the continuing use of existing buildings and facilities	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Provision and retention of existing local facilities will assist to reduce the need to travel for some community facilities	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	Provision and retention of existing local facilities will assist to reduce the need to travel for some community facilities	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	Provision and retention of existing local facilities will assist to reduce the need to travel for some community facilities	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	Provision and retention of existing local facilities will assist to reduce the need to travel for some community facilities	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and	+	+	+	Provision and retention of existing local facilities will assist to reduce	

manage flood risk				the need to develop new sites especially as the village itself is subject to flooding issues	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	Provision and retention of existing local facilities will assist to reduce the need for new sites	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	Provision and retention of existing local facilities will assist to reduce the need for new sites and the increase the benefits of using existing facilities	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy seeks to retain existing facilities. This helps to reduce the need to travel, provide new sites and enhances the surrounding and townscape. This has a positive benefit on a number of SEA objectives.				

Policy E9 – Scale and type of new residential development

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This policy contains criterion that seeks to safeguard nature conservation. The River Wye SAC is specifically mentioned.	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The policy contains criterion which seeks to safeguard the surroundings and environmental conditions. A settlement boundary has also been designated which will have a positive effect on protecting landscape.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The policy contains criterion which seeks to safeguard the surroundings and environmental conditions. A settlement boundary has also been designated which will have a positive effect on protecting landscape.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the	++	++	++	Policy contains safeguards particularly with regards to the	

historic environment and cultural heritage				character of the conservation area.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Provision of homes near to the main settlement in accordance with policy RA2 of the Core Strategy will help to reduce the need to travel. Air quality issues have not been highlighted within the area under the SEA objectives.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The policy is seeks to locate development close to the village which existing facilities thus assisting to reduce the need to travel	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	The policy criteria refers back to Policy E1 which includes a number of development requirements aimed at environmental principles to reduce climate change.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	A specific criteria is included to direct development away from the areas of greatest risk of flooding.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	A criteria has been included to safeguard and reduce the impact on the River Wye SAC	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy.	

To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	++	++	++	A specific criteria is included to direct development away from the areas of greatest risk of flooding.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	A settlement boundary has been designated which will help protect areas outside of the boundary from development.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	A number of the policy criteria are aiming to conserve both the natural and built environment features.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy is seeking to ensure that residential development within Eardisland is in conformity with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy whilst acknowledging the environmental constraints which exist within the area. The criteria will help to meet some of the SEA objectives.				

Policy E10 – Ensuring an appropriate range of tenures, types and sizes of houses

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three	Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation
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	time periods)				opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	x	x	x	No direct relationship. Other policies within the NDP will address these issues	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The policy seeks to ensure that affordable and market housing are integrated on sites, this will have a positive effect on the townscape.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The policy seeks to ensure that affordable and market housing are integrated on sites, this will have a positive effect on the townscape	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	x	x	x	No direct relationship. Other policies on the NDP will address these issues	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to provide a range and mix of tenures and housing types giving opportunities to all sectors of the community. This could help reduce the need to travel between areas.	

To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy aims to provide a range and mix of tenures and housing types on sites. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and other policies within the NDP will have a more direct relationship on the SEA objectives.				

Policy E11 – Protection of Local Green Spaces

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The protection of a number of Local Green Spaces within the parish will have a positive effect on the SEA objective to enhance nature conservation.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	++	++	The protection of a number of Local green Spaces around the village of Eardisland will enhance the existing character of the townscape is maintained	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	++	++	The protection of a number of Local Green Spaces around the village of Eardisland will enhance the existing character of the townscape is maintained	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the	+	++	++	The protection of a number of Local Green Spaces around the village of	

historic environment and cultural heritage				Eardisland will enhance the existing character of the conservation area and historic assets is maintained	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	Many of the Local Green Spaces are adjacent or near watercourse. There protection will have a relationship to the protection of areas prone to flood risk.	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Many of the Local Green Spaces are adjacent or near watercourse. There protection will have a relationship to the protection of areas prone to flood risk.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	Many of these areas are already formal or informal open spaces, therefore the formal protection of these areas is unlikely to have any impact on soil quality.	

To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to formalise a number of existing open spaces within the village of Eardisland. The protection of Local Green Spaces will have a positive effect on a number of SEA objectives particularly relating to townscape and character.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy is seeking to formalise a number of existing open spaces within the village of Eardisland. The protection of Local Green Spaces will have a positive effect on a number of SEA objectives particularly relating to townscape and character.				

Policy E12 – Public rights of way /connectivity

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)	Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities

	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	The policy includes reference to supporting connectivity for local biodiversity with new areas of hedgerows, grassland, orchards and other features	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The policy seek to improve connectivity throughout the parish, this will have a positive impact on the quality of the landscape and the townscape and the links between them.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The policy seek to improve connectivity throughout the parish, this will have a positive impact on the quality of the landscape and the townscape and the links between them.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	?	?	?	The policy is not specific about heritage assets. However other policies of the plan seek to safeguard, namely policy E2	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Increasing opportunities to cycle and walk to villages facilities will have a positive benefit on any air quality issues	

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	Increasing opportunities to cycle and walk to villages facilities will have a positive benefit on reducing the need to travel by car	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	Increasing opportunities to cycle and walk to villages facilities will have a positive benefit on reducing the need to travel by car thus contributing to reducing the impact of climate change	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	?	?	The policy is seeking to support the development of additional wetland habitats which could have a positive effect on the acknowledged flooding issues within the village by providing additional storm water storage	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Policy to enhance biodiversity and wetland areas together with others within the plan to safeguard the River Wye SAC will help to safeguard water quality	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to support the development of additional wetland habitats which could have a positive effect on the acknowledged flooding issues within the village by providing additional storm water	

				storage	
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	The preservation and creation of new footpaths and cycle and/or biodiversity routes could have a varied impact on soils,	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to enhance biodiversity connectivity throughout the parish and preserve existing natural features	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall the policy has a positive impact on the SEA objective particularly in areas of nature conservation and reducing the need to travel by private car.				

Policy E13 – Managing agricultural land and businesses

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The policy does not specific mention nature conservation issues which could be important especially when considering the conversion of former agricultural buildings. Other policies of the NDP namely E4 does contain the safeguards required	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	Policy criteria is included which seeks to encourage screening of any new agricultural development within the landscape	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	Policy criteria is included which seeks to encourage screening of any new agricultural development within the landscape	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The conversion of former agricultural buildings can have a positive effect on the historic and cultural environment. There is no mention of this issue within the	

				policy but Policy E2 contains the necessary safeguards	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	?	+	+	A policy criterion is included regarding traffic, delivery and access issues. The initial impact will be dependent on the existing and future use.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	The policy includes issues regarding flood risk, ground water and surface run off. Impact will be dependent on the current and future use	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	The policy includes issues regarding flood risk, ground water and surface run off	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	The Nutrient Management Plan is in place to address water quality impacts from agriculture and additional policy safeguards exist within the NDP regarding change of use.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	The policy includes issues regarding flood risk, ground water and surface run off	

To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	This will be dependent on the current and future proposed uses of the agricultural practise associated within the application.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	Overall policy criteria exist to safeguard the natural and built resources where applicable	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Overall the policy has a positive impact on the SEA objective. Some issues will be dependent on the current agricultural use and that proposed but adequate policy safeguards existing within the NDP.				

Policy E14 – New agricultural development

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

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	?	+	+	The policy does not specific mention nature conservation issues which could be important especially when considering the conversion of former agricultural buildings. Other policies of the NDP namely E4 does contain the safeguards required	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscales	+	+	+	Landscaping and impact on adjoining farmland is specifically mentioned within the policy criteria	-
To improve quality of surroundings	?	?	?	This is locational and use dependent, however a number of safeguard policies exist within the NDP and the Core Strategy	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	

To improve water quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy is concerning the amenity and design of agricultural buildings when planning permission is required. Together with other policies within the NDP it provide the necessary safeguards to meet the SEA objectives.				

Policy E15 – Supporting existing local employment

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)	Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities

	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The policy specifically refers to retaining and enhancing natural features and biodiversity	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The policies refers to the importance of the character, appearance and environment of both the potential site and its surroundings	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The policies refers to the importance of the character, appearance and environment of both the potential site and its surroundings	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The policy specifically refers to retaining and enhancing features of the built environment	--
To improve air quality	+	+	+	The policy refers to the potential for other forms of transport being provided. This will help reduce potential air quality issues	-
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The policy refers to the potential for other forms of transport being	-

				provided. This may help reduce the reliance on the private car	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	Reference is made to the improvement of environmental performance where possible. This will be effected by location and type of employment proposed. Safeguards exist within other policies of the Core Strategy and the NDP as well as other regulations	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	?	?	Reference is made to the improvement of environmental performance where possible. This will be effected by location and type of employment proposed. Safeguards exist within other policies of the Core Strategy and the NDP as well as other regulations	-
To improve water quality	?	?	?	The Nutrient Management Plan is in plan to provide safeguards with regards to the River Wye SAC.	Additional criteria with regards to the River Wye SAC would provide additional protection.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	0	0	0	This is depending on the employment type expansion proposed. The policy is not over and above that of the Core Strategy	-
To avoid, reduce and	+	+	+	The policy does not specifically refer to flooding but other policies of	-

manage flood risk				the NDP namely E5 provide safeguards.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	This is depending on the employment type expansion proposed. The policy is not over and above that of the Core Strategy. The expansion of existing premise will reduce the needs to new relocated businesses on new sites.	-
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	There are a number of references within the policy criteria to natural and built resources and the enhancement and protection of features.	-
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The policy encourages the continuing and increased use of existing community facilities. This will help to reduce the requirement for additional sites and resources.				

Policy E16 – New local employment opportunities

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative	Summary Explanation	Enhancement and
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	effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)				mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	The policy seeks to safeguard open spaces and green infrastructure which will have a positive effect on maintaining and enhancing nature conservation.	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	?	?	?	There is no specific mention within the policy of landscape and townscape issues however the criteria do point to design policies within the NDP and Core Strategy.	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The policy contains a criterion which seeks to reduce any detrimental impact of new employment use on existing residential amenity. It also seeks to prevent the loss of open space and green infrastructure.	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Policy criteria is included which	-

				seeks to reduce the unacceptable impact of traffic on the area. This could have a positive effect on air quality.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	Policy criteria is included which seeks to reduce the unacceptable impact of traffic on the area.	-
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and	x	x	x	No direct relationship	

manmade resources					
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy read in conjunction with policy E15 provides policy safeguards to have a positive effect on the SEA objectives.				

Policy E17 – Supporting tourism and local business development

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	?	?	?	Tourism and business will potentially bring more traffic to the area. Safeguards within the policy exist regarding adverse effects on road network, character, water supply and sewerage. The impacts on the objectives will be locational specific and this can be addressed in future applications given the existing safeguards	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	The policy highlights avoiding adverse impacts on the landscape and character of the area	-

To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The policy highlights avoiding adverse impacts on the landscape and character of the area	-
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The policy highlights avoiding adverse impacts on the landscape and character of the area	-
To improve air quality	0	0	0	Tourism and business will potentially bring more traffic to the area. Safeguards within the policy exist regarding adverse effects on road network.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	Tourism and business will potentially bring more traffic to the area. Safeguards within the policy exist regarding adverse effects on road network.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	?	?	Tourism and business will potentially bring more traffic to the area. Safeguards within the policy exist regarding adverse effects on road network	-
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	?	?	Tourism and business will potentially bring more traffic to the area. Safeguards within the policy exist regarding adverse effects on road network, character, water supply and sewerage. The impacts on the objectives will be locational specific and this can be addressed	-

				in future applications given the existing safeguards	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	Safeguards exist within policy E1 with regards to water quality and the River Wye SAC	-
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy is not above and beyond that within the Core Strategy	-
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Safeguards exist within Policy E1, E4 and E5 with regards to avoiding development within the flood plain.	-
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	?	?	This will be locational dependant but policy safeguards exist within the NDP and the Core Strategy with this regard	-
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	Sufficient safeguards exist both within the neighbourhood plan and the Core Strategy to ensure the SEA objective are met.	-
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The encouragement of future tourism and business will potential have an impact on the levels of visitors and traffic to the area. However sufficient safeguards exist both within the neighbourhood plan and the Core Strategy to ensure the SEA objective are met.				

Policy E18 – Community facilities and public funds

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	?	?	?	No information is included within regarding to developer contributions to the objective	-
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	?	?	?	No information is included within regarding to developer contributions to the objective	-
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The policy seeks developer contributions to community facilities and infrastructure which will have a positive effect on the surroundings	-
To conserve and where	?	?	?	No information is included within	-

appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage				regarding to developer contributions to the objective	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy references infrastructure which could include traffic reduction or safety measures	
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					

To conserve natural and manmade resources	x	x	x	No direct relationship	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy is highlighting that any contributions should be for community facilities and infrastructure.				

Key:

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards marginally	-- Move away Significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	X No relationship
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SEA Objective / Policy	1. To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	2. To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	3. To improve quality of surroundings	4. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	5. To improve air quality	6. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	7. To reduce contributions to climate change	8. To reduce vulnerability to climate change	9. To improve water quality	10. To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	11. To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	12. To conserve soil resources and quality	13. To minimise the production	14. To improve health of the population	15. To reduce crime and nuisance	16. To conserve natural and manmade resources
Objective 1	?	+	+	+	X	X	?	+	?	X	?	?	?	+	+	+
Objective 2	?	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	X	X	?	?	?	+	+	+
Objective 3	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	?	+	+	?	0	0	?	?	+
Objective 4	?	?	+	+	?	+	?	?	?	?	+	?	?	+	+	?
Objective 5	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	X	?	?	?	?	0	+
Objective 6	?	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	X	X	X	+	X	+	+	+
Policy E1	++	+	++	+	+	++	++	++	+	+	++	+				+
Policy E2	X	++	++	++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				++
Policy E3	+	++	++	+	+	X	X	X	++	+	X	?				++
Policy E4	++	++	++	+	+	X	+	+	+	X	X	+				+

Policy E5	++	+	++	+	X	X	+	++	+	X	++	X					+
Policy E6	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	X	X	X	X	X					X
Policy E7	?	?	?	X	X	+	+	?	X	X	X	X					X
Policy E8	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	X	X	+	+					+
Policy E9	++	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+					+
Policy E10	X	+	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	X					X
Policy E11	+	++	++	++	X	X	X	+	X	X	+	?					+
Policy E12	++	+	+	?	+	+	+	?	X	X	X	?					?
Policy E13	+	+	+	+	X	?	?	+	+	X	+	?					+
Policy E14	+	+	+	?	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X					X
Policy E15	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	0	+	?					+
Policy E16	+	?	+	X	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X					X
Policy E17	?	+	+	+	0	0	?	?	+	+	+	?					+
Policy E18	?	?	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	X	X					X
Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	X	X	+	?	?	+	+		+
Cumulative effects of whole	Overall the Eardisland Neighbourhood Plan will contribute to meeting the SEA objectives and having a positive impact on the baseline. Policies have been drafted in general conformity with the Core Strategy objectives and contain many																

plan (1 + 2 + 3...)	<i>policy safeguards to ensure that the effects on environmental assets can be avoided or mitigated against. None of the policies are over and above those already assessed for the Core Strategy.</i>
Commentary for significant cumulative effects	<i>The Eardisland Neighbourhood Plan is unlikely to have any significant cumulative effects on the SEA objectives.</i>

Appendix 5

Eardisland Neighbourhood Development Plan

Options considered

Option 1 Do nothing
Option 2 Manage future housing using a settlement boundary
Option 3 Manage future housing through a criteria policy
Option 4 Limit housing numbers on one development site
Option 5 Protect special publically accessible views

Appendix 6

Objectives and context	Where referenced in NDP/SEA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Neighbourhood Development Plan's purpose and objectives are made clear. • The Neighbourhood Area's environmental issues and constraints, including acknowledgement of those in the Local Plan (Core Strategy) SA, where relevant, and local environmental protection objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets. • SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate. • Links with other locally related plans, programmes and policies are identified, explained and acknowledgement for those set out in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant. • Conflicts that exist between SEA and Neighbourhood Development Plan objectives; and between SEA objectives and other local plan objectives are identified and described. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 1 (paras 1.06 – 1.10). • Sections 2 and 3; and Tables A2 and A3 • Section 3 (para 3.7). • Section 3 (para 3.1). • Section 4 (paras 4.1 – 4.4)
Scoping	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory Consultees are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report. • The assessment focuses on significant issues. • Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2 (paras 2.6 – 2.7) & Appendix 3 • Sections 2 and 6 • Sections 2 and 6

Alternatives	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realistic alternatives are considered for key issues, and the reasons for choosing them are documented. Alternatives include 'do minimum' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios wherever relevant. The environmental effects (both adverse and beneficial) of each alternative are identified and compared. Inconsistencies between the alternatives and other relevant local plans, programmes or policies are identified and explained. Reasons are given for selection or elimination of alternatives. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 5. Section 5 (paras 5.2 – 5.6). Section 5 & Appendix 5 N/A Section 5 (paras 5.2 – 5.6).
Baseline information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relevant aspects of the current state of the local, neighbourhood area environment and their likely evolution without the Neighbourhood Development Plan are described. Acknowledgement to the information in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant. Environmental characteristics of the local, neighbourhood area, likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the designated neighbourhood area, where it is likely to be affected by the Neighbourhood Development Plan. Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 1 and 6. Initial screening report and Section 1. Section 2.

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

The Environmental Report	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation. • Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms. • Uses maps and other illustrations, where appropriate. • Explains the methodology used. • Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used. • Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion. • Contains a non-technical summary covering the overall approach to the SEA, the objectives of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, the main options considered, and any changes to the Neighbourhood Development Plan resulting from the SEA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A • N/A • N/A • Section 2 • Section 2 • Section 2 • Included at page 1
Consultation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SEA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. • Consultation Bodies and the public likely to be affected by, or having an interest in, the Neighbourhood Development Plan are consulted in ways and at times, which give them an early and effective opportunity within appropriate time frames to express their opinions on the draft Neighbourhood Development Plan and Environmental Report. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2 (paras 2.4 – 2.5). • Section 8.

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