

**Shropshire Council**

**Site Allocations and Management of  
Development (SAMDev) Plan**

**Proposed Main Modifications Habitats  
Regulations Assessment**

**June 2015**

## **1. Introduction**

### **Purpose of this report**

- 1.1 This Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Plan (SAMDev) Main Modifications Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report has been produced following the close of the SAMDev hearing sessions. These took place in November and December 2014. This HRA Report provides a supplement to the SAMDev Habitats Regulations Assessment which accompanied the submitted SAMDev Plan in August 2014.
- 1.2 Main Modifications to the SAMDev Plan have been proposed. These are required to help ensure that the Plan is found sound and legally compliant. A further HRA is therefore needed to ensure that the effects of the Main Modifications are fully assessed for their impacts on internationally designated sites in Shropshire and reported on as part of the Plan making process.

### **HRA Background**

- 1.3 Assessment under the Habitats Regulations was carried out for the SAMDev Plan throughout its preparation. A report of the HRA process for the whole Plan (see 1.1 above) formed part of the submission documents in August 2014.
- 1.4 The Main Modifications are the proposed changes to the submitted Plan. As a modification may alter effects of a policy, the previous HRA may now not apply. However, only those policies affected by the Main Modifications need to be reviewed to see if their effects are different. If no changes are proposed to a particular policy then the submission HRA still applies.
- 1.5 This HRA treats the Main Modifications as if they had been made and should be read in conjunction with:
  - the submitted Plan <https://shropshire.gov.uk/media/1057564/CD1-SAMDev-Pre-Submission-Draft-Plan.pdf>
  - and its HRA <https://shropshire.gov.uk/media/1057705/CD6-Habitats-Regulation-Assessment-SAMDev-post-consultation-July-14-Final.pdf>

### **Sustainability Appraisal**

- 1.6 A separate Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Report setting out the results of the SA of the Main Modifications has been produced to accompany publication of the Main Modifications schedule.

### **Assessment of the Main Modifications**

- 1.7 Although all the Main Modifications propose changes to the SAMDev Plan, not all of them will significantly change the effects of the Plan. For example, some of the Main Modifications provide clarification, relate to the explanatory text or correct spelling mistakes.

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- 1.8 An evaluation of the effects of the Main Modifications on all the internationally designated sites in Shropshire was carried out and is shown in the Schedule of Main Modifications.

**Conclusion**

- 1.9 In most cases the Main Modifications do not change the amount, type or location of development that would result from the Plan policies. Where changes are proposed, as in the removal of the Tyrley Cluster, then the effect is to reduce the amount of development, not to increase it.
- 1.10 Similarly, the identified mitigation measures for the potential effects of the SAMDev Plan on internationally designated sites do not form part of the Main Modifications.
- 1.11 From this it is concluded that a further HRA is not required.