

Environmental Report



Hope under Dinmore Group Neighbourhood Area

October 2015

Hope-under-Dinmore Environmental Report

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Non-technical summary

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

The Hope-under-Dinmore Group Parish has undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. The Parish comprises the Parishes of Hope-under-Dinmore and Newton, and lies between Hereford and Leominster in north Herefordshire. It is bisected north-south by the A49 trunk road and the Cardiff – Crewe railway line which run parallel to each other.

The Draft Hope-under-Dinmore Group NDP includes 10 objectives and it is intended that these objectives will be delivered by 11 criteria based planning policies; no site allocations are proposed here. There were a number of options considered over 8 option areas during the process of drafting the Plan.

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

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

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

Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the effects of the policies within the Hope-under-Dinmore Group NDP will be monitored annually via the Council's Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Hope-under-Dinmore Group Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 The Hope-under-Dinmore Group NDP does not propose any site allocations, the Plan does propose a settlement boundary and will be expecting housing developments to come forward through windfall development. The NDP will, however, provide general policies for guiding future development across the parish as a whole.

Purpose of the SEA

- 1.3 SEA is a requirement of EC Directive 2001/42/EC (the SEA Directive) which requires the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment to ensure that the proposals in that plan or programme contribute to the achievement of sustainable development.
- 1.4 The Directive was transposed into domestic legislation through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 and which applies to plans with significant environmental effects.
- 1.5 A screening opinion was carried out on the Hope-under-Dinmore 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.

Hope-under-Dinmore Group Neighbourhood Plan Context

- 1.6 Hope-under-Dinmore Group Parish comprises the parishes of Hope-under-Dinmore and Newton. The Group Parish lies between Hereford and Leominster in north Herefordshire. It is bisected north-south by the A49 trunk road and the Cardiff – Crewe railway line which run parallel to each other.
- 1.7 It is sparsely populated with a density of only 0.3 persons per hectare, compared to 0.8 at County level, the parish has extensive open countryside away from the village centre.
- 1.8 The neighbourhood area boasts many natural features, not least 4 SSSIs, River Lugg (River Wye SAC), and 11 Special Wildlife Sites. There are numerous built heritage assets, too, including listed buildings and Scheduled Monument.
- 1.9 The vision for Hope-under-Dinmore Group in 2031 proposes:
'That Hope-under-Dinmore and Newton retain their natural beauty and rural character and that residents feel safe, happy and part of a thriving open community.'
- 1.10 The Hope-under-Dinmore Group NDP objectives are as follows:
- Objective 1 - New homes will be built in small numbers, in a style and setting sympathetic to the nature of the village and surrounding countryside. Any developments must not have an adverse impact on flooding.
 - Objective 2 - Local infrastructure will be improved to reduce flood risk, and roads and footpaths kept safe and well maintained
 - Objective 3 - Community facilities such as the church and village hall will be looked after and respected
 - Objective 4 - New development will be in keeping with the distinctive landscape and respect the setting of the village
 - Objective 5 - Residents will be able to appreciate and enjoy local open spaces for amenity and leisure

- Objective 6 - Queenswood Country Park will be preserved and open access maintained
- Objective 7 - Natural and historic features will be safeguarded, and their role in the green infrastructure network recognised
- Objective 8 - Renewable energy will be promoted, provided any adverse impacts can be managed
- Objective 9 - Local small businesses including farming will be encouraged and supported
- Objective 10 - Improvements to mobile and broadband communications will be supported

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 Hope-under-Dinmore Group NDP must therefore conform to national planning policy set within the NPPF and strategic level local policy including the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 1.13 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) was adopted on the 16th October 2015.
- 1.14 Paragraph 216 of the NPPF and Planning Practice Guidance set out the weight that may be given to relevant policies in emerging plans, including NDPs, and indicated that weight may be given to relevant policies in emerging NDPs according to:
- The stage of preparation of the emerging plan (the more advanced the preparation, the greater the weight that may be given);
 - The extent to which there are unresolved objections to relevant policies (the less significant the unresolved objections, the greater the weight that may be given); and
 - The degree of consistency of the relevant policies in the emerging plan to the policies in this Framework (the closer the policies in the emerging plan to the policies in the Framework, the greater the weight that may be given).
- 1.15 This part of the NPPF is reinforced by Planning Practice Guidance published in March 2014, which is clear that an emerging NDP may be a material planning consideration once it has completed the submission/local authorities publication stage (Regulation 16). This is reinforced by recent ministerial statements and case law (West Sussex), all of which have demonstrated that an emerging NDP may be a material consideration at the Regulation 16 stage¹.
- 1.16 Table 4.14 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) lists Hope-under-Dinmore among the settlements which it considers to be sustainable locations for proportional growth in line with the provisions of Policy RA2. Other areas within the neighbourhood areas are considered open countryside under the provision of Policy RA3.
- 1.17 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the Hope-under-Dinmore Group NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the Group Parish, by setting out setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined.

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

Structure of SEA

1.18 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 Hope-under-Dinmore Group Neighbourhood Plan objectives and the SEA framework
- Section 4 - Appraises the objectives contained within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 5 - Appraises the options considered within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 6 – Appraises the policies contained within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework
- Section 7 – Discusses the implementation and monitoring of the Neighbourhood Plan
- Section 8 - Concludes the SEA report by outlining next steps

2.0 Methodology

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

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

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

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

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

2.4 Stage C involved preparing an Environmental Report. This report presents information compiled during Stage B of the SEA process and constitutes the Draft Environmental Appraisal of the NDP. It accompanies the Draft Plan during its formal Regulation 14

consultation with people who live, work and carry out businesses in the neighbourhood area, as well as statutory bodies listed in the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

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

Scoping Report Consultation

- 2.6 With regard to the SEA scoping assessments, documents A1 to A4 were completed by a Herefordshire Council Planning Officer and sent to the Parish Council for comment, in readiness for a 5 week consultation with statutory bodies, pursuant to the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004.
- 2.7 After the document was approved by the Parish Council, the Hope-under-Dinmore Group SEA Scoping Report was available to four² statutory bodies for consultation from 28 July to 1 September 2014.

Consultation outcomes from Statutory Consultees

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

Natural England: Approved of the list of Plans, policies and Programmes detailed. Also recommend that additional baseline data be sourced in respect of wildlife habitats, landscape character and the quality of agricultural land.

Response: Further baseline data has been incorporated at A2.

English Heritage: Had no substantial comments to make.

Environment Agency: No comments received

Natural Resources Wales: No comments received

Response: N/A

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 Hope-under-Dinmore Group 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"

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

Policy context

- 3.3 The Hope-under-Dinmore Group NDP will deliver the Local Plan (Core Strategy) at parish level by adding locally specific detail to strategic policies. As a consequence, the Scoping Report for the NDP was based on the context review Herefordshire Council undertook for its Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 3.4 The results of this assessment (context review) provide the source of the local baseline data and have been incorporated into the SEA framework. It should be noted that:
- No list of policies, plans and programmes can ever be exhaustive and that Herefordshire Council has selected those considered to be of particular relevance to the planning system;
 - New or revised plans and policies can emerge during the SEA process
- 3.5 The following strategies and plans have been reviewed and, where appropriate, incorporated within the SA Framework objectives:
- *The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010)* - These regulations transpose the Habitats Directive in England, Wales and to a limited extent Scotland by ensuring that activities are carried out in accordance with the Habitats Directive, which is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna.
 - *The EC Water Framework Directive (2000)* - Commits all EU member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water courses by 2015
 - *The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)* - The major legal instrument for wildlife protection in Britain, although other significant acts have been passed since. It has numerous parts and supplementary lists and schedules many of which have been amended since publication.
 - *Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)* - Forms part of the UK's Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework by setting out England's contribution towards the UK's commitments under the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity.
 - *The Countryside and Right of Way Act (2000)* - Creates a statutory right of access on foot to certain types of open land, to modernise the public rights of way system, to strengthen nature conservation legislation, and to facilitate better management of AONBs
 - *The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)* - Designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering Government policy.
 - *Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy (2009)* - Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will more effectively meet its long-standing commitment to meet the challenges of sustainable development.
 - *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012)* - Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.
 - *Planning Practice Guidance (2013)* - Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.

- *Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP) 2013-2015* - Sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period April 2013 to April 2015.
- *Understanding Herefordshire Report (2014)* - Important to understand the place such as the local economy natural and built environment in which people live, learn and work as part of understanding their quality of life. Enable development for economy and housing to required levels and growth should be supported by sustainable transport measures.
- *Malvern Hills AONB Management Plan 2009-2014 (2009)* - Identifies the issues and challenges facing the special features of the area and contains 24 guiding principles and 46 strategic objectives which will help address them.
- *Wye Valley AONB management Plan 2009-2014 (2009)* - The Management Plan is the prime document which sets out the vision for the area and the priorities for its management.
- *Herefordshire Economic Development Strategy 2011-2016* - Aims to increase the economic wealth of Herefordshire by setting out proposals and to support business growth up to 2016.
- *Herefordshire Employment Land Study (2012)* - Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.
- *Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) (2009)* - The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:
 - o Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development
 - o Assessing sites for their housing potential; and
 - o Predicting when a site could be developed for housing.
- *Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) (2013)* - Builds on an earlier Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) developed for Herefordshire and Shropshire. Its purpose is to inform the Local Plan's policies regarding housing need and demand (for market and affordable housing) within each of the 7 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031.
- *Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study (2012)* - Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.
- *Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report (2013)* - Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy
- *Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment (2013)* - Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2007)* - Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.

- *Building Biodiversity into the LDF (2009)* - Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010)* - Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.
- *Renewable Energy Study (2010)* - Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.
- *Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment (2012)* - Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.
- *Open Spaces Study (2006)* - The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snap shot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.
- *Play Facilities Study (2012)* - The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.
- *Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study (2009)* - The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development. The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.

- 3.6 Appendix 1 of the Hope-under-Dinmore Group Scoping Report provides additional detail on the Plans, Policies and Programmes mentioned above and identifies the implications for the SEA and NDP.

SEA Objectives and baseline characteristics

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

SEA Objective	
1	To maintain or enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)
2	To maintain or enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes
3	To improve the quality of surroundings
4	To conserve or where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage
5	To improve air quality
6	To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment
7	To reduce contributions to climate change
8	To reduce vulnerability to climate change
9	To improve water quality

10	To provide for sustainable sources of water supply
11	To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk
12	To conserve soil resources and quality
13	To minimise the production of waste
14	To improve the health of the population
15	To reduce crime and nuisance
16	To conserve natural and manmade resources

- 3.8 The SEA objectives detailed above conform to the SEA Directive, and are derived from the Sustainability Appraisal undertaken for the Herefordshire Local Plan Core Strategy 2011-2031.
- 3.9 Baseline information gathered during Stage A of the SEA process provided details of the current environmental characteristics of the neighbourhood area and the status of its natural assets and features (refer to Appendix 2). This information was analysed as part of Task B2 of SEA, which looked at the extent to which the emerging NDP policies will help or obstruct these characteristics.
- 3.10 Following the completion of Task B2 of SEA it was apparent that the largest environmental issue within the Group Parish has an impact on the County as a whole is water quality; although the River Wye, is currently meeting all nutrient targets and quality, there is the possibility that if it is not properly managed then any additional impact upon the quality of the water upstream of the Lugg confluence could mean that it would fail the targets further downstream. The Parish lies within the Middle Lugg catchment which is currently rated as poor ecological status. The NDP policies will look to mitigate against this and also the proposals in the Plan are not over and above the Core Strategy and therefore should not have a significant impact.
- 3.11 The NDP does not propose that sites be allocated for development and contains only criteria-based policies. On this basis, the delivery of the NDP should not exacerbate existing problems regarding water quality or have an unacceptable adverse impact.
- 3.12 Baseline characteristics within the SEA detail the current environmental status of environmental characteristics in the neighbourhood plan area from different sources. The source of Baseline Information used in Table A2 in Appendix 2, and analysed in Table B2 can be found in Appendix 4 Baseline characteristics in relation to the Hope-under-Dinmore Group NDP SEA objectives are listed below.

SEA Objective	Baseline Data / Characteristic	Future Baseline trends
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. July 14 – status of the SSSIs are: River Lugg-Unfavourable recovering. Dinmore Hill – favourable to the West and unfavourable to the east. Hill Hole Dingle – unfavourable recovering. 2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire. There are no NNRs and SINCs within the parish and 11 SWS's. The Hope-under-Dinmore	% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease) To capitalise on

	Group Neighbourhood Area, falls inside the River Wye (including Lugg) SAC. This area is classed as the River Lugg sub Catchment for the purposes of the Nutrient Management Plan. The River Lugg section of the SAC is currently exceeding phosphate target.	opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings within Hope-under-Dinmore Group Parish at present.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.
To improve quality of surroundings	In terms of Hope-Under-Dinmore parish itself, the study reveals that there are no playing pitch facilities within Hope-Under-Dinmore parish. There is a formal play facility at Queenswood, which is in average condition but has high usage.	No specific targets identified
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there is one scheduled monuments in Hope-under-Dinmore, according to the latest version of the register, which is not currently recorded in the Buildings at risk register.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.
To improve air quality	Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This suggests that air quality is improving.	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1%, Foot: 14.7%, Bicycle: 4.3%, Bus: 2%, Train: 0.8%, Motorbike: 0.8%, Taxi: 0.3%, Other: 7%.	To encourage the take up of lesser polluting modes of transport.
To reduce contributions to climate change	Herefordshire latest figure of CO ₂ emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO ₂)	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	Reduce the risk of flooding-There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004. The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.
To improve water quality	Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive. Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84% The River Lugg section of the SAC is currently exceeding phosphate targets.	To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality. New development within the area could lead to the water quality failing the phosphate levels and conservation objectives.
To provide for sustainable sources of	Hope-under-Dinmore falls within the Middle Lugg catchment.	No specific targets identified

water supply		
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds. The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.
To conserve soil resources and quality	The agricultural land classification around Hope Under Dinmore is mainly Grades 2 and 3 (Very good to moderate). Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land. 2010/11: 67% 2011-13: 57%.	Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy
To minimise the production of waste	No baseline data available	No specific targets identified.
To improve health of the population	No baseline data available	No specific targets identified.
To reduce crime and nuisance	No baseline data available	No specific targets identified.
To conserve natural and manmade resources	There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and one SAM. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning local loss of heritage assets and locally important buildings within Hope-under-Dinmore at present. The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Principal wooded hills and wooded forest.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.

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

4.0 Assessing the NDP Objectives

- 4.1 The objectives listed in the NDP aim to realise the vision for Hope-under-Dinmore Group. There are a total of ten objectives, these are listed in para 1.10 above.
- 4.2 The table below tests these NDP objectives against the SEA objectives, providing a summary of the results of Task B1 of SEA. The full results are available at Appendix 4 of this report.
- 4.3 The majority of those NDP objectives which have a relationship with the SEA framework are positively compatible with it. Some of the relationships between the Plans objectives to the SEA objectives remain unclear due to the location of developments not being known, and potential vehicular increase due to the rural nature of the Parish, which could impact upon air quality and vulnerability to climate change.
- 4.4 The NDP and local Plan policies provide mitigation towards the location of new development to ensure the impact of such is reduced and therefore a more positive outcome against the SEA objective is expected long term.

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

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

5.0 Assessing the NDP Options

- 5.1 All options that were considered by Hope-under-Dinmore Parish during the development of their Plan have been assessed as part of the SEA, the summary matrix of the assessment can be found in Table B2 options these tables are in Appendix 4.
- 5.2 The options covered the topics that are likely to formulate the topics going forward in the Plan. These options were considered through the public surveys distributed across the Parish. The results of which will feed into the identification of the preferred options and ultimately the draft policies.
- 5.3 The Hope-under-Dinmore parish options all had a generally positive or unknown impact upon the Baseline data and SEA objectives, in particular Option 1a, Option 2a and b, Option 3a, Option 4a, Option 6a, and options 7c and d would have the least impact upon the environment and move towards the SEA objectives. Option 2 is an unknown impact due to not knowing where the new development will be located. This option states various scales of development but no further details are included to understand how a policy would impact upon the baseline, and the location of each of the size of developments could alter how they impact upon the SEA objectives.
- 5.4 Overall all of the options had mainly a positive effect on the SEA objectives and baseline, if the policies that are developed incorporated the elements of the options that are ensuring mitigation of new development and additional details are provided for the location and design of any proposed site then the assessment of the policies should result in a positive result. As these options were generally moving towards the SEA objectives any further alternatives would probably be moving away and therefore no further options are required to be assessed.

NDP Options	SEA Objectives															
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Option 1a	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Option 1b	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
Option 2a	++	++	++	++	+	?	+	?	+	+	+	+				+
Option 2b	++	++	++	+	+	?	?	?	+	?	+	+				+
Option 2c	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	+	+	?	+				+
Option 3a	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Option 3b	?	?	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?				+
Option 4a	++	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+				++
Option 4b	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Option 5a	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+				+
Option 5b	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+				+
Option 6a	++	++	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
Option 6b	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	+	+	+	?	+				?
Option 7a	+	?	?	?	+	+	+	+	X	X	?	?				+
Option 7b	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	?	?				+
Option 7c	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	?	?				+
Option 7d	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	?	?				+
Option 8a	+	+	+	+	X	?	?	X	X	X	?	?				+
Option 8b	+	+	+	+	X	?	?	X	X	X	?	?				+

6.0 Appraisal of the policies

6.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Hope-under-Dinmore Group 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 with no specific site allocation proposals. These emerging set of draft policies have been appraised for the purposes of Stage B of the SEA:

- Policy HUD1 – Housing Strategy
- Policy HUD2 – Settlement Boundary
- Policy HUD3 – Criteria for new housing development
- Policy HUD4 – Flood Risk
- Policy HUD5 – Community Facilities
- Policy HUD6 – Landscape character
- Policy HUD7 – Local Green Space
- Policy HUD8 – Biodiversity and Heritage Assets
- Policy HUD9 – Renewable energy
- Policy HUD10 – Employment development
- Policy HUD11 – Communications infrastructure

Stage B of SEA

- 6.3 In the context of Task B1 of SEA, the previous section of this report identified that many of the NDP objectives are compatible with the SEA framework, while others had either a neutral impact, no relationship with the SEA objectives or if needed; further information such as location of development. Additional policy safeguards within the NDP and Local Plan (Core Strategy) would help mitigate any possible conflicts.
- 6.4 With regard to Task B2 of SEA, the NDP policies were measured against both the SEA framework and the baseline characteristics identified during Stage A of the process; here, there was no baseline data available in respect of SEA Objectives 13, 14 and 15. Full details of this appraisal are attached at Appendix 4.
- 6.5 The policies largely score as positive or neutral against the SEA objectives and will not, therefore, have an adverse impact on the baseline characteristics or immediate environmental impacts. This is because they are criteria based policies which only consider schemes on their own merits, as and when planning applications are submitted to the local planning authority.
- 6.6 There are some unknown factors, particularly where the location of specific piece of development (i.e tourist facilities or business units) is not yet known.

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

- 6.7 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.
- 6.8 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 Hope-under-Dinmore Group NDP are 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.
- 6.9 None of the NDP policies are considered to be in direct conflict with or propose greater levels of growth and development than strategic policies contained in the Local Plan (Core Strategy), which themselves have undergone a full Sustainability Appraisal.

7.0 Implementation and monitoring

- 7.1 Herefordshire Council as the Local Planning Authority should make arrangements to monitor the significant effects of implementing a neighbourhood plan.

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

8.0 Next steps

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

Appendix 1

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

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

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d)

Neighbourhood Area:	Hope under Dinmore Group Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Hope under Dinmore Group Parish Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	29/08/2013

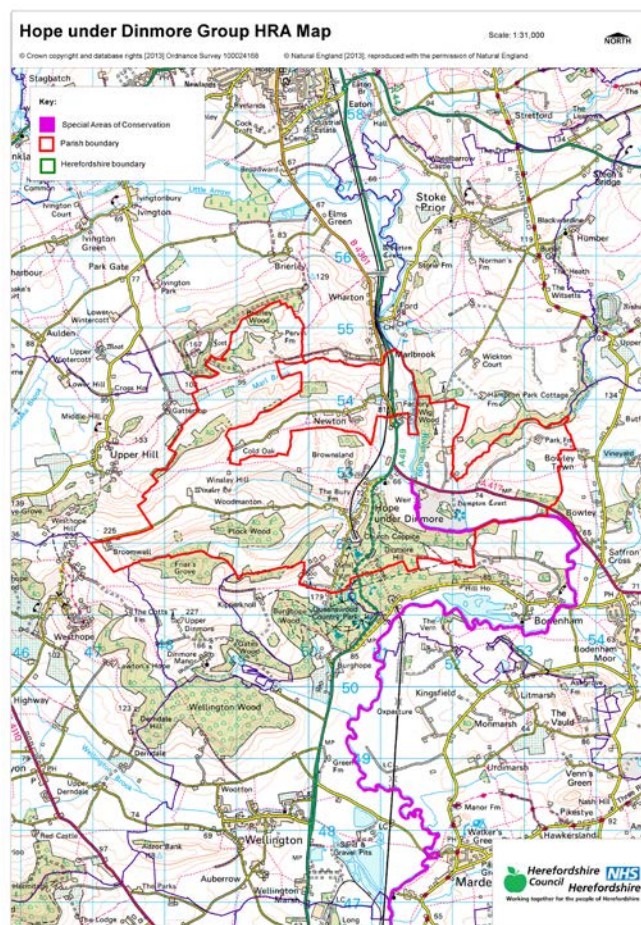
Introduction

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 is within the Group Parish.
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	Y	The Group Parish is within the River Lugg hydrological catchment area
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	N	There is no mains drainage at Hope under Dinmore

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 18.8km away from the Group Parish
---	---	--

River Clun SAC:

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

Usk Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 45.3km away from the Group Parish
--	---	---

Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	The Group Parish is 34.6km away from Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites
--	---	--

Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	The Group Parish is 37.6km away from the Wye Valley Woodlands
--	---	---

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 Hope under Dinmore Group 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 Hope under Dinmore Group Neighbourhood Area and would need to be taken into account within a Strategic Environmental Assessment. In addition, the NDP will also need to consider the other SEA topics set out in Guidance Note 9a to ensure that the plan does not cause adverse impacts.

SEA features	Total	Explanation	SEA required
Air Quality Management Areas	0	There are no AQMA's within the Group Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	10	Friars Grove (border); Old Nash Coppice; Plock Wood; Dinmore Hill Wood; The Rookery (border); Hill Hole Dingle; Lower Mile's Rough; Titterstone Plantation; Marl Brook Wood; Draycott Wood	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAI's within the Group Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	There are no AONB's within the Group Parish	N
Conservation Areas	0	There are no Conservation Areas within the Group Parish	N
European Sites	1	River Lugg	Y
Flood Areas		There are Flood Zones 2 and 3 around the River Lugg and Marl Brook	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous Listed Buildings within the Group Parish	Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCS/RIGS)	11 (SWS)	Titterstone Plantation, Woodfield and Lime Kiln Copse; Woodland near Hope under Dinmore; Westhope Hill and surrounding woodlands; Land at Oxpasture; Land at Plock Wood; Dinmore Hill and adjoining Woodland; Land adjacent to Church Hill Coppice; Field near Bury of Hope; Lower Mile's Rough; Wig Wood, Lewis' Plantation and Kennel Gorse; Hill Hole Dingle (3)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	0	There are no long distance footpaths/trails within the Group Parish	N
Mineral Reserves	1	Area around Wellington constrained by 200m zone and area to north of Wellington outside 200m zone	Y
National Nature Reserve	0	There are no NNR's within the Group Parish	N
Registered & Unregistered parks and gardens	1 Unregistered	Hampton Court	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	1	Ivington Camp multivallate hill fort (border)	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	4	The Bury Farm (Favourable); Dinmore Hill Wood (Favourable (part) Unfavourable Recovering (part)); River Lugg (Unfavourable Recovering); Hill	Y

		Hole Dingle (Unfavourable Recovering)	
--	--	---------------------------------------	--

Decision Notification:

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Hope under Dinmore Group Neighbourhood Area:

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

Assessment date: 25/07/2013

Assessed by: James Latham

Appendix 1: European Sites

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

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>Callitriche-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.

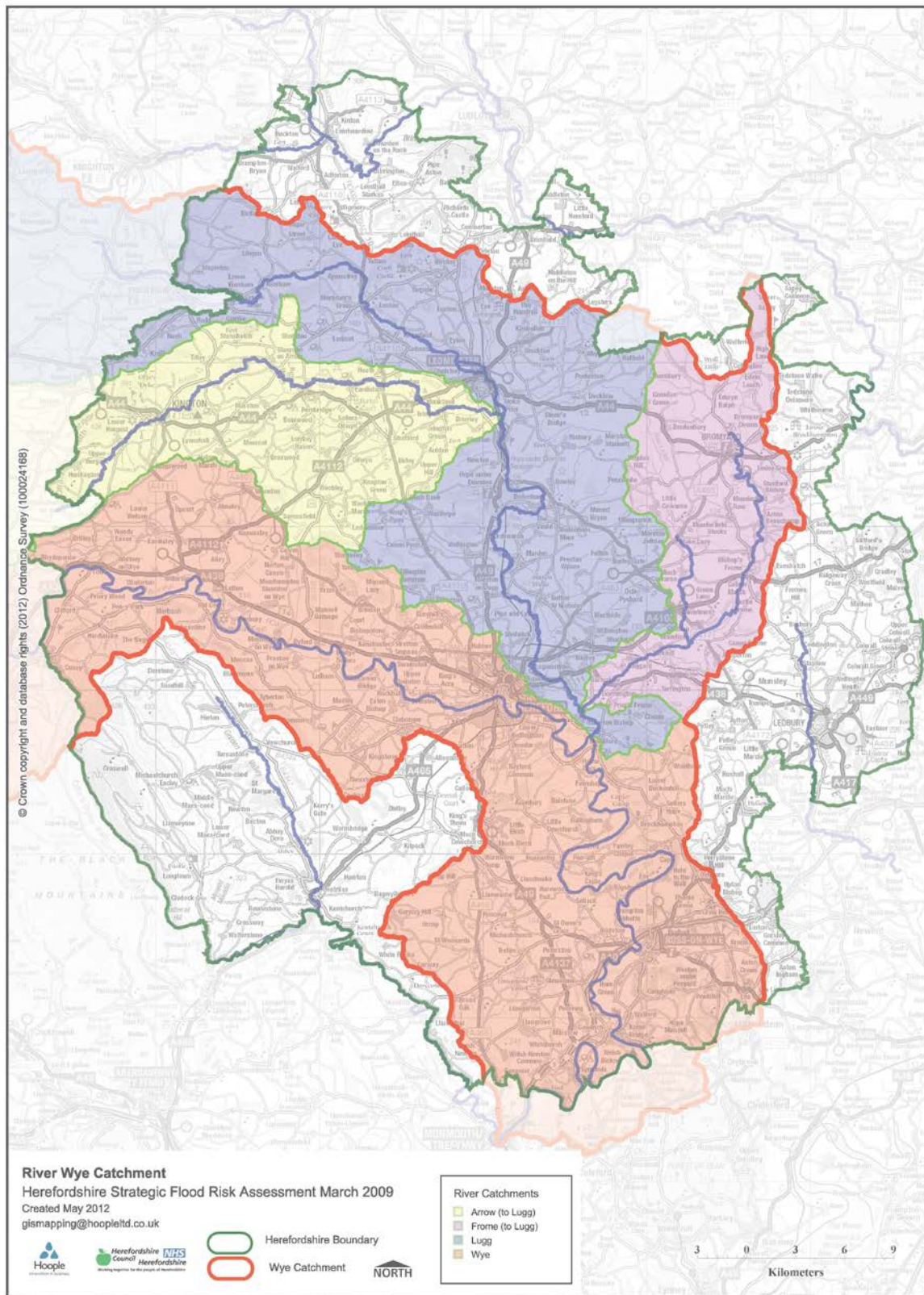
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation.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

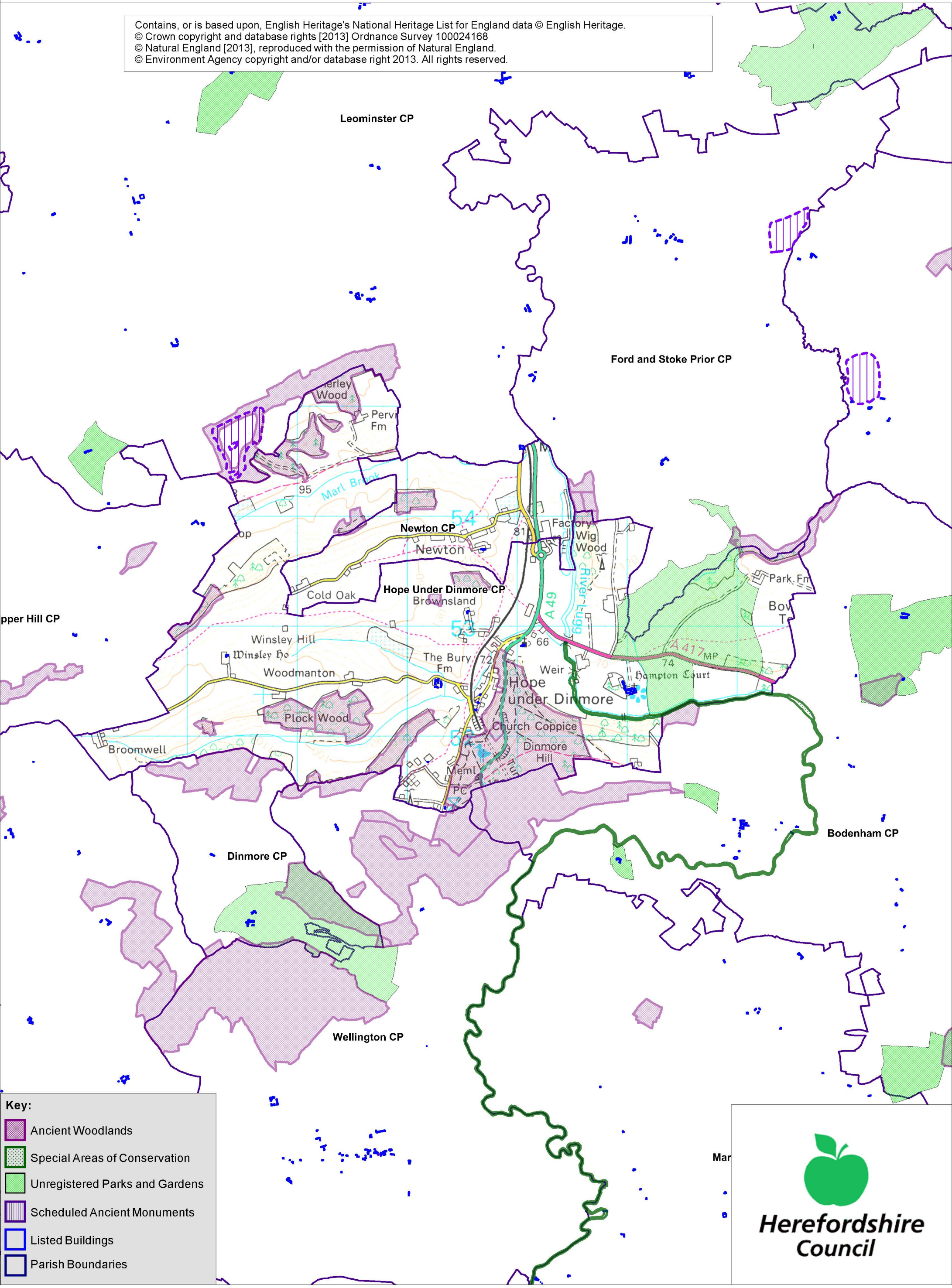


Hope under Dinmore Group SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:30,000



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Key:

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

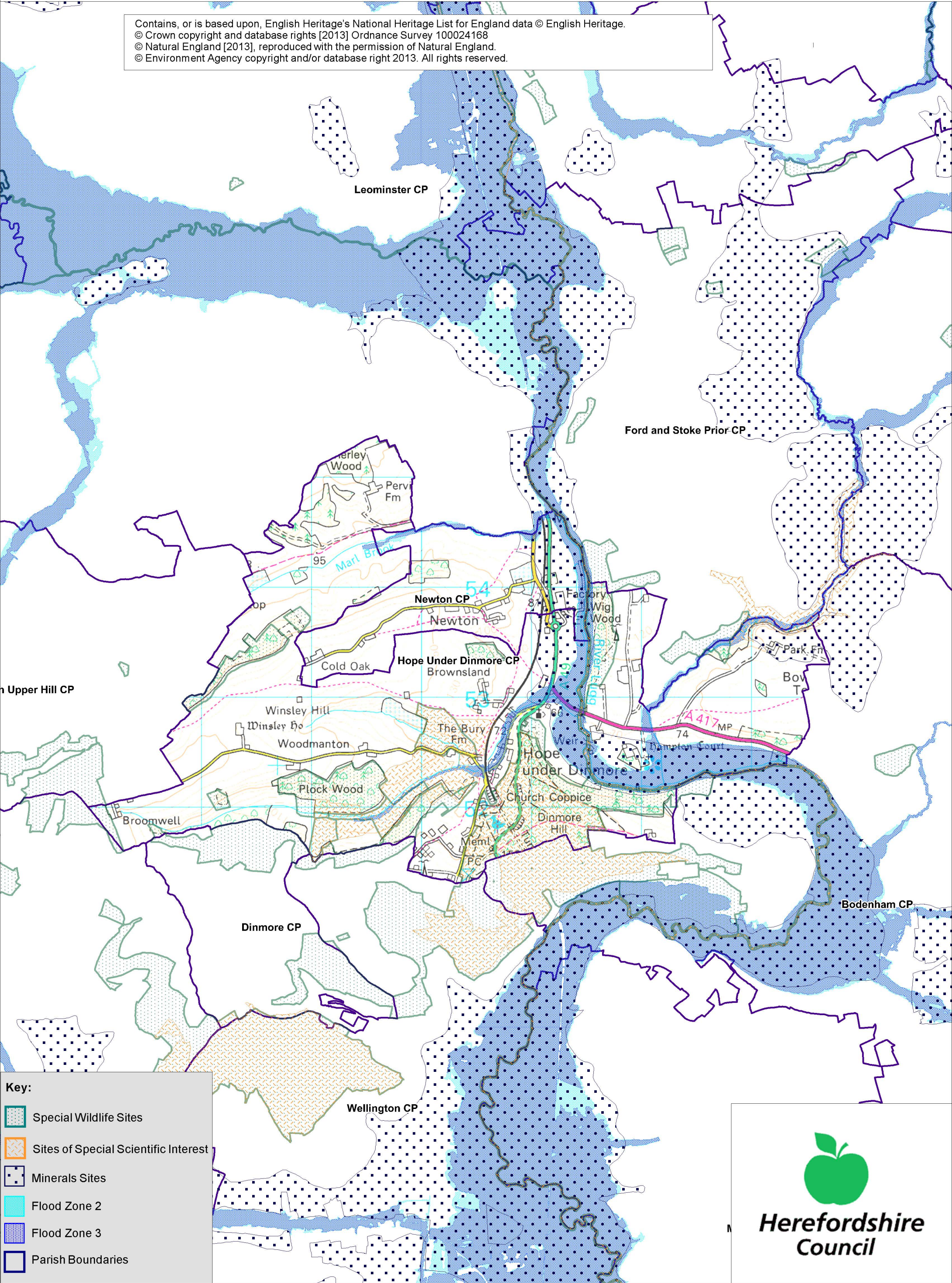
Herefordshire Council

Hope under Dinmore Group SEA Map 2

Scale: 1:30,000



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Key:

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

Herefordshire Council

Appendix 2

Strategic Environmental Assessment



Hope under Dinmore Group Neighbourhood Area

Scoping Report

October 2014

Consultation on the Scoping Report

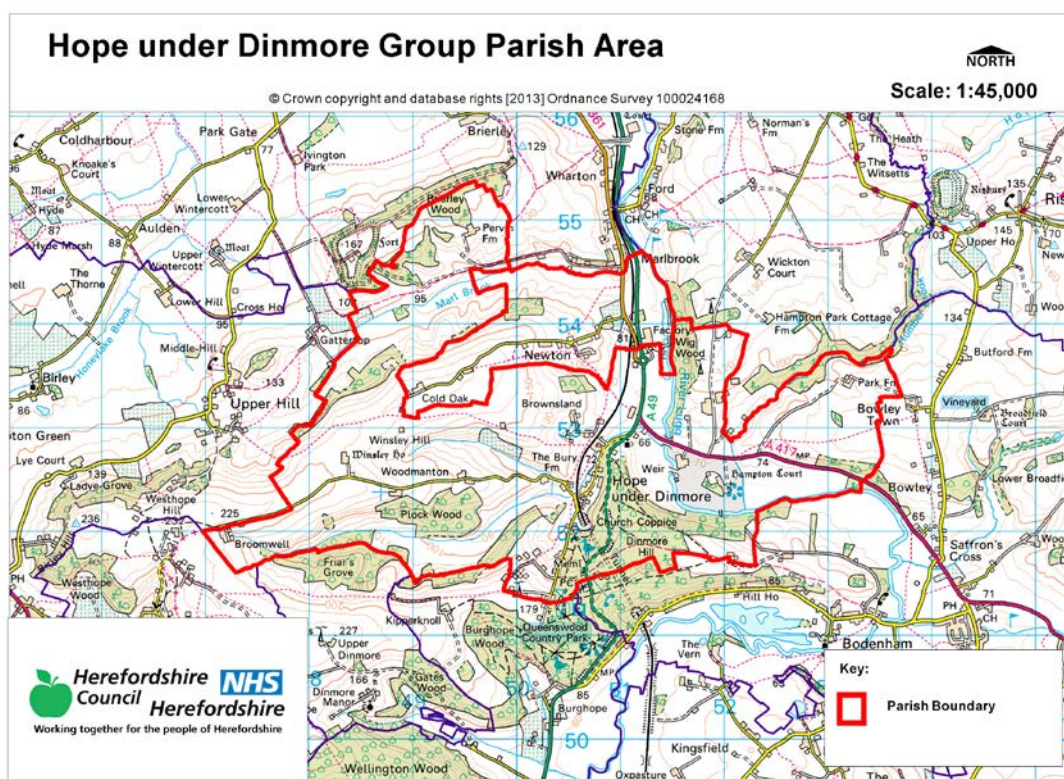
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

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

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

The three consultation bodies are as follows:

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



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

Parish Council Name: Hope Under Dinmore

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Hope Under Dinmore Plan

Date completed: July 2014

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The EC Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations	European Union Legislation	2010	These regulations transpose the Habitats Directive in England, Wales and to a limited extent Scotland by ensuring that activities are carried out in accordance with the Habitats Directive, which is to protect biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna.	The Regulations make it an offence (subject to exceptions) to deliberately capture, kill, disturb, or trade in the animals listed in Schedule 2, or pick, collect, cut, uproot, destroy, or trade in the plants listed in Schedule 4. However, these actions can be made lawful through the granting of licenses by the appropriate authorities.	• Biodiversity • Cultural heritage and the landscape	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
The EC Water Framework	European Union	2000	Commits all EU member states to achieve good	Aims for 'good status' for all ground and surface waters (rivers, lakes,	• Water	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the

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
Directive			qualitative and quantitative status of all water courses by 2015	transitional waters, and coastal waters) in the EU		relevant legislation and regulations.
The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)	Domestic Legislation	1981	The major legal instrument for wildlife protection in Britain, although other significant acts have been passed since. It has numerous parts and supplementary lists and schedules many of which have been amended since publication.	The principle mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain.	• 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.	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. There are provisions to consider extending the right in the future to coastal land, but not woodland	• Biodiversity • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Soil	The Neighbourhood Plan should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				despite some early publicity suggesting this.		
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)	Domestic Legislation	2006	Designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities through modernised and simplified arrangements for delivering Government policy.	Provides that any public body or statutory undertaker in England and Wales must have regard to the purpose of conservation of biological diversity in the exercise of their functions.	• 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.
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: • Climate change and clean energy; • Sustainable transport	• 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.

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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
				• Sustainable production and consumption; • Public health threats; • Better management of natural resources; • Social inclusion, demography and migration; • Fighting global poverty.		
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.	• 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.		• Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape	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
					• Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water	
Planning Practice Guidance	Government Guidance	2014	Provides guidance to local planning authorities and others on the operation of the planning system.		• 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.	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. The Core Strategy includes a range of objectives, five	• Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water	The NDP should take account of relevant policies set within in the Core Strategy. Where necessary, the NDP should provide services, facilities and employment opportunities that are accessible to both local and neighbouring

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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
				of which directly relate to rural areas: • To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community • To improve access to services in rural areas • To strengthen the economic viability of the villages and their rural hinterlands • To achieve sustainable communities and protect the environment • To conserve, promote, utilise and enjoy our natural, built, historic and cultural assets for the fullest benefit of the whole community 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. Seeks proportional growth of up to 15% in Hope-Under-Dinmore (Bromyard		communities. Approx 17 dwellings will need to be delivered within the settlement of Hope-Under-Dinmore. Hope-Under-Dinmore.is within the Bromyard HMA. This is allocated under RA1 policy and should take into consideration the criteria set within this policy.

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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
				HMA) over the plan period.		
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP) 2013-2015	Corporate	2013	Sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period April 2013 to April 2015.	The document includes three key objectives, one which seeks to maintain access for rural residents and people without access to a car. Intrinsic to this is the retention of a 'core network' of bus services which focus on journeys between Hereford and the market towns, along with main transport corridors close to larger rural settlements. To this end, the strategy aims to increase the number of bus users by 1.3% (4,700 journeys) by 2015.	• Air • Climate factors • Population and human health	The LTP does not explore current transport issues in the Hope-Under-Dinmore Plan 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.		• Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water	The Hope-Under-Dinmore Plan 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.		• Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water	The Hope-Under-Dinmore Plan neighbourhood Area is not within or adjacent to the Wye Valley AONB.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) 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.	The document outlines the path and direction to foster economic vitality within Herefordshire. Key objectives therefore include: • 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.	• 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.	This study covers existing employment sites in Hereford, the five market towns and their rural hinterlands. There are no employment land allocations within Hope Under Dinmore. .at present and so the study does not identity 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.	• 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	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.	None of merit.	- Air - Biodiversity - Climate factors - Cultural heritage and the landscape - Flora and fauna - Population and human health - Soil - Water	The SHLAA assesses the potential availability of land for housing. The village of Hope-Under-Dinmore did not have a SHLAA assessment undertaken; therefore a local site assessment exercise should be undertaken for this village.

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.	Hope-Under-Dinmore falls within the Bromyard HMA. Here, the study reveals that: • 57% of households are unable to afford market housing. • There is an annual requirement for 60 affordable dwellings between 2012 and 2017 within the Bromyard HMA area. The study identifies that, in rural parts of Bromyard HMA, there is a need for: • 219 market houses • 149 affordable houses. The study highlights that within the Bromyard HMA the overall estimated housing need by size 2012-2017 is as follows: 1 Bed - 45.8%, 2 bed - 29.9%, 3 bed – 8.4% and 15.9% for 4 bed.	• Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Population and human health • Soil • Water	The LHMA provides an indication of housing needs and affordability within the Bromyard HMA. It provides evidence that could be used to inform policies or market and affordable housing requirements in the 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
Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study	Evidence	2012	Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.	The delivery of 5,300 homes in the rural areas would: • Support growth in the rural population by 6% • Increase the number of households by 14.5% 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. Moderate growth is expected in the 30-44 and 60-74 age brackets. 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	• Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water	This study provides an indication of housing requirements in the rural areas and the Bromyard HMA. This evidence can be used to inform the content of the Hope-Under-Dinmore NDP, which could include policies to facilitate the provision of the right types of homes in the right places.

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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
				provide more 3 bedroom homes, with more 1 and 2 bed homes required in the affordable sector.		
Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report	Evidence	2013	Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy	The village of Hope-Under-Dinmore as RA1 settlements, which means it is considered a sustainable location for proportional growth of up to 15%.	• Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water	The Hope-Under-Dinmore NDP will need to be in conformity with the provisions of Policy RA1.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment	Evidence	2013	Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.	Key findings from the survey of Gypsy and Traveller households in 2012 found that: • 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.	• Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water	The Hope-Under-Dinmore NDP must establish whether any of the need identified in this assessment falls within the neighbourhood area and make appropriate provisions for it.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Evidence	2007	Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.	Integrating biodiversity objectives with other environmental, social and economic needs can provide a sustainable living and working environment that benefits both people and nature.	• Biodiversity	The NDP can help to achieve the LBAP priorities.
Building Biodiversity into the LDF	Evidence	2009	Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.	This document provides useful information in respect of Hereford and the market towns only.	• 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 Hope-Under-Dinmore NDP can overcome any existing constraints and capitalise on opportunities to enhance habitats and their networks.

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.	• 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 Hope-Under-Dinmore 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.	The total energy demand excluding transport for Herefordshire, at that point in time, was calculated as being: • Electrical: 731 GWh/yr • Heat: 1,810 GWh/yr • Total: 2,541 GWh/yr There is scope for all types of renewable energy production.	• 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 Hope-Under-Dinmore 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.	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. In terms of Hope-Under-Dinmore parish itself, the study reveals that there are no playing pitch facilities within Hope-Under-Dinmore parish.	• 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 Hope-Under-Dinmore NDP.

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.	The study reveals that within the Bromyard Area, there is: • Extensive under provision of parks and gardens • Extensive over provision of natural and semi-natural green space • Under provision of amenity green space and outdoor sport • Average provision for children and young people.	• 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 Hope-Under-Dinmore.

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 Hope-Under-Dinmore itself, the study reveals that; • There is a formal play facility at Queenswood. • The play facility at Queenswood is in an average condition but has high usage. Therefore it requires a rolling programme of replacement. It has Herefordshire council maintenance budget.	• Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Hope-Under-Dinmore NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) ¹	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study	Evidence	2009	The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development. The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.	Hope-Under- Dinmore sits within the Middle Lugg catchment. The lower Lugg has one of the highest fluvial flooding risks in the county, Hope-under-Dinmore is affected by. The River Wye SAC extends into the River Lugg which is one of the most important tributaries for spawning. The Middle Lugg Catchment has a 20-24% run percentage run off by sub catchment. This is potentially moderately suitable for infiltration source control. The Middle Lugg has an moderately slow flood response (Tp-time to peak) time at around 16.4 hours. The WCS identifies that the Middle Lugg in terms of ecological status is rated as poor. DCWW confirms that Lugg reductions will create deficit for Pilleth WRZ. Trickle irrigation believed to impact significantly on Ecological River Flow Objectives in the River Lugg. This may impact on water availability for all sectors in future, especially with climate change.	• Biodiversity • Climate factors • Material assets • Population and human health • Water	New development proposed through the Hope-Under-Dinmore NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure. Up-to-date flood risk information should be gathered from the Environment Agency, in order to ensure that any flood risks are considered when preparing the Hope-Under-Dinmore NDP.

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Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Hope-Under-Dinmore

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

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</i>							
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. <i>30/07/14: Hill Hole Dingle – unfavourable recovering condition</i> <i>River Lugg – Unfavourable recovering condition</i> <i>Dinmore Hill – favourable condition to the west and unfavourable recovery to the west</i>	2006: 22% 2007: 22% 2008: 22% 2010: 24 % Proportion of SSSI land that was in unfavourable condition but recovering increased between 2010 and 2012 going from 41% to 65%. Proportion in unfavourable and declining condition had also decreased from 4% to 1%.	% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)	Herefordshire's SSSIs are in extremely poor condition relative to England as whole, where 96.1% of all SSSI land was in favourable condition in April 2014. The proportion of SSSI in unfavourable condition but recovering is greater than England as a whole, where the figure currently stands at 58.6%.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).

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
			<i>Bury Farm x 2 – favourable condition</i>				
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.	<i>The River Lugg runs adjacent to the Parish of Humber, Ford and Stoke Prior. With a number of tributaries running into the Lugg and Wye catchment.</i> <i>The River Lugg section of the SAC is currently exceeding the phosphate target.</i>	The River Wye SAC was subject to a review of consents in 2010, as a number of sections of the river were found to have greater phosphate levels than those identified in Natural England's favourable condition tables.	The roll out of the Nutrient Management Plan will determine future targets.	New development within the area could lead to the water quality failing the phosphate levels and conservation objectives.	Nutrient Management Plan (2014)

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

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
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.	Hope-under-Dinmore has: SSSI: 6 SWS: 11 Hope-under-Dinmore falls within the River Wye SAC. 0 NNRs, SINCs and LNRs within the parish.	As of 2012, there had been no change in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of the planning permissions granted.	To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	Herefordshire Council Initial Screening Report for the Neighbourhood Plan 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: Principal wooded hills; wooded forest	-	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)

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

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

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Climatic Factors</i>							
16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate change.	Transport patronage by mode	% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1% Foot: 14.7% Bicycle: 4.3% Bus: 2% Train: 0.8% Motorbike: 0.8% Taxi: 0.3% Other: 7% <i>There is no locally specific data available at present</i>	The number of people cycling or travelling by bus as the main form transport to get to work declined between 2001 and 2011 – across England and Wales there was little change in either. Walking or driving a car or van on the other hand increased.	To encourage the take up of lesser polluting forms 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	Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO₂) <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This trend hides an increase in emissions between 2009 and 2010 when total emissions in the county increased by 5% the same as across the UK (+5%).	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.	CO ₂ emissions produced are decreasing.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).

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

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.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i> This indicator would not be applicable to rural NDPs.	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Cultural heritage</i>							
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR and which is due to be published in 2014. However, this data would be too large to incorporate into this template. <i>There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and one SAM. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.</i>	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.	<i>None of Hope-Under-Dinmore's listed buildings or SAMs is considered to be at risk at present.</i>	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; search July 2014)

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

Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the Hope-Under-Dinmore 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	Hope-Under-Dinmore has a Scheduled Ancient Monument and several 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
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.	

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

Template A4: SEA Framework

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

Parish Council Name: Hope-Under-Dinmore

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Hope-Under-Dinmore Plan

Date completed: July 2014

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
Nature Conservation (Biodiversity, flora and fauna)	Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity. Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	• 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	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire. After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	% of SSSI land in favourable condition (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition but recovering (Increase) % of SSSI land in unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease) Percentage of opportunities taken To protect and where possible enhance the habitats of protected species identified. No net losses

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			gardens and their settings • Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management • Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. • Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users.		
Landscape	Not covered in SA	To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes To improve quality of surroundings	• 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	Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission. Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented. Monitoring changes to historic landscapes. Area resulting in a loss of open space as a result of planning permission	To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible. No specific targets identified. No specific targets identified. No specific targets identified

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			places to live - 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	- 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	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. Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage). Ensure that Herefordshire Council's Sites and Monuments Register is kept up to date.	To improve upon or otherwise maintain current status. To improve upon or otherwise maintain current status. No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
			area.		
Air and Climate	Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	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	- 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.	Transport patronage by mode Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission. Total CO2 emissions per capita	To increase the take up of alternative modes to the private car. To contribute towards the national target. To reduce the overall carbon emissions.

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
Water	Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	To improve water quality To provide for sustainable sources of water supply To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	• 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.	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds. Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice. 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. To meet the targets set out in the Nutrient Management Plan (2014)
Soil	Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	To conserve soil resources and quality Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	• 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.	Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land. Amount of land identified as best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development.	To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy. Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.

SEA Topics	SA Objective	SEA Objective	Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)	Indicators	Targets
	Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.		• 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.	To improve health of the population To reduce crime and nuisance	• 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	Use natural resources and energy more efficiently. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	To conserve natural and manmade resources	• 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.	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. Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register. Monitoring changes to historic landscapes. Agricultural land usage by quality	Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development. No specific targets identified. No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date. No specific targets identified. Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.

Appendix 3



ENGLISH HERITAGE

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

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

Our ref:
Your ref:

Telephone 0121 625 6887
Fax 0121 625 6820

01 September 2014

Dear Sir or Madam

CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS IN: (Burghill; Hope under Dinmore; Humber; Ford and Stoke Prior Group; Leominster).

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

I hope this is helpful.

Yours faithfully

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

Date: 04 September 2014
Our ref: 128297
Your ref: None



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

Dear Mr Latham

**Hope under Dinmore Group Neighbourhood Plan Strategic Environmental Assessment
Scoping and Habitat Regulations Assessment Screening**

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 01 August 2014 which was received by Natural England on the same date.

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

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

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

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

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

Appendix A1 – Plans, policies and programmes

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

Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Hope under Dinmore Group

Biodiversity, flora and fauna

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

Under the proposed indicator *“Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan”*, 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”*. We welcome the reference to the Historic Landscape Characterisation for Hereford. Reference could also be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment.

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.

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

Soil

We note that the best and most versatile agricultural land has not been considered. 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 Hope under Dinmore group baseline

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

Appendix A4 – SEA Framework

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

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

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

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

Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening

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

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

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

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

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

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

Yours sincerely

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

Appendix 4

Template B1: Hope-under-Dinmore NDP Objectives review against SEA objectives

Parish Council Name: Hope-under-Dinmore

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Hope-under-Dinmore NDP

Date completed: 30/9/15

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

SEA Objectives

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

NDP objectives	SEA Objectives																Conclusions	Recommendations	SMART Test of NDP objective	After SMART objectives
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16				
New homes will be built in small numbers, in a style and setting sympathetic to the nature of the village and surrounding countryside. Any developments must not have an adverse impact on flooding.	0	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	?	?	X	X	+	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. Policy safeguards exist within both the Core Strategy and neighbourhood plan to mitigate any impacts.	Ensure proposed development has some sustainable design elements to reduce environmental impact of new development.	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.	
Local infrastructure will be improved to reduce flood risk, and roads and footpaths kept safe and well maintained	0	?	+	?	X	+	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	X	X	?	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives.	Ensure new proposals have a reduced impact upon flooding and help with reducing the contributions to climate change.	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.	
Community facilities such as the church and village hall will be looked after and respected	X	X	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	?	X	?	+	+	+	This objective does not have a direct relationship with many of the SEA objectives, but the objectives that there is a relationship are compatible		This objective meets the SMART criteria	
New development will be in keeping with the distinctive landscape and respect the setting of the village	+	+	+	+	X	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	X	X	X	?	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. Policy safeguards exist within both the Core Strategy and neighbourhood plan to mitigate any impacts upon the environment.		This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.	
Residents will be able to appreciate and enjoy local open spaces for amenity and leisure	+	+	?	?	X	?	?	X	X	X	?	?	X	+	+	+	This objective is generally compatible, need the location of the open spaces to ensure no adverse impact on flooding and the environment.	Ensure the location of the open spaces does not have an adverse effect on the environment, and ensure that policy safeguards exist.	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.	

Queenswood Country Park will be preserved and open access maintained	+	+	?	+	?	?	+	+	?	X	+	?	X	+	+	+	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives.		This objective meets the SMART criteria	
Natural and historic features will be safeguarded, and their role in the green infrastructure network recognised	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	X	X	?	+	X	?	?	+	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives.		This objective meets the SMART criteria	
Renewable energy will be promoted, provided any adverse impacts can be managed	?	?	X	?	+	?	+	+	?	?	+	?	+	?	X	?	This objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. Policy safeguards exist within both the Core Strategy and neighbourhood plan to mitigate any impacts upon the environment.		This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.	
Local small businesses including farming will be encouraged and supported	?	X	X	+	X	?	?	?	X	X	?	?	?	X	X	?	Further details are required with regards to the type of business and location.	Many of these objectives could be positive if the business were kept local thereby reducing traffic, and had policy safeguards to ensure no adverse impact upon the environment.	This objective meets all of the SMART criteria. This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.	
Improvements to mobile and broadband communications will be supported	X	X	X	?	X	+	?	?	X	X	?	?	+	X	X	?	This objective is fairly specific and therefore does not relate to all of the SEA objectives.	Ensure policy safeguards are in place to protect the environment from development of broadband	This objective meets the SMART criteria	

Template B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP options and alternatives - Draft Hope-under-Dinmore Group, (November 2015 version) options and alternatives review against SEA objectives

Parish Council Name: Hope-under-Dinmore Group Parish Council

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Hope-under-Dinmore Group

Date completed: October 2015

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

SEA Objectives	Baseline carried over from Stage A
1- To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna) 2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes 3- To improve quality of surroundings 4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage 5- To improve air quality 6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment 7- To reduce contributions to climate change 8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change 9- To improve water quality 10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply 11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk 12- To conserve soil resources and quality 13- To minimise the production of waste 14- To improve health of the population 15- To reduce crime and nuisance 16- To conserve natural and manmade resources	1-The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. Within Hope-under –Dinmore Parish there are 6 SSSI's, three are rated as unfavourable, but Dinmore Hill is favourable to the west and two are favourable. (Hill Hole Dingle, River Lugg, Bury Farm x2 and Dinmore Hill). 2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire. There are SSSI: 6, SWS: 11, 1 SAC,, no NNRs, SINCs and LNRs within the parish. 2-There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Hope-under-Dinmore Group, and there is no conservation area. 3-The study reveals that within Hope-under –Dinmore parish there are no playing pitch facilities. There is a formal play area at Queenswood which is in average condition. 4-Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there is one SAM in the parish, according to the latest version of the register. 5-Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This suggests that air quality is improving. 6-% of Herefordshire residents who travel to work by: Car: 70.1%, Foot: 14.7%;Bicycle: 4.3%,Bus: 2%, Train: 0.8%,Motorbike: 0.8%,Taxi: 0.3%,Other: 7%. 7-Herefordshire latest figure of C02 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO²) 8-Reduce the risk of flooding-There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. 9-Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive. Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84%. 10-The parish falls into the Herefordshire Conjunctive Use Water Resource Zones (WRZs), one of 6 zones covering Herefordshire. 39% of demand is from non-household use. 11-Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds. The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. Hope-under-Dinmore Parish falls within the Middle Lugg catchment 12-. Within Hope-under-Dinmore Parish the majority of the land is grade 2 and 3 (very good to moderate). Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.2010/11: 67%2011-13: 57%. 16- There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 1 SAMs. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Hope-under-Dinmore Parish at present. The Parish Area has the following landscape types: Principal wooded hills and wooded forest.

NDP Options and alternatives	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy in terms of SEA
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA	NA	NA	16			
Option 1 NDP preparation A / Prepare a NDP	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Prepare a NDP allows for certainty for the Parish, and ensures that local policies are in place to guide development.	All policies within the NDP would need to be in general conformity with the national policies and the Local Plan.	This option would meet the requirements of the Core Strategy in terms of SEA.
B / Do nothing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	Do nothing option is essential not to produce a neighbourhood plan and rely on the criteria policies within the Core Strategy to guide further development. Specific policies and proposals for the parishes would not exist.	All developments would need to be in conformity with the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy has been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal and policies met the SEA objectives.	n/a
Option 2Size of housing developments A / Individual new homes within areas of existing dwellings	++	++	++	++	+	?	+	?	+	+	+	+				+	Development of individual homes would allow the character of the area to remain and the impact upon the local community would be reduced. The existing services would already be in place.	This policy would be suitable for the small village environment but it must also meet the housing requirements of the Core Strategy therefore it must be ensured that there is sufficient capacity available.	Would meet with the requirements of the Core Strategy if the capacity levels could be demonstrated to meet the housing numbers required.
B/ Smaller developments of 3-5 houses in more than one place	++	++	++	+	+	?	?	?	+	?	+	+				+	Utilising small groups of houses allows the character of the area to remain, but it also ensures through policy that additional environmental benefits can be met. The policy wording can ensure that the quality of the landscape and surroundings remain.	This option would be able to meet the housing requirements in the Core Strategy as it will allow greater capacity, any environmental concerns can be dealt with on a case by case basis.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
C/ Single development of 10-15 houses	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	+	+	?	+				+	This option would give certainty as it would be one area defined for development, and would allow for any environmental concerns to be alleviated through the site allocation and policy wording. However it could also provide more impact upon the environment as it would be a larger site and could impact	Ensure that environmental impacts are kept to a minimum through site assessment and policy wording, also the policy wording needs to safeguard the character and	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA .

																	more on the surroundings.	setting of the area is kept.	
Option 3 Village boundary A / Use a settlement boundary to manage development at Hope-under-Dinmore	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside. This can aid the direction of further growth to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. There is less certainty over the positive effects on the baseline as any growth with be adjudged by criteria based policy.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
B / Do not use a settlement boundary to manage village development	?	?	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	?				+	Without a settlement boundary it would risk housing development coming forward which could cause additional environmental concerns. It does not give any level of certainty as to where potential development will be located.	The NDPs policies will need to safeguard against any effects on any of the SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 4 Housing Delivery A / 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. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
B / Deliver housing through managed windfall development, with no site allocation	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	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 criterion is added to the policy to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline.	Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Option 5 Type of Village boundary A / Restrictive boundary, limiting development to that identified in the Plan	++	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	+				+	A restrictive boundary would provide certainty to where the development will take place within the village, this means that specific environmental concerns can be investigated for all sites within this boundary and appropriately addressed within the policy wording.	Caution needs to be paid that the boundary isn't too restrictive that it means cramped development or inappropriate infill; policies should ensure that development is not halted due to insufficient space.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

B / Permissive boundary, including areas of open land for possible later development	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	+	+				+	This would allow a certainty for the parish as to where the development will go, but will also allow for capacity for growth within the boundary. Specific environmental concerns can be investigated for all sites within the boundary, and the boundary can be developed in the best location to limit environmental concerns.	Allowances for housing numbers within the settlement boundary will ensure that development will be appropriately located	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 6 Employment development A / Allocating land for employment, as part of the overall approach to economic development	++	++	++	++	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+				+	Allocation of sites for employment 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 employment development within the area. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocations policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
B / Not to allocate land for employment development	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	+	+	+	?	+				?	Without the allocation of land for employment there will be the loss of certainty of land coming forward for employment. This could have an environmental impact as no sites have been chosen therefore mitigation would need to be included in the policies within the Plan.	Policies within the Plan would need to allow for mitigation for sites that would come forward for employment to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 7 Renewable Energy A / Wind turbines	+	?	?	?	+	+	++	++	X	X	?	?				+	Wind turbines can have an adverse impact upon the landscape therefore the location and size of the turbines would need to be mitigated against within the policies.	To ensure all SEA objectives are achieved and any adverse impact on the landscape, mitigation criteria will need to be incorporated into the policy.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
B / Solar Power	+	+	?	+	+	+	++	++	X	X	?	?				+	Depending upon the scale of the solar schemes, will depend upon the environmental impact. Policies should include mitigation methods to ensure cumulative impacts do not adversely impact upon the baseline.	To ensure all SEA objectives are achieved and any adverse impact on the landscape, mitigation criteria will need to be incorporated into the policy.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
C / Ground Heat pumps	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	X	X	?	?				+	Dependent upon location ground source heat pumps should limit any adverse impact as long as they are sensitively developed.	To ensure all SEA objectives are achieved and any adverse impact on the landscape, mitigation criteria will need to be incorporated into the policy.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

D / Biomass units	+	+	+	+	+	+	++	++	X	X	?	?				+	The Plan's policies should include mitigation methods to ensure any adverse impact is limited.	To ensure all SEA objectives are achieved and any adverse impact on the landscape, mitigation criteria will need to be incorporated into the policy.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 8 Leisure and recreational facilities A / Make provision for recreational open space	+	+	+	+	X	?	?	X	X	X	?	?				+	Allocation of sites for open space would give certainty to the parish of the provision of recreational area during the plan period.	Allocation of the open space should ensure that the SEA objectives are all met.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
B / Make provision for a children's play area	+	+	+	+	X	?	?	X	X	X	?	?				+	Allocation of sites for play areas would give certainty to the parish that sufficient provision will be provided during the Plan period.	Allocation of the open space should ensure that the SEA objectives are all met.	This option would meet with the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy in terms of SEA
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Policy HUD1 – Housing Strategy	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	?	+	+	+	?	X	X	+	Overall this policy has a positive impact upon the baseline as the policy seeks to have regard to environmental constraints.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy in relation to the housing strategy.	Overall this policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy HUD2 – Settlement Boundary	++	++	+	+	0	0	X	X	X	X	+	+	X	X	X	+	Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline, as the settlement boundary will provide certainty about where development will go.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy in relation to the settlement boundaries and housing development within policy RA2.	Overall this policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy HUD3 – Criteria for new housing development	++	++	+	++	X	?	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	X	X	+	Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline, and seeks to mitigate against the effects of housing development on the environment.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy for	Overall this policy meets the Core Strategy requirements

																		housing proposals.	for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy HUD4 – Flood Risk	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	X	++	+	X	X	X	+	Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline, and seeks to mitigate against the effects of housing development on the environment, particularly in relation to flood risk and flooding.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy for safeguarding against flooding and flood risk.	Overall this policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy HUD5 – Community Facilities	+	+	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	+	X	X	+	+	+	Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline, and seeks to mitigate against the effects of any new community development would have on the environment.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy.	Overall this policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy HUD6 – Landscape character	++	++	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	X	+	+	X	+	X	++	Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline, retaining the character and setting of the landscape within the parish.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy, and retaining the landscape character and setting of the area.	Overall this policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy HUD7 – Local Green Space	++	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	0	X	+	+	X	+	X	++	Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline, retaining the character of the area and ensuring a valued green space is protected.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy.	Overall this policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy HUD8 – Biodiversity and Heritage Assets	++	++	+	++	+	0	0	+	0	X	X	+	X	0	X	++	Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline, retaining the character of the area and ensuring protection for the biodiversity, geodiversity and heritage assets in the area.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy.	Overall this policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy HUD9 – Renewable energy	+	+	+	+	X	+	++	+	X	X	+	X	+	X	X	+	Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline, this policy will help to follow the trends and reach targets set in the baseline.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy.	Overall this policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy HUD10 – Employment development	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	X	X	+	+	+	0	X	+	Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline. Reusing redundant buildings for employment use will help	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the	Overall this policy meets the Core

																	the baseline.	requirements in the Core Strategy.	Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.
Policy HUD11 – Communications infrastructure	X	0	0	X	+	+	0	0	X	X	X	0	0	0	0	0	Overall this policy has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.	Overall this policy meets the SEA objectives and the requirements in the Core Strategy in supporting broadband infrastructure.	Overall this policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

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

Parish Council Name: Hope-under-Dinmore Parish

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Hope-under-Dinmore NDP

Date completed: October 2015

Key:

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards Marginally	- - Move away significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	N/A No relationship
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Policy HUD1 – Housing Strategy

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core	

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

				small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	?	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	Additional policies within the Plan should support renewable energy and be mitigating against contributions to climate change.
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	?	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line	Additional policies should mitigate for the improvement in water

				with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	quality.
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
To minimise the production of waste	?	?	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core	During the development phases protocols should be in place to minimise any waste produced and ensure recycling

				Strategy.	takes place.
To improve health of the population	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X	N/A	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with Policy RA3 within the Core Strategy.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy compliments policy RA3 of the Core Strategy and would only lead to small scale development. Policy safeguarding exists to ensure that environmental considerations are taken into account.				

Policy HUD2 – Settlement Boundary

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

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would direct where development would be located. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would direct where development would be located. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would direct where development would be located. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would direct where development would be located. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

To improve air quality	0	0	0	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would direct where development would be located. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	N/A	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	N/A	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	N/A	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would direct where development would be located. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would direct where development would be located. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To minimise the production of waste	X	X	X	N/A	
To improve health of the population	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X	N/A	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but would direct where development would be located. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This Policy does not go over and above the Core Strategy. This policy will direct where the development within the parish should go, it will not lead to development itself.				

Policy HUD3 – Criteria for new housing development

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and	Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation
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	magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)				opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in	

				terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	?	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	Over time the proposals should provide safe access to the developments and to the existing network
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	0	0	0	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	Policy could include criteria for water harvesting.
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in	

				terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve health of the population	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X	N/A	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in	

				terms of SEA objectives.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains design criteria and mitigation criteria for environmental protection. This policy does not go over and above the Core Strategy.				

Policy HUD4 – Flood Risk

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of	

				SEA objectives.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	N/A	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	++	++	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of	

				SEA objectives.	
To minimise the production of waste	X	X	X		
To improve health of the population	X	X	X		
To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X		
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This Policy would not lead to development itself but contains safeguards for flooding and flood risk. The Policy does not go over and above the Core Strategy.				

Policy HUD5 – Community Facilities

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

	years)	(6 – 10 years)	(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.	
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.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
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.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	X	X	X	N/A	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	N/A	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	N/A	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	N/A	
To minimise the production of waste	X	X	X	N/A	
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce crime and nuisance	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy does not go over and above the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards exist within this policy, other policies in the NDP and Core Strategy to avoid and mitigate against significant harm.				

Policy HUD6 – Landscape character

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above	

				the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA	

				objectives.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve water quality	0	0	0	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	N/A	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria.	

				This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To minimise the production of waste	X	X	X	N/A	
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X	N/A	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy would not lead to development itself but contains the design and landscape criteria. This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.
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Policy HUD7 – Local Green Space

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

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.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve water quality	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	N/A	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To minimise the production of waste	X	X	X	N/A	
To improve health of the population	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X	N/A	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	Additional green space will benefit the community, and help to mitigate against the cumulative development.				

Policy HUD8 – Biodiversity and Heritage Assets

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

	years)	(6 – 10 years)	(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.	
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.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
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.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

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

To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X	N/A	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy provides safeguards for the biodiversity and heritage assets in the Parish.				

Policy HUD9 – Renewable energy

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

townscapes				objectives.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
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.	
To improve air quality	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	++	++	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	N/A	

To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	N/A	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	X	X	X	N/A	
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve health of the population	X	X	X	N/A	
To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X	N/A	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy meets the SEA objectives. Policy safeguards exist to protect from any undue adverse impact from the developments. Long term the benefits will outweigh the initial development.				

Policy HUD10 – Employment development

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

To improve air quality	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	++	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	Local areas of employment will encourage alternative modes of transport for the commute and will reduce traffic on the roads
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve water quality	X	X	X	N/A	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	X	X	X	N/A	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To minimise the production of waste	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve health of the population	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce crime and nuisance	X	X	X	N/A	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy does not go over and above the Core Strategy. Safeguards are in place to mitigate against the adverse impact of new development.				

Policy HUD11 – Communications infrastructure

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

	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	X	X	X	N/A	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To improve quality of surroundings	0	0	0	v	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	X	X	X	N/A	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	

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

To reduce crime and nuisance	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
To conserve natural and manmade resources	0	0	0	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives.	
Overall commentary and any cumulative effects	This policy does not go over and above the Core Strategy.				

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

Parish Council Name: Hope-under-Dinmore group

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Hope-under-Dinmore Group

Date completed: October 2015

Key:

++ Move towards significantly	+ Move towards marginally	-- Move away Significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	X No relationship
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SEA Objective Objective / Policy	1. To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	2. To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	3. To improve quality of surroundings	4. To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	5. To improve air quality	6. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	7. To reduce contributions to climate change	8. To reduce vulnerability to climate change	9. To improve water quality	10. To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	11. To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	12. To conserve soil resources and quality	13. To minimise the production	14. To improve health of the population	15. To reduce crime and nuisance	16. To conserve natural and manmade resources
Objective 1	0	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	?	?	+	?	?	X	X	+
Objective 2	0	?	+	?	X	+	?	?	+	+	+	?	?	X	X	?
Objective 3	X	X	+	+	X	X	X	X	X	X	?	X	?	+	+	+
Objective 4	+	+	+	+	X	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	X	X	X	?
Objective 5	+	+	?	?	X	?	?	X	X	X	?	?	X	+	+	+
Objective 6	+	+	?	+	?	?	+	+	?	X	+	?	X	+	+	+
Objective 7	+	+	+	+	?	?	?	?	X	X	?	+	X	?	?	+
Objective 8	?	?	X	?	+	?	+	+	?	?	+	?	+	?	X	?
Objective 9	?	X	X	+	X	?	?	?	X	X	?	?	?	X	X	?
Objective 10	X	X	X	?	X	+	?	?	X	X	?	?	+	X	X	?
Policy HUD1 – Housing Strategy	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	?	+	+	+	?	X	X	+
Policy HUD2 – Settlement Boundary	++	++	+	+	0	0	X	X	X	X	+	+	X	X	X	+

Policy HUD3 – Criteria for new housing development	++	++	+	++	X	?	+	+	+	0	+	+	+	X	X	+
Policy HUD4 – Flood Risk	+	+	+	+	X	X	+	+	+	X	++	+	X	X	X	+
Policy HUD5 – Community Facilities	+	+	+	+	X	+	X	X	X	X	+	X	X	+	+	+
Policy HUD6 – Landscape character	++	++	++	+	+	0	+	+	0	X	+	+	X	+	X	++
Policy HUD7 – Local Green Space	++	+	+	+	X	X	X	+	0	X	+	+	X	+	X	++
Policy HUD8 – Biodiversity and Heritage Assets	++	++	+	++	+	0	0	+	0	X	X	+	X	0	X	++
Policy HUD9 – Renewable energy	+	+	+	+	X	+	++	+	X	X	+	X	+	X	X	+
Policy HUD10 – Employment development	+	+	+	+	0	+	+	0	X	X	+	+	+	0	X	+
Policy HUD11 – Communications infrastructure	X	0	0	X	+	+	0	0	X	X	X	0	0	0	0	0
Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	X	X	X	+
	On balance the plan aiming to converse and enhance the natural environment.	On balance the plan aims to protect and enhance the environment around Hope Under Dinmore group parish and the setting and character of the village	The plan aims improve the quality of the surroundings and encourage additional facilities	The plan aims to protect and enhance the environment around Hope-under-Dinmore and the setting and character of the village	The plan conforms to the aims of the Core Strategy.	The Plan's objectives and policies do not specifically detail reducing the need to travel and therefore this could be strengthened to improve air quality.	Policies include provisions to reduce the contributions to climate change such as design and renewable energy.	Policies are included to reduce the risks of flooding.	Policies are in conformity with the requirements of the Core Strategy.	Policies are in conformity with the requirements of the Core Strategy.	Policies are included to reduce the risks of flooding.	Policies aim to conform to the locational policies within the Core Strategy.				Policies exist to conserve or reuse existing resources.
Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...)	Overall the Hope-under-Dinmore group Neighbourhood Plan will contribution to meeting the SEA objectives and having a positive impact on the baseline. Policies have been drafted in general conformity with the Core Strategy objectives and contain many policy safeguards to ensure that the effects on environmental assets can be avoided or mitigated against. None of the policies are over and above those already assessed for the Core Strategy.															
Commentary for significant cumulative effects	The Hope-under-Dinmore group neighbourhood plan is unlikely to have any significant cumulative effects on the SEA objectives.															

Appendix 5

Hope-under-Dinmore NDP • Note on options considered in formulating the draft Plan

Option area	Options considered	Evidence	Conclusion	Plan ref.
1: NDP preparation	A. Prepare a NDP. B. Do nothing.	Parish Council minutes.	The view of the Parish Council was that the opportunity to prepare an element of the statutory development plan for the area should be taken, to help deliver greater local control over development and enhance ability to address local flooding and environmental protection concerns. Selected option: 1A.	1.2
2: Size of housing developments	A. Individual new homes within areas of existing dwellings. B. Smaller developments of 3-5 houses in more than one place. C. Single development of 10-15 houses.	Survey Q3.	Evidence shows single dwellings and smaller developments are favoured. Smaller schemes are considered to better support local character and distinctiveness. Selected options: 2A and 2B.	Policy HUD3
3: Village boundary	A. Use a settlement boundary to manage development at Hope-under-Dinmore. B. Do not use a settlement boundary to manage village development.	Survey Q7, Core Strategy Modification MM038.	Evidence and strategic policy strongly favour definition of a settlement boundary for the village. Selected option: 3A.	Policy HUD2
4: Housing delivery	A. Allocating land for housing, as part of overall approach to managing delivery. B. Deliver housing through managed windfall development, with no site allocation.	Survey Q3, Q4, Housing Site Assessment	The outcome of the Housing Site Assessment was that no sites could be demonstrated to be suitable for allocation in the Plan. Selected option: 4B.	Policy HUD1

Option area	Options considered	Evidence	Conclusion	Plan ref.
5: Type of village boundary	A. Restrictive boundary, limiting development to that identified in the Plan. B. Permissive boundary, including areas of open land for possible later development.	Survey Q8, Housing Site Assessment, SEA Scoping Report.	A mixed survey response to these options has been assessed in the light of the HSA and the SEA scoping reports. The proposed settlement boundary reflects these evidence-based environmental and other constraints, notably access and severance, biodiversity and flooding. Selected option: refined option to define a boundary taking into account evidence-based constraints.	Policy HUD2
6: Employment development	A. Allocating land for employment, as part of the overall approach to economic development. B. Not to allocate land for employment development.	Survey Q11 and Q12, Local Plan Core Strategy policy RA6 and E1.	The survey showed limited support for new light industry or manufacturing within the Plan, or for new land allocations. Strategic policy directs such growth to larger centres, such as nearby Leominster Enterprise Park. Policy HUD10 supports small-scale employment development through building conversion and home working, and protects existing employment sites. Selected option: 6B.	Policy HUD10.
7: Renewable energy	To encourage the following ways of producing local renewable energy: A. Wind turbines. B. Solar power. C. Ground heat pumps. D. Biomass units.	Survey Q18.	Survey responses did not favour wind turbines. On this basis, and taking account of environmental constraints, the Plan does not identify sites/areas as suitable for wind energy development. The Plan includes a balanced policy supporting local renewable energy whilst taking heed of associated impacts. Selected options: 7B, 7C and 7D.	Policy HUD9.
8: Leisure and recreational facilities	A. Make provision for recreational open space. B. Make provision for a children's play area.	Survey Q21.	Survey support for both options was equivocal. Given this and uncertainties about the arrangements for site provision, funding and ongoing maintenance, particularly given the relatively low levels of residential development likely to be taking place within the Plan area, neither option is included in the draft Plan. Over the Plan period, land identified as local green space may, subject to access and funding, offer potential opportunity for recreational uses.	Policy HUD7

Appendix 6

Objectives and context	Where referenced in NDP/SEA
• 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.	• Section 1 (paras 1.9 – 1.10). • Sections 2 and 3; and Tables A2 and A3 • Section 3 (para 3.7). • Section 3 (para 3.5). • Section 3 (paras 3.8 – 3.12)
Scoping	
• 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.	• Section 2 (paras 2.6 – 2.7) and Appendix 3 • Sections 2 and 4 • Sections 2 and 4

Alternatives	
- 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.	Section 5 (5.1 to 5.4)
Baseline information	
- 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.	- Section 1 and 4. - Initial screening report and Section 1. - Section 2.

Prediction and evaluation of likely significant environmental effects	
- 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.	- Tables A2, A3 and A4 (Appendix 2) - Tables B2 and B3 (Appendix 4) - Table B4 (Appendix 4) - Section 4 - Section 4 - Section 2
Mitigation measures	
- 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.	- Section 6 (paras 6.5 to 6.9) - Section 4

The Environmental Report	
• 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.	• N/A • N/A • N/A • Section 2 • Section 2 • Section 2 • Included at page 1
Consultation	
• 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.	• Section 2 (paras 2.4 – 2.5) • Section 6

Decision-making and information on the decision	
- 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.	- Sections 2 and 6 - Following draft consultation - Following draft consultation
Monitoring measures	
- 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.	- Section 5 - Section 5 - Section 5 - Section 5