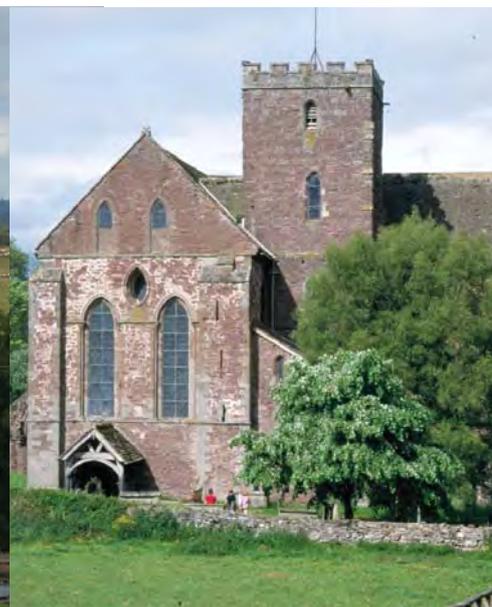


Environmental Report



Wellington Neighbourhood Area

September 2015

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Appendix 1: Initial SEA Screening Report

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Non-technical summary

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

Wellington Parish Council has undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. Wellington is a relatively small parish that stretches from the village centre to the top of Dinmore Hill to the north, including part of Queenswood Country Park, and Wellington Marsh in the south, as well as the hamlets of Burghope and Auberrow. It is located midway between the city of Hereford and the market town of Leominster and is bypassed by the A49 trunk road to the east.

The Wellington NDP includes 5 objectives, which are designed to deliver the overarching vision on the ground, and it is intended that these objectives will be supported by 13 criteria based planning policies and associated site allocations. A range of alternative options were considered prior to reaching a decision over the format of the Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The environmental appraisal of the Wellington 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 of an update to the Environmental Report following the Regulation 14 consultation.

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening has been carried out as the parish falls within the catchment for the River Wye (including the River Lugg) which is a European site (Special Area of Conservation). The HRA assesses the potential effects of the NDP on this protected site.

On the whole, it is considered that the Wellington 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.

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 the neighbourhood plan that was subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Monitoring will be recorded by Herefordshire Council in order to monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of Wellington's NDP that was subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment. This is to identify unforeseen adverse effects at an early stage and to enable appropriate remedial actions. Results from this will be reported in Herefordshire Council's Annual Monitoring Report.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Wellington Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 The Wellington NDP provides general policies for guiding future development across the parish as a whole. Some of these are supported by proposed site allocations, as the village of Wellington is targeted for proportional levels of growth in Policy RA1 of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).

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 Wellington 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.

Wellington Parish Neighbourhood Plan Context

- 1.6 Wellington is a relatively small parish that stretches from the village centre to the top of Dinmore Hill to the north, including part of Queenswood Country Park, and Wellington Marsh in the south, as well as the hamlets of Burghope and Auberrow. It is located midway between the city of Hereford and the market town of Leominster and is bypassed by the A49 trunk road to the east.
- 1.7 The surrounding land use is predominantly agricultural, though there are employment sites and service provision is generally good, with the village boasting village hall, recreation ground, public house and primary school.
- 1.8 The neighbourhood area boasts numerous built heritage assets, but although there are no European sites within the parish; the eastern boundary is marked by the River Lugg into which the Wellington Brook flows.
- 1.9 The vision for Wellington in 2031 is as follows:
- “To promote the sustainable development of Wellington Parish in order to maintain a safe and thriving environment with a vibrant community spirit”.*
- 1.10 The 5 NDP objectives which underpin this vision are:
1. To promote a level of housing growth that is flexible enough to cope with unseen demands in the future, yet is in proportion with the size and rural character of the village.
 2. To create new homes in a range of tenures, types and sizes, to promote an all-inclusive community.
 3. To preserve the character of the Wellington Conservation Area and the Wellington Parish.
 4. To promote sustainable development for future generations; protect and support key social and environmental assets and take account of constraints

5. To build on existing foundations for further development of Wellington Parish as an active, accessible and inclusive community with convenient means of movement for all.

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 Wellington 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 Tables 4.20 and 4.21 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) lists Wellington among the settlements that it considers to be sustainable locations for proportional growth in line with the provisions of Policy RA1 which, in turn, seeks to deliver 5,300 homes across the areas outside Hereford and the Market Towns. NDPs will be the principle mechanism for delivering growth envisaged by Policy RA1.
- 1.14 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the Wellington 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

- 1.15 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 Wellington 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 consisted of several stages A, B, C and D. Stage A which is the scoping report this consisted of 4 tables A1, A2, A3, A4.
- A1 Identifies and reviews relevant plan policies and programs in relation to SEA objectives.
 - A2 looks at the baseline information against the SEA objectives, this included countywide data as well as local data.
 - A3 focuses on the environmental issues identified from the baseline, analysing each SEA topic in relation to environmental issue and identifies how this is related to the SA objective.
 - A4 tests the SEA topics vs objectives in line with indicators and targets.
- 2.2 Stage B addresses the significant impacts of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, from templates B1, B2, B3 and B4.
- B1 assessment identified that Leominster analysed if objectives met with the SEA objectives.
 - B2 assesses the Draft NDP policies against the SEA objectives and identifies whether they are moving towards or away from the SEA objectives and the baseline.
 - B3 tests SEA objectives against the NDP policy but looks at the short, medium and long term effect that each NDP policy may have.
 - B4 Evaluates the NDP objective and policies against SEA and evaluates the overall cumulative effect.
- 2.3 Stage C, the Environmental Report. In accordance with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations an Environmental Report is prepared to accompany your draft Neighbourhood Plan.
- 2.4 Stage D, consultation on the Environmental Report alongside the Draft Neighbourhood Plan. This will include consultation to Statutory Stakeholders such as Natural England, English Heritage, Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales. Following the formal consultation some changes may need to be made to both the Draft Neighbourhood Plan and the Environmental Report.

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 Wellington SEA Scoping Report was available to four¹ statutory bodies for consultation from 14 July to 18 August 2014.

Consultation outcomes from Statutory Consultees

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

Natural England: Suggested that additional documents reviewed as part of SEA Task A1. Also recommend that additional baseline data be sourced in respect of agricultural land. The response is clear that a full HRA screen should be carried out due to proximity of the River Wye Special Area of Conservation.

English Heritage: No substantive objections; advised that the comments are substantively the same as those made in respect of scoping reports that were consulted on previously.

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

Environment Agency: No comments received

Natural Resources Wales: No comments received

Draft Environmental Report Consultation

- 2.10 The Draft SEA was consulted on for a 6 week period from 29 June to 9 August 2015. The three statutory bodies listed above were consulted and comments received from Environment Agency can be found in Appendix 3a.
- 2.11 The document was available on Herefordshire Council's website for comment during the period highlighted above, but representations were sent to the Parish Council. However, none of the representations were directed at content or structure of the Draft Environmental Report.
- 2.12 None of the respondents to the consultation disputed or requested an amendment to the SEA of the Wellington NDP.

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 Wellington 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 Wellington 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 2009-2014 (2009)* - Identifies the issues and challenges facing the special features of the area and contains 24 guiding principles and 46 strategic objectives which will help address them.
- *Wye Valley AONB management Plan 2009-2014 (2009)* - The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision for the area and the priorities for its management.
- *Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016* - Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to support business growth up to 2016.

- *Herefordshire Employment Land Study (2012)* - Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.
- *Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (2009)* - The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:
 - Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development
 - Assessing sites for their housing potential; and
 - Predicting when a site could be developed for housing.
- *Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) (2013)* - Builds on an earlier Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) developed for Herefordshire and Shropshire. Its purpose is to inform the Local Plan's policies regarding housing need and demand (for market and affordable housing) within each of the 7 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031.
- *Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study (2012)* - Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.
- *Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report (2013)* - Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy
- *Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment (2013)* - Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2007)* - Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.
- *Building Biodiversity into the LDF (2009)* - Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010)* - Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.
- *Renewable Energy Study (2010)* - Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.
- *Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment (2012)* - Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.
- *Open Spaces Study (2006)* - The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a 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)* - 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 Wellington 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 largest environmental issue within the parish, and which has an impact on the County as a whole, is water quality; the River Wye, though currently meeting all its conservation objectives, 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 proposes that three sites be allocated for development and contains supporting policies, as well as a range of criteria-based policies. However, the delivery of the NDP should not exacerbate existing problems regarding water quality or have an unacceptable adverse impact, a position which is reinforced by the conclusions set within the Habitat Regulations Assessment Report.

4.0 Assessing the NDP Objectives

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

1. To promote a level of housing growth that is flexible enough to cope with unseen demands in the future, yet is in proportion with the size and rural character of the village.
2. To create new homes in a range of tenures, types and sizes, to promote an all-inclusive community.
3. To preserve the character of the Wellington Conservation Area and the Wellington Parish.
4. To promote sustainable development for future generations; protect and support key social and environmental assets and take account of constraints
5. To build on existing foundations for further development of Wellington Parish as an active, accessible and inclusive community with convenient means of movement for all.

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 and there were no conflicts.

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

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

Objective 5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	x	+
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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;

- Allocate sites for housing
- Manage future housing using a settlement boundary
- Allocate sites and identify a settlement boundary.
- Manage future housing through a development management policy.

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 a settlement boundary and allocating sites was chosen. Criteria based policies have been included, too, though these do not give the same level of certainty as the other options, as they are 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.

NDP Policies	Baseline Data/SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Option 1	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x
Option 2	++	++		++	++	+	++	++	++	+	++	+				++
Option 3	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Option 4	++	++		++	++	+	++	++	++	+	++	+				++
Option 5	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+

6.0 Appraisal of the policies

6.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Wellington 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 W1: Scale of new housing development
- Policy W2: Phasing of new housing development
- Policy W3: Ensuring an appropriate range of tenures, types and size of houses
- Policy W4: Protecting heritage assets
- Policy W5: General design principles
- Policy W6: Protecting landscape character
- Policy W7: Protection of local green spaces
- Policy W8: Protection of local community facilities

- Policy W9: New community facilities
- Policy W10: New communications technologies
- Policy W11: Design for flood resistance and resilience – *Policy removed following Regulation 14 consultation*
- Policy W12: Design to reduce surface water run off
- Policy W13: Connectivity

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
- 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 can be largely attributed to the fact that many are criteria based policies which only consider schemes on their own merits, as and when planning applications are submitted to the local planning authority and all contain sufficient safeguarding criteria.
- 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. Although some policies may have a neutral or uncertain impact during the first 5 years of the plan period, there is no reason why they cannot have a positive effect in the medium to long-term due to policy safeguards included in the Local Plan (Core Strategy); these safeguards should avoid or mitigate against unacceptable adverse impacts.
- 6.7 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 Wellington 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.

NDP Policies	Baseline Data/SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Policy W1	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy W2	o	o		o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o				o
Policy W3	+	+		+	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x
Policy W4	+	+		++	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				+
Policy W5	x	++		++	+	++	++	+	x	x	+	x				+
Policy W6	++	++		++	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	+				+
Policy W7	++	++		++	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	++				++
Policy W8	x	++		++	+	++	++	x	x	x	x	+				++
Policy W9	+	+		+	?	?	?	x	x	x	x	x				x

Policy W10	?	?		?	+	+	++	++	x	x	x	x				x
Policy W11	+	x		+	x	x	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy W12	+	x		+	x	x	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy W13	+	+		+	+	x	+	+	+	x	+	+				+

Summary of recommendations for the Neighbourhood Development Plan

6.9 The Wellington plan objectives and policies comply with the local plan and the NPPF, they do not go over and above the Herefordshire Council Local Plan Core Strategy policies in terms of scale and therefore do not need any further recommendations or changes in order to ensure no significant effect on protected sites.

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. 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.

7.2 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). 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 alongside the final NDP plan will be formally submitted to Herefordshire Council and will be subject to a 6 week consultation as part of Regulation 16. Following this Consultation the Plan will be submitted for examination.

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:	Wellington Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Wellington Parish Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	21/02/2014

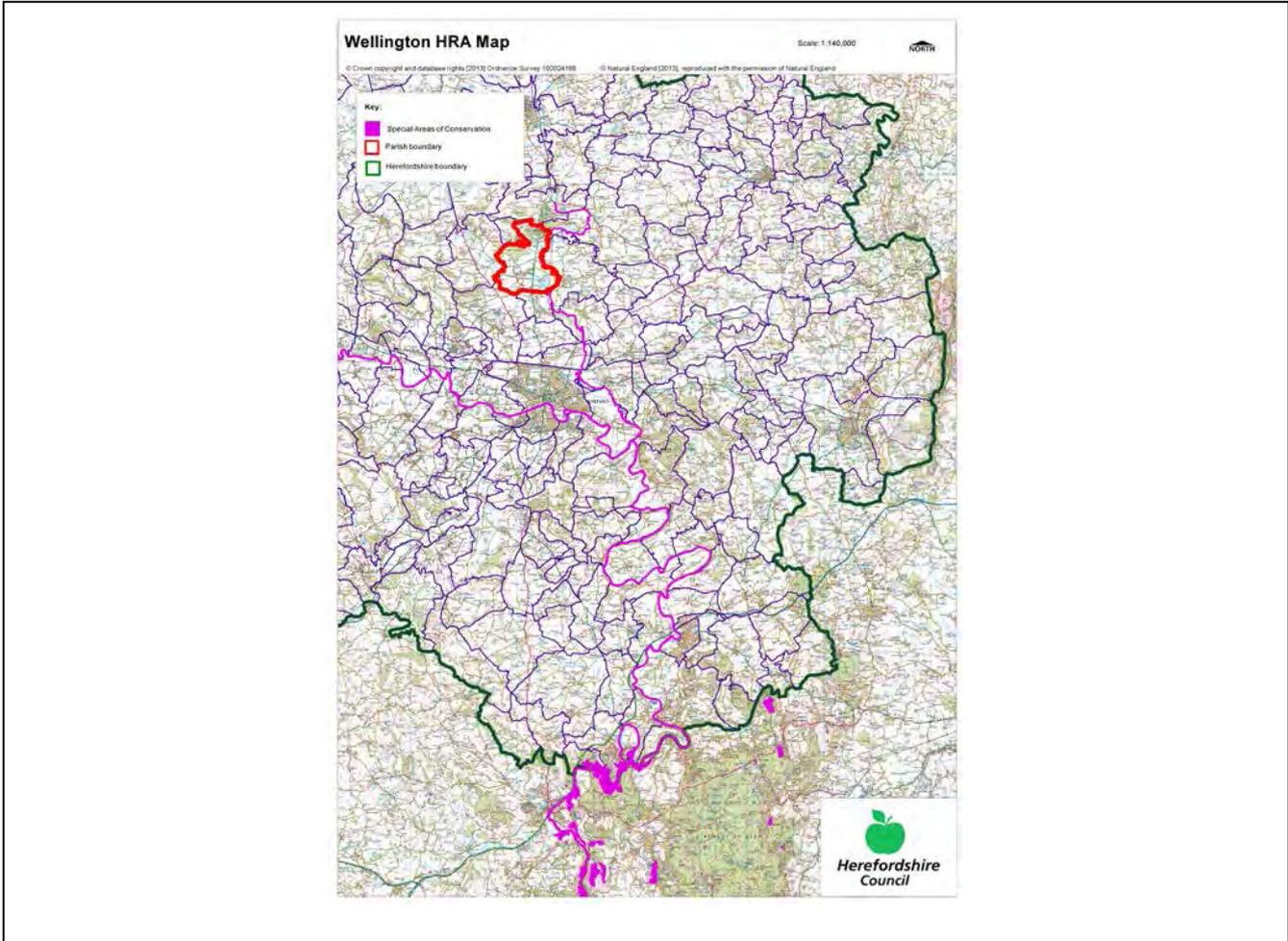
Introduction

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?	Y	The River Lugg SAC border the Parish in the east
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 Lugg.
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	Y	There is mains drainage in Wellington/Moreton on Lugg.

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 22.3km away from the Parish.
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River Clun SAC:

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

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 41.7km 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 30km 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 31.5km 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 Wellington 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 Wellington 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	11	Wellington Wood; Dinmore Hill Wood; Old Nash Coppice; Plock Wood (border); Friars Grove (border); The Rookery (border); Burling Coppice (border); Badnage Wood (border); Long Coppice (border); Adzor Bank; Kipperknoll Grove	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	2	Wellington; Bodenham (border)	Y
European Sites (SAC)	1	River Lugg	Y
Flood Areas/Zones		Flood Zones follow the River Lugg and Wellington Brook	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous Listed Buildings within the Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCS/RIGS)	13 (SWS)	Wellington Wood and adjoining woodland; Land at Oxpasture; Land adjacent to Plock Wood; Woodland near Hope under Dinmore (border); Gravel pits at Bodenham (border); Field near Bury of Hope (border); Land adjacent to Church Hill Coppice (border); River Lugg; Wellington Marsh; Pond near Tillington Court (border); Red Castle Marsh Wood (border); Woodlands and golf course around Nupton Hill (border); Pyon Hill (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails (e.g. Herefordshire Trail)	0	There are no long distance footpaths/trails in the Parish	N
Mineral Reserves	9	Area around Wellington constrained by 200m zone and area to north of Wellington outside 200m zone; Area 1 Moreton on Lugg and Wellington; Auberrow to Wellington; North west of Upper Wellington, Trentham; Upper Paradise Farm to Marden Court, Marden; Portway (border); Canon Pyon and west to Butthouse (border); South of Moreton on Lugg (border); West and south of Portway, east of Burghill down Canon Pyon Road (border)	Y
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	0	There are no NNRs within the Parish	N

Registered & Unregistered Parks and Gardens	11 Unregistered	Dinmore Manor; The Vern (border); Bodenham Manor (border); The Hermitage (border); Tillington Court (border); The Great House, Canon Pyon (border); Canon Pyon House (border); Hampton Court (border); Broadfield Court (border); Venn Wood (border); Sutton Court (border)	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM)	3	Churchyard cross in St Margarets of Antioch's churchyard; Sutton Walls (camp) (border); Freens Court magnates residence, moat and fishponds, Sutton St Michael (border)	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	4	River Lugg (Unfavourable Recovering); Dinmore Hill Woods (Favourable (part) Unfavourable Recovering (part)); Wellington Wood (Unfavourable No Change); The Bury Farm (Favourable (border)	Y

Decision Notification:

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

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

Assessment date: 13/01/2014

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.

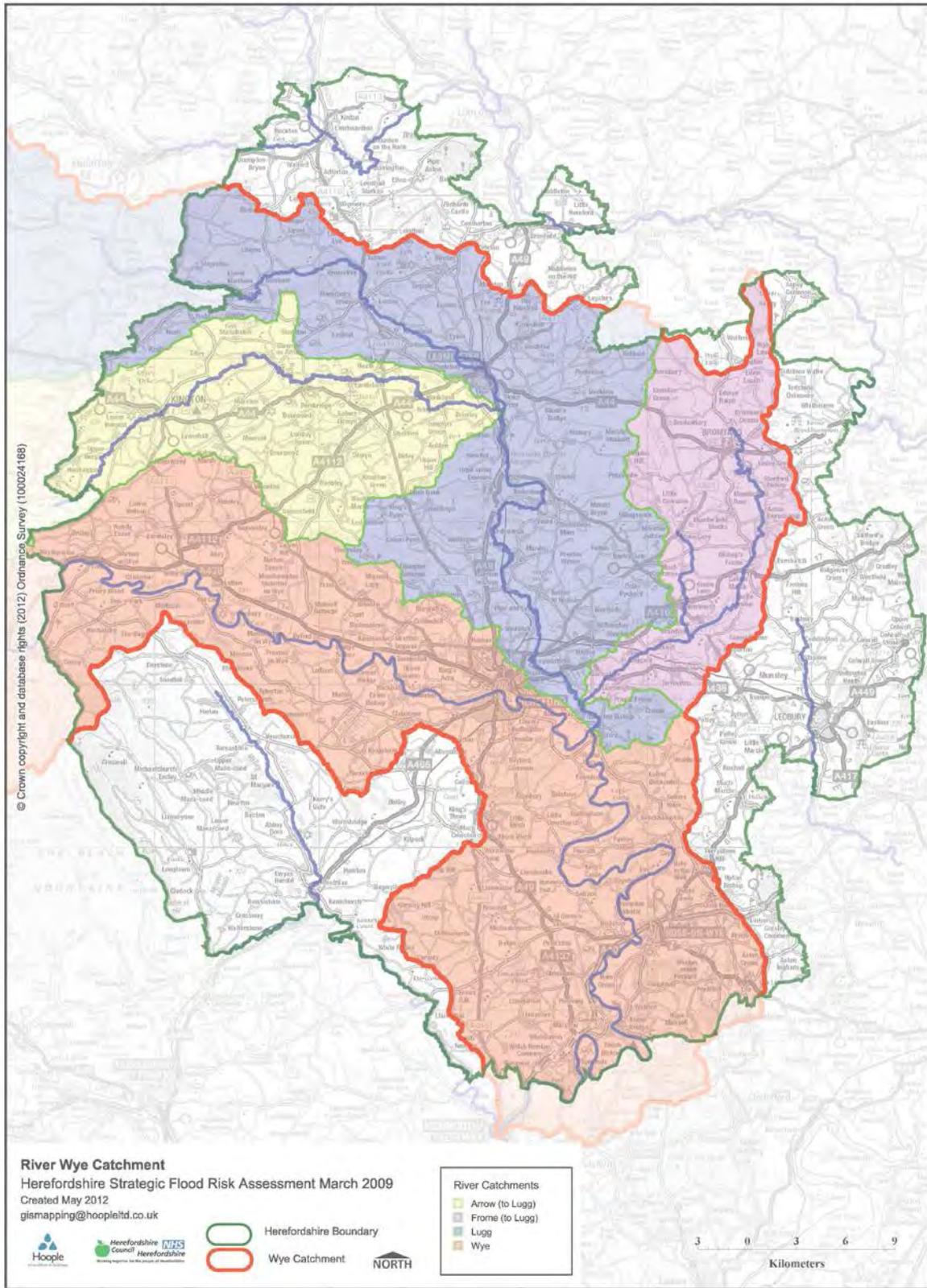
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation.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

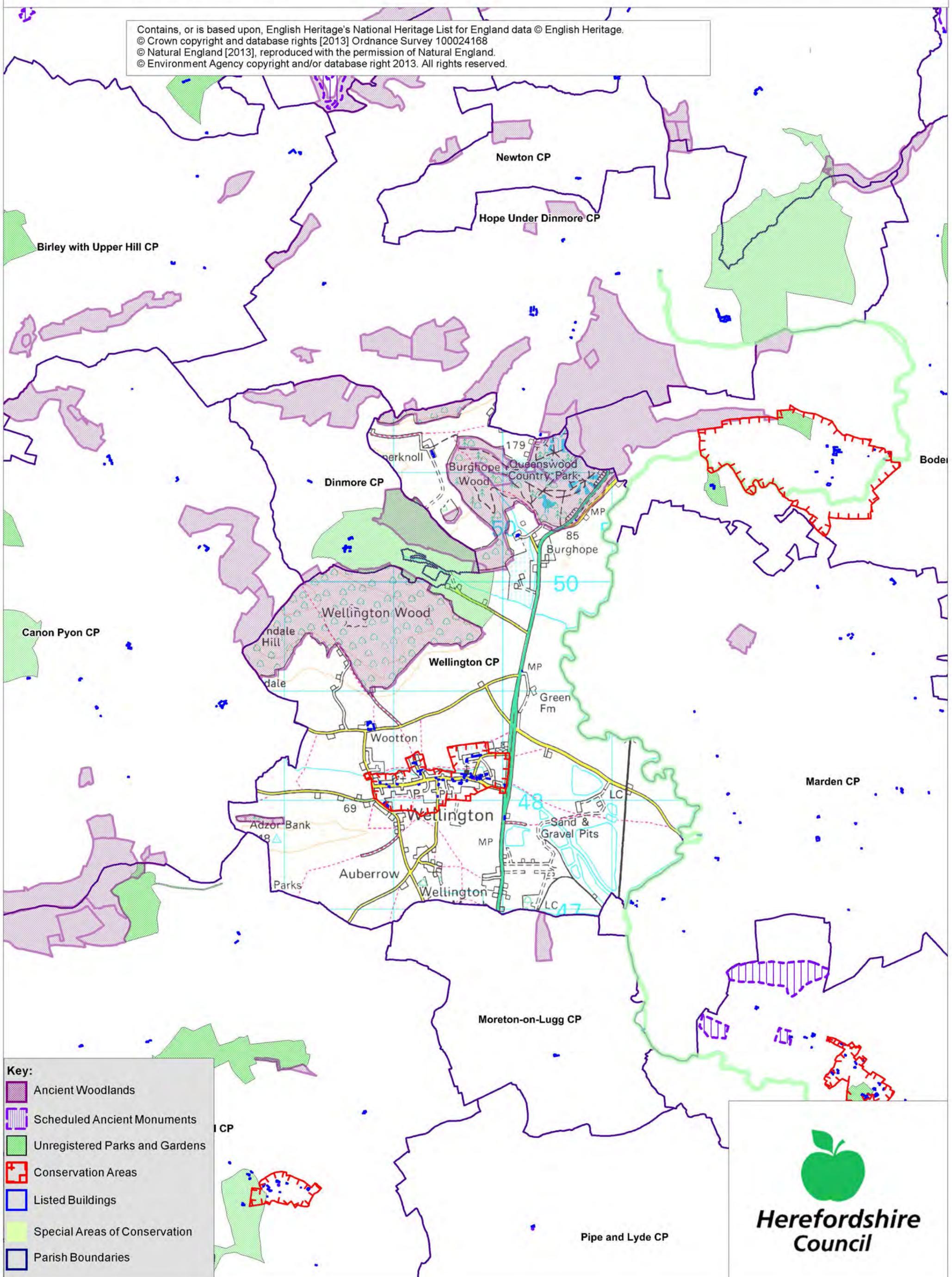


Wellington SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:30,500



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Key:

- Ancient Woodlands
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Unregistered Parks and Gardens
- Conservation Areas
- Listed Buildings
- Special Areas of Conservation
- Parish Boundaries

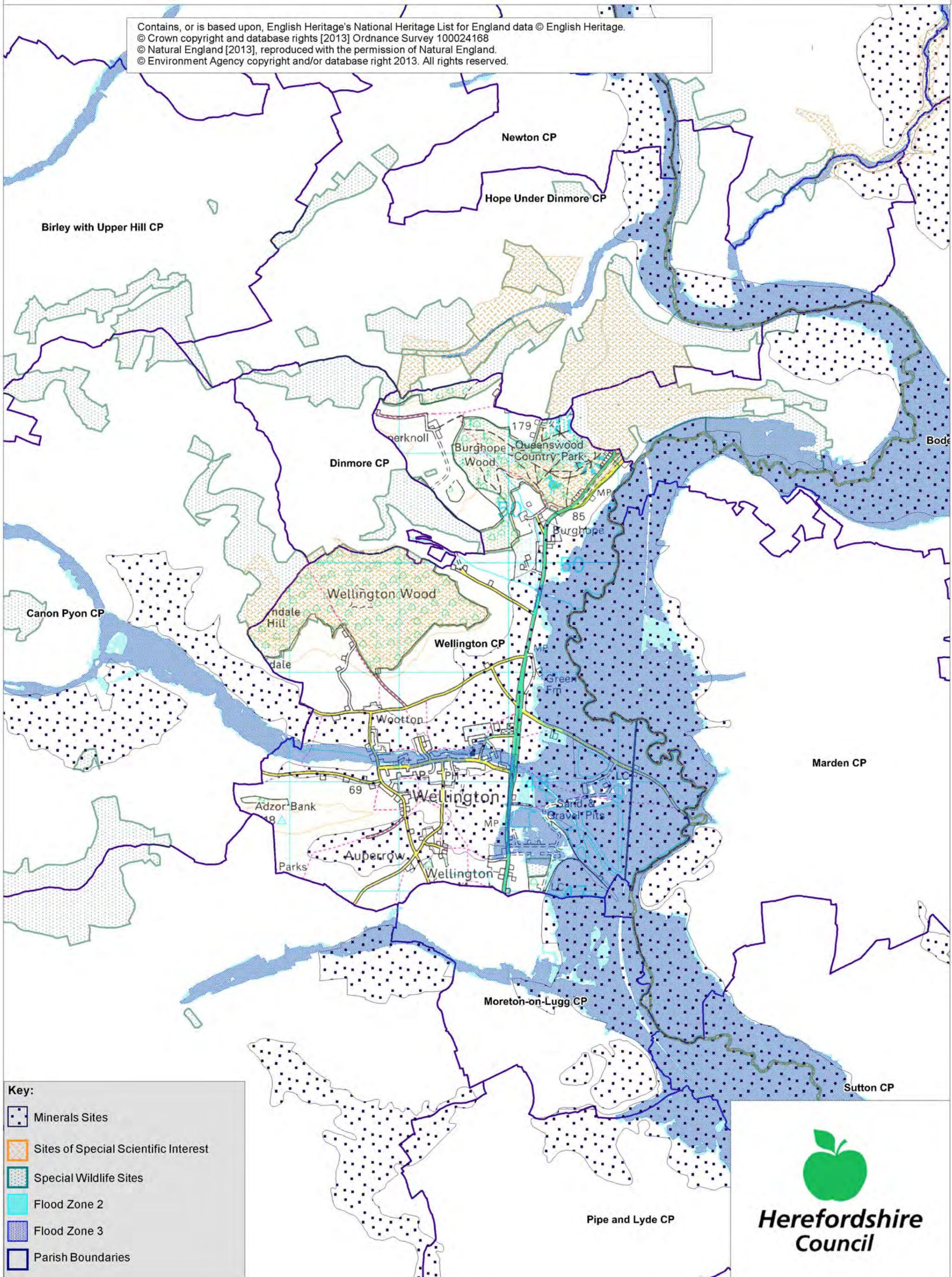
Herefordshire Council

Wellington SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:30,000



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Key:

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

Herefordshire Council

Appendix 2

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

Parish Council Name: Wellington

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Wellington Neighbourhood Plan

Date completed: May 2014

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy	European Union Strategy	2009	Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will more effectively meet its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.	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 	<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.

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
				<p>of natural resources;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social inclusion, demography and migration; • Fighting global poverty. 		
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 Water Framework Directive	European Union	2000	Commits all EU member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water	Aims for 'good status' for all ground and surface waters (rivers, lakes, transitional waters, and coastal waters) in the EU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water 	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.

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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
			courses by 2015			
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.
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	Domestic	2006	Designed to help	Provides that any public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity 	The Neighbourhood

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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
Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)	Legislation		achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering Government policy.	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"> • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Soil 	Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services	National Strategy	2011	Forms part of the UK's Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework by setting out England's contribution towards the UK's commitments under the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity.	Sets out to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity 	The NDP should take account of the provisions of the strategy, making the most of opportunities to enhance wildlife habitats or restore degraded ecosystems in the process.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	National planning policy.	2012	Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna 	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
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 development across the county up to 2031.	<p>Outlines the emerging suite of countywide planning policies relating to housing, economic development and the environment, which the NDP will need to be in conformity with where relevant.</p> <p>The Core Strategy includes a range of objectives, five of which directly relate to rural areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet the housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	<p>The NDP should take account of relevant policies set within in the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Where necessary, the NDP should provide services, facilities and employment opportunities that are accessible to both local and neighbouring communities.</p> <p>Approx 47 dwellings will need to be delivered</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
				<p>needs of all sections of the community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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> <p>Seeks proportional growth of up to 18% in Wellington (Hereford HMA) over the plan period.</p>		<p>within the village of Wellington unless there is robust and sound evidence to demonstrate the existence of unavoidable constraints on site delivery.</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 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 Wellington neighbourhood area, but any new development proposed through the NDP should seek to reduce the environmental impacts of transport.
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 Wellington neighbourhood Area is not within or adjacent to the Malvern Hills 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
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 Wellington neighbourhood Area is not within or adjacent to the Wye Valley AONB.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) 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 Wellington at present and so the study does not identify sites which are worthy of continued protection from alternative uses. Nor does it make any recommendations in respect of employment need within the neighbourhood area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Material assets • Population and human health 	None of merit; however the NDP process may have to explore whether there is any employment need locally and if so whether there is any scope for providing employment land and premises.

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 Wellington, the previous SHLAA identifies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 367 additional dwellings could be provided on 6 sites in and around the existing settlement, however it is unlikely that this number would materialise due to significant constraints. Of the 367 dwellings, 31 could be provided in 1-10 years, and 336 in 16-20 years but would need major mitigation work to come forward. There were a few sites identified that were not considered as part of the SHLAA however could be included as part of a local site assessment. 	<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 Wellington.</p> <p>The Wellington NDP should be informed by the findings of the SHLAA.</p> <p>A local site assessment exercise should be undertaken for Wellington to provide an update to the SHLAA.</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>Wellington falls within the Hereford HMA. Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 58% of households are unable to afford market housing. • There is an annual requirement for 417 affordable dwellings between 2012 and 2017. <p>The study identifies that, in rural parts of the HMA, there is a need for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1215 market houses • 654 affordable houses. <p>The study highlights that within the Hereford HMA the overall estimated housing need by size 2012-2017 is as follows: 1 Bed - 57.3%, 2 bed - 18.6%, 3 bed – 18.5%, 4 bed – 5.7%</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 Hereford HMA.</p> <p>It provides evidence that could be used to inform policies or market and affordable housing requirements in the NDP.</p>
Herefordshire	Evidence	2012	Technical	The delivery of 5,300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air 	This study provides an

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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
Local Housing Requirements Study			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>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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	<p>indication of housing requirements in the rural areas and the Hereford HMA.</p> <p>This evidence can be used to inform the content of the Wellington 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
				homes, with more 1 and 2 bed homes required in the affordable sector.		
Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report	Evidence	2013	Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy	The village of Wellington are listed as RA1 settlements, which means they are considered a sustainable location for proportional growth of up to 18%.	<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 Wellington NDP will need to be in conformity with the provisions of Policy RA2.

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

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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 Wellington 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 Wellington 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 Wellington parish itself, the study reveals that there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 small artificial turf pitch, Cricket ground, Junior football pitch, Wellington Football ground • Totalling 8.9ha • Excellent changing facilities at football ground • There are tennis facilities and also a bowling green in the parish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • 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 Wellington NDP.

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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>The study reveals that within the Central Herefordshire Area, to which Wormsley Ridge Ward is a part, there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive over provision of parks and gardens and natural and semi natural greenspace • Under provision of amenity greenspace • Extensive under provision outdoor sport • Average provision for children and young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	The open space audit and assessment of does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in Wellington Parish.

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.	In terms of Wellington the study does not provide details of any Play facilities within the Village.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health 	Local evidence as well as information within this study could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Wellington NDP, particularly for promoting new facilities if evidence requires the facilities.

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>Wellington Brook which runs through the middle of Wellington Parish is classified as Category 4 with the least flood hazard potential.</p> <p>Wellington parish is served by the Moreton-on-Lugg sewerage treatment works.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Material assets • Population and human health • Water 	<p>New development proposed through the Wellington NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure.</p> <p>Significant channel improvement works could be implemented to improve watercourse capacity, any new development adjacent to the water channels will need to take this into account.</p> <p>Improvements to the watercourse as opposed to attenuation as part of optimised drainage strategy.</p>

Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Wellington

N.B. This is based on countywide baseline information with some additions relevant to Wellington (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.	<p>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition.</p> <p>SSSI status 12/08/14 -</p> <p>River Lugg (Unfavourable Recovering);</p> <p>Dinmore Hill Woods (Favourable (part) Unfavourable Recovering (part));</p> <p>Wellington Wood (Unfavourable No Change);</p> <p>The Bury</p>	<p>2006: 22%</p> <p>2007: 22%</p> <p>2008: 22%</p> <p>2010: 24 %</p> <p>Proportion of SSSI land that was in unfavourable condition but recovering increased between 2010 and 2012 going from 41% to 65%.</p> <p>Proportion in unfavourable and declining condition had also decreased from 4% to 1%.</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>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.</p> <p>The proportion of SSSI in unfavourable condition but recovering is greater than England as a whole, where the figure currently stands at 58.6%.</p>	<p>Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).</p> <p>Natural England website (SSSI information) August 2014</p>

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
			Farm (Favourable) (border)				
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.	Countywide data is available. The River Lugg section of the SAC is currently exceeding the phosphate targets, and is therefore failing its conservation objectives.	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.	Successful completion of the Nutrient Management Plan will provide future targets	New development within the area could lead to the water quality failing the phosphate levels and conservation objectives.	Nutrient Management Plan 2014

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> <p>Herefordshire Council AMR (2011-2013)</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.	Wellington has: SSSI: 3 SWS: 8 The River Lugg SAC borders the Parish to the east. There are no NNRs, SINC's and LNRs within the parish.	As of 2012, there had been no change in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of the planning permissions granted.	To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	Herefordshire Council Initial Screening Report for the Neighbourhood Plan 2013
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: Sandstone estate; wet pasture meadows; principal settled 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.	<p>Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.</p> <p>Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there is one scheduled monument within Wellington Parish according to the latest version of the register.</p>	-	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 June 2014).

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	Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	Historic Landscape Character assessments have only been undertaken for Hereford City. Rapid townscape Assessments (2010) were only undertaken for Hereford, Ledbury and Ross.	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Historic Landscape Character Assessment for Hereford. Rapid townscape Assessments (2010)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Population, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</i>							
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design standards.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning 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 Wellington.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the conservation area.	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 June 2014)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Climatic Factors</i>							

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.	Transport patronage by mode	<p>% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by:</p> <p>Car: 70.1% Foot: 14.7% Bicycle: 4.3% Bus: 2% Train: 0.8% Motorbike: 0.8% Taxi: 0.3% Other: 7%</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present</i></p>	The number of people cycling or travelling by bus as the main form transport to get to work declined between 2001 and 2011 – across England and Wales there was little change in either. Walking or driving a car or van on the other hand increased.	To encourage the take up of lesser polluting modes of transport	There are a lack of transport options for many rural communities and therefore high car ownership and dependency – the last decade has seen a 15 per cent increase in household car ownership, although this is not reflected in traffic flows of recent years with volumes in Hereford City and wider county having decreased. The proportion of people working from home increased over the decade from 15 per cent in 2001 to 17 per cent in 2011.	2011 Census

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

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	<p>Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO₂)</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i></p>	<p>Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This 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%).</p>	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.	Across Wellington Parish there is a mixture of Agricultural land classification from Grade 1 and 2 in the village and grade 3 more out in the countryside surrounding the parish.	-	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.	-

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)
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.	-

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	Level of development in urban areas compared to rural.	<p><i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i></p> <p>This indicator would not be applicable to rural NDPs.</p>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Cultural heritage</i>							
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage	Built environment	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	<p>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.</p> <p>There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and one SAM. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.</p>	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 Wellington's listed buildings or SAM are considered to be at risk at present.	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; search June 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 the aspects of local loss of 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 Wellington Parish at present.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the conservation area.	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 June 2014)

Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the Wellington 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	Wellington has one Scheduled Ancient Monument 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: Wellington

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Wellington Neighbourhood Plan

Date completed: May 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 gardens and their 	<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.</p> <p>No net losses</p>

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			<p>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 places to live 	<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
			<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 area. 	<p>The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.</p> <p>Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).</p> <p>Ensure that Herefordshire Council's Sites and Monuments Register is kept up to date.</p>	<p>To improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p> <p>To improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p> <p>No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.</p>

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

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: 08 August 2014
Our ref: 127588
Your ref: None



James Latham
Technical Support Officer
Neighbourhood Planning, Strategic Planning & Conservation teams
Herefordshire Council

Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
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CW1 6GJ

BY EMAIL ONLY

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BY EMAIL ONLY

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Mr Latham

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

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 14 July 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.

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

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

- The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010
- The EC Water Framework Directive 2000
- The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
- The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
- The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006
- Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan



Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Bartestree and Lugwardine Group

Biodiversity, flora and fauna

Against the proposed indicator “*Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire*”, under “*current status*” the table states that there is no data available. Natural England is able to provide up to date information on the condition of SSSI’s. Please contact us for this information as and when required.

Under the proposed indicator “*Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan*”, no baseline information source has been identified. Maps of priority habitats and species are available on *Magic*, Defra’s GIS package for environmental assets (www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk).

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 and Landscape Characterisation studies including Historic Landscape Characterisation if this has been carried out.

Water, air, soil and material assets

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

The proposed indicator “*Agricultural land usage by quality*” has no countywide data identified. Agricultural land classification maps are available via *Magic* (website above). We suggest as an indicator that the Local Planning Authority could monitor and report on the number of hectares of best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 3a and higher) lost to development.

Soil

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

Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from Bartestree and Lugwardine Group baseline

We note that landscape, soil and geodiversity are not covered. These issues should be added to the SEA baseline information, so that significant impacts on these aspects of the environment can be given appropriate consideration.

Under the SEA topic “Biodiversity”, we suggest that development should be noted as an additional pressure.

Template A4: SEA Framework

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.

Under the SEA topic "*Landscape*" we suggest that reference could be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Characterisation studies including Historic Landscape Characterisation if this has been carried out. Applications resulting in the loss of open space could be monitored.

Under the SEA topic "*water*", the indicator "*Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality*" should also refer to ecological quality. Reference could be made to the Water Framework Directive.

Under the SEA topic "*Soil*", the second objective listed looks to be incomplete. Additional indicators or targets could be included around hectares of the best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development.

Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

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).

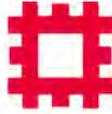
We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

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

Neighbourhood Planning Team
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Planning Services
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Blueschool House
Blueschool Street
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HR1 2ZB.

Our ref:
Your ref:

Telephone 0121 625 6887
Fax 0121 625 6820

15 August 2014

Dear Sir or Madam

CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS IN:

(Bartestree & Lugwardine; Breinton; Brimfield little Hereford; Callow & Haywood; Dorstone; Eardisley; Lyonshall; Peterchurch; Staunton on Wye; Stretton Sugwas; Sutton St. Nicholas; Wellington; Whitbourne; Withington).

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 but have the following comments and recommendations which we urge you to consider before finalizing the reports.

Firstly, as regards terminology there appears to be very little reference made to “heritage assets” generally which leaves a perhaps undue emphasis upon designated assets such as conservation areas, listed buildings and SAMs. This is at variance with the Government’s objective, expressed as a core planning principle in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to “conserve heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations”. No distinction is made here between designated and undesignated assets. The accompanying Planning Practice Guidance also states (inter alia) that local planning authorities should identify specific opportunities within their area for the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets and equally this applies to all such assets.

We strongly encourage you, therefore, to weave the term “heritage assets” into the SEA templates wherever reference is made to the cultural heritage. It is difficult to be more specific as there is a degree of variation in the template content across the range of

Neighbourhood Plans covered, presumably due to differing authorships. Nevertheless in English Heritage's view some templates are more successful at reflecting historic environment concerns than others. In this regard we would particularly endorse the approach taken in relation to Dorstone, Breinton, Stretton Sugwas, Peterchurch, Brimfield and Whitbourne and suggest similar wording is applied to the other NP templates. That said, however, we would also suggest slight rewording and additions to those preferred templates.

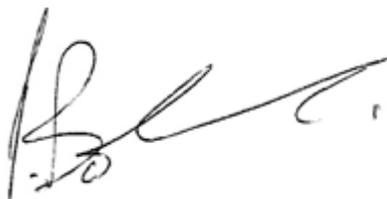
Taking the Dorstone "Task 4" template (page 3 of 7) and the Cultural heritage SA Objective as an example, we would suggest "Value protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's *heritage assets*, historic environment and cultural heritage". Similarly under Sub-objectives consider "Preserve, protect and enhance *heritage assets*, including Conservation Areas....." Under Indicators please consider ".....aspects of local loss of *heritage assets and* locally important buildings across the Parish *and particularly* within a conservation area. Under Targets we would suggest "To *wherever possible improve upon or otherwise* maintain current status...". This reflects (inter alia) the repeated statement for each Parish under Environmental Issues that many listed buildings are in need of high levels of maintenance and there may eg be the potential for grant schemes. In the same vein, where applicable (eg Lyonshall) it should we believe be a target to "*Promote opportunities to achieve the removal of heritage assets from the At Risk Register*".

A further Indicator and Target that features in some templates (eg Staunton on Wye, Brimfield and Withington and we suggest should apply to all is "*Maintaining Herefordshire Council's Sites and Monuments Register*" with a target of "*Ensure that the Herefordshire Council Sites and Monuments Register is kept up to date*". It should in fact be possible to use the Register as an effective monitoring tool in relation to the changing status of heritage assets and the effectiveness of planning tools in achieving their conservation and enhancement. We would strongly suggest that you hold detailed discussions in this respect with your own Council historic environment specialists in order to achieve an effective indicator for the wider historic environment beyond designated heritage assets.

A final minor comment is that there are apparently stray references to "Huntingdon and Broomy Hill" that appear in the templates for Breinton and Stretton Sugwas and presumably these need editing out.

I hope you find this advice helpful.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Boland', with a date '20' written below the signature.

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

Appendix 3a

Herefordshire Council
Forward Planning
PO Box 4
Hereford
Herefordshire
HR4 0XH

Our ref: SV/2010/103979

Your ref:

Date: 06 August 2015

F.A.O: Mr. J Latham

Dear Sir

WELLINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REGULATION 14 CONSULTATION

I refer to your email of the 2 July 2015 in relation to the above Neighbourhood Plan (NP) consultation. We have reviewed the submitted document and would offer the following comments at this time.

As part of the recent Herefordshire Council Core Strategy submission updates were made to both the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Strategy (WCS). This evidence base ensured that the proposed development in Hereford City, and other strategic sites (Market Towns), was viable and achievable. The updated evidence base did not extend to Rural Parishes at the NP level so it is important that these subsequent plans offer robust confirmation that development is not impacted by flooding and that there is sufficient waste water infrastructure in place to accommodate growth for the duration of the plan period.

Policy W11 – Design for Flood Resilience and Resistance: We would raise concerns in relation to the title, scope and wording of this Policy although we welcome consideration of flood risk issues within the NP document. In the first instance all development should be located within Flood Zone 1, the low risk Zone. In line with National and Local planning policy development should adhere to a Sequential Approach and seek to located development in areas of the lowest level of risk.

The Policy, as submitted, does not reference the Sequential Test but instead states that development within the medium and high risk Zones should be flood resilient. This is not robust enough and it suggests that development is acceptable within Flood Zones 2 and 3 subject to appropriate mitigative measures.

In consideration of the above we would recommend re-titling this Policy to represent a more proactive and robust flood management focus with the primary aim of ensuring that development is located in areas of the lowest risk of flooding.

Environment Agency
Hafren House, Welshpool Road, Shelton, Shropshire, Shrewsbury, SY3 8BB.
Customer services line: 03708 506 506
www.gov.uk/environment-agency

Cont/d..

The Wellington Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping Report (October 2014) states that *“Significant channel improvement works could be implemented to improve watercourse capacity, any new development adjacent to the water channels will need to take this into account. Improvements to the watercourse as opposed to attenuation as part of optimised drainage strategy.”* This is a locally specific issue that could be addressed in this Policy. The Wellington Brook is designated ‘Ordinary Watercourse’ and therefore we would suggest discussions with Herefordshire Council and their Land Drainage team (as the Lead Local Authority) to ascertain whether any flood mitigation works can be implemented to reduce flooding from this watercourse.

Wellington Proposals Map: Looking on the Wellington map we note that there are three housing sites proposed within the settlement boundary. All three sites are located within Flood Zone 1, the low risk Zone. However, as stated above, the village is impacted by flooding from the Wellington Brook (designated ‘ordinary watercourse, under the jurisdiction of Herefordshire Council and the Lead Local Flood Authority). Therefore, in line with comments provided above, all development, including windfall sites, should be limited to Flood Zone 1, the low risk Zone.

Waste Water Infrastructure: As stated within the associated Environmental Report ‘New development proposed through the Wellington NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure’.

In this instance we would expect consultation with Welsh Water to ensure that the scale of development can be accommodated over the plan period. As part of the Water Cycle Study (WCS) update/addendum, an assessment of Sewage Treatment Works within the County was undertaken with data collated by both Welsh Water and ourselves. The Plan should make reference to this information to provide re-assurance that there is adequate foul infrastructure to accommodate growth throughout the plan period.

The above may need to be addressed in Policy W2 and development in the parish may need to be phased in consideration of waste water infrastructure.

Water Framework Directive (WFD): The EC Water Framework Directive European Union 2000 Commits all EU member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water courses by 2027 Aims for 'good status' for all ground and surface waters (rivers, lakes, transitional waters, and coastal waters) in the EU.

The Wellington Brook (WFD Ref: GB109055036750) is currently at ‘moderate status’. In line with the above we would expect development in the Wellington Parish to have no detrimental impact on these watercourses and, where possible, aid in it achieving/maintaining ‘good status’ by 2027.

To further assist you in finessing your final submission I have attached a copy of our Neighbourhood Plan Pro-Forma which contains additional information relating to the above issues and what we would expect to see in your document.

I trust the above is of assistance at this time. We would be happy to co-operate further on the areas detailed above prior to the proposed Neighbourhood Plan adoption. Please can you also copy in any future correspondence to my team email address at SHWGPlanning@environment-agency.gov.uk

Yours faithfully

Mr. Graeme Irwin
Senior Planning Advisor
Direct dial: 01743 283579
Direct e-mail: graeme.irwin@environment-agency.gov.uk

Appendix 4

NDP Objectives versus 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
-	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.

The following matrix appraises the emerging Wellington NDP Objectives in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives.

These objectives have been developed from both Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.

SEA Objectives

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 quality of surroundings
4. To conserve or where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural 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

NDP objectives	SEA objectives																Conclusions	Recommendations	SMART Test of NDP objective	After SMART objective
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
Objective 1 To promote a level of housing growth that is flexible enough to cope with unseen demands in the future, yet is in proportion with the size and rural character of the village.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	0	?	?	X	X	?	This objective infers that development should take place in accordance with the Core Strategy policies. Therefore sufficient safeguards exist to ensure mitigation.	None.	This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.	Deliver proportional growth in line with the Core Strategy.
Objective 2 To create new homes in a range of tenures, types and sizes, to promote an all-inclusive community.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	This objective is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives.	None.	This objective meets all the SMART objectives	New homes are built in manageable numbers and density, and are designed to respect and enhance the character of our village.
Objective 3 To preserve the character of the Wellington Conservation Area and the Wellington Parish.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	This objective is compatible with the SEA objectives.	None	This objective meets all the SMART objectives	Deliver appropriately designed and sustainable developments.
Objective 4 To promote sustainable development for future generations; protect and support key social and environmental assets and take account of constraints.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	This objective is compatible with the SEA objectives.	None	This objective meets all the SMART objectives	To promote sustainable development for future generations; protect and support key social and environmental assets and take account of constraints.

Objective 5 To build on existing foundations for further development of Wellington Parish as an active, accessible and inclusive community with convenient means of movement for all.	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+	This objective is compatible with the SEA objectives.	None	This objective meets all the SMART objectives	Deliver appropriately designed and sustainable developments.
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NDP Objectives versus SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)			
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:	
+	Compatible/very 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
-	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.

The following matrix appraises the emerging Wellington NDP Policies in terms of their SMART criteria and their compatibility with the SEA Objectives and Baseline data.

These objectives have been developed from both Government guidance on SEA and from the local evidence base gathered for identifying the NDP issues.

SEA Objectives	Baseline carried over from Stage A
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 quality of surroundings 4. To conserve or where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural 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 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wellington has: 13 SWS; 4 SSSIs. There are no SINCS, NNRs and LNRs. 2. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the conservation area at parish at present. 3. No baseline data available. 4. There are numerous scheduled monuments across the parish according to the latest version of the County Sites and Monuments Register. 5. Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while the UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. 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. Figures on Herefordshire's CO₂ emissions date back to 2010: 1.62 million tonnes (mtCO₂). 8. Reduce the risk of flooding; there have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004. 9. Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive. Latest figure dates back to 2005; 84% 10. The neighbourhood area is situated in the River Lugg catchment. Sub-catchments within this zone are one of the most rapid response flood warning systems in the SFRA area, recording standard percentage run off of 35-40%, which is potentially highly unsuitable for infiltration source control. The area has a very slow flood response (Tp-time to peak) time at around 11 hours. The WCS identifies a significant number of water bodies in the River Lugg catchment which have poor ecological status. 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. In 2011 the majority of land within the neighbourhood area was listed Grades 1 (Excellent) and 2 (Very Good) or its agricultural quality. The number of completions on previously development land (brownfield) during the same year was 67%. 13. No baseline data available 14. No baseline data available. 15. No baseline data available. 16. There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 3 SAMs, none of which are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.

NDP Policies	Baseline Data/SEA Objectives																Summary of impact of NDP policy in relation to baseline data	Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Option 1 Do nothing	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	Do nothing option is essentially not to produce an NDP and would 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 Allocate sites for housing	++	++		++	++	+	++	++	++	+	++	+				++	Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. This option could have a positive effect on the baseline.	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within Wellington, where proportional growth is expected. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 3 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 any proportional growth requirements. 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 (Preferred) Allocate sites and identify a settlement boundary.	++	++		++	++	+	++	++	++	+	++	+				++	Allocation of sites for housing or other uses would give certainty to future development. Specific environmental issues could be investigated during the site search and be positively addressed within the policy wording. The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside. This option could have a positive effect on the baseline.	Pursuing this option would give greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within Wellington, where proportional growth is expected. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

Option 5 Manage future housing through a development management policy.	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Criteria based policy does not give the same level of certainty as the other options as it will be more reactionary than proactive in terms of growth proposals. However, provided criteria are 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.
Policy W1¹ Scale of new residential development.	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Overall this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data. There are not considered to be any significant locational issues at this stage because the plan proposes that three potential sites be allocated for housing and, in any event, other safeguarding policies exist within the NDP to provide adequate mitigation. This policy will enable the proportional growth as indicated within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	None.	This policy does not go beyond that within the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA.
Policy W2 Phasing of new housing development.	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O				O	This policy seeks to ensure that housebuilding is phased over the plan period, which is unlikely to have any effect on the baseline.	None.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy W3 Housing mix and tenancy.	+	+		+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure an appropriate range and mix of housing in line with Policy H3 of the Core Strategy.	Need to ensure that this approach is consistent with the evidence outlined in the Local Housing Market Assessment Report (LHMA).	This policy does not go beyond that within the Core Strategy in terms of the SEA.
Policy W4 Protecting heritage assets.	+	+		++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the relevant baseline data.	None.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy W5 General design principles.	X	++		++	+	++	++	+	X	X	+	X				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data.	None.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy W6 Protecting landscape character.	++	++		++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	+				+	This is not a policy which will directly result in development but a criteria policy designed to ensure that proposals respect landscape character.	None.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

¹ Refer to Draft Plan for policy criteria

Policy W7 Protection of local green spaces.	++	++		++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	++				++	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the relevant baseline data.	None.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy W8 Protection of local community facilities.	X	++		++	+	++	++	X	X	X	X	+				++	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data, as it will encourage the continuing use of existing facilities to the benefit of the character of Wellington and its heritage environment. It will also reduce the need to travel to other areas for facilities, thus reducing the impact of climate change.	None.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy W9 New community facilities.	+	+		+	?	?	?	X	X	X	X	X				X	New or expanded community facilities can have an adverse effect on natural resources, air quality, highways etc, depending on their nature and scale, but additional policy safeguards within the NDP and Core Strategy would help mitigate these issues and thus ensure that the policy is compatible with the SEA objectives.	None.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy W10 New communications technologies.	?	?		?	+	+	++	++	X	X	X	X				X	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the relevant baseline data.	The siting of equipment will be key to determining the extent to which it would have a detrimental impact on nature conservation and landscape character, but improvements to broadband can result in greater uptake of online transactions and home working, thereby reducing the need to travel and helping the environment.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA
Policy W11 Design for flood resilience and resistance.	+	X		+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This policy would not lead to development itself but sets out criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	Policy criteria are already covered by the Core Strategy.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy W12 Design to reduce surface water run off.	+	X		+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This policy would not lead to development itself but supports proposals that incorporate SuDS and other water attenuation facilities.	Policy criteria are already covered by the Core Strategy; consider amalgamating with W11.	This policy does meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Policy W13 Connectivity.	+	+		+	+	X	+	+	+	X	+	+				+	This policy is compatible with the baseline, as it aims to measures to that provide for new or improved social and environmental linkages within and beyond Wellington, listing the criteria such developments are required to meet in order to gain that support.	The use of the word 'and' in phrases concerning the enhancement of landscape features must be changed to 'or' because a recent court decision held that an asset cannot be protected 'and' enhanced.	
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++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	X No relationship
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Policy W1: Scale of new residential development						
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities	
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)			
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and there are not considered to be any significant locational issues at this stage because the plan proposes that three potential sites be allocated for housing. Safeguarding measures exist within other policies and these provide adequate mitigation. This policy will enable the proportional growth indicated within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.		
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and there are not considered to be any significant locational issues at this stage because the plan proposes that three potential sites be allocated for housing. Safeguarding measures exist within other policies and these provide adequate mitigation. This policy will enable the proportional growth indicated within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.		
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A			
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and there are not considered to be any significant locational issues at this stage because the plan proposes that three potential sites be allocated for housing. Safeguarding measures exist within other policies and these provide adequate mitigation. This policy will enable the proportional growth indicated within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.		
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and although the rise in vehicular movements will affect air quality, adequate safeguarding measures exist within other policies.		

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and although the rise in vehicular movements will affect air quality, adequate safeguarding measures exist within other policies.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to proportional development in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	?	+	+	House building in as yet unspecified locations and on allocated sites could place acute pressure on sewage systems, but this policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy would only lead to proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy and safeguarding measures are set out in Policies W11 and W12.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	+	+	Policy safeguards that exist elsewhere within the NDP should ensure that housing development would not compromise the quality of the best agricultural land in the medium term.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy.	
Overall commentary	This policy compliments Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy and would only lead to proportional growth. Policy safeguarding exists to ensure that environmental considerations are taken into account.				

Policy W2: Phasing of new housing development					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscape	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To improve air quality	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To improve water quality	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	

To conserve soil resources and quality	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
Overall commentary	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.				

Policy W3: Housing mix and tenancy					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would facilitate the delivery of an appropriate range and mix of housing in line with Policy H3 of the Core Strategy.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would facilitate the delivery of an appropriate range and mix of housing in line with Policy H3 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would facilitate the delivery of an appropriate range and mix of housing in line with Policy H3 of the Core Strategy.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	

To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	X	X	X	No relationship.	
Overall commentary	This policy compliments Policy H3 of the Core Strategy and should ensure that residential developments provide an appropriate range and mix of housing. Policy safeguarding exists to ensure that environmental considerations are taken into account.				

Policy W4: Protecting heritage assets					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (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 protect or enhance specific heritage assets and should therefore have a positive impact the natural environment.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy seeks to protect or enhance specific heritage assets and should therefore ensure that the historic character of townscape is preserved or enhanced.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This policy seeks to protect or enhance specific heritage assets and should therefore have a highly positive impact the historic environment and cultural heritage.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy seeks to protect or enhance specific heritage assets, several of which relate to manmade resources i.e farmsteads, barns etc.	
Overall commentary	This policy seeks to protect or enhance specific heritage assets and would have a generally positive impact.				

Policy W5: General design principles					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals, with particular emphasis on aesthetic quality and local distinctiveness, to the benefit of landscape and townscape.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		

To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals, with particular emphasis on aesthetic quality and local distinctiveness, to the benefit of the natural environment and heritage assets.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	++	++	The policy supports better access and the provision of new or enhanced linkages, which would only assist with reducing residents' dependence on polluting forms of transport.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	++	++	The criteria within this policy would make a positive contribution to tackling climate change.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship..	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals, with particular emphasis on aesthetic quality and the use of local materials.	
Overall commentary	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals, with particular emphasis on aesthetic quality and local distinctiveness. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm.				

Policy W6: Protecting landscape character					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (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 protect or enhance landscape character by requiring good design.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscape	++	++	++	This policy seeks to protect or enhance the landscape through requiring good design and should therefore ensure that the character of townscape is reflected in development proposals.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This policy seeks to protect or enhance the landscape through requiring good design and should therefore have a positive impact the historic environment.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	Affording a greater degree of protection to the landscape should feed into conservation of soil quality.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		

To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	Affording a greater degree of protection to the landscape will contribute to the conservation of natural resources.	
Overall commentary	This is not a policy which will not directly result in development but a criteria policy designed to avoid inappropriate forms of development within sensitive landscapes.				

Policy W7: Protection of local green spaces					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (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 should make a positive contribution to the protection or enhancement of the natural environment.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The protection or enhancement of local green spaces should help maintain the quality of the 'townscape' and character of the area.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	The protection or enhancement of local green spaces should help maintain the quality the character of the area.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	++	++	++	This policy will provide added protection to the finest agricultural land.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		

To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	To protect or enhance local green spaces should negate the need to develop additional land and use additional resources for recreations or community uses.	
Overall commentary	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.				

Policy W8: Protection of local community facilities					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	++	++	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data, as it resists the use of existing facilities for alternative uses, thereby reducing the risk of harm to town and country.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	++	++	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data, as it resists the use of existing facilities for alternative uses, thereby reducing the risk of harm to cultural assets and the historic environment.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data, as it resists the use of existing facilities for alternative uses, thereby reducing the need to travel to other areas, to the benefit of climate change in particular.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	++	++	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data, as it resists the use of existing facilities for alternative uses, thereby reducing the need to travel to other areas, to the benefit of climate change in particular.	

To reduce contributions to climate change	+	++	++	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data, as it resists the use of existing facilities for alternative uses, thereby reducing the need to travel to other areas, to the benefit of climate change in particular.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data, as it resists the use of existing facilities for alternative uses and thus helps to avoid the development of new facilities, to the detriment of the finest agricultural land.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	++	++	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data, as it resists the use of existing facilities for alternative uses, thereby helping to conserve manmade resources in particular.	
Overall commentary	This policy does meet the Core Strategy's requirements for the purposes of the SEA.				

Policy W9: New community facilities					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (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 exist to ensure that any new or expanded facilities would not have an unacceptable adverse impact.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	Policy safeguards exist to ensure that any new or expanded facilities would not have an unacceptable adverse impact.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	Policy safeguards exist to ensure that any new or expanded facilities would not have an unacceptable adverse impact.	
To improve air quality	?	+	+	Increase in opportunities over time will reduce the need to travel by car as more services can be undertaken from within the parish. Policy safeguards exist to ensure that any new or expanded facilities would not have an unacceptable adverse impact.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	?	+	+	Increase in opportunities over time will reduce the need to travel by car as more services can be undertaken from within the parish. Policy safeguards exist to ensure that any new or expanded facilities would not have an unacceptable adverse impact.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	+	+	Increase in opportunities over time will reduce the need to travel by car as more services can be undertaken from within the parish. Policy safeguards exist to ensure that any new or expanded facilities would not have an unacceptable adverse impact.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	

To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	X	X	X	No relationship.	
Overall commentary	Additional policy safeguards within the NDP would help mitigate any unacceptable adverse impacts resulting from this policy.				

Policy W10: New communications technologies					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (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 merely aims to increase connectivity within the parish. However, depending on the siting of new installations could have some impact. Policy safeguards exist within the policy to avoid or mitigate effects on the natural environment.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	?	+	+	This policy merely aims to increase connectivity within the parish. However, depending on the siting of new installations could have some impact. Policy safeguards exist within the policy to avoid or mitigate effects on the wider landscape and built environment.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	?	+	+	This policy merely aims to increase connectivity within the parish. However, depending on the siting of new installations could have some impact. Policy safeguards exist within the policy to avoid or mitigate effects on the historic environment.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Increasing connectivity over time will reduce the need to travel by polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or remote premises.	

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	Increasing connectivity over time will reduce the need to travel by polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or remote premises.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	++	++	++	Increasing connectivity over time will reduce the need to travel by polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or remote premises.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	++	++	++	Increasing connectivity over time will reduce the need to travel by polluting forms of transport as more business and services can be undertaken from home or remote premises.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	X	X	X	No relationship.	
Overall commentary	This policy is aiming to increase connectivity within the parish. However, depending on their siting; new installations could have some impact. There are, however, policy safeguards within the policy to avoid or mitigate effects on the natural and built environments, as well as cultural heritage. Ultimately, the increase in connectivity will help to reduce the need to travel.				

Policy W11: Design for flood resilience and resistance					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscape	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		

To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
Overall commentary	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.				

Policy W12: Design to reduce surface water run off					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (Cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.	
Overall commentary	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria to safeguard and mitigate against flooding issues.				

Policy W13: Connectivity					
SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (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 aims to protect and improve social and environmental linkages (green infrastructure) in the area which could have a positive impact on nature conversation.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy aims to protect and improve social and environmental linkages (green infrastructure) in the area which could have a positive impact on nature conversation.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy aims to protect and improve social and environmental linkages (green infrastructure) in the area which could have a positive impact on nature conversation.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	Improved social and environmental linkages (green infrastructure) could have a positive effect on air quality.	

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy aims to protect and improve social and environmental linkages (green infrastructure) in the area which could have a positive impact on nature conversation.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy aims to protect and improve social and environmental linkages (green infrastructure) in the area which could have a positive impact on nature conversation.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy aims to protect and improve social and environmental linkages (green infrastructure) in the area which could have a positive impact on nature conversation.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	Improved social and environmental linkages (green infrastructure) could have provide additional flood storage areas	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	Additional and increased social and environmental linkages (green infrastructure) will have a positive effect on conserving soil quality.	
To minimise the production of waste	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve the health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	Improvements and protection for social and environmental linkages (green infrastructure) will contribute to the conservation of natural resources.	
Overall commentary	This policy is compatible with the SEA objectives.				

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	X No Relationship
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	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
SEA Objective	To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	To improve quality of surroundings	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	To improve air quality	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	To reduce contributions to climate change	To reduce vulnerability to climate change	To improve water quality	To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	To conserve 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
NDP Objective/ Policy																
Objective 1 ¹	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	0	?	?	X	X	?
Objective 2	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+
Objective 3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+
Objective 4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+
Objective 5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	+
Policy W1 ²	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy W2	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				0
Policy W3	+	+		+	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
Policy W4	+	+		++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				+

¹ Refer to Draft Plan for details of objectives

² Refer to Draft Plan for exact policy wording

Policy W5	X	++		++	+	++	++	+	X	X	+	X				+
Policy W6	++	++		++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	+				+
Policy W7	++	++		++	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	++				++
Policy W8	X	++		++	+	++	++	X	X	X	X	+				++
Policy W9	+	+		+	?	?	?	X	X	X	X	X				X
Policy W10	?	?		?	+	+	++	++	X	X	X	X				X
Policy W11	+	X		+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy W12	+	X		+	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Policy W13	+	+		+	+	X	+	+	+	X	+	+				+
Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective	+	+		+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...)	Overall the Wellington NDP will contribute towards the achievement of the SEA objectives and consequently there is no reason why it should have a negative impact on the baseline. Policies have been drafted in general conformity with the Core Strategy objectives and contain many policy safeguards to ensure that the potential adverse effects on environmental assets can be avoided or mitigated against. None of the policies are in direct conflict with those already assessed for the Core Strategy.															
Commentary for significant cumulative effects	No significant cumulative effects identified.															

Appendix 5

Options considered in preparation of Wellington NDP

1. Do nothing
2. Allocate sites for housing
3. Manage future housing by using a settlement boundary
4. Allocate sites and identify a settlement boundary (Preferred Option)
5. Manage future housing by using a development management policy

Appendix 6

Objectives and context	Where referenced in NDP/SEA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Neighbourhood Development Plan's purpose and objectives are made clear. • The Neighbourhood Area's environmental issues and constraints, including acknowledgement of those in the Local Plan (Core Strategy) SA, where relevant, and local environmental protection objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets. • SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate. • Links with other locally related plans, programmes and policies are identified, explained and acknowledgement for those set out in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant. • Conflicts that exist between SEA and Neighbourhood Development Plan objectives; and between SEA objectives and other local plan objectives are identified and described. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 1 (paras 1.10 – 1.17). • Sections 2 and 3; and Tables A2 and A3 • Section 3 (para 3.7). • Section 3 (para 3.1). • Section 4 (paras 4.4 – 4.6)
Scoping	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory Consultees are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report. • The assessment focuses on significant issues. • Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Section 2 (paras 2.6 – 2.9) & Appendix 3 • Sections 2 and 6 • Sections 2 and 6

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

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

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

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

Appendix 7

D1: SEA Consultation Feedback

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

Parish Council Name: Wellington Parish

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Wellington Neighbourhood Plan

Details of consultation: Advertised on Herefordshire Council's Website and Wellington Parish Council Website. Letters sent to all residents inviting them to comment and giving details on how to comment.

Consultation date: 29th June – 9th August 2015

Consultation title: Regulation 14 Draft Plan Consultation

Response Date	Acknowledgement Sent	Consultee	Summary of Comments	Response to Comments
No comments specifically relating to the SEA report were received.				

D2: Compatibility test for amendments to objectives following Draft Plan Stage

Parish Council Name: Wellington Parish Council

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Wellington Neighbourhood Development Plan

Date completed: 21st September 2015

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)

SEA Stage D1

Key:

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

Introduction:

The following matrix appraises the amended Wellington 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.

Conclusions:

No changes were made to the Plan's Objectives following the Regulation 14 consultation.

D3: Predict and evaluate the effects of the amended Neighbourhood Development Plan policies and sites

Parish Council Name: Wellington Parish

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Wellington NDP

Date completed: 21/09/15

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 W1 – Scale of new 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 (10 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. The additional wording in the policy adds to the safeguarding of distinctiveness within the Neighbourhood area.	
To maintain and	+	+	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA	

enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes				objectives. The additional wording in the policy adds to the safeguarding of distinctiveness within the Neighbourhood area.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	+	+	++	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. The additional wording in the policy adds to the safeguarding of distinctiveness within the Neighbourhood area.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. The additional wording will not impact upon this SEA objective.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives The additional wording will not impact upon this SEA objective.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. The additional wording will not impact upon this SEA objective.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. The additional wording will not impact upon this SEA	

				objective.	
To improve water quality	?	+	+	House building in as yet unspecified locations and on allocated sites could place acute pressure on sewage systems, but this policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. The additional wording will not impact upon this SEA objective.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. The additional wording will not impact upon this SEA objective.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy would only lead to proportional growth in line with Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. The additional wording will not impact upon this SEA objective.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	?	+	+	The additional wording will not impact upon this SEA objective.	
To minimise the production	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade	+	+	+	This policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives. The additional wording	

resources				will not impact upon this SEA objective.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The additional wording will have a positive effect on the majority of the SEA objectives and will have no direct impact upon the remainder.				

Policy W2 – Phasing of New Housing 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 (10 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	O	O	O	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To improve quality of	N/A	N/A	N/A		

surroundings					
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	0	0	0	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To improve air quality	0	0	0	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	0	0	0	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	0	0	0	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To improve water quality	0	0	+	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline. The additional wording will ensure drainage capacity constraints.	
To provide for sustainable sources of	0	0	0	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to	

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water supply				have an effect on the baseline.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	0	0	+	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline. The additional wording will ensure drainage capacity constraints.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	0	0	0	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
To minimise the production	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	0	0	0	This policy seeks to ensure that development is phased evenly over the plan period, which is unlikely to have an effect on the baseline.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The additional wording will have no direct impact upon the majority of the SEA objectives; however it will help with the water quality within the area and help to resolve the capacity issues.				

Policy W4 – Protecting Heritage Assets

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 (10 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	++	++	This policy seeks to protect or enhance specific heritage assets and should therefore have a positive impact the natural environment. The additional wording in the policy adds to the safeguarding of distinctiveness within the Neighbourhood area.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	++	This policy seeks to protect or enhance specific heritage assets and should therefore ensure that the historic character of townscape is preserved or enhanced. The additional wording in the policy adds to the safeguarding of distinctiveness within the Neighbourhood area.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and	++	++	++	This policy seeks to protect or enhance specific heritage assets and should therefore have a highly positive impact the historic environment and cultural heritage.	

culture heritage					
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To minimise the production	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		

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To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy seeks to protect or enhance specific heritage assets, several of which relate to manmade resources i.e farmsteads, barns etc. The additional wording in the policy adds to the safeguarding of distinctiveness within the Neighbourhood area.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The additional wording will have no direct impact upon the majority of the SEA objectives; however it will help to protect the local distinctiveness within the Neighbourhood area.				

Policy W5 – General Design 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 (10 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and	X	X	X	No relationship.	

fauna)					
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals, with particular emphasis on aesthetic quality and local distinctiveness, to the benefit of landscape and townscape.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	+	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals, with particular emphasis on aesthetic quality and local distinctiveness, to the benefit of the natural environment and heritage assets.	
To improve air quality	+	+	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals. The additional wording of this policy will have a positive outcome to the SEA objectives.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	++	++	The policy supports better access and the provision of new or enhanced linkages, which would only assist with reducing residents' dependence on polluting forms of transport. The additional wording encourages the use of active travel.	

To reduce contributions to climate change	+	++	++	The criteria within this policy would make a positive contribution to tackling climate change.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship..	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals. The additional wording of the policy will help to reduce flood risk.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To minimise the production	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		

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To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design criteria for development proposals, with particular emphasis on aesthetic quality and the use of local materials.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The additional wording will have a positive impact on the majority of the SEA objectives.				

Policy W7 – 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 (10 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This policy should make a positive contribution to the protection or enhancement of the natural environment. The additional are designated as a greenspace will have a positive contribution to the SEA objective.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of	++	++	++	The protection or enhancement of local green spaces should help maintain the quality of the	

landscapes and townscapes				'townscape' and character of the area. The additional are designated as a greenspace will have a positive contribution to the SEA objective.	
To improve quality of surroundings	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	++	++	++	The protection or enhancement of local green spaces should help maintain the quality the character of the area. The additional are designated as a greenspace will have a positive contribution to the SEA objective.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To provide for sustainable sources of	X	X	X	No relationship.	

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water supply					
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	X	X	X	No relationship.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	++	++	++	This policy will provide added protection to the finest agricultural land.	
To minimise the production	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To improve health of the population	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To reduce crime and nuisance	N/A	N/A	N/A		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	To protect or enhance local green spaces should negate the need to develop additional land and use additional resources for recreations or community uses. The additional are designated as a greenspace will have a positive contribution to the SEA objective.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	The additional greenspace identified will have a positive impact upon the majority of the SEA objectives.				