

Environmental Report

Report for:

Ledbury Neighbourhood Area

March 2023



Ledbury Neighbourhood Plan – (March 2023)

Environmental Report

Contents

Non-technical summary

- 1.0 Introduction
- 2.0 Methodology
- 3.0 The SEA Framework
- 4.0 Appraisal of Objectives
- 5.0 Appraisal of Options
- 6.0 Appraisal of Policies
- 7.0 Implementation and monitoring
- 8.0 Next steps

Appendix 1: Initial SEA Screening Report

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

Appendix 3: Consultation responses from Natural England and English Heritage

Appendix 4: SEA Stage B incorporating Tasks B1, B2, B3 and B4

Appendix 5: Options considered

Appendix 6: Consultation responses to Reg14 SEA

Appendix 7: Stage D incorporating Task D2 and D3

Appendix 8: Consultation responses to Reg16 SEA

Appendix 9: Modifications

Appendix 10: Stage D incorporation Task D2 and D3

Appendix 11: Checklist

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.

Ledbury Town Council have undertaken to prepare an NDP and this process has been subject to environmental appraisal pursuant to the SEA Directive. The neighbourhood area comprises the civil parish of Ledbury and lies approximately 15 miles east of Hereford city and 8 miles from Malvern to the north east.

The final Ledbury NDP includes nineteen aims which are intended to address a number of issues highlighted and it is intended that these objectives will be delivered by 29 planning policies including a small number of site allocations and criteria based policies. Fifteen alternative strategic options have been tested including a number of alternative site options.

The Ledbury NDP has now been subject to an independent examination. Minor modifications have been suggested to twelve policies as well as a modification to the town policies map to aid clarity and implementation. No further changes to the NDP are recommended as a result of this reassessment of the SEA. The NDP was concluded to be in general conformity with national planning policy and the strategic policies as set out within the adopted Herefordshire Core Strategy.

The environmental appraisal of the Ledbury 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 provides 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 submission Plan itself.

The Ledbury NDP has been through the examination. The NDP was concluded to be in general conformity with national planning policy and the strategic policies as set out within the adopted Herefordshire Core Strategy.

Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening showed that a full HRA assessment was not required. A separate report has been produced outlining this and accompanied the draft NDP in February 2022.

On the whole, it is considered that the Ledbury 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). The plan proposes a level of growth which reflects the proportionate growth that is prescribed by strategic policies.

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

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 This report forms the final Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Ledbury Neighbourhood Plan.
- 1.2 Ledbury Neighbourhood Plan area consists of the civil parish of Ledbury which form the administrative area of Ledbury Town Council. The proposed plan is for the period of ten years, 2021-2031 and has been drafted by a steering group of Ledbury Town Council members and volunteer residents.

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 which applies to plans with significant environmental effects.
- 1.5 The main objective of a SEA is *“to provide for a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development”*. The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004). The assessment is looking at the positive and negative environmental issues that your plan might have on your local environmental assets.
- 1.6 A screening opinion was carried out on the Ledbury 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.

Ledbury Neighbourhood Plan Context

- 1.7 Ledbury Parish comprises of the civil parish of Ledbury covers about 1551 hectares and has a population of 14,734 (Census 2021). The town of Ledbury is the main settlement in the parish and is surrounded by a rural hinterland.
- 1.8 Ledbury is a vibrant market town with a range of services and facilities and it also an attractive destination for visitors and tourists. The town is served by a railway station with routes that travel to local destinations such as Hereford, Colwall and Malvern. In addition to that there are direct services to Worcester, Birmingham, Oxford and London. There is a town bus service that runs 4 times a day and there is a two hourly bus service to Hereford and additional services to Worcester, Malvern and Gloucester.

- 1.9 Ledbury includes a fire station police station, and rapid response Paramedic Service. There is a recycling centre in the town. There has been a merger with the existing two doctors surgeries to form a health partnership. Two high street banks remain with branches for personal and business support, despite the rise in online banking. Sporting facilities include cricket, rugby and football grounds, tennis courts, a bowling green and a Centenary Field recreation ground with a skateboard park, play equipment and various exercise facilities. There is a community hall, one primary school and one secondary school. It has an indoor swimming pool, reconstructed in 2016/17, and two leisure centres. There is a good light industrial base with sites in various locations within and around the town.
- 1.10 The parish is located within the Malvern Hall AONB, 3 SSSIs, 10 LWS, 3 LGS, 13 Ancient woodlands, and 1 registered park and garden at Eastnor Castle.
- 1.11 The overall vision is contained within the final neighbourhood plan;

The Vision:

Preserve and Develop Prosperity

As a prosperous market town, Ledbury will continue to be a vibrant, thriving community, both socially and economically, with an attractive, well managed and safe built environment in sympathy with the surrounding natural landscape. The town will continue to be a popular destination as an attractive place to shop for residents, the local rural community and visitors, with a successful tourist industry celebrating the town's heritage.

Preserve and Develop Wellbeing

Residents are proud of Ledbury and gain a sense of wellbeing from living here. There is a strong sense of community and there are currently good services and amenities. Infrastructure will be developed in line with the rate of housing development to maintain this distinct characteristic.

Preserve Quality and Character

The town's population will live, work and play in high quality, flexible, sustainable/energy efficient and well-designed buildings with appropriate infrastructure, which meet the needs of everyone who spends time in the town, and maintain its unique character and heritage.

Widen Employment Base

Currently there is an imbalance between housing and employment with some 40% of the working population commuting out of the town. The employment base will be widened through releasing land to the south of the Little Marcle Road in particular, in order to help develop and diversify the economy, and to continue the technology corridor from the midlands via Malvern, in order to attract high-tech and R&D businesses to Ledbury. The effect of this will be to provide the option to many residents of working in the town, and reduce the numbers commuting out of the town.

Develop Educational Facilities

Ledbury will be a willing partner in the development of higher education facilities in Herefordshire and will support the development of additional facilities including measures to support County and regional hubs should there be a need to expand the proposed university college at Hereford specialising in engineering sciences or science and research-based training associated with Malvern Science Park.

Develop Sport and Recreation

Ledbury wishes to become an area of sporting excellence for all generations and intends to develop more indoor and outdoor sports facilities as the town grows. Ledbury will have new pitches and sports facilities south of the Little Marcle Road.

Preserve Environment

Ledbury will have a defined settlement boundary which respects the constraints of topography, and protects and conserves Malvern Hills AONB, the River Leadon and its Riverside Park, and land to the south-west that meets present and future recreation needs. Sustainable transport options such as walking and cycling, will be encouraged and public transport disabled access provisions enhanced in priority over vehicular traffic. Easy footpath network access to the surrounding countryside and beyond will be improved and maintained. The Malvern Hills AONB is the backdrop to the town and all development will be complementary to the landscape and the views. Design sensitivity and sustainability is given a high priority in all forms of development.

Green space will be protected, and biodiversity networks strengthened, while the town's relationship with the open countryside will be strengthened through the prioritised use of urban trees, landscaping and decorative planting throughout all developments. Natural assets will be maintained and enhanced to mitigate and adapt to climate change. There will be the opportunity to create local green corridors and enhancement zones under a green infrastructure strategy for Ledbury and its surroundings. This will include a 'green corridor' along the safeguarded route of the projected Gloucester and Hereford canal reinstatement, largely following the route of the River Leadon.

Nurture the Town Centre

Ledbury's role as a prosperous market town with a diverse economy, including a burgeoning tourist industry, will be protected and enhanced, while the heritage of the town will be preserved and celebrated. The town will cherish and nurture its vibrant retail core, and will grow its reputation for markets and festivals. Traders will be encouraged to provide a wide range of products, in order to enhance the standing of Ledbury as a prime visitor destination. Increasing sustainability within the town will mean that Ledbury steadily gains the reputation for being a 'Green Town'.

1.12 The draft Ledbury NDP had twenty objectives covering different themes within the plan.

1.13 The Ledbury Neighbourhood Plan (December 2021) objectives are as follows:

- **Objective SD1:** To respond to the climate change emergency by developing Ledbury as a forward thinking, self-reliant and sustainable lifestyle community.
- **Objective HO1:** To ensure that new housing in Ledbury meets the needs of residents.
- **Objective HO2:** To ensure that all new housing in Ledbury is developed in a sustainable manner.
- **Objective HO3:** To recognise and provide for the growth in the needs of older persons and related specialist housing, as identified in a Study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire.
- **Objective HO4:** To provide sustainable and affordable homes for local singles and young families in order to promote balanced communities.
- **Objective HO5:** To encourage individual and community based self-build projects.
- **Objective EE1:** Strengthen and grow the presence of key employment sectors by a deliverable mix of sustainable employment sites to cater for future growth. In particular, the town wishes to encourage high-quality long-term employment, business start - ups and creative industries.

Key employment sectors include:		
Independent and national retail	Engineering	Art, Design & the Creative Industries
Tourism - domestic and business: day, overnight and short visit	Food & Drink	Healthcare
Research and Science	Agricultural services	Sustainable technology industries such as renewable energy and recycling.
Manufacturing and Distribution	Professional services	

- **Objective EE2:** Promote and enhance facilities necessary to attract visitors and to encourage tourism.
- **Objective EE3:** Promote the Town Centre as the destination of choice for retail, leisure and community activities, in order to enhance the appearance and historic character of the town.
- **Objective BE1:** To ensure that Ledbury maintains its character as a rural market town, with new development sympathetic in style and form to the immediate surroundings. Future development will contribute to the preservation of the overall distinctiveness of the town and its setting.
- **Objective BE2:** To promote preservation and enhancement of the Parish's heritage assets and character.
- **Objective NE1:** To maintain, enhance and increase existing open spaces, trees and hedgerows in order to promote and support wildlife and biodiversity.
- **Objective NE2:** To conserve the landscape and scenic beauty of the Parish.
- **Objective NE3:** To promote local food production and encourage small-scale, sustainable producers.
- **Objective NE4:** To ensure that agricultural and other economic activity in the countryside does not unacceptably impact on the existing natural beauty, biodiversity and visual appeal of Ledbury and surrounding areas.
- **Objective NE5:** To register the historic woods above Ledbury as being community assets, for their historical significance, utility value, contribution to the amenity of the town and wellbeing of residents, as being sources of sustainable wood supplies and as sites of natural beauty and wildlife biodiversity that make Ledbury an attractive tourist destination.
- **Objective CL1:** To enable improvements to medical, care, emergency, educational and youth facilities commensurate with the needs of the whole community as the town grows.
- **Objective CL2:** To protect and enhance our green and open spaces and playing fields, including the Riverside Park and the Line Bank Town Trail.
- **Objective TR1:** To promote the use of sustainable transport methods such as cycling, walking and public transport as a primary means of getting around the Parish of Ledbury and providing connectivity to neighbouring parishes.

- **Objective TR2:** To encourage the use of Ledbury Railway Station as a transport hub for Ledbury and district by improving access and facilities with additional parking.

Context of Neighbourhood Plans

- 1.14 NDPs are a 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.
- 1.15 The Ledbury NDP must therefore conform to national planning policy set within the NPPF and strategic level local policy including the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy).
- 1.16 The Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy) was adopted on 16 October 2015.
- 1.17 Paragraph 48 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).
- 1.18 Once made (adopted) by Herefordshire Council, the Ledbury NDP will have a role in guiding future development proposals within the Parish, by setting out policies against which planning applications will be determined and will replace the current made Ledbury NDP adopted on 18 January 2019.

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 Neighbourhood Plan objectives and the SEA framework
 - Section 4 - Appraises the objectives contained within the Neighbourhood Plan against the SEA framework

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

2.0 Methodology

2.1 The SEA process comprised several stages 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 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 policies and reasonable alternatives
- *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 submission Plan during its formal Regulation 16 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 Town 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 Town Council, the Ledbury SEA Scoping Report was available to four¹ statutory bodies for consultation from 2 Feb 2021 to 9 March 2021.

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 added to 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 remains relevant

Response: Comments are noted and necessary changes made

Environment Agency: No comments received

Response: N/A

Natural Resources Wales: No comments received

Response: N/A

3.0 The SEA Framework

- 3.1 As mentioned previously, Stage A of the SEA identifies and reviews relevant policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives from

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

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 Ledbury 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 Ledbury NDP will deliver the Local Plan (Core Strategy) at a local 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 strategies and plans have been reviewed and, where appropriate, incorporated within the SA Framework objectives. These can be seen in Appendix 1 of the Ledbury Plan Scoping Report together with the implications for the SEA and NDP highlighted.

SEA Objectives and baseline characteristics

- 3.6 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

- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 Baseline information gathered during Stage A of the SEA process provided details of the current environmental characteristics of the neighbourhood area and the status of its natural assets and features (refer to Appendix 2). This information was analysed as part of Task B2 of SEA, which looked at the extent to which the emerging NDP policies will help or obstruct these characteristics.
- 3.9 Following the completion of Task B2 of SEA it was apparent that the largest environmental issue within the neighbourhood plan area is impact on landscape character. The policies and proposals of the plan have been drafted within this as the fundamental element.
- 3.10 Baseline characteristics within the SEA detail the current environmental status of environmental characteristics in the neighbourhood plan area from different sources. The source of Baseline Information used in Table A2 in Appendix 2, and analysed in Table B2 can be found in Appendix 4 Baseline characteristics in relation to the Ledbury Plan SEA objectives are listed below.
- 3.11 There are three objectives for which there is no local baseline data available and therefore this provides a limitation on the baseline data and whether the NDP policies are able to move towards or away from this data, this also means that there are no future trends to link the SEA objective too.

4.0 Assessing the NDP Objectives / aims

- 4.1 The objectives listed in the NDP seek to achieve the vision of the Ledbury NDP. There are a total of 20 objectives; these are listed in paragraph 1.13 above
- 4.2 The table in appendix 4 tests these NDP objectives against the SEA objectives, providing a summary of the results of Task B1 of SEA.
- 4.3 The majority of those NDP aims which have a relationship with the SEA framework are positively compatible with it or further clarification is required to fully assess the effects.
- 4.4 Task B1 of the SEA identifies that the twenty NDP objectives were compatible with the SEA framework. Task B1 also requires objectives to be SMART assessed. These too were seen as compatible.
- 4.5 Overall within Stage B1 the majority of the NDP objectives have met SEA objectives, and the rest had no relationship with the SEA objective or needed further information such as location of development.

5.0 Assessing the NDP Neighbourhood Plan Options

- 5.1 The options that were considered during the development of the Ledbury Neighbourhood Plan were supplied by the Town Council and have been assessed as part of the SEA. These options were predominately concerning a settlement boundary, locations for employment land and potential sites for playing pitches and associated facilities. The summary matrix of the assessment can be found in Table B2 options these tables are in Appendix 4.
- 5.2 The options covered were as follows;
Option A - No Settlement Boundary
Option B – Settlement Boundary based on previous draft NDP
Option C - Settlement Boundary includes committed developments and allocations

A number of sites were also considered for potential employment land and open space
- 5.3 A 'No Settlement Boundary' option was considered by Ledbury Town Council, this was disregarded at an early stage by the Town Council as it was considered the majority of the community supported the need for a settlement boundary.
- 5.4 The second option of 'Settlement Boundary based on a previous draft NDP' was considered. Pursuing this 2nd option would have given greater certainty over future development within the area particularly within Ledbury, where some growth is expected. If required mitigation criteria can be added to site allocation policies to ensure all SEA objectives are achieved. However, it is

clear from the Public Survey Report that this was not seen as the favoured option by members of the public.

- 5.5 The third option of designating a 'settlement boundary including committed developments and allocations' would also have seen a positive effect on the baseline. This option had a clear majority with the public consultation. The designation of a settlement boundary will give additional certainty and help define those areas considered as the built form and open countryside. This can aid the direction of further growth to maintain the quality of the landscape and surroundings. There is less certainty over the positive effects on the baseline as any growth will be judged by criteria based policy. Within the Submission plan, a settlement boundary has been drawn for Ledbury.
- 5.6 The option to designate a settlement boundary assessed favourably in terms of the SEA objectives.
- 5.7 A number of alternative sites were also assessed in order to identify an employment site complementary to the planned housing growth. As there were insufficient sites within the mainly built form, additional sites were required adjacent to the built form of Ledbury. In addition, a number of sites were considered for potential playing pitch areas and their associated facilities.
- 5.8 A Landscape & Visual Baseline Assessment Report was prepared on behalf of the Town Council. The assessment's main purpose was to establish whether certain areas of land around Ledbury were sensitive to, or, had the capacity to accommodate, certain forms of development. The results of the SEA assessment, together with community consultation have assisted in the selection of the preferred option sites within the Ledbury NDP.

6.0 Appraisal of the policies

- 6.1 A key part of developing a plan such as the Ledbury NDP is developing a range of options and testing these, so that a preferred way forward can be selected. The policies selected below have followed from the options process.
- 6.2 The plan has been organised to group policies under an appropriate objective. The emerging set of policies within the plan is as follows;
- Policy SD1.1 Ledbury as a Self-Sustaining Community
 - Policy SD1.2 Settlement Boundary
 - Policy SD1.3 Sustainable Design
 - Policy HO2.1 Reinforcing Balanced Housing Communities

- Policy HO2.2 Housing Density
- Policy HO2.3 Design Criteria for Residential Development
- Policy HO3.1 Housing for the Elderly
- Policy HO4.1 Housing for Young People
- Policy HO5.1 Self-build
- Policy EE1.1 New Employment Sites – Land South of Little Marcle Road
- Policy EE1.2 Small Employment Sites Within and Adjoining the Town
- Policy EE2.1 Promoting Visitor Accommodation
- Policy EE3.1 Protection of Shopping Frontages and Primary Shopping Area
- Policy EE3.2 Defined Town Centre
- Policy EE3.3 Lawnside and Market Street Regeneration and Opportunities Area
- Policy BE1.1 Design
- Policy BE2.1 Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets
- Policy NE1.1 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity
- Policy NE2.1 Conserving the Landscape and Scenic Beauty of the Parish
- Policy NE2.2 Protecting Important Views and the setting of the Town
- Policy NE3.1 Allotments and Community Gardens in and around Ledbury
- Policy NE4.1 Farming Landscape around Ledbury
- Policy NE5.1 Protecting Ledbury's Woods
- Policy CL1.1 Community Services and Facilities
- Policy CL2.1 Protection of Open and Green Spaces and Playing Fields
- Policy CL2.2 Alternative Use of Land South of Little Marcle Road as Playing Fields.
- Policy TR1.1 Footpaths & Cycleways
- Policy TR1.2 Highway Requirements
- Policy TR2.1 Ledbury Railway Station

Stage B of SEA

- 6.3 In the context of Task B1 of SEA, the previous section of this report identified that many of the NDP objectives are compatible with the SEA framework, while others had either a neutral impact, no relationship with the SEA objectives or needed further information such as location of development. Additional policy safeguards within the NDP and Local Plan (Core Strategy) would help mitigate any possible conflicts.
- 6.4 With regards to Task B2 of the 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.
- 6.6 There are some unknown factors, particularly where the location of specific piece of development is not yet known.
- 6.7 The results of Task B3, as shown at Appendix 4, demonstrate that the cumulative impact over the time scale is generally positive. Although the development policies indicate that in the short term there may be a neutral or uncertain impact due to the development works that would be undergoing, but within the middle and long term the effects often turn positive due to the criteria in additional NDP policies that provide mitigation methods against the development. Therefore the majority of the policies will be balanced with sustainable policies to minimise environmental impact.
- 6.8 Within the B4 assessment which identified the cumulative effects of the Plan's policies it was highlighted that the policies contained in the Ledbury Plan are not over and above the Core Strategy, therefore the cumulative effect will not exceed that of the Core Strategy Policies which have also been subject to a full Sustainability Appraisal
- 6.9 Mitigation measures have been included within the SEA assessment. Many of the policies already include mitigation criteria with regards to landscape character and the historic environment. The focus and the base of the plans objectives have been the safeguarding of the environment given Ledbury's location set against the Malvern Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The settlement boundary delineation and the site selection process have been based on a landscape and visual baseline assessment and the policies criteria within the policy are seeking to ensure that this character is maintained.
- 6.10 These minor amendments have not specifically changed the outcomes of the SEA.

Stage D of the SEA

- 6.11 The submission Ledbury NDP has been reviewed following the draft consultation. The Independent Examination of the Plan took place between January and February 2023. The Examiner reported that the NDP had met the Basic Conditions subject to a number of modifications. Twelve policies had amendments to them including the deletion of policy EE1.3 Protecting Existing Employment Land. Eighteen policies remain unchanged. The

following policies have had some amendments to them with wording additions and deletions:

- Policy SD1.2: Settlement Boundary – minor wording change
- Policy SD1.3: Sustainable Design - minor wording change
- Policy HO2.1: Reinforcing Balanced Housing Communities- minor wording change
- Policy EE1.1: New Employment Sites – Land South of Little Marcle Road – Additional requirement added to the policy
- Policy BE1.1: Design - - minor wording change
- Policy BE2.1: Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets- minor wording change
- Policy NE2.2: Protecting Important Views and the Setting of the Town: - minor wording change
- Policy CL2.1: Protection of Open and Green Spaces and Playing Fields: minor wording change
- Policy CL2.2: Alternative Use of Land South of Little Marcle Road as Playing Fields: specific policy wording additions on highway provision meant the SEA Objective moved from a 'neutral' to a 'positive' when rescreened in Appendix 7.
- Policy TR1.1: Footpaths and Cycleways – specific criterion removed relating to highway improvements. As specific policy detail removed. This meant the SEA Objective moved from a 'very positive' to a 'positive' when rescreened in Appendix 7.
- Policy TR1.2: Highway Requirements – Name changed to Public Realm Design Requirements. Criterion removed and policy text on transport requirements added. This meant the SEA Objective moved from a 'neutral' to a 'positive' when rescreened in Appendix 7.

The following maps have also had amendments:

- The Key to Map 3 and the map
- The Key to Map 11 and the map
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6.12 The above policies have all been rescreened against the Strategic Environment Assessment objectives. Some have seen some objectives increase in positive outcomes whilst the minor amendments of others has meant no changes were necessary.

6.13 The results of the re-screening can be seen in Appendix 10.

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 accompany the post examination version of the Ledbury NDP. The plan will move to referendum and, subject to a successful outcome, final adoption.

Appendix 1

Initial Habitat Regulations Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Notification

The Neighbourhood Planning (General) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 (Reg. 32)

Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (d)

Neighbourhood Area:	Ledbury Neighbourhood Area
Parish Council:	Ledbury Town Council
Neighbourhood Area Designation Date:	16 November 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.

HRA Initial Screening

Map showing relationship of Neighbourhood Area with European Sites (not to scale)



River Wye (including the River Lugg) Special Area of Conservation (SAC):

Does the Neighbourhood Area have the River Wye (including the River Lugg) in or next to its boundary?	N	The River Wye is not within or bordering Ledbury neighbourhood area.
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the hydrological catchment of the River Wye SAC?	N	The neighbourhood area is not within the hydrological catchment of the River Wye.
Is the Neighbourhood Area in the River Lugg hydrological catchment area?	N	The neighbourhood area is not within the River Lugg hydrological catchment area.
If yes above, does the Neighbourhood Area have mains drainage to deal with foul sewage?	N/A	Not Applicable.

Downton Gorge SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of Downton Gorge SAC?	N	Downton Gorge is 40.4km away from the neighbourhood area.
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River Clun SAC:

Does the River Clun border the Neighbourhood Area	N	The River Clun SAC does not border the neighbourhood area.
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Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley & Forest of Dean Bat Sites?	N	Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites are 15.1km away from the neighbourhood area.
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Wye Valley Woodlands SAC:

Is the Neighbourhood Area within 10km of any of the individual sites that make up the Wye Valley Woodlands Site?	N	Wye Valley Woodlands are 24km away from the neighbourhood area.
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HRA Conclusion:

The assessment above highlights that European Sites will not need to be taken into account in the future Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Ledbury Neighbourhood Area and a Full HRA Screening will not be required.

European Site

(List only those which are relevant)

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

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

SEA features	Within Neighbourhood Area		Bordering Neighbourhood Area	
	Total number	Name(s)	Total number	Name(s)
Ancient Woodland	13	Knoll Coppice; Redhill & Mallins Wood; Quarry Coppice (part) & Wall Hills Coppice (part); Grovesend Wood; Baymans Wood; Coppice; Frith Wood; Sling Coppice; Hatfield Coppice; Dog Hill Wood; Coney Green & May Hill Woods; Hospital Wood; Clenchers Mill Wood.	20	Glebe Coppice; Ast Wood; Hay Grove Coppice; Rough Pasture Ash; Pauncewood; Coppice; Canon Heath Wood; Loxter Wood; France Grove; Broomy Hill Coppice; Lavengers Coppice; Sparrow Hill Wood; Wynds Point Wood; Birchams Wood; Great Hayclose Coppice; Little Hayclose Coppice; Reddings Coppice; Brand Oak Coppice; Ridge Hill Coppice; Ash Coppice.
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	1	Malvern Hills.	0	-

SEA features	Within Neighbourhood Area		Bordering Neighbourhood Area	
	Total number	Name(s)	Total number	Name(s)
Conservation Areas	1	Ledbury.	1	Eastnor.
Flood Areas	Flood Zones 2 and 3 running north to south via River Leadon to the West of Ledbury Town.			
Geoparks	1	Malvern Hills	0	-
Listed Buildings	There are numerous listed buildings throughout the neighbourhood area.			
Local Geological Sites	3	Knapp Lane Quarry; Ledbury Tunnel Quarry; Coneygree Wood Site 1.	2	Haysebrook Cottages, Colwall; Loxter Ashbed Quarry.
Local Wildlife Sites	10	Woodlands on Wall Hills; Ledbury Cutting; Frith Wood, Bradlow Knoll & Dog Hill; Ridgeway Wood; Stitch Wood & adjoining pasture; Upper Hall Farm Quarry & grassland; Upper Hall grounds and lake; Coneygree & Mayhill Woods; Woodland north of Wall Hills; Clenchers Mill Wood & Little Woolpits.	10	Ast Wood; Longworth Meadow; Field near canal at Swinmore; Pool at Hope End Estate; Roadside verges above Chances Pitch on A449; Malvern Hills & adjoining sites; Eastnor Park, Birchen Wood & Castle Coppice; Eastnor Lake; Eastnor Hill Wood; Quarry near Dead Woman's Thorn Hill Wood.

SEA features	Within Neighbourhood Area		Bordering Neighbourhood Area	
	Total number	Name(s)	Total number	Name(s)
Mineral Reserves	11	East of Wellington Heath to The Frith, Ledbury; Frith Wood, east of Wellington Heath; Petty France Farm to Bradlow; North of Bradlow, north west of Kilbury Camp; North of Bradlow, Bradlow Coppice; Evendine to Baxhill coppice, Colwall Stone; Ridgeway south of Ockeridge Farm to Eastnor; East of Ledbury Quarry Plantation /Worcester Walk, Coppice to Mayhill Wood to The Holts; South east of Ledbury to Gloucester Road Bullen House, south to Hospital Wood; South east of Ledbury, Hospital Wood; South east of Ledbury, Gloucester Road, north of Dingwood Park Farm.	10	Jabeys Cottage, Coddington to Hope End Farm, Loxter; Holly Bank Coppice to Petty France, Coddington; Broadwood House, Colwall Stone to News Wood south of Herefordshire Beacon; Hollybush, north of Herefordshire Beacon; North east of Ledbury, East of Lower Mitchell Cottage and adj. railway line; North east of Ledbury, White House Farm; East of Ledbury, The Gables to Eastnor Hill; East of Ledbury & west of Eastnor, Squirrel Wood Hill; East of Ledbury, north of Eastnor, Wintercombe; South west of Eastnor, Holts Coppice to Clenchers Mill Wood.
National Nature Reserve	0	-	0	-
Nature Trails	2	Herefordshire Trail; Geopark Way.	0	-
Registered Parks and Gardens	1	Eastnor Castle.	1	Hope End.

SEA features	Within Neighbourhood Area		Bordering Neighbourhood Area	
	Total number	Name(s)	Total number	Name(s)
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	1	Wall Hills Camp.	4	Herefordshire Beacon Camp; Midsummer Hill Camp; Bronsil Castle; Dovecote at Barton Court.
Sites of Importance in Nature Conservation	0	-	0	-
Special Areas of Conservation	0	-	0	-
Unregistered parks and gardens	4	Upper Hall; Ledbury Park; Underdown; Dingewood Park.	4	Hatfield; Donnington Hall; Priors Court; Barton Court.
		SSSI Status		SSSI Status
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	3	Ledbury Cutting; Upper Hall Farm Quarry & grasslands; Ridgeway Wood.	3	The Malvern Hills; Eastnor Park; Mayhill Wood.
		Unfavourable, Declining; Favourable; Favourable.		Favourable (part), Unfavourable, Recovering (part) Favourable; Favourable.

Decision Notification:

The initial screening highlights that the Neighbourhood Development Plan for the Ledbury Neighbourhood Area will require further environmental assessment for Habitats Regulations Assessment and Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Assessment date: 3 November 2020

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. This is based on the sites individual features of integrity and their vulnerabilities, which could include distance criteria. This has been used in identifying which parishes are likely to require a full HRA Screening of their future Neighbourhood Development Plan, to establish if their plan might have Likely Significant Effects on a European Site.

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

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

River Wye
Site Features: Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculon fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation. Transition mires and quaking bogs. White-clawed (or Atlantic Stream) crayfish <i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i> . Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> . Brook lamprey <i>Lampetra planeri</i> . River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> . Twaite shad <i>Alosa fallax</i> . Atlantic salmon <i>Salmo salar</i> . Bullhead <i>Cottus gobio</i> . Otter <i>Lutra lutra</i> . Allis shad <i>Alosa alosa</i>
Vulnerability data: Proximity: Developments should not be within 100m of the designated bank. Some developments beyond 100m may also have impacts based on proximity and these issues should be addressed where possible when developing NDP policy and choosing site allocations. Water Quality: Within the whole catchment of the River Wye, which includes the River Lugg, mains drainage issues with regards to water quality are being resolved through the Core Strategy / Local Plan and development of a Nutrient Management Plan. Welsh Water should be consulted to ensure that the proposed growth will be within the limit of their consents. Otters: “An otter will occupy a ‘home range’, which on fresh waters usually includes a stretch of river as well as associated tributary streams, ditches, ponds, lakes and woodland. The size of a home range depends largely on the availability of food and shelter, and the presence of neighbouring otters. On rivers, a male’s home range may be up to 40km or more of watercourse and associated areas; females have smaller ranges (roughly half the size) and favour quieter locations for breeding, such as tributary streams. Otters without an established home range are known as ‘transients’. They are mostly juveniles looking for a territory of their own, or adults that have been pushed out of their territories. Transient otters may use an area for a short while, but they will move on if conditions are not suitable or if they are driven away by resident otters. Transients will have been important in extending the range of otters, but they are very difficult to

identify from field signs.

Within a home range an otter may use many resting sites. These include above-ground shelters, such as stands of scrub or areas of rank grass, and underground 'holts' – for example, cavities under tree roots and dry drainage pipes.”

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.

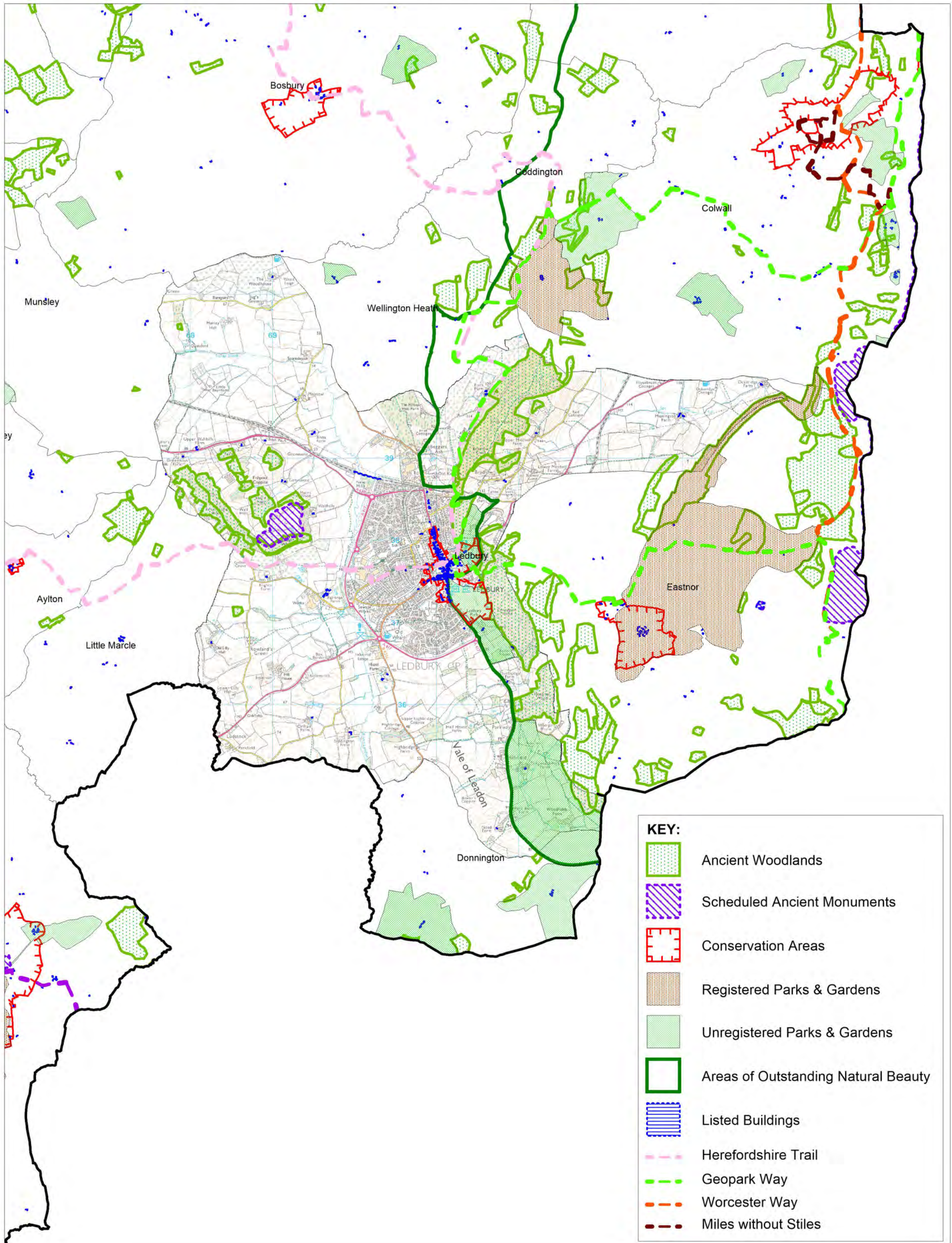


Ledbury SEA Map 1



SCALE: 1:40,000

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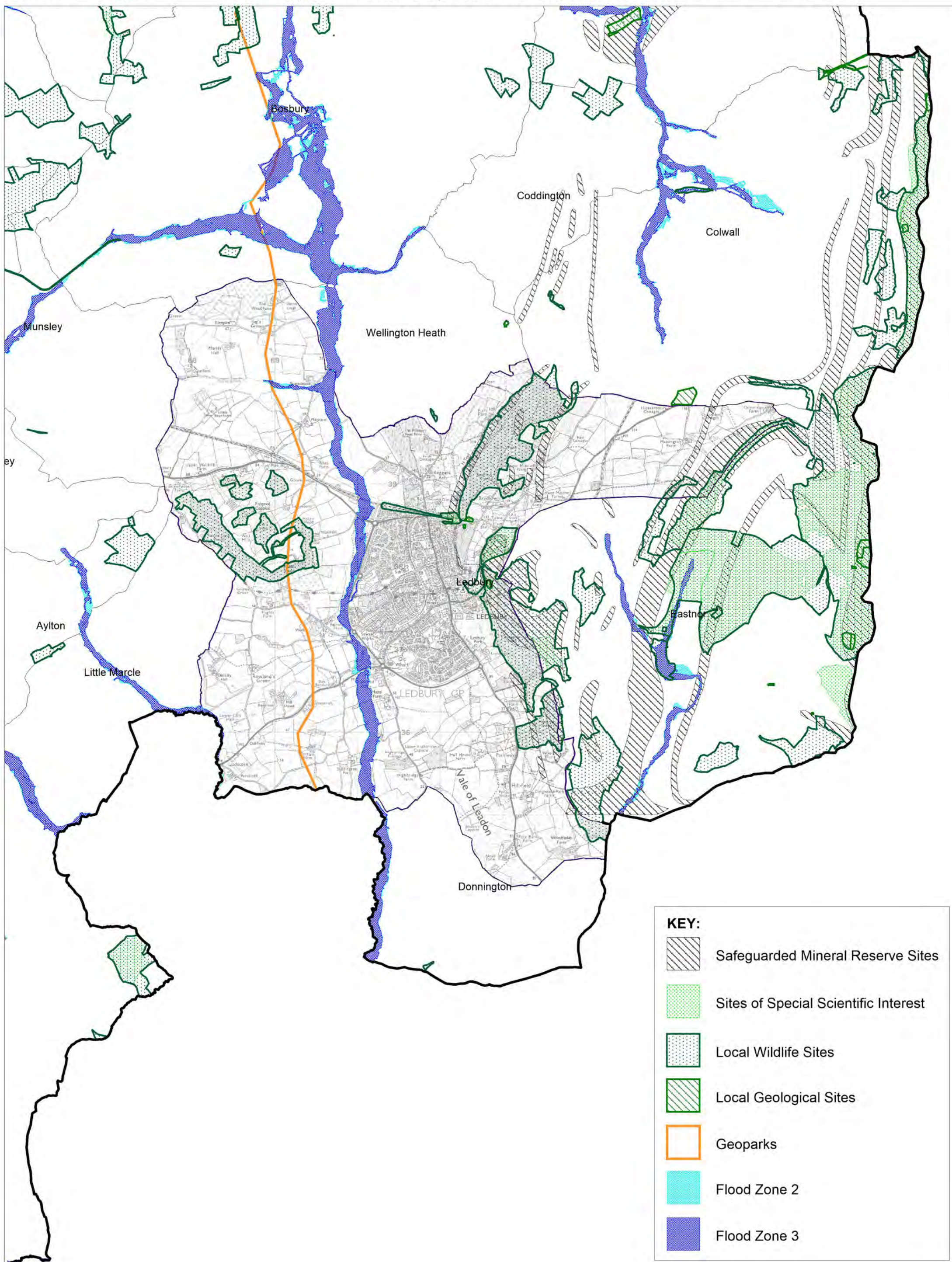
Ledbury SEA Map 2










Herefordshire
Council

SCALE: 1:40,000

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KEY:

-  Safeguarded Mineral Reserve Sites
-  Sites of Special Scientific Interest
-  Local Wildlife Sites
-  Local Geological Sites
-  Geoparks
-  Flood Zone 2
-  Flood Zone 3

Appendix 2

Strategic Environmental Assessment

Scoping Report for:

Ledbury Neighbourhood Area

November 2020



Consultation on the Scoping Report

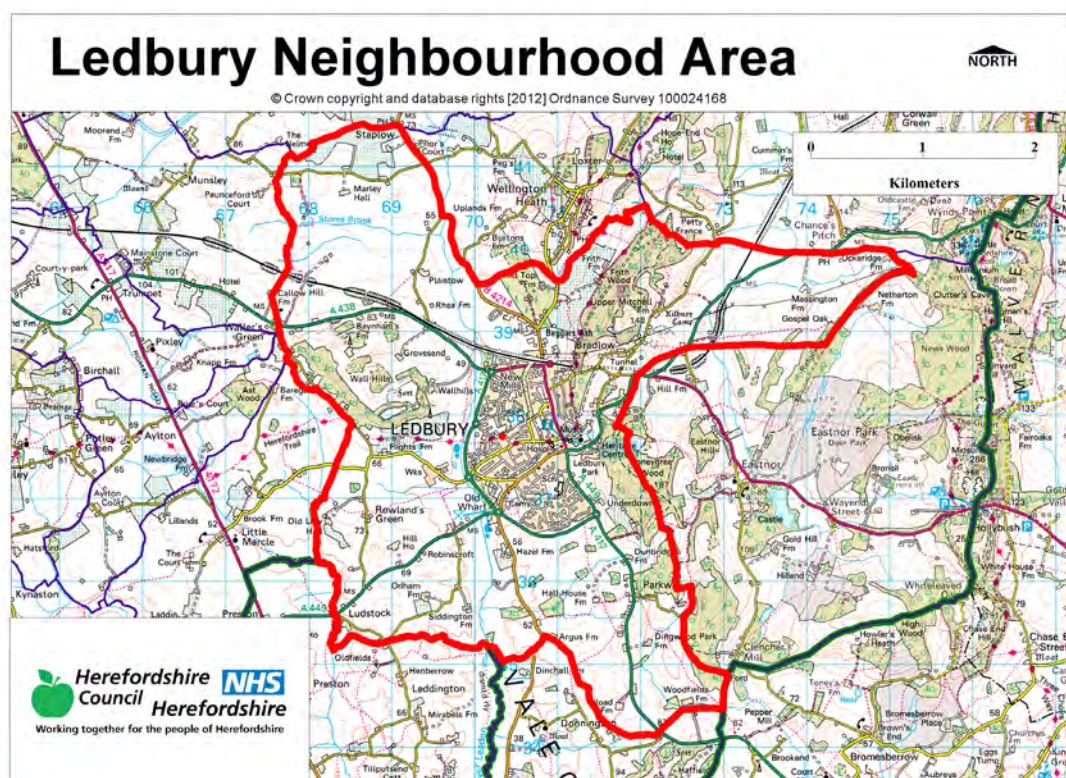
The aim of the consultation process is to involve and engage with statutory consultees and other relevant bodies on the scope of the appraisal. In particular, it seeks to:

- 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 Natural Resources Wales.

The three consultation bodies are as follows:

1. Natural England;
2. Historic England;
3. Environment Agency.



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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
The EC Water Framework Directive	European Union	2000	Commits all EU member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water courses by 2015.	Aims for 'good status' for all ground and surface waters (rivers, lakes, transitional waters, and coastal waters) in the EU.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water 	The Ledbury NDP should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.
The Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)	Domestic Legislation	1981	The major legal instrument for wildlife protection in Britain, although other significant acts have been passed since. It has numerous parts and supplementary lists and schedules many of which have been amended since publication.	The principle mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Soil 	The Ledbury NDP should be compliant with all the relevant legislation and regulations.

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
			arrangements for delivering Government policy.			
Revised EU Sustainable Development strategy	EU Strategy.	2009	Sets out a single strategy on how the EU will better 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"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	The Ledbury NDP should take account of the objectives of the strategy, making the aim of sustainable development an integral part of its proposals.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services	National Strategy	2011	Forms part of the UK's Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework by setting out England's contribution towards the UK's commitments under the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity.	Sets out to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity 	The Ledbury NDP should take account of the provisions of the strategy, making the most of opportunities to enhance wildlife habitats or restore degraded ecosystems in the process.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	National Planning Policy.	2018	Consolidates the suite of PPG/PPS into one succinct planning policy document.	Aims to make the planning system less complex, more accessible and able to promote growth within the ethos of sustainable development. The presumption is in favour of sustainable development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	The guidance contained within the section on Neighbourhood Planning should be borne in mind during the preparation of the Ledbury NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Planning Practice Guidance	Government Guidance	2019	Provides guidance to local planning authorities and others on the operation of the planning system.	Offers up-to-date, electronic guidance on every aspect of planning from air quality and design to land stability and rural housing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	The Ledbury NDP must be pro-growth and facilitate the provision and development of sustainable development.
Herefordshire Adopted Core Strategy 2011-2031	Development Plan Document (DPD)	2015	Sets out the vision, objectives and policies for the Herefordshire Local Plan (Core Strategy), which will guide development across the county up to 2031.	<p>Outlines the emerging suite of countywide planning policies relating to housing, economic development and the environment, which the NDP will need to be in conformity with where relevant.</p> <p>The Submission Core Strategy includes a range of objectives, five of which directly relate to rural areas:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	<p>The Ledbury NDP should take account of relevant policies set within the Core Strategy.</p> <p>Where necessary, the Ledbury NDP should provide services, facilities and employment opportunities that are accessible to both local and</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet the housing needs of all sections of the community • To improve access to services in rural areas • To strengthen the economic viability of the villages and their rural hinterlands. • To achieve sustainable communities and protect the environment • To conserve, promote, utilise and enjoy our natural, built, historic and cultural assets for the fullest benefit of the whole community <p>To achieve a thriving rural Herefordshire, the Core Strategy seeks to enhance the role the villages have traditionally played in as accessible, sustainable</p>		<p>neighbouring communities. A strategic site has been identified, LB2 strategic development site comprises the provision of 625 new homes, 3ha of employment land and 210-place primary school.</p> <p>Following an outline application 171532 for 625, a hearing for Ledbury has taken place in September 2020.</p> <p>The NDP will need to recognised these commitments and in line with NPPF potentially consider the allocation of a housing site.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				centres for their rural catchments. Seeks proportional growth of up to 14% in Ledbury (Ledbury HMA) over the plan period.		Rural areas in the Ledbury HMA has a 14% indicative housing growth target, 565 houses in the rural areas in the Ledbury HMA.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Transport Plan (LTP) 2016-2031	Corporate	2016	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 2016 to 2031.	<p>The Transport Plan aims to increase highway capacity for new development sites as improve efficiency of existing transport network.</p> <p>The document includes five key objectives, one which plans to enable economic growth connecting new roads with developments. Intrinsic to this is to provide a good quality transport network. The other objectives aim to promote healthy lifestyles with pollution reduction and active travel schemes. Improvements will be made to make journeys easier and safer, ensuring access to services for living in rural areas maximising accessibility.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Climatic factors • Population 	<p>The LTP highlights rail access improvements for Ledbury. Detailed assessments will be carried out to identify opportunities to improve access to and by rail, public realm improvements in Ledbury town centre, parking issues and bus services.</p> <p>Ledbury neighbourhood area but any new development proposed through the NDP should seek to reduce the environmental impacts of transport.</p>

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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 main strategic employment location for Ledbury is: 12 hectares of employment land have been identified – Land between Little Marcle Road and Ross Road.</p> <p>In the Ledbury area employment space areas are 15.79% is office space, 9.35% is sales, 20.38% is warehousing, 51.53% is industrial and 2.94% is other. (Table 7.1b)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Material assets Population 	<p>The demand for employment land and premises up to 2031 should be achieved through this policy L02 of the Core Strategy.</p> <p>However, the Ledbury NDP can support the delivery of employment land at through the inclusion of a detailed, site specific policy, which sets out the criteria against which future planning applications will be decided.</p> <p>The evidence base recommends that the Ledbury NDP protect the employment sites alongside from alternative uses.</p>

Understanding Herefordshire Report	Built and natural environment	2016	<p>Important to understand the place such as the local economy natural and built environment in which people live, learn and work as part of understanding their quality of life</p> <p>Promotion of healthy lifestyle choices.</p> <p>Enable development for economy and housing to required levels.</p> <p>Growth should be supported by sustainable transport measures.</p>	<p>An air quality management plan is in place to tackle this. Destination Hereford project is in place to give locals more sustainable transport options.</p> <p>Sustainable transport measures will also help to promote active lifestyles within Herefordshire.</p>	<p>Improve air quality.</p> <p>Have a more diverse range of transport options.</p>	None of merit.
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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>The LHMA uses 7 HMAs as the geography for presenting data. Ledbury town falls within the Ledbury HMA.</p> <p>Here, the study reveals that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Ledbury HMA contains 8,544 properties⁴² representing 10% of total properties in Herefordshire. • The proportion of people working at home in 2001 in this HMA was only slightly higher than in 10.9 Herefordshire as a whole (16.3% of the working population as compared to 15.2%) and more travelled 10km or more to get to work (39.3% as compared to 26.9%)⁴³. • There is an annual requirement for 40 affordable dwellings in the Ledbury HMA. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Population • Soil • Water 	<p>The LHMA provides an indication of housing needs and affordability within the Ledbury HMA.</p> <p>It provides evidence that could be used to inform policies or market and affordable housing requirements in the NDP.</p>
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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Local Housing Requirements Study	Evidence	2012	Technical assessment of the housing market and potential future local housing requirements which supports planning policy regarding the amount of growth, housing tenure and housing type needed within Herefordshire up to 2031.	<p>The delivery of 5,300 homes in the rural areas would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support growth in the rural population by 6% • Increase the number of households by 14.5% <p>Forecasts also predict that growth in the population of the rural areas is likely to be primarily through an increase in those aged over 75.</p> <p>Moderate growth is expected in the 30-44 and 60-74 age brackets.</p> <p>The Local Housing Requirements Study therefore anticipates continuing improvements in life expectancy; significant growth is expected of those in their 80s, with the existing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	<p>This study provides an indication of housing requirements in the rural areas and the Ledbury HMA.</p> <p>This evidence can be used to inform the content of the Ledbury NDP.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				population in their 40s and 50s moving into retirement.		
Herefordshire Rural Housing Background Report	Evidence	2013	Provides the background for the proportional housing growth targets outlined in the Core Strategy	<p>Ledbury rural HMA, should provide 14% proportionate growth in the villages.</p> <p>There are no rural villages within the designated neighbourhood area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	None of merit.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	Evidence	2012	<p>The HELAA aims to justify site allocations in plans by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying sites which are capable of delivering housing development Assessing sites for their housing potential; and Predicting when a site could be developed for housing. 	<p>In terms of Ledbury the SHLAA identifies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There needs to be proportional housing growth of 14% in the Ledbury area. Appendix 10 lists all developable sites in Ledbury. Overall 884 had low constraints and 1790 site have significant constraints. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Biodiversity Climate factors Cultural heritage and the landscape Flora and fauna Population and human health Soil Water 	<p>The SHLAA assesses the potential availability of land for housing.</p> <p>The Ledbury NDP should be informed by the findings of the SHLAA.</p>

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

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Traveller's sites DPD	Evidence	2019	Assesses the accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers across Herefordshire.	Key findings from the DPD. In Herefordshire there are a number of small privately owned traveller sites and larger sites that are managed by Herefordshire Council. The private sites varying size with small sites of 1-5 pitches typically being occupied by a single, extended family. In total there are 133 authorised pitches across the county. In addition to this there are 10 Travelling Show people plots in Ross on Wye. No sites have been allocated in the Ledbury neighbourhood area.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climate factors • Cultural heritage and the landscape • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population and human health • Soil • Water 	The Ledbury NDP must establish whether any of the need identified in this assessment falls within the neighbourhood area and make appropriate provisions for it.

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.	<p>The study addresses biodiversity interests in and around the peripheries of the Ledbury town.</p> <p>3 SSSIs are found east of Ledbury. Ledbury Cutting status is unfavourable, declining. Upper Hall Farm and Quarry favourable. Ridgeway wood is favourable.</p> <p>1 Geopark, Malvern Hills.</p> <p>3 Local geological sites- Knapp Lane quarry, Ledbury tunnel quarry and Conegree wood.</p> <p>There are 10 LWS found in the Ledbury area. Woodlands on Wall Hills; Ledbury Cutting; Frith Wood, Bradlow Knoll & Dog Hill; Ridgeway Wood; Stitch Wood & adjoining pasture; Upper Hall Farm Quarry & grassland; Upper Hall grounds and lake;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	The Ledbury NDP can overcome any existing constraints and capitalise on opportunities to enhance habitats and their networks.
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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
				Coneygree & Mayhill Woods; Woodland north of Wall Hills; Clenchers Mill Wood & Little Woolpits.		

Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis	Evidence	2010	Technical Paper which supports the SHLAA by classifying the landscape sensitivity of the urban fringe on the edges of Hereford and the five market towns.	<p>The document provides useful information in respect of Ledbury market town. Land to the east of Ledbury falls into the Malvern Hills AONB.</p> <p>The historic core of the town is situated in an elevated position with sloping wooded hills on its eastern edge. The topographical position, Ledbury is visually constrained, north is restricted by the viaduct and embankment, the east restricted by landform, the south by hills and west by woodland.</p> <p>Conservation features in the core of Ledbury Town with notable listed buildings, this extends westwards to encompass Ledbury Park and Upper Hall historic parks.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna 	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Ledbury NDP.
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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Herefordshire Green Infrastructure Strategy	Evidence	2010	Develops a framework of natural and culturally important features and functions so that planning for a sustainable future is at the heart of planning within Herefordshire.	Establishes policies and principles for the protection and enhancement of those features and functions that contributes to the environment of Herefordshire across a range of scales.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Ledbury NDP.

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	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"> • Electrical: 731 GWh/yr • Heat: 1,810 GWh/yr • Total: 2,541 GWh/yr <p>There is scope for all types of renewable energy production.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Air • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population • Soil • Water 	The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies for the Ledbury NDP.

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 Ledbury market town, the study reveals that there are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22ha of playing pitch area. • 13.1ha of has secured community access. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population 	<p>22ha include-John Masefield HS, Ledbury PS, Ledbury Town football ground, Ledbury Rugby and football ground.</p> <p>The study provides evidence that could be taken into account when preparing policies the Ledbury NDP.</p>
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Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Open Spaces Study	Evidence	2006	The 2006 space audit and assessment of need is a snapshot of the quality, quantity and distribution of open space across Herefordshire.	<p>The study reveals that within Ledbury area, to which Ledbury is a part, there is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive under provision of parks and gardens and outdoor sport • Extensive over provision of natural and semi natural greenspace • Ledbury area has a provision of 1.13 ha of parks and gardens per 1000 population 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population 	<p>The open space audit and assessment does not give a specific indication Ledbury has a good provision of natural and semi natural greenspace, but an under provision for parks, garden and outdoor sports spaces.</p> <p>It may help to include a policy which encourages and facilitates the provision of outdoor recreational facilities.</p>

Plans and Programmes	Type of document	Date	Overview	Key message, target/objective/indicator	SEA topic(s)	Implications for the NDP and SEA
Play Facilities Study	Evidence	2012	The Play Facilities Study 2012 updates the previous play facilities analysis under the Open Spaces Study 2006 and provides guidance and a framework for the development, delivery and continued sustainability of providing new and improved play facilities for children and young people in Herefordshire to 2031.	<p>In terms of Ledbury area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 play areas has been identified in the rural areas of Ledbury. • 9 play facilities have been identified in Ledbury town. • 0.5 are owned by a housing association, 1 Town Council, and 7.5 Herefordshire Council. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Cultural heritage • Flora and fauna • Material assets • Population 	It may help to include a policy which encourages and facilitates the provision of play facilities within the neighbourhood area.

Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)	Evidence	2019	The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides a summary of flood risk in Herefordshire to inform the location of future development.	<p>The River Leadon, designated as a main river, flows in a southerly direction to the west of Ledbury. Flood zones 2 and 3 fall west of the A417, west of Ledbury town.</p> <p>A strategic assessment of flood risk at each of the main strategic development sites was undertaken in February 2015 and included the following sites. Site LB2, land north of the viaduct in Ledbury. This concluded there are opportunities to reduce surface water run off through SUD provision and controlling runoff from proposed strategic development site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Material assets • Population • Water 	<p>New development proposed through the Ledbury 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 Ledbury NDP.</p>
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Water Cycle Study	Evidence	2009	The Water Cycle Study (WCS) examines how water resources and water supply infrastructure, wastewater treatment, water quality, sewerage and flood risk could constrain growth across Herefordshire	Ledbury STW discharges into the River Leadon. The WCS identifies the River Leadon is designated sensitive waters, and is susceptible to eutrophication under the urban wastewater treatment directive. Tertiary standards of treatment therefore apply to all STWs serving populations greater than 10,000. The River Leadon is currently classed as 'Poor' ecological status. It also is likely to receive a significant increase in housing pressure that without mitigation will exacerbate the situation. However there are ongoing actions for Seven treatment plants provide phosphate removal under UWWTD. EA implementing programme of measures under Severn RBMP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biodiversity • Climatic factors • Material assets • Population • Water 	<p>Water quality is an issue in both the upper and lower River Leadon sub catchments currently have poor ecological status.</p> <p>Mitigation measures should be considered whilst drafting emerging policy. Examples of mitigation strategies are: Promotion of SUDs, reduction of water demand and sewerage disposal and improved adaptive land management to reduce levels of orthophosphate from horticultural and farmed land.</p>
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Appendix A2 – Baseline information for Ledbury

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

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Biodiversity, flora and fauna</i>							
13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	<p>Condition of SSSIs within Ledbury:</p> <p>Ridgeway Wood (Favourable); Ledbury Cutting (Unfavourable Declining); Farm Quarry and grassland (Favourable)</p>	<p>Percentage of SSSI land in favourable condition.</p> <p>2006: 22% 2007: 22% 2008: 22% 2010: 24% 2011: 27%</p> <p>Proportion of SSSI land that was in unfavourable condition but recovering</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</p>	<p>Herefordshire's SSSIs are in extremely poor condition relative to England as whole, where 96.1% of all SSSI land was in favourable condition in April 2014.</p> <p>The proportion of SSSI in unfavourable condition but</p>	NE & Defra website (search October 2020).

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

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
				<p>increased between 2010 and 2012 going from 41% to 65%.</p> <p>Proportion in unfavourable and declining condition had also decreased from 4% to 1%.</p>	unfavourable condition and declining (Decrease)	recovering is greater than England as a whole, where the figure currently stands at 58.6%.	
13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	Percentage of opportunities taken.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore or 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, but this indicator would not apply to this Neighbourhood Area, as the parish falls outside the catchment area for the River Wye SAC.	N/A	N/A	The River Wye is not within or bordering Ledbury Neighbourhood Area. The Neighbourhood area is not within the hydrological catchment of the River Wye Lugg or River Wye hydrological catchment area.	Nutrient Management Plan

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
13. Value, maintain, restore and expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	<p>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>2010/11: 17 Habitat Action Plans and 14 Species Action Plans are currently in operation across Herefordshire.</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i></p>	<p>There are no formal records of any unacceptable adverse impacts on habitats or protected species.</p> <p>Originally 156 Priority Species were identified for inclusion in Herefordshire's LBAP.</p> <p>Similarly Herefordshire's LBAP covered 23 habitats with Action Plans.</p>	<p>To protect and where possible enhance the habitats of protected species identified.</p> <p>No net losses.</p>	Herefordshire Biological Records Centre (HBRC) holds limited data on some individual sites.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2018/19)

13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity.	Natural environment	Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.	<p>Ledbury has: SAM: 1 SAC: 0 SSSI: 3 LWS: 10</p> <p>Ancient Woodland: 13</p> <p>AONB: 1 Malvern Hills</p> <p>Geopark: 1 Malvern Hills Geopark.</p> <p>Local Geological Sites: 3</p> <p>Mineral Reserves: 11 There are no SINC's, NNRs, and LNRs within the parish.</p> <p>4 Unregistered parks and gardens. 1 Registered</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 protect or enhance the areas of value to nature conservation.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	NDP SEA/HRA Screening Notification Report (14/05/2013)
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SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
			parks and gardens.				

13. Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity .	Natural environment	Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	<p>The Ledbury Neighbourhood Area comprises the following types of landscape:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central Ledbury is an urban area • Southern Ledbury is principal timbered farmlands • Eastern Ledbury has principal wooded hills • North and West of Ledbury settled farmlands on the river terrace • Part of the north west has a small area of riverside meadows and 	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Herefordshire Landscape Character Assessment (2004; updated 2009).
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SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
			principal settled farmlands				
SEA Topic covered by objectives: <i>Material assets</i>							
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template. Whilst there is no locally specific data available at present, there are numerous archaeological and historic sites in Ledbury according to the latest version of the register.	-	No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Herefordshire Environmental Records Register (searched October 2020).

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
14. Use natural resources and energy more efficiently.	Resource consumption and climate change	Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	<i>Rapid Townscape Assessments (2010) were undertaken for Ledbury.</i> <i>Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis (2010) considers sites in Ledbury.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations	Rapid Townscape Assessments (2010) Ledbury Urban Fringe Sensitivity Analysis (2010)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Population, Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna</i>							
15. Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces.	Natural environment	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design standards.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
15. Value, protect, enhance or 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 the aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.	Countywide data would be too large to incorporate into this template.	No records of any current planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the Ledbury conservation area.	To wherever possible improve upon or otherwise maintain current status.	Current status must be verified by Dvt Mgt and Enforcement Officers, but the NDP can help to avoid enforcement action and appeals during the plan period.	Council Dvt Mgt records (searched October 2020)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Climatic Factors</i>							

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

16. Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem.	Resource consumption and climate	Total CO2 emissions per capita	<p>Latest figure dates back to 2010: 1.61 million tonnes (mtCO²)</p> <p><i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i></p>	<p>Between 2005 and 2010 Herefordshire's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 7% and 8% respectively; while UK's total and per capita carbon emission reduced by 8% and 12% respectively within the same period. This trend hides an increase in emissions between 2009 and 2010 when total emissions in the county increased by 5% the same</p>	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.	CO ² emissions produced are decreasing.	Understanding Herefordshire: An integrated needs assessment (June 2013).
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SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
				as across the UK (+5%).			
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water</i>							
17. Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public wellbeing, the economy and the environment .	Natural environment	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.	The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data. <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	2010/11: None There have been no approvals contrary to EA advice since reporting began in 2004.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	Herefordshire Council AMR (2018/19)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Water, air, soil, material assets</i>							
18. Minimise local and global pollution and	Natural environment	Agricultural land usage by quality	<i>There is no countywide data</i>	-	Measure the number of hectares	Should be monitored through AMR following the	West Midland ALC Map

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
protect or enhance environmental resources.			<i>available at present.</i> 2011: The majority of land outside Ledbury town is was listed Grade 2 (Good) and Grade 3 (Good to Moderate) for its agricultural quality. The town centre is classified as land in predominantly urban use.		of best and most versatile soil lost through development.	adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	(Natural England 2011).

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
18. Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources.	Natural environment	Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality as required by the Water Framework Directive	Latest figure dates back to 2005: 84% <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	Figure steadily improved before going into decline: Herefordshire 1999 85.9%, 2000 89.5%, 2001 92.2%, 2002 91.8%	To ensure that rivers meet their conservation objectives and do not fall below the required standard of quality.	The River Wye is not within or bordering Ledbury Neighbourhood Area	The State of Herefordshire Report (2007) Water Framework Directive (2000)
SEA Topic covered by objective: <i>Soil</i>							
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.	2010/11: 67% 2011-13: 57% <i>There is no locally specific data available at present.</i>	2010/11: 67% Completions on PDL had risen to 71% by 2005.	To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions	The number of brownfield completions has fallen slightly in recent years, though this is probably the offshoot of	Herefordshire Council AMR (2018/19)

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
					of national planning policy.	tough market conditions.	
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Housing densities in urban and rural areas	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	No specific targets identified.	Should be monitored through AMR following the adoption of the Core Strategy, in line with SA recommendations.	-
19. Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use.	Built environment	Level of development in urban areas compared to rural.	<i>There is no countywide or locally specific data available at present.</i>	-	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>Cultural heritage</i>							

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's 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>The 2011-2013 AMR does not contain updated conservation data.</p> <p>Ledbury has 1 SAM.</p> <p>There are no listed buildings of SAMs listed as at risk in Ledbury.</p>	In October 2020, there were 61 heritage assets in Herefordshire that were considered to be at high risk and included in the Heritage at Risk Register.	To maintain or enhance current status.	None of the incumbent listed buildings or SAMs are considered to be at risk at present.	Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage; searched October 2020)

SA Objective ¹	SA Theme	Proposed indicator	Current status	Trends	Targets	Issues and constraints	Baseline (information) source
20. Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, 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 across the Parish and particularly within a conservation area.	Ledbury has one conservation area, located in Ledbury town. There is an ongoing appeal concerning, Land north of viaduct adjoining Orchard Business Park Ledbury. Application 171532.	No historic records of any planning enforcement action or appeals concerning locally important buildings within the Ledbury conservation area.	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 October 2020)

Appendix A3 – Environmental issues identified from the Ledbury baseline

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

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

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

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.	

Appendix A4 – SEA framework (objectives, indicators and targets)

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Air	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve air quality. To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. 	Transport patronage by mode.	To encourage the take up of less polluting forms of transport.
Biodiversity, Flora and fauna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To maintain or enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value, maintain, restore or expand county biodiversity. Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire, including its rural areas and open spaces. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect or enhance habitats of international, national, regional or local importance. Protect international, national, regional or locally important terrestrial or aquatic species. Maintain wildlife corridors and minimise fragmentation of ecological areas and green spaces. Manage access to sites in a sustainable way that protects or enhances their nature conservation value. 	Net change in condition of SSSIs across Herefordshire.	% 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)
				After use of mineral sites especially wildlife habitat creation.	Percentage of opportunities taken.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new appropriate habitats. • Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their settings • Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management. • Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. • Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users. 	Phosphate levels within the River Wye SAC and adjoining tributaries that receive increased phosphates from proportional growth.	N/A
				Changes to protected habitats and impacts of species within the Herefordshire Local Biodiversity Action Plan.	To protect or enhance the habitats of species identified. Zero net loss of habitats.
				Changes in the areas of designated nature conservation sites as a consequence of planning permission.	To capitalise on opportunities to enhance the areas of value to nature conservation.
				Proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has or is being implemented.	The number of local sites under positive conservation management (Increase).

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
Climatic factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce contributions to climate change To reduce vulnerability to climate change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce Herefordshire's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change as well as its contribution to the problem. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce the county's contribution to climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions from transport, domestic, commercial and industrial sources. Increase the proportion of energy generated from renewable and low carbon sources including by micro-generation, Combined Heat and Power (CHP), district heating and in transportation. 	Number of decentralised energy schemes granted permission.	To contribute towards the national target.
				Total CO2 emissions per capita.	To reduce the overall carbon emissions.
Cultural heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve or enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and cultural heritage. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Value, protect or enhance the character and built quality of settlements and neighbourhoods and the county's heritage assets, historic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve, protect and enhance Ledbury Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeological remains, and other features and areas of historical heritage and cultural value e.g. locally listed buildings. 	Number and percentage of listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments on Buildings at Risk Register (English Heritage).	To maintain or enhance current status in Ledbury.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
		environment and cultural heritage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent development which is inappropriate in scale, form or design to its setting or to its function or local area. • Encourage development that creates and sustains well-designed, high quality built environments that incorporate green space, encourage biodiversity and promote local distinctiveness and sense of place. • Encourage cleanliness and/or improve the general appearance of the area. 	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of heritage assets, locally important buildings across the Parish and particularly within a conservation area.	N/A
Material assets Landscape	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conserve natural and man-made resources. • To improve the quality of surroundings • To maintain or enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use natural resources and energy more efficiently. • Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise energy efficiency and minimise the consumption of non-renewable energy i.e. from fossil fuels. • Minimise the consumption of water, land, soil, minerals, aggregates and other raw materials by all? E.g. through integrated transport, sustainable resource- 	Maintaining Herefordshire Council's County Site and Monuments Register.	No specific targets identified, but need to ensure that the register is kept up to date.
				Monitoring changes to historic landscapes.	No specific targets identified.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
			efficient design, local sourcing of food, goods, materials. • Encourage the re-use/enhancement (to high standards of sustainable resource-efficient design) of existing buildings and minimise the need for new build. • Encourage the use of clean technologies and water minimisation techniques.	Agricultural land usage by quality	Measure the number of hectares of best and most versatile soil lost through development.
Population	• To improve the health and well-being of the population.	• Value, protect, enhance or restore the landscape quality of Herefordshire,	• Value, enhance and protect natural environmental assets including AONB's, historic landscapes, open spaces, parks and gardens and their	Number of developments meeting and surpassing national design	No specific targets identified.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
		including its rural areas and open spaces.	<p>settings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage local stewardship of local environments, for example by promoting best practices in agricultural management. • Ensure that environmental impacts caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are minimised. • Promote the use of rural areas and open space by all, encourage easy non-car based access, and accommodate the needs of disabled users. 	The need for, frequency and outcomes of planning enforcement investigations/ planning appeals concerning the aspects of local loss of locally important buildings within a conservation area.	N/A
Soil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conserve soil resources and quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise local and global pollution and protect or enhance environmental resources. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. 	Percentage of all new development completed on previously developed land.	To increase the number of homes built on PDL in line with the provisions of national planning policy.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure integrated, efficient and balanced land use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunities to improve soil quality or reduce contaminated land. • Ensure new developments are in appropriate locations, optimising the use of previously developed land and buildings, primarily focussed on the urban areas and are accessible by walking, cycling or sustainable transport and/or will increase the share of these transport modes, thereby reducing the need to travel. 	Housing densities in urban and rural areas.	No specific targets identified.
Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve water quality • To provide for sustainable sources of water supply • To reduce, avoid and manage flood risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the risk of flooding and the resulting detriment to public well-being, the economy and the environment. • Minimise local and global pollution and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce flood risk both presently and taking into account climate change. • Prevent inappropriate development of the 	Number of planning permissions granted contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on flood defence grounds.	To have no applications permitted contrary to EA advice.

SEA Topic(s)	SEA Objective(s)	SA Objective(s)	Sub-objectives/Appraisal Questions	Indicators	Targets
		protect or enhance environmental resources.	<p>floodplain, and include flood protection systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include sustainable urban drainage systems where appropriate. • Minimise water, air, soil, groundwater, noise and light pollution from current activities and the potential for such pollution. • Protect and enhance the quality of watercourses. 	Percentage of river length assessed as good or very good chemical quality and ecological quality.	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.

Appendix 3



Historic England

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Neighbourhood Planning & Strategic Planning
Planning Services, PO Box 230, Blueschool House
Blueschool Street
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Direct Dial: 0121 625 6887

Our ref: PL00737762

3 March 2021

Dear Mr Latham

CONSULTATION ON SEA SCOPING REPORT FOR LEDBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Thank you for the invitation to comment on the SEA Scoping Report for the above Neighbourhood Plan. We have no adverse comments on the contents of the document.

The SEA Frameworks section of the SEA is generally commendable in its approach of including references to historic landscape and townscape quality, the maintenance of the Herefordshire SMR and conservation and wherever possible enhancement of nationally and locally significant heritage assets.

I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

P. Boland.

Peter Boland
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cc:



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Historic England is subject to both the Freedom of Information Act (2000) and Environmental Information Regulations (2004). Any Information held by the organisation can be requested for release under this legislation.

Date: 25 February 2021
Our ref: 343958
Your ref: Ledbury NP – SEA Scoping



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Dear Mr Latham

Review of the Ledbury Neighbourhood Plan – SEA SCOPING

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 02 February 2021.

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

Natural England is a statutory consultee in neighbourhood planning and must be consulted on draft neighbourhood development plans by the Parish/Town Councils or Neighbourhood Forums where they consider our interests would be affected by the proposals made.

Natural England has no specific comments to make on this neighbourhood plan SEA scoping.

However, we refer you to the advice in the attached annex which covers the issues and opportunities that should be considered when preparing a Neighbourhood Plan.

For any further consultations on your plan, please contact: consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Victoria Kirkham
Consultations Team

Annex 1 - Neighbourhood planning and the natural environment: information, issues and opportunities

Natural environment information sources

The [Magic](http://magic.defra.gov.uk/)¹ website will provide you with much of the nationally held natural environment data for your plan area. The most relevant layers for you to consider are: **Agricultural Land Classification, Ancient Woodland, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, Local Nature Reserves, National Parks (England), National Trails, Priority Habitat Inventory, public rights of way (on the Ordnance Survey base map) and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (including their impact risk zones)**. Local environmental record centres may hold a range of additional information on the natural environment. A list of local record centres is available [here](#)².

Priority habitats are those habitats of particular importance for nature conservation, and the list of them can be found [here](#)³. Most of these will be mapped either as **Sites of Special Scientific Interest**, on the Magic website or as **Local Wildlife Sites**. Your local planning authority should be able to supply you with the locations of Local Wildlife Sites.

National Character Areas (NCAs) divide England into 159 distinct natural areas. Each character area is defined by a unique combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and cultural and economic activity. NCA profiles contain descriptions of the area and statements of environmental opportunity, which may be useful to inform proposals in your plan. NCA information can be found [here](#)⁴.

There may also be a local **landscape character assessment** covering your area. This is a tool to help understand the character and local distinctiveness of the landscape and identify the features that give it a sense of place. It can help to inform, plan and manage change in the area. Your local planning authority should be able to help you access these if you can't find them online.

If your neighbourhood planning area is within or adjacent to a **National Park** or **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)**, the relevant National Park/AONB Management Plan for the area will set out useful information about the protected landscape. You can access the plans on from the relevant National Park Authority or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty website.

General mapped information on **soil types** and **Agricultural Land Classification** is available (under 'landscape') on the [Magic](http://magic.defra.gov.uk/)⁵ website and also from the [LandIS website](http://www.landis.org.uk/index.cfm)⁶, which contains more information about obtaining soil data.

Natural environment issues to consider

The [National Planning Policy Framework](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2)⁷ sets out national planning policy on protecting and enhancing the natural environment. [Planning Practice Guidance](http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/natural-environment/)⁸ sets out supporting guidance.

Your local planning authority should be able to provide you with further advice on the potential impacts of your plan or order on the natural environment and the need for any environmental assessments.

Landscape

¹ <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

² <http://www.nbn-nfbr.org.uk/nfbr.php>

³ <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140711133551/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>

⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-character-area-profiles-data-for-local-decision-making>

⁵ <http://magic.defra.gov.uk/>

⁶ <http://www.landis.org.uk/index.cfm>

⁷ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

⁸ <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/natural-environment/>

Your plans or orders may present opportunities to protect and enhance locally valued landscapes. You may want to consider identifying distinctive local landscape features or characteristics such as ponds, woodland or dry stone walls and think about how any new development proposals can respect and enhance local landscape character and distinctiveness.

If you are proposing development within or close to a protected landscape (National Park or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) or other sensitive location, we recommend that you carry out a landscape assessment of the proposal. Landscape assessments can help you to choose the most appropriate sites for development and help to avoid or minimise impacts of development on the landscape through careful siting, design and landscaping.

Wildlife habitats

Some proposals can have adverse impacts on designated wildlife sites or other priority habitats (listed [here](#)⁹), such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest or [Ancient woodland](#)¹⁰. If there are likely to be any adverse impacts you'll need to think about how such impacts can be avoided, mitigated or, as a last resort, compensated for.

Priority and protected species

You'll also want to consider whether any proposals might affect priority species (listed [here](#)¹¹) or protected species. To help you do this, Natural England has produced advice [here](#)¹² to help understand the impact of particular developments on protected species.

Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land

Soil is a finite resource that fulfils many important functions and services for society. It is a growing medium for food, timber and other crops, a store for carbon and water, a reservoir of biodiversity and a buffer against pollution. If you are proposing development, you should seek to use areas of poorer quality agricultural land in preference to that of a higher quality in line with National Planning Policy Framework para 112. For more information, see our publication [Agricultural Land Classification: protecting the best and most versatile agricultural land](#)¹³.

Improving your natural environment

Your plan or order can offer exciting opportunities to enhance your local environment. If you are setting out policies on new development or proposing sites for development, you may wish to consider identifying what environmental features you want to be retained or enhanced or new features you would like to see created as part of any new development. Examples might include:

- Providing a new footpath through the new development to link into existing rights of way.
- Restoring a neglected hedgerow.
- Creating a new pond as an attractive feature on the site.
- Planting trees characteristic to the local area to make a positive contribution to the local landscape.
- Using native plants in landscaping schemes for better nectar and seed sources for bees and birds.
- Incorporating swift boxes or bat boxes into the design of new buildings.
- Think about how lighting can be best managed to encourage wildlife.
- Adding a green roof to new buildings.

You may also want to consider enhancing your local area in other ways, for example by:

⁹<http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140711133551/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>

¹⁰ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ancient-woodland-and-veteran-trees-protection-surveys-licences>

¹¹ <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20140711133551/http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/ourwork/conservation/biodiversity/protectandmanage/habsandspeciesimportance.aspx>

¹² <https://www.gov.uk/protected-species-and-sites-how-to-review-planning-proposals>

¹³ <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/35012>

- Setting out in your plan how you would like to implement elements of a wider Green Infrastructure Strategy (if one exists) in your community.
- Assessing needs for accessible greenspace and setting out proposals to address any deficiencies or enhance provision.
- Identifying green areas of particular importance for special protection through Local Green Space designation (see [Planning Practice Guidance on this](#) ¹⁴).
- Managing existing (and new) public spaces to be more wildlife friendly (e.g. by sowing wild flower strips in less used parts of parks, changing hedge cutting timings and frequency).
- Planting additional street trees.
- Identifying any improvements to the existing public right of way network, e.g. cutting back hedges, improving the surface, clearing litter or installing kissing gates) or extending the network to create missing links.
- Restoring neglected environmental features (e.g. coppicing a prominent hedge that is in poor condition, or clearing away an eyesore).

¹⁴ <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/open-space-sports-and-recreation-facilities-public-rights-of-way-and-local-green-space/local-green-space-designation/>

Appendix 4

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Scoping Stage B1-: Objectives assessed against SEA Objectives (SMART and Compatibility Test)

The following matrix appraises the emerging Ledbury 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.
SMART criteria:
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
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.
A – Attainable/achievable: NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed
R – Realistic: NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.
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.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1-Assessment outcome
Very positive- Compatible with sea objective.
Positive- Compatible with sea objective.
Conflict- Negative effect/ conflict with sea objective.
Neutral-Neutral effect on sea objective.
No relationship between objectives- No link with sea objective.
Uncertain- Uncertain impact on sea objective, more information needed.

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

Objective SD1: To respond to the climate change emergency by developing Ledbury as a forward thinking, self-reliant and sustainable lifestyle community.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Conclusions- This objective has a very positive effect on the baseline either directly or indirectly. It is seeking to respond to climate change by Ledbury being a sustainable community.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the Authority Monitoring Report (AMR). It will be attainable, achievable and realistic.

After Smart Objective- No change.

Objective HO1: To ensure that new housing in Ledbury meets the needs of residents.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to meet the proportional growth requirements of Core Strategy policy LB1. Therefore the intention to provide homes in the town is seen as positive and neutral on the baseline. Some of the effects on the baseline will be uncertain at this stage, as the location of the development is unknown, however, there are sufficient policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and NDP to ensure these are addressed.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective meets all of the SMART Objectives.

After Smart Objective- No change.

Objective HO2: To ensure that all new housing in Ledbury is developed in a sustainable manner.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Conclusions- This objective is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives. This objective strives to ensure that development is carried out in a sustainable way.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective meets all of the SMART Objectives.

After Smart Objective- No change.

Objective HO3: To recognise and provide for the growth in the needs of older persons and related specialist housing, as identified in a Study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to meet the needs of older people of Core Strategy policy LB1. Therefore the intention to provide homes for the elderly in the town is seen as positive on the baseline. Some of the effects on the baseline will be neutral at this stage, as the location of the development is unknown, however, there are sufficient policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and NDP to ensure these are addressed.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective HO4: To provide sustainable and affordable homes for local singles and young families in order to promote balanced communities.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to meet the needs of local singles and young families of Core Strategy policy LB1. Therefore the intention to provide homes for local singles and young families in the town and is therefore seen as mainly positive on the baseline. Some of the effects on the baseline will be neutral at this stage, as the location of the development is unknown, however, there are sufficient policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and NDP to ensure these are addressed.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective HO5: To encourage individual and community based self-build projects.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to meet the needs of those wishing to bring forward their own self build and community projects. Therefore the intention to provide self build homes in the town is seen as positive on the baseline. Some of the effects on the baseline will be neutral at this stage, as the location of the development is unknown, however, there are sufficient policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and NDP to ensure these are addressed.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective EE1: Strengthen and grow the presence of key employment sectors by a deliverable mix of sustainable employment sites to cater for future growth. In particular, the town wishes to encourage high-quality long-term employment, business start-ups and creative industries.

Key employment sectors include:		
Independent and national retail	Engineering	Art, Design & the Creative Industries
Tourism - domestic and business: day, overnight and short visit	Food & Drink	Healthcare
Research and Science	Agricultural services	Independent and national retail
Manufacturing and Distribution	Professional services	Sustainable technology industries such as renewable energy and recycling.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to address the economic needs of the area by bringing forward a diverse range of industries. Therefore the intention to provide more economic opportunities within the town is seen as positive on the baseline. Some of the effects on the baseline will be neutral at this stage, as the location of the development is unknown, however, there are sufficient policy safeguards within the Core Strategy and NDP to ensure these are addressed.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective EE2: Promote and enhance facilities necessary to attract visitors and to encourage tourism.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to address the economic needs of the area by attracting tourists and visitors. Therefore the intention to promote tourism facilities in the town is seen as positive on the baseline. There will be additional polices in the NDP that will be addressing the impacts of tourism.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective EE3: Promote the Town Centre as the destination of choice for retail, leisure and community activities, in order to enhance the appearance and historic character of the town.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to address the economic needs of the area by attracting visitors. Therefore the intention to promote the town more as well as protecting its historic character is seen as positive on the baseline.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective BE1: To ensure that Ledbury maintains its character as a rural market town, with new development sympathetic in style and form to the immediate surroundings. Future development will contribute to the preservation of the overall distinctiveness of the town and its setting.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Conclusions- This objective is compatible with the majority of the relevant SEA objectives. The objective is seeking to maintain the town’s character.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective BE2: To promote preservation and enhancement of the Parish’s heritage assets and character.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Conclusions- This objective is compatible with the majority of the relevant SEA objectives. The objective is seeking to maintain the parish’s heritage and character.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective NE1: To maintain, enhance and increase existing open spaces, trees and hedgerows in order to promote and support wildlife and biodiversity.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to address the maintenance and enhancement of existing open space. Therefore the intention to support wildlife and biodiversity is very positive on the baseline.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective NE2: To conserve the landscape and scenic beauty of the Parish

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to conserve the landscape and scenic beauty of the parish. Therefore the intention towards conservation is seen as very positive on the baseline.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective NE3: To promote local food production and encourage small-scale, sustainable producers.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to address more sustainable approaches to food production. Therefore the intention to promote this method of farming is seen as positive on the baseline.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective NE4: To ensure that agricultural and other economic activity in the countryside does not unacceptably impact on the existing natural beauty, biodiversity and visual appeal of Ledbury and surrounding areas.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to ensure that agricultural and other countryside economic activity does not contribute to harm on the natural environment. Therefore the intention to protect the countryside is seen as positive on the baseline.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective NE5: To register the historic woods above Ledbury as being community assets, for their historical significance, utility value, contribution to the amenity of the town and wellbeing of residents, as being sources of sustainable wood supplies and as sites of natural beauty and wildlife biodiversity that make Ledbury an attractive tourist destination.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to protect the woodland area close to Ledbury. The resulting benefit will help protect biodiversity whilst also having community benefits and can be seen as positive on the baseline.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective CL1: To enable improvements to medical, care, emergency, educational and youth facilities commensurate with the needs of the whole community as the town grows.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Uncertain

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to address the community needs of the area by improving these facilities and services. Therefore the intention to make such improvements in the town is seen as positive on the baseline.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective CL2: To protect and enhance our green and open spaces and playing fields, including the Riverside Park and the Line Bank Town Trail.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to protect open space. Therefore the intention to allow these areas to continue to serve their communities well whilst also ensuring their enhancement can be seen as positive on the baseline.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective TR1: To promote the use of sustainable transport methods such as cycling, walking and public transport as a primary means of getting around the Parish of Ledbury and providing connectivity to neighbouring parishes

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

Conclusions- The objective is seeking to address better ways to travel around the area. Therefore the intention to move away from vehicles is seen as positive on the baseline.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

Objective TR2: To encourage the use of Ledbury Railway Station as a transport hub for Ledbury and district by improving access and facilities with additional parking

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

Conclusions- The objective is seeking improvements to the railway station that will allow increased patronage. Therefore the intention to promote a more sustainable mode of transport in the town is seen as positive on the baseline.

Recommendations- None

SMART Test of NDP Objective- This objective is specific and measurable via the AMR. It will be attainable, achievable and realistic

After Smart Objective- None

The following matrix appraises the potential options 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.		
SMART criteria:		
<p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A – Attainable/achievable: NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed</p> <p>R – Realistic: NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.</p> <p>T – Time-Bound: Objectives should be specific to the NDP period or another specified timeframe. Objectives should be associated with a target and indicators should specify when the target should be achieved.</p>		

SEA Stage B1: Assessment outcome		
Very positive: Compatible with sea objective.		
Positive: Compatible with sea objective.		
Conflict: Negative effect/ conflict with sea objective.		
Neutral: Neutral effect on sea objective.		
No relationship between objectives: No link with sea objective.		
Uncertain: Uncertain impact on sea objective, more information needed.		
<p>SEA Objectives:</p> <p>1-To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)</p> <p>2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p> <p>3- To improve quality of surroundings</p> <p>4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage</p> <p>5- To improve air quality</p> <p>6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p>	<p>7- To reduce contributions to climate change</p> <p>8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change</p> <p>9- To improve water quality</p> <p>10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p> <p>12- To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>13- To minimise the production of waste</p> <p>14- To improve health of the population</p> <p>15- To reduce crime and nuisance</p>	<p>16- To conserve natural and manmade resources</p>

Neighbourhood Plan Option 1: Option A - No Settlement Boundary May 2021

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

No settlement boundary resulting in criteria based policy does not give the same level of certainty as the other options as it will be more reactionary than proactive in terms of growth proposals. However, provided criteria is added to the policy to safeguard or mitigate against any harm, the option will have a positive effect on the baseline. Criteria would need to be included within the policy to safeguard against effects on any SEA objectives. This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 2: Option B – Settlement Boundary based on previous draft NDP May 2021

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

This option allows the local community to provide local tailored policies to cover all aspects of planning. Policy could be included to ensure a positive safeguard to the baseline. The boundary is drawn tightly around the built up area incorporating the new sites with permission and those under construction. Outside of the settlement boundary, the plan states that the employment site and playing pitch area are indicative only. Additional criteria can be added to the policy criteria to ensure that the proposal has a positive effect on the baseline. This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 3: Option C - Settlement Boundary includes committed developments and allocations May 2021

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

This option incorporates the built up area of the town including the liner park area along the River Leadon, the employment land along Little Marcle Road and the playing pitches. The allocation of sites would give certainty to the location of future growth. Additional criteria can be added to the policy criteria to ensure that the proposal has a positive effect on the baseline. Any site would need to be assessed prior to allocation to ensure that it had a positive effect overall on the baseline. This option would meet the Core Strategy requirements in terms of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 4: Employment Land Options, Site 4 Land south of Little Marcle Road west of the Heineken factory

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

This area is part of the NDPs allocated employment land. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. The site identified lies outside the flood risk zone, therefore the site is not at risk of fluvial flooding.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 5: Employment Land Options, Site 7: Land south east of the Full Pitcher roundabout (Approx. 1.6ha)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

According to the NDP, The site may have some potential for employment provided appropriate protection can be given to the amenity of the housing development to the south-east. The site has not been submitted to date. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 6: Employment Land Options, Site 8: Land at Hazel Meadows (south of the Ross Road) (Approx. 8ha)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

According to the NDP, The site may have some potential for employment provided appropriate protection can be given to the amenity of the housing development to the west. Current use is an auction centre with planning permission for expansion of this. The site has been submitted for consideration. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 7: Employment Land Options, Site 9: Land west of the Dymock Road (B4216) (Approx. 6 ha)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Uncertain	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

According to the NDP, The site may have some potential for employment provided appropriate protection can be given to the amenity of the housing development opposite. There is a listed building nearby and it is uncertain what impacts there may be without further details of any proposals. The site has not been submitted for consideration. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly an uncertain and neutral impact on the baseline data. Further detail would be required for a development.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 8: Employment Land Options, Site 10: Land south of roundabout junction at the east end of Leadon Way.(Approx. 30ha)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

The site was submitted to the NDP. A large part of this site has planning permission for housing so only the remainder should be considered for employment land. Any proposal would need to have consideration for residential amenity. The site is also adjacent to the AONB and impacts are uncertain without further information on any proposed development. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly an uncertain and neutral impact on the baseline data. Further detail would be required for a development.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 9: Employment Land Options, Site 11: Land adjacent to Gloucester Road (east of roundabout junction at the east end of Leadon Way) (Approx. 3ha)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Uncertain	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

The site was submitted to the NDP. The site is situated within the AONB and forms part of an unregistered historic park and garden. Development impacts are uncertain without further information on any proposed employment development. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly an uncertain and neutral impact on the baseline data. Further detail would be required for a development.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 10: Employment Land Options, Site 12: Old Kennel Farm (Approx. 10 ha)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Uncertain	Uncertain	Uncertain	Uncertain	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral				Uncertain

The site was submitted to the NDP. The site is situated within the AONB and impacts are uncertain without further information on any proposed development. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly an uncertain and neutral impact on the baseline data. Further detail would be required for a development.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 11: Employment Land Options, Site 13: Land at Lower Road Trading Estate

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

The site is currently in use as an employment site but due to the close proximity of residents, proposals could be limited. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly neutral impacts on the baseline data. Further detail would be required for a development.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 12: Employment Land Options, Site 14: Land west of Ledbury Rugby Club (Approx. 13 ha)

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Uncertain	Uncertain	Neutral				Neutral

This area is part of the NDPs allocated employment land. To the very north east section of the site there is a flood risk zone and this area would need further investigation or avoid development. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation.

Open Space

Neighbourhood Plan Option 13 Open Space, Site 1: Land on east side of Dymock Road

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

There is some uncertainty as to whether or not this site will come forward. As the site is outside of the town there may be increased travel by vehicle mode for sport. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 14 Open Space, Site 3: Land west of Ledbury Rugby Club

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

The site is identified in the draft as the potential area for playing pitch space. It is still a distance for active travel from the town but there is reference to active travel measures in Policy CL2.2. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data.

Neighbourhood Plan Option 15 Open Space, Site 6: Land between Walls Hill Farm and Leadon Way

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

As the site is outside of the town there may be increased travel by vehicle mode for sport. The site is near an historic Scheduled Ancient Monument at Walls Hill Camp to the west. Overall, this option is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation.

Summary

The NDP group have opted to include a settlement boundary (Option 3 above) within their Regulation 14 Plan.

Employment land options for sites 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 were considered inappropriate for development and therefore have not formed part of this SEA. Only those sites considered to have some potential were assessed. Site 4 & 14 form part of the NDP allocated site for employment.

Open Space Options for sites 2, 4, 5 and 7 were considered inappropriate for development and therefore have not formed part of this SEA. Only those sites considered to have some potential were assessed. Site 3 is the area identified for potential open space/playing pitch development.

Ledbury NDP - B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP Policies (December 2021)

The following matrix appraises the emerging Ledbury NDP policies 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.
SMART criteria:
<p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A – Attainable/achievable: NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed</p> <p>R – Realistic: NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.</p> <p>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.</p>

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1: Assessment outcome
Very positive: Compatible with sea objective.
Positive: Compatible with sea objective.
Conflict: Negative effect/ conflict with sea objective.
Neutral: Neutral effect on sea objective.
No relationship between objectives: No link with sea objective.
Uncertain: Uncertain impact on sea objective, more information needed.

<p>SEA Objectives:</p> <p>1-To maintain and enhance nature conservation (biodiversity, flora and fauna)</p> <p>2- To maintain and enhance the quality of landscapes and townscapes</p> <p>3- To improve quality of surroundings</p> <p>4- To conserve and where appropriate enhance the historic environment and culture heritage</p>	<p>5- To improve air quality</p> <p>6- To reduce the effect of traffic on the environment</p> <p>7- To reduce contributions to climate change</p> <p>8- To reduce vulnerability to climate change</p> <p>9- To improve water quality</p> <p>10- To provide for sustainable sources of water supply</p> <p>11- To avoid, reduce and manage flood risk</p>	<p>12- To conserve soil resources and quality</p> <p>13- To minimise the production of waste</p> <p>14- To improve health of the population</p> <p>15- To reduce crime and nuisance</p> <p>16- To conserve natural and manmade resources</p>
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Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.1 Ledbury as a Self-Sustaining Community

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy compliments Policy SD2 of the Core Strategy and would only lead to growth which is proportionate to the size of the village. Policy safeguarding exists to ensure that environmental considerations are taken into account.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.2 Settlement Boundary

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

This policy identifies a settlement boundary for Ledbury which limits the development to inside the boundary. Overall, this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. The settlement boundary limits development into the countryside. .

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.3 Sustainable Design

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall the policy meets all the relevant SEA criteria, and has mostly positive and neutral impacts towards the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy contains criteria for sustainable design in new developments taking on board a broad range of criteria that seeks to address environmental impacts.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.1 Reinforcing Balanced Housing Communities

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure an appropriate range and mix of housing, as well as affordable homes in line with Policies H1 and H3 of the Core Strategy. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.2 Housing Density

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy sets out criteria for housing density paying heed to local character, to ensure development is in keeping with the landscape and built environment and development will have minimal impact on the environment and amenity of residential properties.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.3 Design Criteria for Residential Development

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy sets out criteria for residential development, to ensure development is in keeping with the landscape and built environment and development will have minimal impact on the environment and amenity of residential properties.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Ledbury NDP - B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP Policies (December 2021)

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO3.1 Housing for the Elderly

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure an appropriate range and mix of housing, for the elderly in line with Policy H3 of the Core Strategy. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist within the Core Strategy.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO4.1 Housing for Young People

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure an appropriate range of house size for young people in line with Policy H3 of the Core Strategy. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist within the Core Strategy.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Ledbury NDP - B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP Policies (December 2021)

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO5.1 Self-build

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure opportunities exist to develop self build homes. Policy safeguards exist within the Core Strategy to mitigate against further development requirements.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.1 New Employment Sites – Land South of Little Marcle Road

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy refers to a Core Strategy employment site for 12 hectares plus additional land which is a grand total of 20 hectares of employment land south of Little Marcle Road. Further employment land is identified to compliment the housing permissions and reduce out commuting. Overall, this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. The site identified lies outside the flood risk zone, therefore the site is not at risk of fluvial flooding.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Ledbury NDP - B2: Develop and Refinement of NDP Policies (December 2021)

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.2 Small Employment Sites Within and Adjoining the Town

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy refers to small scale employment sites within and around the town that are acceptable. Overall, this policy has a balance of positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. There are safeguarding policies exist within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. The site opposite the Full Pitcher and east of Dymock Road will support employment and commercial land development. This site identified lies outside the flood risk zone, therefore the site is not at risk of fluvial flooding.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.3 Protecting Existing Employment Land

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy refers to protection of existing employment site and potential loss to non-employment land proposals. Overall the policy is compatible and has a both a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data, as it will encourage sustainable development in the parish.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE2.1 Promoting Visitor Accommodation

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall, this policy has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure that visitor accommodation comes forward in an appropriate way that has minimal impact.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.1 Protection of Shopping Frontages and Primary Shopping Area

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall, this policy has a mixed positive and neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure that the main shopping area character will continue to be an important area of vitality to the town.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.2 Defined Town Centre

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall, this policy has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure that can accommodate non-vehicular movement and parking in a way that has minimal impact.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.3 Lawnside and Market Street Regeneration and Opportunities Area

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall, this policy has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure that regeneration can progress in the Lawnside and Market Street area with a policy that protects the environment whilst encouraging more non-vehicular movement.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy BE1.1 Design

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall the policy meets all the relevant SEA criteria, and has mostly positive and neutral impacts towards the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy contains criteria for design that is in keeping with the locality.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy BE2.1 Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with the majority of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to maintain the parish’s heritage and character.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE1.1 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a very positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to protect the natural environment of the parish.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE2.1 Conserving the Landscape and Scenic Beauty of the Parish

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a very positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to protect the natural landscape of the parish.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE2.2 Protecting Important Views and the setting of the Town

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a very positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to protect the landscape views and setting of the parish.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE3.1 Allotments and Community Gardens in and around Ledbury

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has mainly a positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to conserve community gardens and allotments and encourage their creation.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE4.1 Farming Landscape around Ledbury

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has mainly a positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to reduce the impact of development related to farming and its diversification as well as protecting the historic aspects within these areas.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE5.1 Protecting Ledbury’s Woods

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a very positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to protect Ledbury Woods whilst allowing the community access.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL1.1 Community Services and Facilities

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall, this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure that community services and facilities come forward in an appropriate way that has minimal impact.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL2.1 Protection of Open and Green Spaces and Playing Fields

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to allow open space to come forward in a way that protects amenity, habitats and historic settings.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL2.2 Alternative Use of Land South of Little Marcle Road as Playing Fields.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to allow the area of land South of Little Marcle Road to be converted into playing pitches with the aim of biodiversity protection and traffic reduction.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: PolicyTR1.1 Footpaths & Cycleways

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to allow for non vehiclular movement within and around the town that allows for easier access by the local community.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR1.2 Highway Requirements

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure highways, active travel and parking provision, is in line with Policies MT1 of the Core Strategy.
The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR2.1 Ledbury Railway Station

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure station improvements and parking provision, is in line with Policies MT1 of the Core Strategy.
The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Key:

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1- Assessment outcome
Very compatible-Very positive effect
Compatible –Positive effect
Conflict- Negative effect
Neutral-Neutral effect
No relationship between objectives- No link
Uncertain- more information needed

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.1 Ledbury as a Self-Sustaining Community

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is seeking to support development which is low impact and supports developments that have sustainability as a major focus. This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements. This policy has a positive effect on the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.2 Settlement Boundary

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Clarity on the settlement boundary will assist in identifying areas for growth in addition to areas with limitations for growth outside of the boundary. This policy has a mostly positive effect on the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.3 Sustainable Design

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria, to promote sustainable design through a variety of means that seek to reduce the environmental impact. The policy is encouraging measures that are above regulatory requirements. Overtime these measures will have longer beneficial effects that result in a positive SEA.

This policy has a mostly positive effect on the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.1 Reinforcing Balanced Housing Communities

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy seeks to promote a mixture of housing sizes and types. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm. This policy has mostly neutral effect on the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.2 Housing Density

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy seeks to promote a range of housing densities within and around the town. Policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm. This policy has mostly neutral effect on the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.3 Design Criteria for Residential Development

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall the policy is compatible and has a neutral impact on the baseline data, as it will encourage better design that will be more considered in approach to design and surroundings. This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements. This policy acts as a safeguarding tool for the built environment in the parish and has a positive impact in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO3.1 Housing for the Elderly

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall the policy is compatible and has a neutral impact on the baseline data, as it will encourage more specialised housing for the elderly that meets their needs in a specific development. This should have a positive effect on the need to travel. This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements and has a neutral impact in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO4.1 Housing for Young People

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall the policy is compatible and has a neutral impact on the baseline data, as it will encourage more housing suitable for young people. This should have a positive effect on the need to travel as it focuses housing in a particular way. This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements and has a neutral impact in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO5.1 Self-build

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy encourages more choice with regard to housing and therefore could be a good incentive to encourage a more sustainable way of living in the longer term that could lead to more investment by self builders in greener technologies. This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and sets out requirements for developments to adhere to, to ensure development is in keeping with the natural and built environment. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm. This policy has a mostly neutral effect on the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.1 New Employment Sites – Land South of Little Marcle Road

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy refers to a Core Strategy employment site for 12 hectares plus additional land which is a grand total of 20 hectares of employment land south of Little Marcle Road. Further employment land is identified to compliment the housing permissions and reduce out commuting. Overall this policy has mainly a neutral effect on the baseline over the time periods given. Provision of employment land is considered a major benefit in reducing the need to travel.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.2 Small Employment Sites Within and Adjoining the Town

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Allowing for small scale employment growth over the longer term is considered both a neutral and positive effect on the baseline data. This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA and meets the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.3 Protecting Existing Employment Land

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Very Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall, this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. This policy has a mostly positive effect on the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE2.1 Promoting Visitor Accommodation

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is aiming to accommodate visitor accommodation as sensitively as possible into the landscape. It has mainly a neutral effect on the baseline objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.1 Protection of Shopping Frontages and Primary Shopping Area

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy has a balanced impact on the baseline data. The aim is to protect the shopping area of the town to retain the town's purpose in these parts and prevent its loss to other uses. This policy has a mixture of positive and neutral as well as some unrelated effects on the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.2 Defined Town Centre

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy seeks to identify the town centre area with the aim of more active travel in this area. Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.3 Lawnside and Market Street Regeneration and Opportunities Area

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The aim of the policy is to enhance this area of Ledbury with protection and innovation for design and connection therefore the policy is mainly positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy BE1.1 Design

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The aim of the policy is to ensure design in Ledbury shows respect for the character and distinctiveness of the area. The policy is mainly neutral but very positive in particular aspects when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy BE2.1 Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The aim of the policy is to ensure heritage assets are protected with high standards both in and around the town. The policy is mainly positive in when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE1.1 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The aim of the policy is to ensure protection and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity assets. The policy is very positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE2.1 Conserving the Landscape and Scenic Beauty of the Parish

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is striving for protection and conservation of landscape, green infrastructure and historic assets. The policy is very positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE2.2 Protecting Important Views and the setting of the Town

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy identifies a number of locations within and around the town that are considered important views worthy of protection. The policy is very positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE3.1 Allotments and Community Gardens in and around Ledbury

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy encourages the development of allotments and community gardens. The policy is mainly positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE4.1 Farming Landscape around Ledbury

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy seeks an environmentally sensitive approach to farming and farm diversification projects. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm. The policy is mainly positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE5.1 Protecting Ledbury's Woods

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy seeks the protection of Ledbury Woods that allows community access and biodiversity to continue. The policy is positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL1.1 Community Services and Facilities

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Neutral

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy encourages new and expanding community facilities with the aim of full mitigation for any impacts. The policy is positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL2.1 Protection of Open and Green Spaces and Playing Fields

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy encourages the protection of open space and playing fields due to their community and environmental value. The policy is positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL2.2 Alternative Use of Land South of Little Marcle Road as Playing Fields.

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is looking at the identification of land as playing fields in the area identified at Land South of Little Marcle Road. The policy is seeking the protection of the AONB views as well as biodiversity, green infrastructure as well as allowing for active travel measures. The policy is positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: PolicyTR1.1 Footpaths & Cycleways

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is seeking the better connectivity within and around the town which is based on more active travel for the community. The policy is positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR1.2 Highway Requirements

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is seeking to achieve effective measures for highways design, active travel measures and parking arrangements whilst minimising environmental impact where possible. The policy has mainly a neutral effect when assessed against the short, medium and long term basis of the SEA Objectives.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR2.1 Ledbury Railway Station

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. The policy is seeking to make better connections between the town and the railway station whilst also allowing for further parking which in turn may increase rail use. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA and has a positive impact in the short, medium and long term.

Key:

+ + Move towards significantly	+ Move towards marginally	- - Move away Significantly	- Move away marginally	0 Neutral	? Uncertain	X No relationship
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The following matrix appraises the emerging Ledbury NDP Objectives and policies 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.

SMART criteria:

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

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.

A – Attainable/achievable:

NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed

R – Realistic:

NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.

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.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1-Assessment outcome
Very positive- Compatible with sea objective.
Positive- Compatible with sea objective.
Conflict- Negative effect/ conflict with sea objective.
Neutral-Neutral effect on sea objective.
No relationship between objectives- No link with sea objective.
Uncertain- Uncertain impact on sea objective, more information needed.

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 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 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	
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Neighbourhood Plan Objectives and Policies

Objective SD1: To respond to the climate change emergency by developing Ledbury as a forward thinking, self-reliant and sustainable lifestyle community.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Objective HO1: To ensure that new housing in Ledbury meets the needs of residents.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Uncertain	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Objective HO2: To ensure that all new housing in Ledbury is developed in a sustainable manner.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Objective HO3: To recognise and provide for the growth in the needs of older persons and related specialist housing, as identified in a Study of the Housing and Support needs of Older People in Herefordshire.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Objective HO4: To provide sustainable and affordable homes for local singles and young families in order to promote balanced communities.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Objective HO5: To encourage individual and community based self-build projects.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Objective EE1: Strengthen and grow the presence of key employment sectors by a deliverable mix of sustainable employment sites to cater for future growth. In particular, the town wishes to encourage high-quality long-term employment, business start-ups and creative industries. Key employment sectors include:

Key employment sectors include:		
Independent and national retail	Engineering	Art, Design & the Creative Industries
Tourism - domestic and business: day, overnight and short visit	Food & Drink	Healthcare
Research and Science	Agricultural services	Independent and national retail
Manufacturing and Distribution	Professional services	Sustainable technology industries such as renewable energy and recycling.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Objective EE2: Promote and enhance facilities necessary to attract visitors and to encourage tourism.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Objective EE3: Promote the Town Centre as the destination of choice for retail, leisure and community activities, in order to enhance the appearance and historic character of the town.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

Objective BE1: To ensure that Ledbury maintains its character as a rural market town, with new development sympathetic in style and form to the immediate surroundings. Future development will contribute to the preservation of the overall distinctiveness of the town and its setting.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Objective BE2: To promote preservation and enhancement of the Parish's heritage assets and character.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Objective NE1: To maintain, enhance and increase existing open spaces, trees and hedgerows in order to promote and support wildlife and biodiversity.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Objective NE2: To conserve the landscape and scenic beauty of the Parish

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Objective NE3: To promote local food production and encourage small-scale, sustainable producers.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Objective NE4: To ensure that agricultural and other economic activity in the countryside does not unacceptably impact on the existing natural beauty, biodiversity and visual appeal of Ledbury and surrounding areas.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Objective NE5: To register the historic woods above Ledbury as being community assets, for their historical significance, utility value, contribution to the amenity of the town and wellbeing of residents, as being sources of sustainable wood supplies and as sites of natural beauty and wildlife biodiversity that make Ledbury an attractive tourist destination.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Objective CL1: To enable improvements to medical, care, emergency, educational and youth facilities commensurate with the needs of the whole community as the town grows.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Uncertain

Objective CL2: To protect and enhance our green and open spaces and playing fields, including the Riverside Park and the Line Bank Town Trail.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Objective TR1: To promote the use of sustainable transport methods such as cycling, walking and public transport as a primary means of getting around the Parish of Ledbury and providing connectivity to neighbouring parishes

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

Objective TR2: To encourage the use of Ledbury Railway Station as a transport hub for Ledbury and district by improving access and facilities with additional parking

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

Policies

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.1 Ledbury as a Self-Sustaining Community

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.2 Settlement Boundary

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.3 Sustainable Design

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.1 Reinforcing Balanced Housing Communities

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.2 Housing Density

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.3 Design Criteria for Residential Development

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO3.1 Housing for the Elderly

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO4.1 Housing for Young People

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO5.1 Self-build

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.1 New Employment Sites – Land South of Little Marcle Road

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.2 Small Employment Sites Within and Adjoining the Town

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.3 Protecting Existing Employment Land

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE2.1 Promoting Visitor Accommodation

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.1 Protection of Shopping Frontages and Primary Shopping Area

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.2 Defined Town Centre

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.3 Lawnside and Market Street Regeneration and Opportunities Area

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy BE1.1 Design

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy BE2.1 Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE1.1 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE2.1 Conserving the Landscape and Scenic Beauty of the Parish

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE2.2 Protecting Important Views and the setting of the Town

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE3.1 Allotments and Community Gardens in and around Ledbury

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE4.1 Farming Landscape around Ledbury

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE5.1 Protecting Ledbury’s Woods

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL1.1 Community Services and Facilities

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Neutral

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL2.1 Protection of Open and Green Spaces and Playing Fields

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL2.2 Alternative Use of Land South of Little Marcle Road as Playing Fields.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: PolicyTR1.1 Footpaths & Cycleways

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR1.2 Highway Requirements

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR2.1 Ledbury Railway Station

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

Summary

Summary of effects of whole plan on each SEA Objective

Overall the Ledbury Neighbourhood Plan policies and objectives have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data. They are in general conformity with the Core Strategy. All of the policies and objectives meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Cumulative effects of whole plan (1 + 2 + 3...) Overall the Neighbourhood Plan policies and objectives have a positive impact towards the SEA baseline data. And are in general conformity with the Core Strategy Overall all of the policies and objectives meet the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA. Policies and objectives strive to preserve and maintain natural and built historic environment that can help mitigate impact from the housing policies. This plan ensures appropriate sized development is developed this may help mitigate the effect of development. The sites identified within the settlement boundary lie outside the flood risk zone, therefore development within the settlement boundary is not at risk of fluvial flooding.

Commentary for significant cumulative effects Overall this has had a positive effect on the SEA baseline data. Overall the unknown areas require further detail such as location, scale and size of development, therefore are likely to be determined at planning application/ proposal stage. No significant cumulative effects have been identified.

Appendix 5

Ledbury NDP

Options considered

Neighbourhood Plan Option 1: Option A - No Settlement Boundary May 2021

Neighbourhood Plan Option 2: Option B – Settlement Boundary based on previous draft NDP May 2021

Neighbourhood Plan Option 3: Option C - Settlement Boundary includes committed developments and allocations May 2021

Site options considered

Employment Land

Neighbourhood Plan Option 4: Employment Land Options, Site 4 Land south of Little Marcle Road west of the Heineken factory

Neighbourhood Plan Option 5: Employment Land Options, Site 7: Land south east of the Full Pitcher roundabout (Approx. 1.6ha)

Neighbourhood Plan Option 6: Employment Land Options, Site 8: Land at Hazel Meadows (south of the Ross Road) (Approx. 8ha)

Neighbourhood Plan Option 7: Employment Land Options, Site 9: Land west of the Dymock Road (B4216) (Approx. 6 ha)

Neighbourhood Plan Option 8: Employment Land Options, Site 10: Land south of roundabout junction at the east end of Leadon Way. (Approx. 30ha)

Neighbourhood Plan Option 9: Employment Land Options, Site 11: Land adjacent to Gloucester Road (east of roundabout junction at the east end of Leadon Way) (Approx. 3ha)

Neighbourhood Plan Option 10: Employment Land Options, Site 12: Old Kennel Farm (Approx. 10 ha)

Neighbourhood Plan Option 11: Employment Land Options, Site 13: Land at Lower Road Trading Estate

Neighbourhood Plan Option 12: Employment Land Options, Site 14: Land west of Ledbury Rugby Club (Approx. 13 ha)

Open Space

Neighbourhood Plan Option 13 Open Space, Site 1: Land on east side of Dymock Road

Neighbourhood Plan Option 14 Open Space, Site 3: Land west of Ledbury Rugby Club

Neighbourhood Plan Option 15 Open Space, Site 6: Land between Walls Hill Farm and Leadon Way

Appendix 6

Consultation date: 5 February to 19 March 2022**Consultation title:** Ledbury Neighbourhood Development Plan (Revised Reg16)*N.B. This consultation feedback is **only** for comments received on the SEA Screening report*

Consultee	Summary of Comments	Response to Comments
Natural England	Comments received but not specific to the SEA.	Noted
Historic England	The Design Influences set out in Appendix1 will no doubt prove invaluable as a context and guide for future development, the approach to which and the desire to conserve the distinctive character of Ledbury itself, the surrounding countryside and the urban fringe is highly commendable. No specific comments received to the SEA	Noted
Environment Agency	No comments received	Noted
Natural Resources Wales	No comments received	n/a

Appendix 7

The following matrix appraises the emerging Ledbury NDP policies 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.
SMART criteria:
<p>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</p> <p>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.</p> <p>A – Attainable/achievable: NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed</p> <p>R – Realistic: NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes.</p> <p>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.</p>

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1: Assessment outcome
Very positive: Compatible with sea objective.
Positive: Compatible with sea objective.
Conflict: Negative effect/ conflict with sea objective.
Neutral: Neutral effect on sea objective.
No relationship between objectives: No link with sea objective.
Uncertain: Uncertain impact on sea objective, more information needed.

Ledbury NDP - D2: Refinement of NDP Policies (July 2022)

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
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Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.3 Sustainable Design

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall the policy meets all the relevant SEA criteria, and has mostly positive and neutral impacts towards the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy contains criteria for sustainable design in new developments taking on board a broad range of criteria that seeks to address environmental impacts. The Regulation 16 Draft Plan seeks to strengthen the policy in particular places which as meant the outcome could be very positive.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.3 Design Criteria for Residential Development

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy sets out criteria for residential development, to ensure development is in keeping with the landscape and built environment and development will have minimal impact on the environment and amenity of residential properties. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.1 New Employment Sites – Land South of Little Marcle Road

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Very Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy refers to a Core Strategy employment site for 12 hectares plus additional land which is a grand total of 20 hectares of employment land south of Little Marcle Road. Further employment land is identified to compliment the housing permissions and reduce out commuting. Overall, this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. The site identified lies outside the flood risk zone, therefore the site is not at risk of fluvial flooding. The Regulation 16 Draft Plan seeks to strengthen the policy in particular places which as meant the outcome could be more positive.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.2 Small Employment Sites Within and Adjoining the Town

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy refers to small scale employment sites within and around the town that are acceptable. Overall, this policy has a balance of positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. There are safeguarding policies exist within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. The site opposite the Full Pitcher and east of Dymock Road will support employment and commercial land development. This site identified lies outside the flood risk zone, therefore the site is not at risk of fluvial flooding. The Regulation 16 Draft Plan seeks to strengthen the policy in particular places which has meant the outcome is more positive.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.1 Protection of Shopping Frontages and Primary Shopping Area

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall, this policy has a mixed positive and neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure that the main shopping area character will continue to be an important area of vitality to the town. Some minor changes to the Regulation 16 policy do not alter the SEA assessment.

Conformity with Core Strategy

Ledbury NDP - D2: Refinement of NDP Policies (July 2022)

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.2 Defined Town Centre

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall, this policy has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure that can accommodate non-vehicular movement and parking in a way that has minimal impact. . Some minor changes to the Regulation 16 policy do not alter the SEA assessment.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy BE1.1 Design

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall the policy meets all the relevant SEA criteria, and has mostly positive and neutral impacts towards the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy contains criteria for design that is in keeping with the locality. The Regulation 16 Draft Plan seeks to strengthen the policy which has meant the outcome is more positive for the townscape.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy BE2.1 Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with the majority of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to maintain the parish’s heritage and character. The Regulation 16 Draft Plan seeks to strengthen the policy which has meant the outcome is more positive for the historic environment.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE1.1 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a very positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Ledbury NDP - D2: Refinement of NDP Policies (July 2022)

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to protect the natural environment of the parish. The Regulation 16 Draft Plan seeks to strengthen the policy which has meant the outcome remains very positive for the natural environment.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE2.1 Conserving the Landscape and Scenic Beauty of the Parish

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a very positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to protect the natural landscape of the parish. The Regulation 16 Draft Plan seeks to strengthen the policy which has meant the outcome remains very positive for the natural environment.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE2.2 Protecting Important Views and the setting of the Town

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a very positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to protect the landscape views and setting of the parish. The Regulation 16 seeks only minor changes to the policy which has meant the outcome remains very positive for the natural environment.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL1.1 Community Services and Facilities

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall, this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure that community services and facilities come forward in an appropriate way that has minimal impact. Minor additions to the policy have not altered the SEA assessment in the Regulation 16 draft.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL2.2 Alternative Use of Land South of Little Marcle Road as Playing Fields.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Ledbury NDP - D2: Refinement of NDP Policies (July 2022)

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to allow the area of land South of Little Marcle Road to be converted into playing pitches with the aim of biodiversity protection and traffic reduction. Minor additions to the policy have not altered the SEA assessment in the Regulation 16 draft.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: PolicyTR1.1 Footpaths & Cycleways

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to allow for non vehiclular movement within and around the town that allows for easier access by the local community. Minor additions to the policy have not altered the SEA assessment in the Regulation 16 draft.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR1.2 Highway Requirements

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Ledbury NDP - D2: Refinement of NDP Policies (July 2022)

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure highways, active travel and parking provision, is in line with Policies MT1 of the Core Strategy. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm. Minor additions to the policy have not altered the SEA assessment in the Regulation 16 draft.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR2.1 Ledbury Railway Station

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure station improvements and parking provision, is in line with Policies MT1 of the Core Strategy. Minor additions to the policy have not altered the SEA assessment in the Regulation 16 draft.

The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Key:

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1- Assessment outcome															
Very compatible-Very positive effect															
Compatible –Positive effect															
Conflict- Negative effect															
Neutral-Neutral effect															
No relationship between objectives- No link															
Uncertain- more information needed															

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy SD1.3 Sustainable Design

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive				Very Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive				Very Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy would not lead to development itself but contains criteria, to promote sustainable design through a variety of means that seek to reduce the environmental impact. The policy is encouraging measures that are above regulatory requirements. Overtime these measures will have longer beneficial effects that result in a positive SEA. The additional policy amendments seek to improve environmental standards therefore more positive outcomes can be expected.

This policy has a mostly positive effect on the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy HO2.3 Design Criteria for Residential Development

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive				Very positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall the policy is compatible and has a neutral impact on the baseline data, as it will encourage better design that will be more considered in approach to design and surroundings. This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements. This policy acts as a safeguarding tool for the built environment in the parish and has a positive impact in the short, medium and long term. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.1 New Employment Sites – Land South of Little Marcle Road

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy refers to a Core Strategy employment site for 12 hectares plus additional land which is a grand total of 20 hectares of employment land south of Little Marcle Road. Further employment land is identified to compliment the housing permissions and reduce out commuting. Overall this policy has mainly a neutral effect on the baseline over the time periods given. Provision of employment land is considered a major benefit in reducing the need to travel. The additional policy amendments seek to improve landscape and flooding measures therefore more positive outcomes can be expected.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE1.2 Small Employment Sites Within and Adjoining the Town

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Very Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Allowing for small scale employment growth over the longer term is considered both a neutral and positive effect on the baseline data. This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA and meets the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term. The additional policy amendments seek to improve landscape setting therefore more positive outcomes can be expected in the medium to long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.1 Protection of Shopping Frontages and Primary Shopping Area

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy has a balanced impact on the baseline data. The aim is to protect the shopping area of the town to retain the town's purpose in these parts and prevent its loss to other uses. This policy has a mixture of positive and neutral as well as some unrelated effects on the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy EE3.2 Defined Town Centre

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy seeks to identify the town centre area with the aim of more active travel in this area. Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long-term basis. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy BE1.1 Design

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The aim of the policy is to ensure design in Ledbury shows respect for the character and distinctiveness of the area. The policy is mainly neutral but very positive in particular aspects when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The policy amendments will assist in maintaining a quality townscape.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy BE2.1 Protecting and Enhancing Heritage Assets

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The aim of the policy is to ensure heritage assets are protected with high standards both in and around the town. The policy is mainly positive in when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The policy amendments will go towards protecting and enhancing the historic assets of the area.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE1.1 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity and Geodiversity

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The aim of the policy is to ensure protection and enhancement of biodiversity and geodiversity assets. The policy is very positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The policy amendments seek to specify particular sensitive areas of nature and geodiversity which adds clarity to the policy and the outcome remains very positive over the course of time.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE2.1 Conserving the Landscape and Scenic Beauty of the Parish

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

This policy is striving for protection and conservation of landscape, green infrastructure and historic assets. The policy is very positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy NE2.2 Protecting Important Views and the setting of the Town

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive				Very positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy identifies a number of locations within and around the town that are considered important views worthy of protection. The policy is very positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL1.1 Community Services and Facilities

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Uncertain	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	Uncertain				Neutral

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy encourages new and expanding community facilities with the aim of full mitigation for any impacts. The policy is positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL2.2 Alternative Use of Land South of Little Marcle Road as Playing Fields.

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is looking at the identification of land as playing fields in the area identified at Land South of Little Marcle Road. The policy is seeking the protection of the AONB views as well as biodiversity, green infrastructure as well as allowing for active travel measures. The policy is positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: PolicyTR1.1 Footpaths & Cycleways

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is seeking the better connectivity within and around the town which is based on more active travel for the community. The policy is positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR1.2 Highway Requirements

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is seeking to achieve effective measures for highways design, active travel measures and parking arrangements whilst minimising environmental impact where possible. The policy has mainly a neutral effect when assessed against the short, medium and long term basis of the SEA Objectives. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment in the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR2.1 Ledbury Railway Station

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Neutral	No relationship				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy has mainly a positive and neutral impact on the baseline data. The policy is seeking to make better connections between the town and the railway station whilst also allowing for further parking which in turn may increase rail use. There are safeguarding policies within both the Core Strategy and NDP to provide adequate mitigation. This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA and has a positive impact in the short, medium and long term. The amendments made to the policy do not alter the previous SEA assessment in the short, medium and long term.

Appendix 8

Consultation date: 30 September to 11 November 2022

Consultation title: Ledbury Neighbourhood Development Plan (Revised Reg16)

*N.B. This consultation feedback is **only** for comments received on the SEA Screening report*

Consultee	Summary of Comments	Response to Comments
Natural England	Late Response received 28/11/2023 but no specific comments to SEA	Noted
Historic England	The Design Influences set out in Appendix1 will no doubt prove invaluable as a context and guide for future development, the approach to which and the desire to conserve the distinctive character of Ledbury itself, the surrounding countryside and the urban fringe is highly commendable. No specific comments received to the SEA	Noted
Environment Agency	No comments received	Noted
Natural Resources Wales	No comments received	n/a

Appendix 9

Modifications following Examination

Policy	Modification recommended	Justification
Modification 1	<p>Policy SD1.2. The third sentence of the policy to read...</p> <p><i>“Outside of this boundary, land will be considered open countryside and development complying with relevant rural area planning policies should recognise its intrinsic character and beauty.”...</i></p>	For clarity and compliance with the National Planning Policy Framework and the Herefordshire Core Strategy
Modification 2	<p>The first sentence of Policy SD1.3 to be altered as follows:</p> <p>As appropriate to the nature and scale of proposals, development should seek to achieve a zero-carbon footprint through containing a co-ordinated package of design measures which, in addition to regulatory requirements, include:...</p> <p><i>The word ‘proposals’ is removed after the word development.</i></p>	For compliance with the National Planning Practice Guidance
Modification 3	<p>The first sentence of Policy HO2.1 to be amended as follows:</p> <p><i>“Proposals for residential development in excess of 10 housing units should”</i></p> <p><i>The word ‘windfall’ is removed before the word residential.</i></p>	For clarity and precision
Modification 4	<p>The first paragraph of Policy EE1.1 to be amended as follows:</p> <p><i>Land amounting to approximately 20 hectares south of Little Marcle Road shown on the Ledbury Town Policies Map (Map 11) is proposed for employment uses within Use Classes B2, B8 and E (g).</i></p> <p>Proposals for this development will be required to provide detailed highway access plans that accommodate all proposed uses and a travel plan for the development. A comprehensive proposal for the development of this area will be encouraged that defines:.....</p>	For clarity and compliance
Modification 5	<p>Policy EE1.3 to be deleted.</p> <p>(Supporting text remain with reference to Policy E2 of the Core Strategy)</p>	Avoids duplication of Herefordshire Core Strategy policy
Modification 6	<p>The last sentence of Policy BE1.1 to be amended to:</p>	For clarity on all developments

Policy	Modification recommended	Justification
	..."Where appropriate the use of both design review and early local community consultation is strongly supported."	
Modification 7	<p>Policy BE2.1 to be amended as follows:</p> <p>The use of the word 'preserved' with be replaced with 'conserved' in the policy.</p> <p>Criteria a) to read: "Requiring development to conserve the site and setting of Wall Hills Camp Scheduled Ancient Monument."</p> <p>Criteria c) to read: "Requiring development to conserve and enhance the features and setting of Listed Buildings and other local heritage assets as appropriate to their heritage importance".</p> <p>Criteria d) to read "Ensuring every effort is made to conserve and or enhance the character"</p> <p>Footnote 25 information about 'borrowed views' to be incorporated into paragraph 8.5</p>	For clarity and compliance
Modification 8	<p>The first sentence of Policy NE2.2 to read as follows:</p> <p>"The following views in Ledbury Parish are particularly important for appreciation of the setting of the town and development should respect and maintain their essential attributes:"</p> <p>Map 3 to remove the designation 'Sensitive Landscapes' from the map and the Key.</p>	<p>For clarity and a more positive approach on the impacts of development.</p> <p>For clarity on designations of landscapes</p>
Modification 9	<p>Policy CL2.1 to read as follows:</p> <p>Important open or green spaces which contribute to the distinctive spatial character, form, pattern and green infrastructure of Ledbury offer variously the following benefits:</p> <p>[the list of criteria to be included here and an extra criteria to be added:]</p> <p>j) it is a playing field or other formal recreational facility</p> <p>Open and green space as shown on Map 11 is to be protected and maintained and loss of the space will only be permitted if it can be shown to be surplus to requirements for recreational purposes or the value of its visual, historic and community attributes is considered to be outweighed by the benefits of development.</p>	<p>Superfluous text removed to aid clarity on open green space identified in Map 11.</p> <p>To ensure playing fields are include in criteria.</p>

Policy	Modification recommended	Justification
Modification 10	<p>Policy CL2.2 to be amended as follows:</p> <p><i>“.... Provision should be made for biodiversity protection and enhancement as appropriate contributing towards the town’s green infrastructure network. Appropriate car parking provision shall be made, and vehicular access will need to be provided to the satisfaction of the highway authority and any other interested parties. In bringing forward the proposal....”</i></p>	Reference to access arrangements necessary
Modification 11	<p>Policy TR1.1 to be amended as follows:</p> <p>Criteria c) to end after the words ‘Ledbury Railway Station.’</p> <p>Criteria d) and criteria e) to be deleted.</p> <p>The deleted text to form an Annex to the Plan if so desired or added to para 11.8.</p>	To avoid the remit of Highways matters becoming land use planning policy
Modification 12	<p>Policy TR1.2 to be amended as follows:</p> <p>The title of the policy to be altered to “Public Realm Design Requirements”</p> <p>Criteria a) to be amended as follows: ‘...<i>significant adverse effect on residential amenity, existing employment or other uses and local tranquillity</i>’.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Criteria i) to be deleted</p> <p>Criteria l) to insert the following words at the beginning of the sentence: “Where appropriate,...”</p> <p>The final sentence of Policy TR1.2 to be amended as follows: ‘<i>Where appropriate, developers should indicate within their proposals how these requirements have been met through the preparation of a transport statement or assessment or other capacity and design study.</i>’</p>	For clarity and accuracy on issues relevant to Ledbury
Modification 13	<p>The Key to Map 11 to be amended as follows:</p> <p>The words “<i>Local Green Space</i>” to be replaced with “Open and Green Spaces”</p> <p>The colour for designation of an SSSI to be correctly shown as olive green shading.</p>	For clarity and accuracy
Modification 14 Minor modifications not affecting Basic Conditions	<p>Added additional text to para 9.10</p> <p>‘Severn Trent water points out that flood resilience schemes may be beneficial within some of the corridors, and it is not the intention of preventing these where schemes do not adversely impact the primary function of the green space’</p>	To add clarity

Appendix 10

The following matrix appraises the emerging Ledbury NDP policies 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.
SMART criteria:
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 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. A – Attainable/achievable: NDP objectives should be achievable and deliverable, related to the scale of growth proposed R – Realistic: NDP objectives should relate to the overall vision of the plan. Likewise, chosen indicators should relate to objectives and their outcomes. 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.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1: Assessment outcome
Very positive: Compatible with sea objective.
Positive: Compatible with sea objective.
Conflict: Negative effect/ conflict with sea objective.
Neutral: Neutral effect on sea objective.
No relationship between objectives: No link with sea objective.
Uncertain: Uncertain impact on sea objective, more information needed.

Ledbury NDP - D2: Modification of NDP Policies following examination (March 2023)

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
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Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL2.2 Alternative Use of Land South of Little Marcle Road as Playing Fields.

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to allow the area of Land South of Little Marcle Road to be converted into playing pitches with the aim of biodiversity protection and traffic reduction. Some specific additions to the policy regarding access have altered the SEA objective 6 outcome from a neutral impact to a positive one following the Examination of the Plan.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: PolicyTR1.1 Footpaths & Cycleways

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Positive	Very Positive	Very Positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy has a positive effect on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

Overall this policy meets the SEA baseline. This policy is compatible with all of the relevant SEA objectives. The policy is seeking to allow for non vehicular movement within and around the town that allows for easier access by the local community. Specific criterion removed relating to highway improvements following Examination of the Plan. This meant the SEA Objective moved from a ‘very positive’ to a ‘positive’ when rescreened due to less detail here.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR1.2 Highway Requirements

SEA Objectives															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Summary in relation to baseline

Overall this policy is compatible with the Core Strategy and has mainly a neutral impact on the baseline data.

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations This policy is compatible with the relevant SEA objectives and will ensure highways, active travel and parking provision, is in line with Policies MT1 of the Core Strategy. The policy is not over and above the Core Strategy and policy safeguards exist with the Core Strategy and the NDP to avoid and mitigate against significant harm. Some additions to the policy regarding the need for a transport statement has altered the SEA objective 6 outcome from a neutral impact to a positive one following the Examination of the Plan.

Conformity with Core Strategy

This policy meets the Core Strategy requirements for the purposes of the SEA.

Key:

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Stage B1- Assessment outcome
Very compatible-Very positive effect
Compatible –Positive effect
Conflict- Negative effect
Neutral-Neutral effect
No relationship between objectives- No link
Uncertain- more information needed

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy CL2.2 Alternative Use of Land South of Little Marcle Road as Playing Fields.

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	No relationship	No relationship	Positive	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is looking at the identification of land as playing fields in the area identified at Land South of Little Marcle Road. The policy is seeking the protection of the AONB views as well as biodiversity, green infrastructure as well as allowing for active travel measures. The policy is positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The modifications made to the policy following the Examination alter the previous SEA assessment under SEA Objective 6 in the short term only. This requirement adds more certainty around traffic arrangements for the area therefore this can be seen as a positive in the short term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: PolicyTR1.1 Footpaths & Cycleways

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Positive	Positive	Positive	Positive	Very positive	Positive	Very positive	Very positive	Positive	No relationship	Neutral	Positive				Positive

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is seeking the better connectivity within and around the town which is based on more active travel for the community. The policy is positive when assessed against the SEA objectives in the short, medium and long term. The modifications made to the policy following the Examination alter the previous SEA assessment under SEA Objective 6 in the short, medium and long term. The more specifics around foot and cycle travel are still to be determined. This requirement adds less certainty around these arrangements in respect of the policy for the short, medium and long term.

Neighbourhood Plan Policy: Policy TR1.2 Highway Requirements

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Short term (1 – 5 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Medium term (6 – 10 years)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

SEA Objectives Assessment of effect (consider cumulative effects, significance of the effect and magnitude of the effect in terms of the three time periods)															
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Long term (11 years +)															
Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Positive	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	No relationship	Neutral	Neutral				Neutral

Overall commentary and any initial cumulative effects/ Recommendations

The policy is seeking to achieve effective measures for highways design, active travel measures and parking arrangements whilst minimising environmental impact where possible. The policy has mainly a neutral effect when assessed against the short, medium and long term basis of the SEA Objectives. The modifications made to the policy following the Examination alter the previous SEA assessment under SEA Objective 6 in the short, medium and long term. This change adds more certainty early on around traffic arrangements for the area therefore this can be seen as a positive.

Appendix 11

Objectives and context	Where are the points covered in Neighbourhood Development Plan SEA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Neighbourhood Development Plan's purpose and objectives are made clear. • The Neighbourhood Area's environmental issues and constraints, including acknowledgement of those in the Local Plan (Core Strategy) SA, where relevant, and local environmental protection objectives, are considered in developing objectives and targets. • SEA objectives are clearly set out and linked to indicators and targets where appropriate. • Links with other locally related plans, programmes and policies are identified, explained and acknowledgement for those set out in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant. • Conflicts that exist between SEA objectives; between SEA and Neighbourhood Development Plan objectives; and between SEA objectives and other local plan objectives are identified and described. 	<p>Chapter 1.6 – 1.10</p> <p>Chapter 2 methodology, chapter 3 and tables A2 and A3</p> <p>Chapter 3 paragraph 3.5 and 3.7</p> <p>Chapter 3, paragraph 3.1</p> <p>Chapter 3</p>
Scoping <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory Consultees are consulted in appropriate ways and at appropriate times on the content and scope of the Environmental Report. • The assessment focuses on significant issues. • Technical, procedural and other difficulties encountered are discussed; assumptions and uncertainties are made explicit. • Reasons are given for eliminating issues from further consideration. 	<p>Chapter 2, paragraphs 2.6-2.9</p> <p>Chapter 2 and chapter 4</p> <p>Chapter 2</p> <p>Chapter 2, chapter 4 and chapter 5</p>
Alternatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Realistic alternatives are considered for key issues, and the reasons for choosing them are documented. • Alternatives include 'do minimum' and/or 'business as usual' scenarios wherever relevant. 	<p>Chapter 4 and chapter 5</p> <p>Paragraph 5.4</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The environmental effects (both adverse and beneficial) of each alternative are identified and compared. • Inconsistencies between the alternatives and other relevant local plans, programmes or policies are identified and explained. • Reasons are given for selection or elimination of alternatives. 	<p>Chapter 5</p> <p>Chapter 5, chapter 3,</p> <p>Chapter 5</p>
<p>Baseline information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevant aspects of the current state of the local, neighbourhood area environment and their likely evolution without the Neighbourhood Development Plan are described. Acknowledgement to the information in the SA of the Local Plan (Core Strategy) is given, where relevant. • Environmental characteristics of the local, neighbourhood area, likely to be significantly affected are described, including areas wider than the physical boundary of the designated neighbourhood area, where it is likely to be affected by the Neighbourhood Development Plan. • Difficulties such as deficiencies in information or methods are explained. 	<p>Chapter 1, Chapter 3</p> <p>Initial screening report and Chapter 1</p> <p>Chapter 2</p>
<p>Prediction and evaluation of likely significant environmental effects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effects identified include the types listed in the Directive (biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climate factors, material assets, cultural heritage and landscape), as relevant; and other local likely environmental effects are also covered, as appropriate. • Both positive and negative effects are considered, and the duration of effects (short, medium or long-term) is addressed. • Likely secondary, cumulative (growing in quantity and strength) and synergistic (acting together) effects are identified, where practicable. 	<p>Tables A2, A3 and A4</p> <p>Tables B2 and B3, D2 and D3</p> <p>Table B4</p> <p>Chapter 5, chapter 6</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-relationships between effects are considered, where practicable. • The prediction and evaluation of effects makes use of relevant accepted standards, regulations, and thresholds (i.e. data gathered for the evidence base). • Methods used to evaluate the effects are described. 	<p>Chapter 5, chapter 6</p> <p>Chapter 2</p>
<p>Mitigation measures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and offset any significant adverse effects of implementing the Neighbourhood Development Plan are indicated. • Issues to be taken into account when determining planning applications or other projects, for example funding bids, are identified. 	<p>Chapter 6, paragraph 6.6 – 6.9</p> <p>Chapter 6</p>
<p>The Environmental Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is clear and concise in its layout and presentation. • Uses simple, clear language and avoids or explains technical terms. • Uses maps and other illustrations, where appropriate. • Explains the methodology used. • Explains who was consulted and what methods of consultation were used. • Identifies sources of information, including expert judgement and matters of opinion. • Contains a non-technical summary covering the overall approach to the SEA, the objectives of the Neighbourhood Development Plan, the main options considered, and any changes to the Neighbourhood Development Plan resulting from the SEA. 	<p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>Chapter 2</p> <p>Paragraph 2.6-2.9</p> <p>Paragraph 2.8-2.9</p> <p>Page 1 / Paragraph 1.8 / Chapter 6</p>
<p>Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SEA is consulted on as an integral part of the plan-making process of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. • Consultation Bodies and the public likely to be affected by, or having an interest in, the Neighbourhood Development Plan are consulted in ways and at times, 	<p>Paragraph 2.6-2.9</p> <p>Chapter 8</p>

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