



# Habitat Regulations Assessment of the Harbury and Deppers Bridge Neighbourhood Plan

## HRA Screening Document

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Author	DS
Reviewed	NJD
Approved	NJD

# 1 HRA Screening

## 1.1 This report

1.1.1 Lepus Consulting Ltd. (Lepus) has prepared this Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening report of the Harbury and Deppers Bridge Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) on behalf of Stratford-on-Avon District Council. This is a requirement of Regulation 102 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010<sup>1</sup>.

## 1.2 HRA process

1.2.1 HRA considers the potential adverse impacts of plans and projects on designated Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), classified Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and listed Ramsar sites. This is in accordance with the Habitats Directive<sup>2</sup> and the Birds Directive<sup>3</sup>. SACs, SPAs and Ramsar sites are collectively known as the Natura 2000 network.

1.2.2 Should a development, plan or project be considered likely to have a significant impact on a Natura 2000 site, the HRA proceeds to an Appropriate Assessment. If Likely Significant Effects (LSEs) cannot be avoided, mitigated or compensated to the extent that the conservation status of the EU site will not be undermined, the HRA proceeds to Imperative Reasons of Overriding Interest (IROPI).

## 1.3 Background

1.3.1 Lepus completed an HRA screening of the Stratford-on-Avon Core Strategy in April 2014<sup>4</sup>, concluding that it was not likely to lead to adverse effects on any Natura 2000 sites. The Harbury and Deppers Bridge NDP, if adopted, would form part of the Stratford-on-Avon Core Strategy.

## 1.4 HRA screening conclusion

1.4.1 The nearest Natura 2000 sites to Harbury is Ensor's Pool SAC, located approximately 30km north. The development and policies proposed within the NDP are unlikely to impact on the SAC in any way. Based on the available information, an LSE of the NDP on any Natura 2000 site can be objectively ruled out at this stage.

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<sup>1</sup> Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010. Available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2010/490/regulation/102/made>

<sup>2</sup> EU Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora

<sup>3</sup> EU Council Directive 2009/147/EC on the Conservation of wild birds

<sup>4</sup> Lepus Consulting (2014) Habitat Regulations Assessment of the Stratford-on-Avon Core Strategy

## 1.5

### Consultation

#### 1.5.1

This report is subject to consultation, with Natural England as a statutory consultee. Natural England expressed their agreement with the conclusion of the screening report within the consultation response, received 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017 (see **Appendix A**)

Appendix A

Natural England Consultation  
Response

Date: 31 October 2017  
Our ref: 228516, 228421 ,228442



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Lepus Consulting Ltd.

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Dear Mr Speakman,

**Planning consultation: Brailes, Harbury and Deppers Bridge and Shipston-on-Stour Neighbourhood Plans, HRA Screening Reports.**

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.

**Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening - Brailes NDP**

Natural England notes the screening process applied to this Neighbourhood plan. We agree with the Council's conclusion of no likely significant effect upon the named European designated sites:

- Bredon Hill SAC.

**Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening - Harbury and Deppers Bridge NDP**

Natural England notes the screening process applied to this Neighbourhood plan. We agree with the Council's conclusion of no likely significant effect upon the named European designated sites:

- Ensor's Pool SAC

**Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening - Shipton-on-Stour NDP**

Natural England notes the screening process applied to this Neighbourhood plan. We agree with the Council's conclusion of no likely significant effect upon the named European designated sites:

- Bredon Hill SAC

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

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Tom Amos on 02080 260961. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

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

Yours sincerely

Tom Amos  
Sustainable Development

Ecological Services

Green Infrastructure

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment

Landscape Character Assessment

Habitats Regulations Assessment

Strategic Environmental Assessment

Sustainability Appraisal

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