

Date: 30 July 2015
Our ref: 160877
Your ref: APP/15/00624



Andrew Biltcliffe
Executive Planning Service Manager
Havant Borough Council

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

T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Andrew

Planning consultation: Extension of existing railway platform to east and revisions to existing track layout.

Location: Light Railway, Sea Front, Hayling Island.

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 24 July 2015 which was received by Natural England on the same day.

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.

Wildlife And Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

Sinah Common SSSI: Objection/Further information required

This application is within the Sinah Common Site of Special Scientific Interest SSSI. Natural England objects to this development on the grounds that the application is lacking of information. Our concerns are set out below.

- The Application proposes an extension to the existing platform. The extension will resort to a permanent net loss of Sinah Common SSSI habitat. The Applicant needs to show how they will intend to mitigate the loss of SSSI land in the place of a new development platform

Should the application change, or if the applicant submits further information relating to the impact of this proposal on the SSSI aimed at reducing the damage likely to be caused, Natural England will be happy to consider it, and amend our position as appropriate.

If your Authority is minded to grant consent for this application contrary to the advice relating to Sinah Common SSSI contained in this letter, we refer you to Section 281 (6) of the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981* (as amended), specifically the duty placed upon your authority, requiring that your Authority;

- Provide notice to Natural England of the permission, and of its terms, the notice to include a statement of how (if at all) your authority has taken account of Natural England's advice, and
- Shall not grant a permission which would allow the operations to start before the end of a period of 21 days beginning with the date of that notice.

Other advice

We would expect the Local Planning Authority (LPA) to assess and consider the other possible impacts resulting from this proposal on the following when determining this application:

- local sites (biodiversity and geodiversity)
- local landscape character
- local or national biodiversity priority habitats and species.

Natural England does not hold locally specific information relating to the above. These remain material considerations in the determination of this planning application and we recommend that you seek further information from the appropriate bodies (which may include the local records centre, your local wildlife trust, local geoconservation group or other recording society and a local landscape characterisation document in order to ensure the LPA has sufficient information to fully understand the impact of the proposal before it determines the application. A more comprehensive list of local groups can be found at [Wildlife and Countryside link](#).

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Marina Lewis on 0300 060 4518. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely

Marc Turner
Senior Adviser
Dorset, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Area Team