

FAO – Mr Lewis Oliver

Your ref – APP/20/00251 HRA & Appropriate Assessment - Construction of 30x1 & 2 two bedroom apartments in a part 2 & a half / part 4 storey extension fronting onto Prince George Street together with the provision of infill flexible use (A1/A2/A3) town centre commercial units etc. North Street Arcade, North Street Arcade, Havant
Our ref – 313468

Dear Lewis,

Thank you for consulting Natural England on the above HRA and AA.

Natural England notes that your authority, as competent authority, has undertaken an appropriate assessment of the proposal in accordance with Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Species and Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended). Natural England is a statutory consultee on the appropriate assessment stage of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process, and a competent authority should have regard to Natural England's advice.

Your appropriate assessment concludes that your authority is able to ascertain that the proposal will not result in adverse effects on the integrity of any of the sites in question. Having considered the assessment, and the measures proposed to mitigate for all identified adverse effects that could potentially occur as a result of the proposal, Natural England advises that we concur with the assessment conclusions, providing that all mitigation measures are appropriately secured in any permission given.

No objection subject to mitigation

Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy

Since this application will result in a net increase in residential accommodation, impacts to the coastal Special Protection Area(s) and Ramsar site(s) may result from increased recreational pressure. Havant Borough Council has measures in place to manage these potential impacts through the agreed strategic solution which we consider to be ecologically sound.

Subject to the appropriate financial contribution being secured, Natural England is satisfied that the proposal will mitigate against the potential recreational impacts of the development on the site(s). It is Natural England's view that the Solent Mitigation Recreation Strategy Contribution adequately mitigates the effects of the development on potential recreational impacts on the designated sites.

Nutrient neutrality

With regard to deterioration of the water environment, it is noted that the approach to address the positive nitrogen budget for this development is to offset against the interim strategy, with measures to ensure this approach can be adequately secured and accounted for. It is noted that the mitigation would be secured through a Grampian condition, requiring the mitigation package to be agreed, provided to the Council and implemented prior to the occupation of the development.

It is Natural England's view that in this case, provided the Council as competent authority, is satisfied that the approach will ensure the proposal is nutrient neutral and the necessary measures can be fully secured; Natural England raises no further concerns.

Please consult Natural England on the discharge of the Grampian condition.

Please let me know if you have any queries.

Many thanks,
Lara Brant

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