

Further to our comments dated 23rd September 2020 regarding nitrogen neutrality, Natural England would like to further draw your attention to the Solent Maritime SAC and its supporting land.

The proposals have the potential to affect SPA functional land, which forms part of a network of terrestrial sites located outside of the Solent SPAs boundaries used by SPA species (including qualifying features and assemblage species) as alternative areas for roosting and foraging. These sites support the functionality of the designated sites and are therefore protected in this context. The sites affected are a Secondary Support Area H60B, a Low Use site H63 and a Primary Support Area H77.

As a result, Natural England advise that best practice measures are adopted during construction to limit noise and visual disturbance to the adjacent sensitive habitat. Natural England advises that a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) should be submitted to and approved in writing by your retained ecologist that identifies the steps and procedures that will be implemented to avoid or mitigate constructional impacts on the adjacent Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA, Ramsar and the SPA's functional land mentioned above.

The CEMP should address the following impacts:

- Noise/visual/vibrational impacts
- Visual screening (for SPA birds)
- Storage of construction materials/chemicals and equipment;
- Dust suppression
- Chemical and/or fuel run-off from construction into designated sites
- Waste disposal.

The CEMP should ensure there is no percussive piling or works with heavy machinery (i.e. plant resulting in a noise level in excess of 69dbAmax – measured at the sensitive receptor) to be undertaken during the bird overwintering period (i.e. October to March inclusive). The sensitive receptor is the nearest point of the SPA or any SPA supporting habitat (e.g. high tide roosting site).

This detail should be included in the Appropriate Assessment to ensure there is no adverse impact from the construction work on the adjacent designated sites and its functional land.

Please contact me if you have any queries relating to this advice

Kind regards

Rachael Clemson
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Thames Solent Area Team

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Please note my non-working day is Friday



Please send planning consultations to Natural England by email to:
consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Natural England offers two chargeable services – The Discretionary Advice Service ([DAS](#)) provides pre-application, pre-determination and post-consent advice on proposals to developers and consultants as well as pre-licensing species advice and pre-assent and consent advice. The Pre-submission Screening Service ([PSS](#)) provides advice for protected species mitigation licence applications.

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