

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)
Screening and Appropriate Assessment (AA)

PLEASE NOTE: Undertaking the HRA process is the responsibility of Havant Borough Council as the Competent Authority for the purpose of the Habitats Regulations. However, it is the responsibility of the applicant to provide the Competent Authority with the information that they require for this purpose.

HRA drafting date:	1 April 2021
HRA completion date:	22 April 2021
Application reference:	APP/21/00050
Application address:	Antrims Barn St Peters Road, Hayling Island
Application description:	Application for a 3 bay garage.
Lead Planning Officer:	Lesley Wells
Please note that all references in this assessment to the 'Habitats Regulations' refer to The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended).	

Stage 1 - details of the plan or project

European site potentially impacted by planning application, plan or project:	- Chichester & Langstone Harbours Special Protection Area (SPA) - Chichester & Langstone Harbours Ramsar site
Is the planning application directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (if yes, Applicant should have provided details)?	The development consists of an agricultural barn adjacent to a European Site.
Are there any other projects or plans that together with the planning application being assessed could affect the site?	APP/21/00050 3 bay garage located to the north of the hall , also adjacent to the European Site.

Stage 2 - HRA screening assessment

Screening under Regulation 63(1)(a) of the Habitats Regulations – The Applicant to provide evidence so that a judgement can be made as to whether there could be any potential significant impacts of the development on the integrity of the SPA/SAC/Ramsar.

The proposed development is within 0.7 km of Chichester & Langstone Harbours SPA/Ramsar.

Loss / degradation of supporting habitats

The site lies near to a supporting habitat for bird species (Brent Geese and Waders) associated with the Solent SPA sites.

The site to the west has been monitored as part of the Solent Waders & Brent Goose Strategy (SWBGS) and is identified as site H60G for the purposes of the strategy. Site H60G and other sites identified in the strategy can be seen at <https://solentwbgs.wordpress.com/page-2/>.

To the west of the proposal site is a primary use site. Antrims Barn was previously located immediately adjacent to the primary use area. However, the site boundary was altered towards the end of 2020 by the SW&BGS Steering Group who reviewed and approved a boundary change which excluded areas unsuitable for feeding or roosting by overwintering SPA birds. The footprint is now a reasonable distance from the boundary.

The only potential impacts would result from construction and operational-phase in respect of noise and disturbance. However, the 3 bay garage will be situated on the south east side to the front of Antrims Barn, which would help mitigate operational noise and disturbance. On this basis, and the fact that the bird site is very large (and birds will almost be guaranteed to occur in the field centre) no impact is considered likely.

Construction noise / activity / pollution

Construction noise /activity

There is potential for construction noise and activity to cause disturbance of SPA qualifying bird species present on the adjacent primary use site, however it is deemed this would be unlikely to manifest in any material harm.

Would the proposal lead to a likely significant effect on European site integrity? ▾

The only potential impacts would result from construction- and operational-phase noise. However, the minor proposal would be located to the front of Antrims Barn, a reasonable distance from the primary use area. On this basis, and the fact that the bird site is very large (and birds will almost be guaranteed to occur in the field centre) I would not expect impacts to occur.

Stage 3 - Appropriate Assessment

Appropriate Assessment under Regulation 63(1) - if there are any potential significant impacts, the applicant must provide evidence showing avoidance and/or mitigation measures to allow an Assessment to be made. The Applicant must also provide details which demonstrate any long-term management, maintenance and funding of any solution.

Stage 4 – Summary of the Appropriate Assessment (To be carried out by the Competent Authority (the local planning authority) in liaison with Natural England

Natural England Officer:

As discussed in the HRA, this site is located close to the Solent Waders and Brent Goose (SWBGS) site 'H60G', where up to 1,450 Brent geese were recorded during 2016/17. In light of this, we would recommend that a Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) is submitted to ensure that there are no noise or other disturbance effects to the SWBGS site, particularly in the overwintering period from October to March.

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