

Hi Steve,

I've updated my comments about campdown a little:

The proposal lies within 1.5km of the Chichester and Langstone Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA) and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). A significant proportion of the site has been identified by the Solent Waders & Brent Goose Strategy (sites H02A, H04B, H113 and H125)

as functionally important habitat used by, amongst others, curlew and brent geese. The proposal will result in the loss of this habitat, and the proposal includes a mitigation strategy to compensate for the loss of this habitat at Broadmarsh, to the south of the proposed development and adjacent to the SPA/SSSI. However, I have serious concerns about the mitigation plans, particularly as it relates to curlews:

- Broadmarsh is currently not in favourable management for feeding curlew and brent geese
- There is currently no means of controlling human recreational access
- It is a more fragmented site than the current one, and thus will be more prone to disturbance
- It will take significant time for the management of the site to deliver benefits to curlew and brent geese
- Even if the correct management regime and infrastructure is in place, there is no guarantee that curlew, a species particularly sensitive to human disturbance will use the site.

Curlews have undergone a 31% decline in Chichester and Langstone Harbour since 1984/85 (British Trust for Ornithology), and typically use established grasslands of sufficient size and quality for feeding. The Broadmarsh site, in my view, is unlikely to be a site favoured by curlew in the immediate future.

In short, the mitigation strategy will need to be improved and proven to be successfully working for the aforementioned species, with a commitment by any new managing agents, before I can support the proposal.

Furthermore, the surveys and subsequent mitigation plans for dormouse, and bats, appear inadequate for a development of this scale. Loss of current grassland habitats are in my view, likely to be greatly detrimental to local bat populations, (through loss of associated insect populations). Any new plantings on and around the development (e.g. hedges, grasslands) will take time to establish before bats and dormouse can benefit from them.