

Date: 24 January 2022
Our ref: 379409
Your ref: APP/21/01259



Lewis Oliver
Havant Borough Council

Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Lewis

Planning consultation: HRA & Appropriate/Nitrate Assessment - RM Application for development within Berewood Phase 3b comprising 122 dwellings pursuant to application ref: APP/10/00828; Discharge of conditions 3, 6, 7, 11, 16 and 18 etc

Location: Phase 3B West of Waterlooville MDA, Land adjacent to and north of the Allotments, Forest End, Waterlooville

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 07 January 2022 which was received by Natural England on the same date.

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

NO OBJECTION SUBJECT TO MITIGATION BEING SECURED

Natural England notes that your authority, as competent authority under the provisions of the Habitats Regulations, has undertaken an Appropriate Assessment of the proposal, in accordance with Regulation 63 of the Regulations. Natural England is a statutory consultee on the Appropriate Assessment stage of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process.

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. Please see our comments on the appropriate assessment below.

Solent recreation mitigation

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 disturbance. Your authority has measures in place to manage these potential impacts through the agreed strategic solution which we consider to be ecologically sound.

We note that the application has taken a bespoke approach to mitigation, through the provision of 102ha of green infrastructure.

the appropriate assessment concludes that the due the quantum and quality of the onsite open space financial contributions to the Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy are not required, in addition residual risks will be mitigated through the delivery of a comprehensive ecological mitigation strategy. It also predicts that proposals are likely to divert recreational pressure from existing residents in the Newlands area therefore leading to a reduction in visits to the coast. This was approach that Natural England supported prior to the adoption of the Solent Recreation

Mitigation Strategic strategic solution.

Provided competent authority is satisfied that this approach fully mitigates all potential impacts of increased recreational disturbance on the coastal SPAs and that the open space provision meets the SANG criteria set out in appendix B of the [Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy](#), Natural England raises no further concerns.

Please note that if your authority is minded to grant planning permission contrary to the advice in this letter, you are required under Section 28I (6) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) to notify Natural England of the permission, the terms on which it is proposed to grant it and how, if at all, your authority has taken account of Natural England's advice. You must also allow a further period of 21 days before the operation can commence.

Nitrogen Neutrality

Based on the nutrient budget calculation, we note that the development delivers a negative nutrient budget due to the delivery onsite open space. The competent authority will need to be assured that the open space will be managed as such and there will be no additional inputs of nutrients or fertilisers onto this land for the duration of the development. Appropriate conditions or other legal measures may be necessary to ensure it will not revert back to agricultural use, or change to alternative uses that affect nutrient inputs in the long term. These sites will also need long term management to ensure the provision of dog bins and that these are regularly emptied.

Provided the competent authority is satisfied with this approach, Natural England raises no further comments.

Further general advice on consideration of protected species and other natural environment issues is provided at Annex A.

Should the developer wish to discuss the detail of measures to mitigate the effects described above with Natural England, we recommend that they seek advice through our [Discretionary Advice Service](#).

For any queries regarding this letter, for new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Should the proposal change, please consult us again.

Yours sincerely

Rachael Clemson
Sustainable Development Lead Adviser
Thames Solent Area Team