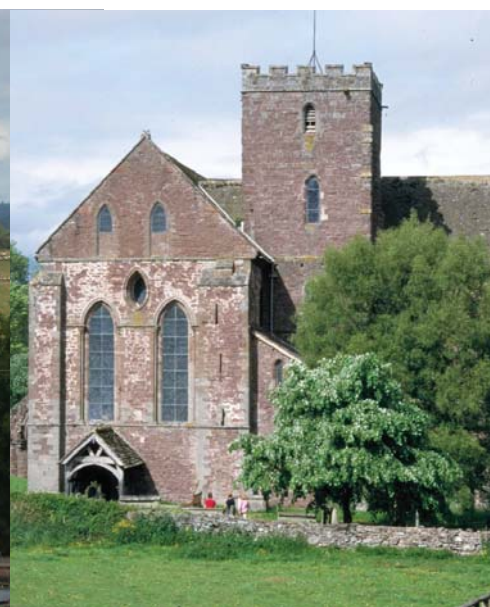


# Environmental Report



## Cusop Neighbourhood Area

June 2016

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Appendix 1: Initial SEA Screening Report

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## Non-technical summary

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

Cusop Parish Council has undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. The parish of Cusop lie within the Golden Valley situated in the west of Herefordshire on the Welsh border. The Welsh town on Hay on Wye is across the Dulas Brook, there are two distinct parts of Cusop, one along the Newport Road and the other around Cusop Dingle.

The Parish area consists of 6 ancient woodland, 5 Special Wildlife Sites, 2 Ancient Monuments, 1 Sites and Special Scientific Interest and 1 unregistered park and gardens.

The Draft Cusop NDP includes 4 objectives and it is intended that these objectives will be supported by 14 criteria based planning policies including a housing and employment site allocations. Alternative options were considered prior to reaching a decision over the format of the draft plan.

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

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening has been carried out as the Parish and has determined that a full assessment is not required. Natural England have concurred with this conclusion and a separate report have been produced.

On the whole, it is considered that the Cusop 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 Cusop NDP will be monitored annually via the Council's Authority Monitoring Report (AMR).

## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the draft Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Cusop Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).
- 1.2 The Cusop NDP proposes a housing site allocations and an employment land allocation near Newport Road. Cusop is a settlement highlighted for proportional levels of growth in Policy RA2 of the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) and the site allocation is seeking to meet this requirement. The NDP also provides 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 Cusop NDP and it concluded that due to the range of environmental designations in and around the parish, there may be significant environmental effects and consequently an SEA would be required.

### Parish Neighbourhood Plan Context

- 1.6 Cusop parish lies within the Golden Valley situated in the west of Herefordshire on the Welsh border. The Welsh market town of Hay on Wye is close by.
- 1.7 The Parish area consists of 6 ancient woodland, 5 Special Wildlife Sites, 2 Ancient Monuments, 1 Sites and Special Scientific Interest and 1 unregistered park and gardens.
- 1.8 The plan does not include a vision but does include 4 NDP objectives which are:
- 1) To enable development whilst protecting the local environment by maintaining a clear visual and functional distinction between built-up areas and countryside.
  - 2) To enable sufficient new housing whilst maintaining or improving the balance of housing in terms of size, design and neighbourhood impact
  - 3) To enable the growth of the local economy whilst protecting and strengthening its distinctive character
  - 4) To protect the local environment by identifying locally distinctive assets.

### 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 Cusop 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) is anticipated to be adopted on 16 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 submission/local authorities publication stage (Regulation 16). This is reinforced by recent ministerial statements and case law (West Sussex), all of which have demonstrated that an emerging NDP may be a material consideration at the Regulation 16 stage.
- 1.16 Table 4.14 of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) lists Cusop among the settlements which it considers to be sustainable locations for proportional growth in line with the provisions of Policy RA2. This policy is expected to facilitate the delivery of 5,300 homes across the areas outside Hereford and the Market Towns in accordance with Policy RA1 and it anticipates that NDPs will be the principle mechanism for delivering growth in the rural areas.
- 1.18 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the Cusop NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the parish, by setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined.

### **Structure of SEA**

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

## 2.0 Methodology

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### Scoping Report Consultation

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

2.7 After the document was approved by the Parish Council, Cusop SEA Scoping Report was available to four statutory bodies for consultation from 3 October to 7 November 2014

### Consultation outcomes from Statutory Consultees

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

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

**Natural England:** update to appendix A1 to include a number of additional documents. Additional detail added regarding priority habitats and details regarding Agricultural land classification should be added.

*Response: The documents referred to have been updated in A1 and further baseline data has been incorporated at A2.*

**English Heritage:** No substantive objection to the content of the document and comments to earlier tranches of SEA Scoping reports remain relevant.

*Response: Comments are noted and necessary changes made*

**Environment Agency:** No comments received

**Natural Resources Wales:** No comments received

### 3.0 The SEA Framework

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

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

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

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

#### Policy context

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

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

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

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

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

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

- *Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study (2012)* - Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.
- *Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report (2013)* - Provides the justification for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy
- *Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment (2013)* - Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan (2007)* - Focuses conservation efforts on the areas within Herefordshire that will result in the greatest benefit for ecological networks, habitats and species.
- *Building Biodiversity into the LDF (2009)* - Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.
- *Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010)* - Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.
- *Renewable Energy Study (2010)* - Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.
- *Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment (2012)* - Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.
- *Open Spaces Study (2006)* - The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a 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 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 Cusop Plan Scoping Report provides additional detail on the Plans, Policies and Programmes mentioned above and identifies the implications for the SEA and NDP.

### **SEA Objectives and baseline characteristics**

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

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

- 3.8 The SEA objectives detailed above conform to the SEA Directive, and are derived from the Sustainability Appraisal undertaken for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) 2011-2031.
- 3.9 Baseline information gathered during Stage A of the SEA process provided details of the current environmental characteristics of the neighbourhood area and the status of its natural assets and features (refer to Appendix 2). This information was analysed as part of Task B2 of SEA, which looked at the extent to which the emerging NDP policies will help or obstruct these characteristics. There are four objectives for which there is no local information available, which provides a limitation on the baseline data and whether the NDP policies are likely to improve or exacerbate existing problems and issues relating to these themes.
- 3.10 Following the completion of Task B2 of SEA it was apparent that the largest environmental issue within the parish is objective surrounding the details of protection of the natural and built environment. Two site allocations are contained within the plan, other policies are criteria based. This mean that the full impacts on the SEA objectives will be tested at the planning application stage when the full details of the location are known. The need for robust environmental criteria based policy is therefore important as the plan text is developed.

## 4.0 Assessing the NDP Objectives

- 4.1 The following objectives, as set out in the NDP, aim to realise the vision for Cusop parish in 2031:
- 1) To enable development whilst protecting the local environment by maintaining a clear visual and functional distinction between built up areas and countryside
  - 2) To enable sufficient new housing while maintaining or improving the balance of housing in terms of size, design and neighbourhood impact
  - 3) To enable the growth of the local economy while protecting and strengthening its distinctive character
  - 4) To protect the local environment by identifying locally distinctive assets.
- 4.2 The table below tests these NDP objectives against the SEA objectives, providing a summary of the results of Task B1 of SEA. The full results are available at Appendix 4 of this report.
- 4.3 The majority of those NDP objectives which have a relationship with the SEA framework are positively compatible with it or have a neutral effect.
- 4.4 It is impossible to appraise the full implications of NDP objective 1 and 3 at this stage given the lack of detail over the exact locations of development that may come to fruition as a result of the implementation of this objectives; however, it is accepted that further development of the planning policies that relate to these objectives would move them towards a compatible outcome.

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

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

## 5.0 Assessing the NDP Options

- 5.1 All options that were considered by the NDP steering group during the development of their plan have been assessed as part of the SEA and the summary matrix of the assessment can be found in Table B2 at Appendix 4.
- 5.2 The options covered were as follows;

Option 1	Do nothing
Option 2	Designate settlement boundary
Option 3	No settlement boundary
Option 4	Continue with previous housing allocation site
Option 5	Allocate housing elsewhere

Option 6	Employment land to south
Option 7	Employment land to west
Option 8	Employment land to north
Option 9	Employment land to east
Option 10	Additional local distinctive asset policy
Option 11	Additional light and design policy

- 5.3 A 'do nothing' option was also considered, i.e. not undertaking an NDP, however this was disregarded at an early stage by the Parish Council as it was considered the majority of the community would support the work undertaken for an NDP.
- 5.4 The option of designating settlement boundary is seen has having a positive effect on the baseline. The designation of a settlement boundary would give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside. This can aid the direction of further growth to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. There is less certainty over the positive effects on the baseline as any growth will be adjudged by criteria based policy. Cusop has traditionally had a designed settlement boundary in previous development plans and this was considered to be the favourable option both environmentally and locally.
- 5.5 There were limited options regarding housing site options as an existing commitment accounts for the majority of the proportional growth requirement within the parish. Options to the north, south, east and west were investigated for future employment provision. Again the balance of environmental issues and existing facilities along the Newport Street indicated land to the north being the favoured option.

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

## 6.0 Appraisal of the policies

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

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

- Policy 1 Settlement boundary
- Policy 2 Newport Street housing allocation
- Policy 3 New dwellings within the settlement boundary
- Policy 4 Size of dwelling
- Policy 5 Extension of dwelling
- Policy 6 New dwellings within the curtilage of existing dwellings
- Policy 7 Safeguarding of Newport Street employment land
- Policy 8 Extension to Newport Street employment land
- Policy 9 Employment generating proposals outside the settlement boundary
- Policy 10 Cusop Hill
- Policy 11 Black Lion Fields
- Policy 12 Dulas Brook
- Policy 13 Avoiding light pollution
- Policy 14 Design

### Stage B of SEA

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

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

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

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

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

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

## **7.0 Implementation and monitoring**

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

**8.0 Next steps**

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

# Appendix 1

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

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

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

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<b>Neighbourhood Area:</b>	Cusop Neighbourhood Area
<b>Parish Council:</b>	Cusop Parish Council
<b>Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:</b>	07/09/2012

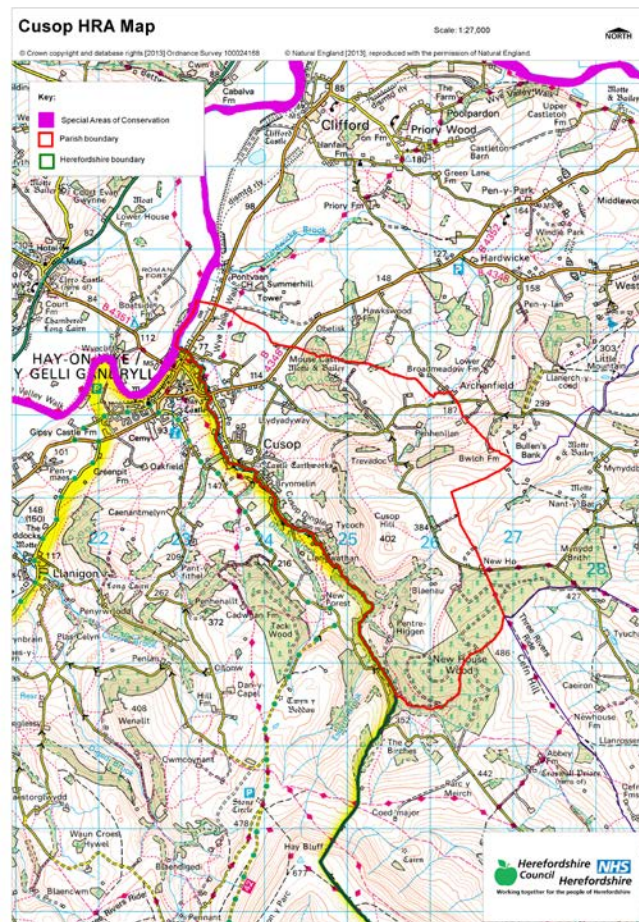
### **Introduction**

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

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

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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 Wye runs along the northern boundary of the Parish and is partly within it.
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye (including the River Lugg) SAC?	Y	Nearly all of the Parish is within the River Wye catchment area.
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	N	Most dwellings within the Parish are connected to mains drainage which is connected to the Hay on Wye STW which discharges into the Wye

**Downton Gorge SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 34.95km away from the Parish
---	---	---

**River Clun SAC:**

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

**Usk Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of the SAC boundary?	N	Usk Bat Sites are 22.86km away from the Parish
--	---	--

**Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:**

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	The Parish is 43.38km 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 Parish is 35.97km 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 Cusop 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 Cusop Neighbourhood Area and would need to be taken into account within a Strategic Environmental Assessment. In addition, the NDP will also need to consider the other SEA topics set out in Guidance Note 9a to ensure that the plan does not cause adverse impacts.

<b>SEA features</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>SEA required</b>
Air Quality Management Areas	0	There are no AQMA's within the Parish	N
Ancient Woodland	6	Mousecastle Wood; Trevadoc Wood; Pentre Higgen Wood 2; Hawks Wood (border); 2 unlabelled at: east of brynmelin and by Cusop Dingle	Y
Areas of Archaeological Interest	0	There are no AAI's within the Parish	N
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	0	There are no AONB's within the Parish	N
Conservation Areas	0	There are no Conservation Areas within the Parish	N
European Sites	1	The River Wye borders the Parish to the north	Y
Flood Areas		The very north of the Parish by the River Wye has Flood Zones 2 and 3 within it. There are also Flood zones along Dulas Brook on the western border	Y
Listed Buildings	Numerous	There are numerous listed buildings scattered throughout the Parish	Y
Local Nature Trails	2		Y
Local Sites (SWS/SINCs/RIGS)	5 (SWS)	River Wye, Mouse Castle, Hawks & Scudamore Woods, Pentre Higgen Wood, Cusop Hill and Dingle, Disused quarry on Cusop Hill, Cefn-Hill Common (border)	Y
Long distance footpaths/trails	2	Wye Valley Walk; Three Rivers Ride	Y
Mineral Reserves	0	There are no Minerals Reserves sites within the Parish	N
National Nature Reserve	0	There are no NNR's within the Parish	N
Registered & unregistered parks and gardens	1 Unregistered	The Moor, Clifford	Y
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	2	Mouse Motte & Bailey Castle, Cusop Castle ringwork	Y
Sites of Special Scientific Interest	1	River Wye (Unfavourable Recovering)	Y

**Decision Notification:**

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

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

**Assessment date: 21/05/2013**

**Assessed by: James Latham**

## Appendix 1: European Sites

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

<b>Downton Gorge</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> 10km for air quality associated with poultry units or other intensive agricultural practices.

<b>River Clun</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Freshwater pearl mussel <i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Water quality is important to maintain the site feature. Parishes either side of the River Clun will be affected.

<b>River Wye</b>
<b>Site Features:</b> Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>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>
<b>Vulnerability data:</b> Proximity: Developments should not be within 100m of the designated bank. Some developments beyond 100m may also have impacts based on proximity and these issues should be addressed where possible when developing NDP policy and choosing site allocations. Water Quality: Within the whole catchment of the River Wye, which includes the River Lugg, mains drainage issues with regards to water quality are being resolved through the Core Strategy / Local Plan and development of a Nutrient Management Plan. Welsh Water should be consulted to ensure that the proposed growth will be within the limit of their consents. Otters: "An otter will occupy a 'home range', which on fresh waters usually includes a stretch of river as well as associated tributary streams, ditches, ponds, lakes and woodland. The size of a home range depends largely on the availability of food and shelter, and the presence of neighbouring otters. On rivers, a male's home range may be up to 40km or more of watercourse and associated areas; females have smaller ranges (roughly half the size) and favour quieter locations for breeding, such as tributary streams. Otters without an established home range are known as 'transients'. They are mostly juveniles looking for a territory of their own, or adults that have been pushed out of their territories. Transient otters may use an area for a short while, but they will move on if conditions are not suitable or if they are driven away by resident otters. Transients will have been important in extending the range of otters, but they are very difficult to identify from field signs. Within a home range an otter may use many resting sites. These include above-ground shelters, such as stands of scrub or areas of rank grass, and underground 'holts' – for example, cavities under tree roots and dry drainage pipes." (Source: EA website: <a href="http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf">http://www.environmentagency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/Otters_the_facts.pdf</a> accessed 09/04/2013)

#### Usk Bat Site

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

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

#### Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites

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

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

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

NDPs closest to the European Site will need to consider:

Woodland habitat buffer.

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

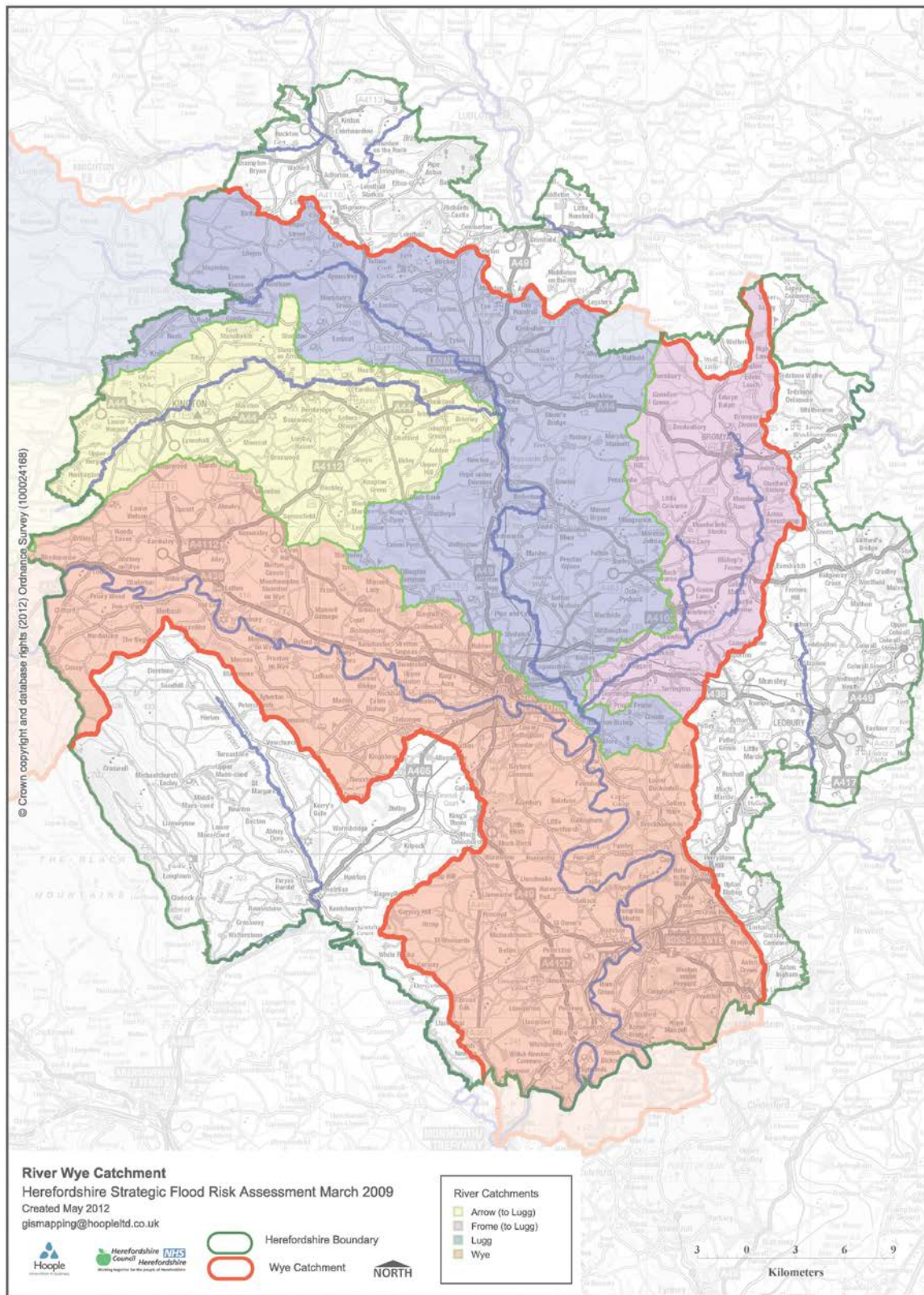
Greater Horseshoe Bat: Large buildings, pasture, edge of mixed deciduous woodland and hedgerows. Mixed land-use especially south-facing slopes, favours beetles, moths and insects they feed on. During the winter they depend on caves, abandoned mines and other underground sites for undisturbed hibernation.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

#### Wye Valley Woodlands

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

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

## Appendix 2: Wye Catchment Map

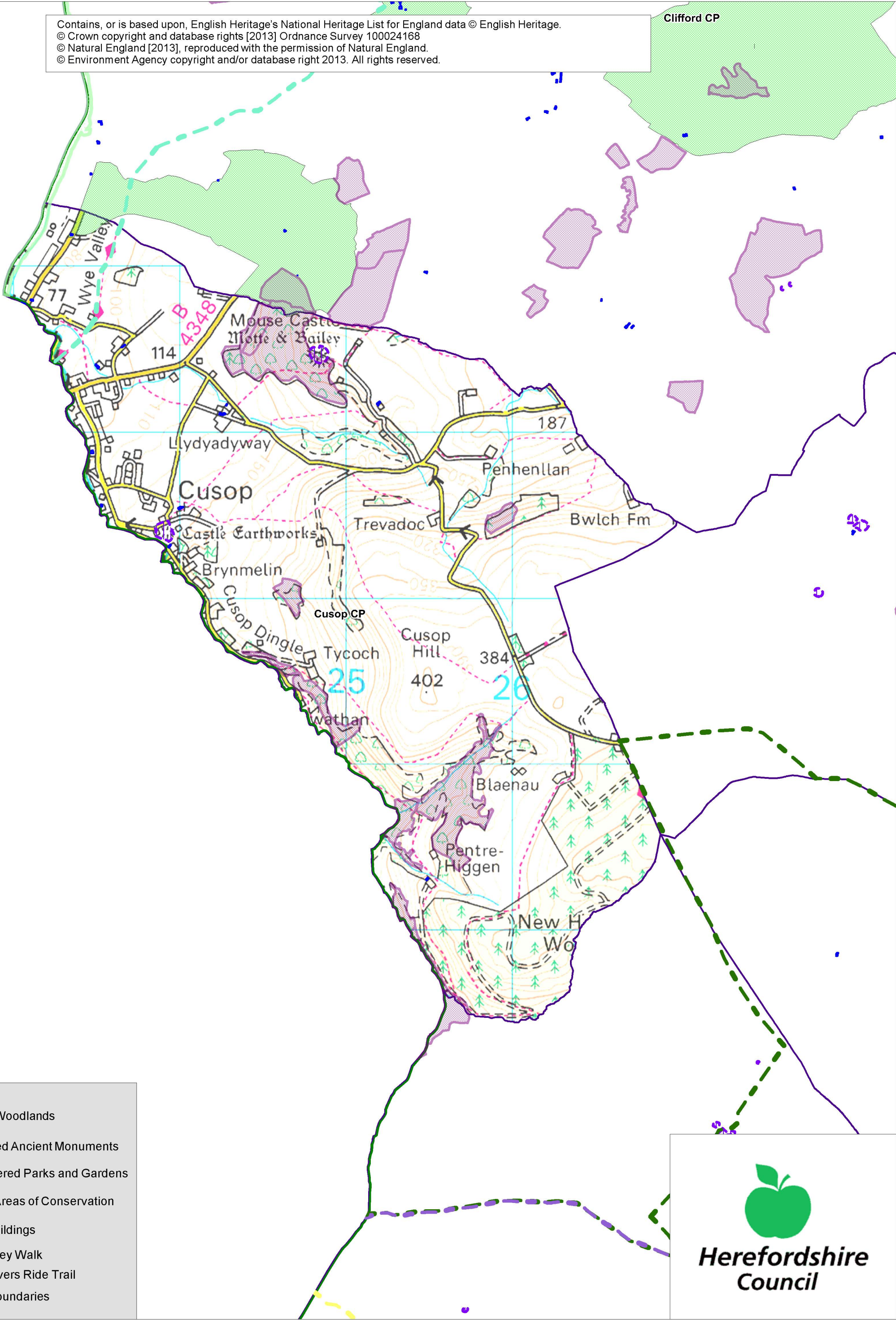


# Cusop SEA Map 1

Scale: 1:20,400

NORTH

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**Key:**

- Ancient Woodlands
- Scheduled Ancient Monuments
- Unregistered Parks and Gardens
- Special Areas of Conservation
- Listed Buildings
- Wye Valley Walk
- Three Rivers Ride Trail
- Parish Boundaries



**Herefordshire  
Council**

# Cusop SEA Map 2


Scale: 1:20,400


NORTH


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
Clifford CP


Key:

 Sites of Special Scientific Interest

 Special Wildlife Sites

 Flood Zone 2

 Flood Zone 3

 Parish Boundaries



Herefordshire Council

# Appendix 2

# Strategic Environmental Assessment



## Cusop Neighbourhood Area

Scoping Report

October 2014

## Consultation on the Scoping Report

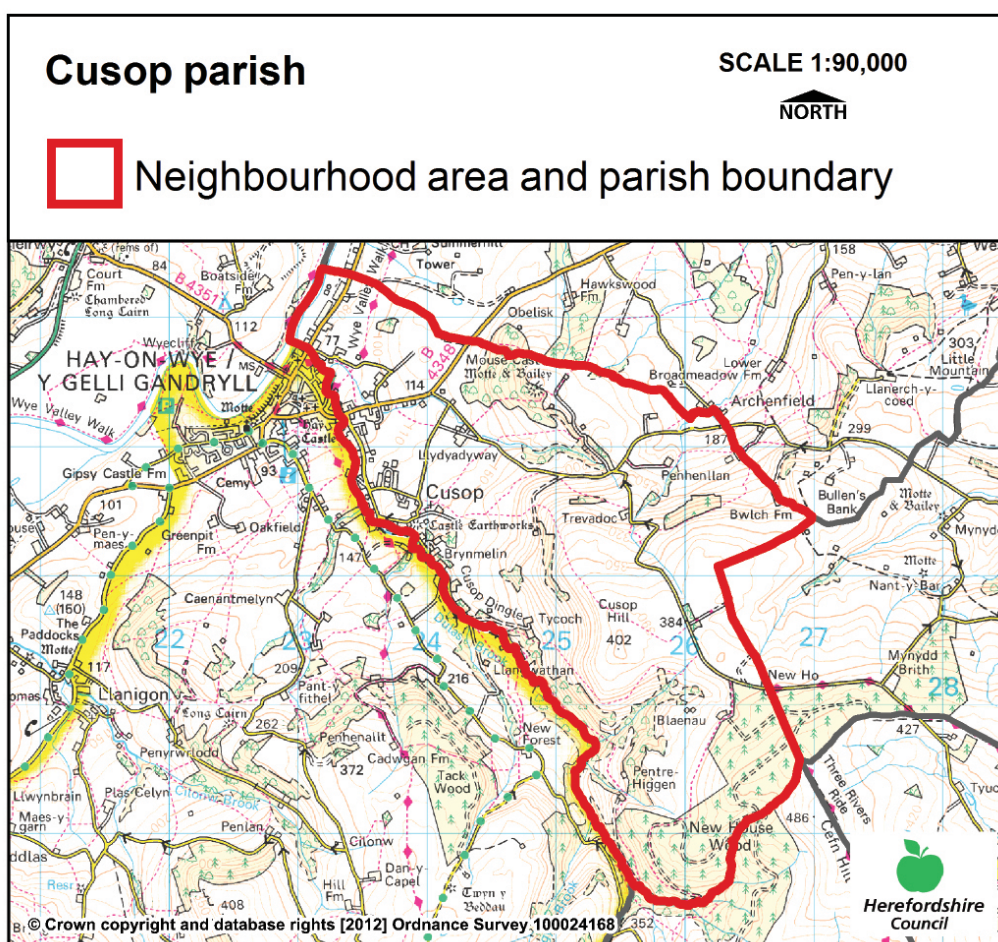
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

- 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: Cusop

Neighbourhood Development Plan Name: Cusop Parish Development Plan

Date completed: June 2014

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

<sup>1</sup> Derived from the LDF General Scoping Report (June 2007)

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				of natural resources; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social inclusion, demography and migration;</li> <li>• Fighting global poverty.</li> </ul>		
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	National planning policy.	2012	Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The NDP should take into account the relevant policies set within the NPPF.
Planning Practice Guidance	Government Guidance	2014	Provides guidance to local planning authorities and others on the operation of the planning system.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The NDP should take into account the planning guidance provided within these documents.
Pre-submission Herefordshire	Development Plan Document	2014	Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for	Outlines the emerging suite of countywide planning policies relating to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul>	The NDP should take account of relevant policies set within in the

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Core Strategy 2011-2031	(DPD)		the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.	<p>housing, economic development and the environment, which the NDP will need to be in conformity with where relevant.</p> <p>The Pre-submission Core Strategy includes a range of objectives, five of which directly relate to rural areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community</li> <li>• To improve access to services in rural areas</li> <li>• To strengthen the economic viability of the villages and their rural hinterlands</li> <li>• To achieve sustainable communities and protect the environment</li> <li>• To conserve, promote, utilise and enjoy our natural, built, historic and cultural assets for the fullest benefit of the whole community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>Core Strategy.</p> <p>Where necessary, the NDP should provide services, facilities and employment opportunities that are accessible to both local and neighbouring communities.</p> <p>The Core Strategy highlights that Cusop should accommodate 12 % growth by 2031. This is approximately 13 dwellings in accordance with the Rural Housing Background Paper March 2013, unless there is robust and sound evidence to demonstrate a more accurate existing built form figure or the existence of unavoidable constraints on site delivery.</p>

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<p>To achieve a thriving rural Herefordshire, the Core Strategy seeks to enhance the role the villages have traditionally played in as accessible, sustainable centres for their rural catchments.</p> <p>Seeks proportional growth of up to 12% in Cusop (Golden Valley HMA) over the plan period.</p>		
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP) 2013-2015	Corporate	2013	Sets out the Council's strategy for supporting economic growth, social inclusion and reducing the environmental impacts of transport, as well as the program of investment for the period April 2013 to April 2015.	The document includes three key objectives, one which seeks to maintain access for rural residents and people without access to a car. Intrinsic to this is the retention of a 'core network' of bus services which focus on journeys between Hereford and the market towns, along with main transport corridors close to larger rural settlements. To this end, the strategy aims to increase the number of bus users by 1.3% (4,700 journeys) by 2015.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The LTP does not explore current transport issues in the Cusop Neighbourhood Area, but any new development proposed through the NDP should seek to reduce the environmental impacts of transport.

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

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Employment Land Study	Evidence	2012	Includes employment land assessments for the plan period 2011-2031. The study includes Quantitative and Qualitative assessments of employment land, assessment of market demand and need, as well as providing forecasts and recommendations for future employment need over the plan period.	<p>This study covers existing employment sites in Hereford, the five market towns and their rural hinterlands.</p> <p>The study makes reference to Newport Street commenting that many of the new units on site are vacant but are being marketed (at Dec 2012). Quality of buildings on site is mixed. Site includes two timber yards. The site has good road frontage and surrounding roads relatively wide. Not well accessed by public transport or public footpaths/ cycle paths. Frontage to the road could be improved.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The NDP process may want to explore whether there is any additional employment need locally and if so whether there is any scope for providing employment land and premises.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Evidence	2009	<p>The SHLAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development</li> <li>Assessing sites for their housing potential; and</li> <li>Predicting when a site could be developed for housing.</li> </ul>	<p>In terms of Cusop previous SHLAA identifies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4 sites have been considered. 2 with low constraints and 2 with significant constraints due to highway matters</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Air</li> <li>Biodiversity</li> <li>Climate factors</li> <li>Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>Flora and fauna</li> <li>Population and human health</li> <li>Soil</li> <li>Water</li> </ul>	<p>The SHLAA assesses the potential availability of land for housing in Cusop.</p> <p>The Cusop NDP should be informed by the findings of the SHLAA or undertake its own locally site search assessments.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA)	Evidence	2013	Builds on an earlier Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) developed for Herefordshire and Shropshire. Its purpose is to inform the Local Plan's policies regarding housing need and demand (for market and affordable housing) within each of the 7 Housing Market Areas (HMAs) in Herefordshire between 2011 and 2031.	<p>Cusop falls within the Golden Valley HMA. Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 56.3% of households are unable to afford market housing.</li> <li>• There is an annual requirement for 16 affordable dwellings between 2012 and 2017.</li> </ul> <p>The study identifies that, in rural parts of the HMA, there is a need for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 198 market houses</li> <li>• 106 affordable houses.</li> </ul> <p>The study highlights that within the Golden Valley HMA the overall estimated housing need by size 2012-2017 is as follows: 1 Bed - 62%, 2 bed – a small surplus, 3 bed – 38%, 4 bed or more - 6%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>The LHMA provides an indication of housing needs and affordability within the Golden Valley HMA.</p> <p>It provides evidence that could be used to inform policies or market and affordable housing requirements in the NDP.</p>
Herefordshire	Evidence	2012	Technical	The delivery of 5,300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> </ul>	This study provides an

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

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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				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 Cusop is listed as RA1 settlements, which means they are considered a sustainable location for proportional growth of up to 12%.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The Cusop 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) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Draft Gypsies and Travellers Assessment	Evidence	2013	Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.	<p>Key findings from the survey of Gypsy and Traveller households in 2012 found that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 31% of households surveyed have some sort of accommodation need</li> <li>• Of the 17 households with an accommodation need, 7 had a requirement for at least one additional pitch</li> <li>• 10 households had a requirement for bricks and mortar housing</li> <li>• There is an additional requirement for 7 pitches and 9 units of Registered Social Landlord accommodation within Herefordshire.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>The Cusop NDP must establish whether any of the need identified in this assessment falls within the neighbourhood area and make appropriate provisions for it.</p> <p>Herefordshire Council are producing a Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document in the autumn 2014.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Building Biodiversity into the LDF	Evidence	2009	Provides the Council's Local Plan (Core Strategy) with evidence in respect of biodiversity and geodiversity, identifying both opportunities and constraints across Herefordshire.	This document provides useful information in respect of Hereford and the market towns only.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	There is a serious 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 Cusop NDP can overcome any existing constraints and capitalise on opportunities to enhance habitats and their networks.
Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy	Evidence	2010	Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.	Establishes policies and principles for the protection and enhancement of those features and functions that contributes to the environment of Herefordshire across a range of scales.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Cusop NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Renewable Energy Study	Evidence	2010	Assesses the energy demand within Herefordshire and the ability for the county to accommodate renewable and low carbon energy technologies.	<p>The total energy demand excluding transport for Herefordshire, at that point in time, was calculated as being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electrical: 731 GWh/yr</li> <li>• Heat: 1,810 GWh/yr</li> <li>• Total: 2,541 GWh/yr</li> </ul> <p>There is scope for all types of renewable energy production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Soil</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Cusop NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Playing Pitch Assessment	Evidence	2012	Produces a strategic framework, audit and assessment and needs analysis of outdoor sports pitches and facilities for Herefordshire. The document arises as a result of a recommendation in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework to develop local standards for playing fields and sports pitches throughout Herefordshire.	<p>The study updates components of the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Sports Facilities Framework 2010 such as updating population forecasts, setting local standards for synthetic turf pitches and grass playing fields within Herefordshire. It identifies any current gaps in provision, and looks forward to 2031 to assess what facilities are likely to be required by that date.</p> <p>In terms of Cusop parish itself, the study did not identify any current provision.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Cusop NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Open Spaces Study	Evidence	2006	The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snap shot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.	<p>The study reveals that within the Golden Valley North Area, there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extensive under provision of parks and gardens</li> <li>• Extensive over provision of natural and semi-natural green space</li> <li>• Under provision of amenity green space and extensive under provision for outdoor sport</li> <li>• Average provision for children and young people.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The open space audit and assessment of does not give a specific indication of open space shortfalls and surpluses in Cusop Parish.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Play Facilities Study	Evidence	2012	The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.	In terms of Cusop itself, the study highlighted Cusop Dingle as a small area adjacent to a stream and woodland but fence off (safety issues). There is limited play provision in this area with none in adjacent Clifford.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Cultural heritage and the landscape</li> <li>• Flora and fauna</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Cusop NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) and Water Cycle Study	Evidence	2009	<p>The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development.</p> <p>The Water Cycle Study examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire.</p>	The Water Cycle Study indicates that it is possible that a maximum of 150 new houses may be developed between Hay on Wye and Peterchurch within the Llysven Water Resources Zone.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biodiversity</li> <li>• Climate factors</li> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> <li>• Water</li> </ul>	<p>New development proposed through the Cusop NDP should be assessed against the capacity of local infrastructure.</p> <p>Up-to-date flood risk information should be gathered from the Environment Agency, in order to ensure that any flood risks are considered when preparing the Cusop NDP.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Powys County Council – Employment Needs Assessment	Evidence	2012	The study therefore seeks to provide specific information on economic projections, likely trends in key sectors and employment land availability, while also recognising the challenges being faced by the various industries / employment sectors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage more sustainable development</li> <li>• Employment need public transport</li> <li>• Low carbon electricity and renewables at a community level</li> <li>• Support mixed use development sites</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	None of merit

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s) <sup>1</sup>	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Brecon Beacons National Park Authority Employment Land Review	Evidence	2012	An assessment of the anticipated future direction of the economy and, in so doing, will inform its decision making process regarding the identification and development of land in order to achieve its economic aspirations and to meet future employment requirements.	This study reviews employment sites within Brecon Beacons include Hay on Wye.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Material assets</li> <li>• Population and human health</li> </ul>	Cross boundary issues with employment allocations within Hay on Wye

**Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Cusop**

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

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</i>							
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR and which is due to be published in 2014.  2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition.  <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</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).

<sup>1</sup> Derived from the Draft Core Strategy Sustainability Appraisal Assessment (March 2013)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	Countywide data is available.  The existing status of the Wye SAC between Hay and the Lugg confluence is currently meeting its phosphate target and is meeting the conservation targets.	N/A	Successful completion of the Nutrient Management Plan will provide future targets	New development within the area could lead to the water quality failing the phosphate levels and conservation objectives.	Nutrient Management Plan (2014)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	<p>Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR and which is due to be published in 2014.</p> <p>2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire.</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i></p>	<p>There are no formal records of any unacceptable adverse impacts on habitats or protected species.</p> <p>Originally 156 Priority Species were identified for inclusion in Herefordshire's LBAP.</p> <p>Similarly Herefordshire's LBAP covered 23 habitats with Action Plans.</p>	No specific targets identified.	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2010/11)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.	<p>Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR and which is due to be published in 2014.</p> <p><b>Cusop has:</b></p> <p><b>SSSI: 1</b> <b>SWS: 5</b></p> <p><b>Ancient woodlands:6</b></p> <p><b>The River Wye SAC runs along the northern edge of the parish.</b></p> <p><b>There are no, NNRs and SINC's within the parish but Moccas Park (a National Nature Reserve and Registered Park and Garden) is to the east of the parish.</b></p>	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 AMR (2010/11)

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
SEA Topic covered by objectives: <i>Material assets</i>							
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.  <i>Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there are 2 Scheduled Ancient Monuments in Cusop Parish according to the latest version of the</i>	-	No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Herefordshire Environmental Records Register (search April 2014).

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
			register.				
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Population, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</i>							
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design standards.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
15. Value, protect, enhance and restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning 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 Cusop at present. .	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the conservation area within Cusop.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.	Current status must be verified by Development Management and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched April 2014)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Climatic Factors</i>							

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

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

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

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water</i>							
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public wellbeing, the economy and the environment.	Natural environment	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.	Up-to-date countywide information does not appear within the 2011/13 AMR. Therefore data from 2010/11 has been used.  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	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-

SA Objective <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
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	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)
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.	2011/13: 67%  <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 (2011/13)
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 <sup>1</sup>	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Level of development in urban areas compared to rural.	<p><i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i></p> <p>This indicator would not be applicable to rural NDPs.</p>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Cultural heritage</i>							
20. Value, protect and enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, including conservation areas, historic environment and cultural heritage.	Built environment	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	<p>Up-to-date countywide information will be presented in the next AMR and which is due to be published in 2014. However, this data would be too large to incorporate into this template.</p> <p><i>There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and 2 SAMs. None are currently recorded in the Buildings at Risk Register.</i></p>	There were 58 heritage assets in Herefordshire that were considered to be at high risk and included in the Heritage at Risk Register 2011.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.	<i>None of Cusop listed buildings or SAMs are considered to be at risk at present.</i>	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; search April 2014)

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

**Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the Cusop Parish Development Plan baseline**

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

SEA Topic		Environmental issue	SA objectives
1	Air	High reliance upon the private car causing high levels of air pollution and in Hereford in particular	Objective 16
		Need to reduce carbon emissions by encouraging alternative modes of travel.	
2	Biodiversity	Habitats and species of national, regional and local importance are under pressure from the adaptation and diversification of farming and forestry employment.	Objectives 13 & 15
		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	Cusop has numerous Scheduled Ancient Monuments and 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.	

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

## Appendix A4: SEA Framework

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

**Parish Council Name:** Cusop

**Neighbourhood Development Plan Name:** Cusop Parish Development Plan

**Date completed:** September 2014

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

<b>SEA Topics</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b> (These objectives are strategic overall SEA objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)</b> (These sub-objectives are strategic overall SEA sub-objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Indicators</b> (Insert indicators, based on evidence, to test and monitor whether your NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives and be taken from Template A2)	<b>Targets</b> (Insert targets, based on evidence, to monitor whether the NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives indicators and be taken from Template A2)
Landscape	<p>To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p> <p>To improve quality of surroundings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect and enhance the landscape everywhere and particularly in designated areas</li> <li>• Value and protect diversity and local distinctiveness</li> <li>• Improve landscape and ecological quality and character of the countryside</li> <li>• Improve the quantity and quality of publicly accessible open space</li> <li>• Improve satisfaction of people with their neighbourhoods as places to live</li> <li>• Decrease litter and graffiti in towns and countryside</li> <li>• Result in the loss of open space</li> </ul>	<p>Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.</p> <p>Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.</p> <p>Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.</p> <p>Area resulting in a loss of open space as a result of planning permission</p>	<p>To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation as much as possible.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p> <p>No specific targets identified</p>
Heritage	To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment , heritage assets and culture heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preserve, protect and enhance heritage assets including conservation areas, historic buildings, archaeological sites and other culturally important features in both urban and rural settings.</li> <li>• Create places, spaces and buildings that work well, wear well and look well</li> </ul>	<p>The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.</p> <p>Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).</p> <p>Ensure that Herefordshire Council's Sites and Monuments Register is kept up to date.</p>	<p>To improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p> <p>To improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.</p> <p>No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.</p>

<b>SEA Topics</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b> (These objectives are strategic overall SEA objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)</b> (These sub-objectives are strategic overall SEA sub-objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Indicators</b> ( <i>Insert indicators, based on evidence, to test and monitor whether your NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives and be taken from Template A2</i> )	<b>Targets</b> ( <i>Insert targets, based on evidence, to monitor whether the NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives indicators and be taken from Template A2</i> )
Air and Climate	<p>To improve air quality</p> <p>To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>To reduce contributions to climate change</p> <p>To reduce vulnerability to climate change</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Limit air pollution, including greenhouse gas emissions and ozone depleting substances</li> <li>• Improve air quality</li> <li>• Reduce the need to travel</li> <li>• Reduce traffic volumes and congestion</li> <li>• Reduce road traffic accidents</li> <li>• Reduce commuting and improve accessibility by public transport walking and cycling</li> <li>• Increase proportion of journeys using modes other than the car</li> <li>• Reduce the effects of heavy goods traffic (freight) on people and the environment</li> <li>• Reduce respiratory illnesses</li> <li>• Reduce energy consumption and improve energy efficiency</li> <li>• Increase proportion of energy needs being met from renewable sources</li> <li>• Reduce vulnerability to the effects of climate change e.g. flooding, disruption to travel by extreme weather</li> </ul>	<p>Transport patronage by mode</p> <p>Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.</p> <p>Total CO2 emissions per capita</p>	<p>To encourage the take up of lesser polluting form of transport</p> <p>To contribute towards the national target.</p> <p>To reduce the overall carbon emissions.</p>

<b>SEA Topics</b>	<b>SEA Objective</b> (These objectives are strategic overall SEA objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Sub-objectives / Appraisal Questions (Will the option/proposal/site...)</b> (These sub-objectives are strategic overall SEA sub-objectives, which you may need to refine, based on your local evidence, to make them locally relevant)	<b>Indicators</b> ( <i>Insert indicators, based on evidence, to test and monitor whether your NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives and be taken from Template A2</i> )	<b>Targets</b> ( <i>Insert targets, based on evidence, to monitor whether the NDP proposals and policies are working. These should relate to the sub-objectives indicators and be taken from Template A2</i> )
Water	<p>To improve water quality</p> <p>To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve the quality of inland water: rivers, lakes and ponds</li> <li>• Limit water pollution</li> <li>• Maintain water abstraction, run-off and recharge within carrying capacity (including future capacity)</li> <li>• Reduce water consumption and improve water efficiency</li> <li>• Minimise the risk of flooding from rivers and watercourses to people and property</li> <li>• Minimise risk of subsidence</li> <li>• Reduce risk of damage to property from storm events</li> </ul>	<p>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.</p> <p>Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality</p> <p>Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.</p>	<p>To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.</p> <p>To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality as set out in the Water Framework Directive.</p> <p>To meet the targets set out in the Nutrient Management Plan (2014)</p>
Soil	<p>To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce contamination, and safeguard soil quality and quantity</li> <li>• Minimise loss of greenfield land / maximise development on brownfield land</li> <li>• Reduce the amount of derelict and underused land</li> <li>• Minimise waste generation and increase re-use or recovery through recycling, composting or energy recovery</li> <li>• Maximise the amount of waste diverted from landfill through recovery and recycling</li> <li>• Reduce household waste going to landfill</li> <li>• Reduce hazardous waste</li> <li>• Reduce waste in the construction of developments</li> </ul>	<p>Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.</p> <p>Amount of land identified as best and most versatile agricultural land lost to development.</p>	<p>To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy.</p> <p>No specific targets identified.</p>

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

# Appendix 3

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



Mr J. Latham  
Technical Support Officer  
Neighbourhood Planning, Strategic Planning & Conservation teams  
Herefordshire Council  
Planning Services,  
Blueschool House,  
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## **BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear Mr Latham

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

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

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated and received by Natural England on 03 October 2014.

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

We welcome the production of this SEA Scoping report. With respect to the natural environment Natural England wishes to make the following comments which are intended to further improve the SEA and its usefulness in assessing the Neighbourhood Plan.

### **Appendix A1 – Plans, policies and programmes**

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

#### All

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

Bodenham

Colwall

Cusop

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

Dinedor

Lower Bullingham

Much Marcle

- Wye Valley AONB Management Plan 2009-2014

We also note the following:

Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch

Bodenham

Llangarron

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

Bodenham,

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

## **Appendix A2 – Baseline information**

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

Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch

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

Bodenham

Colwall

Cusop

Llangarron

Lower Bullingham

Ross on Wye and Ross Rural

Under the proposed indicator “*Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan*”, we advise an additional baseline information source - Maps of priority habitats and species are available on *Magic*, Defra’s GIS package for environmental assets ([www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.natureonthemap.naturalengland.org.uk)).

#### Lower Bullingham

#### Lower Marcle

#### Ross on Wye and Ross Rural

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

#### All

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

### ***Water, air, soil and material assets***

#### All

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

#### Dinedor

#### Llangarron

#### Lower Bullingham

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

### ***Soil***

#### All

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

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

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

#### All

Natural England welcomes the environmental issues identified.

### **Appendix A4 – SEA Framework**

#### All

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

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

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

Dinedor

Lower Bullingham

Ross on Wye and Ross Rural

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

Abbeydore & Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group & Kentchurch

Bodenham

Colwall

Cusop

Under the SEA topic "*Landscape*" reference could be made to the county Landscape Character Assessment and Landscape Characterisation studies including Historic Landscape Characterisation if this has been carried out.

### **Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening**

We would remind you of one of the basic conditions that a draft neighbourhood plan or Order must met, as set out in the Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012, which states that 'The making of the neighbourhood development plan is not likely to have a significant effect on a European site'.

Abbeydore and Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group and Kentchurch

Colwall

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

Bodenham

Cusop

Dinedor

Lower Bullingham

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

Llangorran

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

Much Marcle

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

Ross on Wye and Ross Rural

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

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

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

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

Yours sincerely

*Gillian Driver*

Miss Gillian Driver  
Planning Adviser  
South Mercia Team



## ENGLISH HERITAGE

### WEST MIDLANDS REGION

Neighbourhood Planning Team  
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

27 October 2014

Dear Sir or Madam

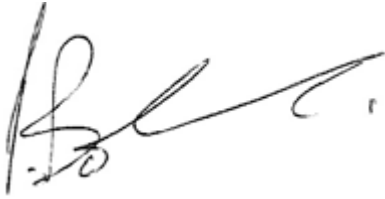
**CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORTS FOR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS IN: Abbeydore & Bacton, Ewyas Harold Group & Kentchurch; Bodenham; Colwall; Cusop; Dinedor; Llangarron; Lower Bullingham; Much Marcle; Ross on Wye and Ross Rural.**

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

Specifically in relation to the fifth tranche of consultations we note that all of the SEA Scoping Reports appear to have anomalous references to SAM's, the Herefordshire SMR, monitoring changes to historic landscapes and historic landscape character assessments in relation to SA Objective 14 "Use natural resources and energy more effectively". Presumably this is unintentional? Is there some confusion as between the Herefordshire Sites and Monuments Register and the Herefordshire Environmental Records Register? Would these elements in fact be more relevant under SA Objectives 15 and 20?

I hope this is helpful.

Yours faithfully

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

Pete Boland

Historic Places Adviser

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

# Appendix 4

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

### SEA Objectives

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

NDP objectives	SEA Objectives																			
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Conclusions	Recommendations	SMART Test of NDP objective	After SMART objectives
<p>Objective 1</p> <p>To enable development whilst protecting the local environment by maintaining a clear visual and functional distinction between built-up areas and countryside</p>	+	+	+	?	+	x	x	x	x	+	?	?				+	The objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. Some elements are not known at this stage as more information is required regarding the location of development, this will emerge as the policies are assessed. However, these have the ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy.	SEA objectives should be taken into account during the formulation of the policies for growth	This objective is specific and can be monitored via indicators within the Annual Monitoring report. The time period aligns with that of the plan however there is no indication a review period. The objective is achievable and deliverable. It is considered that this objective meets all the SMART criteria.	Consider the inclusion of a monitoring and review period.
<p>Objective 2</p> <p>To enable sufficient new housing whilst maintain or improving the balance of housing in terms of size, design and neighbourhood impact</p>	x	+	+	?	+	?	?	?	x	+	?	?				x	The objective is generally compatible with the SEA objectives. Some elements are not known at this stage as more information is required regarding the location of development, this will emerge as the policies are assessed. However, these have the ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy.	SEA objectives should be taken into account during the formulation of the policies for growth	This objective is specific and can be monitored via indicators within the Annual Monitoring report. The Cusop Neighbourhood Plan does not indicate a review period but the timescale align with the plan period. The objective is achievable and deliverable. It is considered that this objective meets all the SMART criteria.	Consider the inclusion of a monitoring and review period.
<p>Objective 3</p> <p>To enable the growth of the local economy whilst protecting and strengthening its distinctive character</p>	?	+	+	?	?	+	?	?	?	+	?	?				+	At this stage more information is required to assess the compatibility with the SEA objectives. This will emerge as the policies are assessed. However, this has the ability to be compatible if in conformity with the Core Strategy.	SEA objectives should be taken into account during the formulation of the policies for growth	This objective is specific and can be monitored via indicators within the Annual Monitoring report. The Cusop Neighbourhood Plan does not indicate a review period. The objective is achievable and deliverable. It is considered that this objective meets all the SMART criteria.	Consider the inclusion of a monitoring and review period.

Objective 4  To protect the local environment by identifying locally distinctive assets	++	++	++	++	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This objective is compatible with the SEA objectives	No recommendations	This objective is achievable and deliverable via the supportive policies of both the Core Strategy and the Neighbourhood Plan.	No changes recommended
---	----	----	----	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	--	--	--	---	--	--------------------	--	------------------------

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:		The following matrix appraises the emerging Cusop 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.	

NDP Policies	SEA objectives																Summary in relation to baseline	Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations	Conformity with Core Strategy
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16			
Baseline	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	NA	NA	NA	13			
Policy 1 Settlement boundary	+	+	+	?	+	+	?	?	+	+	?	+				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy will have a positive effect on the baseline, as development is focussed toward the most sustainable locations. At this stage there will be some unknown elements as this is locational dependent.	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Policy 2 Newport Street housing allocation	++	++	++	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy reflects an existing planning permission for housing on this site. The site is located close to the amenities within Hay on Wye.	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Policy 3 New dwellings within the settlement boundary	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy reflects the provision of the Core Strategy and will only lead to very small scale development outside the settlement boundary where the criteria of RA3, RA4 and RA5 are met.	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Policy 4 Size of dwellings	x	+	+	x	x	+	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Where relevant this policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy would not lead to development but it a criteria which is seeking to provide smaller dwellings within the parish to balance the existing stock. This will help provide a range of housing within a sustainable location and walking distance to Hay on Wye and its local facilities.	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
Policy 5 Extension of	?	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Overall the policy is compatible and has a positive impact on the baseline data	This policy is seeking to allow extensions to existing dwellings. The policy maybe in conflict with the requirement to provide smaller dwellings	this policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in

dwelling																		within the parish under policy 4.	terms of SEA
<b>Policy 6</b> <b>New dwellings within the curtilage of existing dwellings</b>	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This policy is locational dependent.	This policy is seeking to permit sub division of dwelling curtilage to permit additional dwellings. Criteria is included to safeguard character of the dwelling and the neighbourhood.  Reference to the importance of the setting of listed buildings would help strengthen the policy text	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
<b>Policy 7</b> <b>Safeguarding of Newport Street employment land</b>	x	+	+	x	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This policy would have a positive effect on the baseline as it is seeking to maintain and safeguard existing employment land which is close to the market town of Hay-on-Wye. This will help safeguard other areas of the parish from development and have an impact on the environmental aspects of the baseline	This policy support policy E2 of the Core Strategy.	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
<b>Policy 8</b> <b>Extension of Newport Street employment land</b>	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	+	?	+				?	This policy is seeking to encourage an extension to the existing employment area to the north during the later period of the plan.	Additional criteria regarding safeguarding of the any flooding issues given the proximity of the river and its flood plain.	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
<b>Policy 9</b> <b>Employment generating proposals outside the settlement boundary</b>	?	+	+	?	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Overall this policy is compatible and has a positive effect on the baseline	This policy is compatible with RA5 and RA6 of the Core Strategy	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
<b>Policy 10</b> <b>Cusop Hill</b>	++	++	++	+	++	++	x	+	x	x	+	+				++	Overall this policy is compatible and has a positive effect on the baseline	This policy is seeking to protect the character and natural beauty of Cusop Hill and the views from it. This will have a positive effect on flora and fauna and the setting of the settlements of Hay and Cusop	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
<b>Policy 11</b> <b>Black Lion Fields</b>	++	++	++	+	++	++	x	+	x	x	+	+				++	Overall this policy is compatible and has a positive effect on the baseline	This policy is seeking to protect open space and views of Black Lion Fields. This will have a positive effect on the surrounding and setting of Cusop and a potential positive effect on biodiversity.	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
<b>Policy 12</b> <b>Dulas Brook</b>	++	++	++	+	++	++	x	+	++	x	+	+				++	Overall this policy is compatible and has a positive effect on the baseline.	This policy is seeking to protect the character, biodiversity and natural beauty of Cusop Dingle and the Dulas Brook. This will have a positive effect on the hydrological catchment of the River Wye.	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA
<b>Policy 13</b> <b>Avoiding</b>	++	+	++	+	x	x	+	x	x	x	x	x				+	Overall this policy is compatible and has a positive effect on the baseline	This policy is seeking to reduce external lighting within the parish and reflects the policy within the adjoining Beacon Beacons for darker skies. This	This policy would meet the Core Strategy

<b>light pollution</b>																		reduction will not only have a positive effect on the surroundings but also nocturnal bird and bats.	requirements in terms of the SEA.
<b>Policy 14 Design</b>	+	++	++	++	x	x	+	+	+	+	+	x				+	Overall this policy is compatible and has a positive effect on the baseline	This policy is seeking to ensure that any new development are compatible with the surroundings and promote energy efficiency.	This policy would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

Objectives verses SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)				
SEA Stage B1	Key:	SMART criteria:		The following matrix appraises the emerging Cusop 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	Baseline carried over from Stage A
1- To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	1-The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.2010/11: 27% of Herefordshire's SSSI land was in favourable condition. 04/08/14 – status of the SSSIs are: River Lugg – unfavourable recovering,
2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	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. Cusop has: 1 SSSI and 5 SWS. The River Wye SAC runs along the northern edge of the parish. There are no NNRs and SINC's within the parish.
3- To improve quality of surroundings	2-There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Cusop at present as there are no conservation areas within the parish
4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage	3-In terms of Cusop itself, the study reveals that there are limited play areas within the village. In addition there are currently no hectares of playing pitch area and no hectares of secured community access playing pitch area.
5- To improve air quality	4-Whilst there is no qualitative, locally specific data available at present, there are two scheduled monument in Cusop, according to the latest version of the register.
6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	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.
7- To reduce contributions to climate change	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%.
8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change	7-Herefordshire latest figure of CO2 emissions per capita-dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO²)
9- To improve water quality	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.
10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	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%.
11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	10-Cusop parish falls within the Llyswen Water Resource Zone.
12- To conserve soil resources and quality	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.
13- To minimise the production of waste	12-Around the parish of Cusop the soil classification is Grades 3 to 5 which is good to very poor. Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.2010/11: 67%2011-13: 57%.
14- To improve health of the population	16-There are numerous listed buildings within the parish and two SAM within the Parish. There are no outstanding enforcement actions or appeals concerning locally important buildings within Cusop parish at present. The Parish Area has the following landscape types:. Principle wooded hills and riverside meadows
15- To reduce crime and nuisance	
16- To conserve natural and manmade resources	

NDP Options	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
<b>Baseline</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>NA</b>	<b>13</b>			
Option 1 Do nothing / Rely on Core Strategy policies	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	Do nothing option is essential not to produce a neighbourhood plan and rely on the criteria policies within the Core Strategy to guide further development. Specific policies and proposals for the parishes would not exist.	All developments would need to be in conformity with the Core Strategy. The Core Strategy has been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal and policies met the SEA objectives.	n/a
Option 2 Designate settlement boundary	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside. This can aid the direction of further growth to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. There is less certainty over the positive effects on the baseline as any growth with be adjudged by criteria based policy.	Any settlement boundary would need to be designated to ensure that sufficient capacity was included to permit the proportional growth requirements within Policy RA2 of the Core Strategy. Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.
Option 3 No settlement boundary	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	Criteria based policy does not give the same level of certainty as the other options as it will be more reactionary than proactive in terms of growth proposals. However provide criteria is added to the policy to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline.	Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirement in terms of the SEA
Option 4 Continue with previous housing allocation site	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+	This site was previously allocated within the Unitary Development Plan and therefore has been assessed as suitable within a previous development plan process. The land to the east of Newport Street is now an existing commitment.	No recommendation	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirement in terms of the SEA
Option 5 Allocation housing elsewhere	?	?	?	?	+	+	?	?	+	+	?	+				?	At this stage there are no specific alternative sites identified to fully assess the SEA objectives. This is because a suitable site has existing commitment.	Further site investigations would be required to assess this option against the baseline if required. SEA objectives should be taken into account in any site assessment criteria.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in term of the SEA
Option 6 Employment land to south	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x				x	This area has already been developed	No recommendations	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in term of the SEA
Option 7 Employment land to west	?	?	?	x	+	+	?	-	+	+	-	+				o	This option has a mixed compatibility with the baseline. Although the east of the settlement is closer to Hay on Wye, it is within an area of flood risk in connection with the Dulas Brook.	No recommendations	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in term of the SEA

Option 8 Employment land to north	+	+	+	+	+	+	?	?	+	+	?	+				+	This option has a positive effect on the baseline. There is a natural boundary formed by the disused railway line and the visual impact is limited by existing hedgerow. No natural designations. It is also an area containing existing used both within the parish and neighbourhood Hay-on-Wye	Develop policies and/or site allocation which the SRA objectives in mind.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in term of the SEA
Option 9 Employment land to east	?	-	-	?	+	+	?	?	+	+	+	+				0	This option shows mixed compatibility with the SEA baseline. Road forms a natural boundary of the development area. Development in this location would have landscape implications including a Traditional Orchard priority habitat.	No recommendations	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in term of the SEA
Option 10 Additional local distinctive asset policy	++	++	++	++	?	x	?	?	+	+	+	+				+	This option will give additional local detail to existing Core Strategy policy. Policies will have the ability to safeguard three local assets which are distinctive to Cusop.	Develop specific policies to safeguarding locally distinctive assets with the SEA objectives in mind.	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in term of the SEA
Option 11 Additional light and design policy	+	+	+	+	x	x	+	x	x	x	x	x				+	This option has a positive effect on the baseline. There is also cross border compatibility with Brecon Beacons National Park to reduce light pollution and encourage 'dark skies'. This will have a positive effect on the environment including fauna especially nocturnal animals	No recommendation	This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in term of the SEA

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

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

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

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

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

				small scale development in line with the proportional growth 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 the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	?	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. The Nutrient Management Plan is in place to provide policy safeguards within the catchment of the River Wye	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	Welsh Water have indicated that there is headroom within this location	
To avoid, reduce and	?	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA	

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

manage flood risk				objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy. Policy safeguards are included within the policy to ensure nature conservation is taken into consideration.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	The policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and promotes proportional growth in line with the Core Strategy.				

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

*Policy 2: Newport Street Housing Allocation*

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 site is an existing commitment	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This site is an existing commitment	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This site is an existing commitment	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This site is an existing commitment	
To improve air quality	++	++	++	This site is an existing commitment	

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

To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This site is an existing commitment	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This site is an existing commitment	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This site is an existing commitment	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This site is an existing commitment	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This site is an existing commitment	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This site is an existing commitment	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This site is an existing commitment	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This site is an existing commitment	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This site is an existing commitment				

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

*Policy 3: New dwellings within the 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 is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	

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

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

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

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

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

population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.				

*Policy 4: Size of dwellings*

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 +)		

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

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	x	x	x	No relationship	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	x	x	x	No relationship	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	The policy will add to the range and mix of dwellings types which will also add richness to the surroundings	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	x	x	x	No relationship	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	The promotion of smaller dwellings may have a positive effect on reducing the amount of traffic within the environment.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	

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

To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	x	x	x	No relationship	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is primarily aiming to increase the range of mix of dwellings within the parish.				

*Policy 5: Extension of dwellings*

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

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

	<b>Short term</b> (1 – 5 years)	<b>Medium term</b> (6 – 10 years)	<b>Long term</b> (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	x	x	x	No relationship	
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 extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	
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 extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	
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 extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the	

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

				character of the area.	
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 extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	
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 extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	
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 extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	
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 extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	

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

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 extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	
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 extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to extensions to existing dwellings where there is no impact on the character of the area.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is seeking to support extensions to existing dwelling. Sufficient safeguards exist within the policy and others within the plan to ensure the baseline objectives are met.				

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

*Policy 6: New dwellings within the curtilage of existing dwellings*

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

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

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

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

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

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

population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This Policy is not over and above the Core Strategy in terms of SEA objectives and would only lead to small scale development in line with the proportional growth within the Core Strategy.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy would only lead to infilling within the settlement boundary where appropriate.				

*Policy 7: Safeguarding of Newport Street employment land*

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 +)		

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

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	x	x	x	No relationship	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative sites elsewhere.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative sites elsewhere.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	x	x	x	No relationship	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative sites elsewhere.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative sites elsewhere.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative sites elsewhere.	

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

To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative sites elsewhere.	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative sites elsewhere.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative sites elsewhere.	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative sites elsewhere.	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative sites elsewhere.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard existing employment land. This will reduce the need to find alternative	

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

				sites elsewhere.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	The policy is aiming to safeguard existing employment land which is close to both the settlement of Cusop and the market town of Hay-on-Wye. This provided local employment opportunities and its safeguarding will reduce the need to find alternatives which may have an effect on the SEA baseline.				

*Policy 8: Extension of Newport Street employment land*

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 site is close to the flood plain of the River Wye. However policy safeguards and the Nutrient Management Plan are in place to ensure that any effects on the water quality are addressed.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	?	+	+	This site is close to existing provision and other policies of the plan and the Core Strategy ensure that adequate safeguards regarding the landscape.	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This site is close to existing provision and other policies of the	

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

				plan and the Core Strategy ensure that adequate safeguards regarding the landscape.	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This site is close to existing provision and other policies of the plan and the Core Strategy ensure that adequate safeguards regarding any heritage issues.	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This site will provide additional local employment opportunities close to the settlement and the market town. This could have a positive effect on reducing the need to travel for employment.	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This site will provide additional local employment opportunities close to the settlement and the market town. This could have a positive effect on reducing the need to travel for employment.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This site is close to existing provision and other policies of the plan and the Core Strategy ensure that adequate safeguards regarding climate change	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This site is close to the flood plain of the River Wye. However policy safeguards and the Nutrient Management Plan are in place to	

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

				ensure that any effects on the water quality are addressed.	
To improve water quality	?	+	+	This site is close to the flood plain of the River Wye. However policy safeguards and the Nutrient Management Plan are in place to ensure that any effects on the water quality are addressed.	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	Welsh water have indicated sufficient headroom exists	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	?	+	+	This site is close to the flood plain of the River Wye. However policy safeguards and the Nutrient Management Plan are in place to ensure that any effects on the flooding are addressed	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This site is close to existing provision and will form a natural extension. There are no grade 1 or 2 soils within the area.	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					

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

To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+		
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This site will form an extension of the existing provision on the Newport Street. Adequate safeguards exist to ensure that the SEA objectives are met.				

*Policy 9 : Employment –generating proposals outside the 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 is locational dependent however the policy is in line with policy RA3 of the Core Strategy and additional criteria is contained within the policy itself to safeguard locally distinctive areas which will have a positive effect on biodiversity	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscales	+	+	+	This is locational dependent however the policy is in line with policy RA3 of the Core Strategy and additional criteria is contained within the policy itself to safeguard	

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

				locally distinctive areas	
To improve quality of surroundings	+	+	+	This is locational dependent however the policy is in line with policy RA3 of the Core Strategy and additional criteria is contained within the policy itself to safeguard locally distinctive areas	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	?	+	+	This is locational dependent however the policy is in line with policy RA3 of the Core Strategy and additional criteria is contained within the policy itself to safeguard locally distinctive areas	
To improve air quality	+	+	+	This policy is in line with Core Strategy policy RA3 and will only lead to small scale developments	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	+	+	+	This policy is in line with Core Strategy policy RA3 and will only lead to small scale developments	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is in line with Core Strategy policy RA3 and will only lead to small scale developments	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is in line with Core Strategy policy RA3 and will only lead to small scale developments	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy is in line with Core Strategy policy RA3 and will only	

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

				lead to small scale developments	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy is in line with Core Strategy policy RA3 and will only lead to small scale developments	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy is in line with Core Strategy policy RA3 and will only lead to small scale developments	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy is in line with Core Strategy policy RA3 and will only lead to small scale developments	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy is in line with Core Strategy policy RA3 and will only lead to small scale developments	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is in line with Core Strategy policy RA3 and will only lead to small scale developments. Criteria is included within the policy to safeguard locally distinctive areas.				

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

*Policy 10: Cusop Hill*

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 seeking to safeguard a locally distinctive area and this will have a consequently positive effect on nature conservation in the areas	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy is seeking to safeguard a locally distinctive area	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy is seeking to safeguard a locally distinctive area	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard a locally distinctive area	
To improve air quality	+	++	++	This policy is seeking to safeguard a locally distinctive area	
To reduce the effect of	x	x	x	No relationship	

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

traffic on the environment					
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard a locally distinctive area	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to safeguard a locally distinctive area	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	This policy is seeking to safeguard a locally distinctive area	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is seeking to ensure that the character of the Cusop Hill ridgeline and views of it are protected.				

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

*Policy 11: Black Lion Fields*

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 seeking to protect areas of land near the village hall and ensure development is in character. This could have a positive effect on biodiversity.	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	This policy is seeking to protect areas of land near the village hall and ensure development is in character	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy is seeking to protect areas of land near the village hall and ensure development is in character	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to protect areas of land near the village hall and ensure development is in character	
To improve air quality	++	++	++	This policy could encourage more walking within this area and	

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

				provides footpaths through the village to Hay	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	++	++	++	This policy could encourage more walking within this area and provides footpaths through the village to Hay.	
To reduce contributions to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	X	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	X	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	++	This policy is seeking to protect areas of land near the village hall and ensure development is in character	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					

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

To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	This policy is seeking to protect areas of land near the village hall and ensure development is in character	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is seeking to protect areas of land near the village hall and ensure development is in character.				

*Policy 12: Dulas Brook*

SEA Objective	Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)			Summary Explanation	Enhancement and mitigation opportunities
	Short term (1 – 5 years)	Medium term (6 – 10 years)	Long term (11 years +)		
To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	++	++	++	The aim of this policy is to protect biodiversity of Dulas Brook	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes	++	++	++	The aim of the policy is to protect the character and beauty of the area around Dulas Brook	

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

To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	The aim of the policy is to protect the character and beauty of the area around Dulas Brook	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	The aim of the policy is to protect the character and beauty of the area around Dulas Brook	
To improve air quality	X	x	X	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	X	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	X	x	X	No relationship	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect the Dulas Brook	
To improve water quality	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the biodiversity of the brook	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	X	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	++	The policy is seeking to protect the Dulas Brook	
To conserve soil resources and quality	+	+	+	The policy is seeking to protect the Dulas Brook	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the					

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

population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	++	++	++	The policy is seeking to protect the Dulas Brook	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	The aim of the policy is to protect the character and the beauty of the Dulas Brook and the area around. This will have a positive effect on many of the baseline objective, particularly those around quality of surroundings and water quality.				

*Policy 13: Avoiding light pollution*

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)	++	++	++	Reducing in lighting can have a positive effect on many species particularly those which are nocturnal	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes	+	+	+	This policy is compatible with those of the Brecon Beacons to	

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

and townscapes				encourage dark skies.	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy is compatible with those of the Brecon Beacons to encourage dark skies	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	+	+	+	This policy is compatible with those of the Brecon Beacons to encourage dark skies	
To improve air quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	x	No relationship	
To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	Policy complies with SS6 of the Core Strategy	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	x	x	x	No relationship	
To improve water quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	x	x	x	No relationship	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	x	x	x	No relationship	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	x	x	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					

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

To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy will be compatible with that within the neighbouring Brecon Beacons. It will also help to conserve energy with less lighting.	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is compatible with those of the Brecon Beacons to encourage dark skies and recognise the International Dark Skies Reserve.				

*Policy 14: Design*

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

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

To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any modern designs	
To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscape	++	++	++	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any modern designs	
To improve quality of surroundings	++	++	++	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any modern designs	
To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and cultural heritage	++	++	++	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any modern designs	
To improve air quality	x	x	X	No relationship	
To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment	x	x	X	No relationship	

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

To reduce contributions to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any modern designs	
To reduce vulnerability to climate change	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any modern designs	
To improve water quality	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any modern designs	
To provide for sustainable sources of water supply	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any modern designs	
To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any	

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

				modern designs	
To conserve soil resources and quality	x	X	x	No relationship	
To minimise the production of waste					
To improve health of the population					
To reduce crime and nuisance					
To conserve natural and manmade resources	+	+	+	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any modern designs	
<b>Overall commentary and any cumulative effects</b>	This policy is seeking to ensure that new developments are characteristic of the surrounding environment. It is also seeking to promote energy efficient in any modern designs. This will have a positive effect on many of the baseline objective				

**Key:**

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

Policy 12	++	++	++	+	++	++	X	+	++	X	+	+				++
Policy 13	++	+	++	+	X	X	+	X	X	X	X	X				+
Policy 14	+	+	++	++	X	X	+	+	+	+	+	X				+
<b>Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective</b>	+	+	++	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+				+
<b>Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...)</b>	Overall the Cusop 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.															
<b>Commentary for significant cumulative effects</b>	The Cusop neighbourhood plan is unlikely to have any significant cumulative effects on the SEA objectives.															

# Appendix 5

**Options Considered in preparation of Cusop NDP**

- Option 1 Do nothing
- Option 2 Designate settlement boundary
- Option 3 No settlement boundary
- Option 4 Continue with previous housing allocation site
- Option 5 allocate housing elsewhere
- Option 6 Employment land to south
- Option 7 Employment land to west
- Option 8 Employment land to north
- Option 9 Employment land to east
- Option 10 Additional local distinctive asset policy
- Option 11 Additional light and design policy

# Appendix 6

Objectives and context	Where referenced in NDP/SEA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Neighbourhood Development Plan's purpose and objectives are made clear.</li> <li>• The Neighbourhood Area's environmental issues and constraints, including acknowledgement of those in the Local Plan (Core Strategy) SA, where relevant, and local environmental protection objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets.</li> <li>• SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate.</li> <li>• Links with other locally related plans, programmes and policies are identified, explained and acknowledgement for those set out in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant.</li> <li>• Conflicts that exist between SEA and Neighbourhood Development Plan objectives; and between SEA objectives and other local plan objectives are identified and described.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 1 (paras 1.10 – 1.18).</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 3; and Tables A2 and A3</li> <li>• Section 3 (para 3.7).</li> <li>• Section 3 (para 3.1).</li> <li>• Section 4 (paras 4.4)</li> </ul>
Scoping	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory Consultees are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report.</li> <li>• The assessment focuses on significant issues.</li> <li>• Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Section 2 (paras 2.6 – 2.9) &amp; Appendix 3</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 6</li> <li>• Sections 2 and 6</li> </ul>

<b>Alternatives</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Realistic alternatives are considered for key issues, and the reasons for choosing them are documented.</li> <li>Alternatives include 'do minimum' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios wherever relevant.</li> <li>The environmental effects (both adverse and beneficial) of each alternative are identified and compared.</li> <li>Inconsistencies between the alternatives and other relevant local plans, programmes or policies are identified and explained.</li> <li>Reasons are given for selection or elimination of alternatives.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 5.</li> <li>Section 5 (paras 5.2 – 5.8).</li> <li>Section 5 &amp; Appendix 5</li> <li>N/A</li> <li>Section 5 (paras 5.2 – 5.8).</li> </ul>
<b>Baseline information</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Relevant aspects of the current state of the local, neighbourhood area environment and their likely evolution without the Neighbourhood Development Plan are described. Acknowledgement to the information in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant.</li> <li>Environmental characteristics of the local, neighbourhood area, likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the designated neighbourhood area, where it is likely to be affected by the Neighbourhood Development Plan.</li> <li>Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1 and 6.</li> <li>Initial screening report and Section 1.</li> <li>Section 2.</li> </ul>

<b>Prediction and evaluation of likely significant environmental effects</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effects identified include the types listed in the Directive (biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climate factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape), as relevant; and other local likely environmental effects are also covered, as appropriate.</li> <li>Both positive and negative effects are considered, and the duration of effects (short, medium or long-term) is addressed.</li> <li>Likely secondary, cumulative (growing in quantity and strength) and synergistic (acting together) effects are identified, where practicable.</li> <li>Inter-relationships between effects are considered, where practicable.</li> <li>The prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of relevant accepted standards, regulations, and thresholds (i.e. data gathered for the evidence base).</li> <li>Methods used to evaluate the effects are described.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tables A2, A3 and A4 (Appendix 2)</li> <li>Tables B2 and B3 (Appendix 4)</li> <li>Table B4 (Appendix 4)</li> <li>Section 6</li> <li>Section 6</li> <li>Section 2</li> </ul>
<b>Mitigation measures</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the Neighbourhood Development Plan are indicated.</li> <li>Issues to be taken into account when determining planning applications or other projects, for example funding bids, are identified.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 6 (paras 6.5. – 6.8)</li> <li>Section 6.</li> </ul>

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

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