

## Michelle Houghton

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**From:** Norton, Tristan [Tristan.Norton@hants.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 04 February 2014 14:52  
**To:** Aaron Wright  
**Cc:** Planning and Development Shared Mailbox; Havant Auto-Reply  
**Subject:** APP/14/00023 Waterloooville Leisure Centre, Waterberry Drive, Waterloooville, PO7 7UW 14.0073

Dear Aaron,

**APP/14/00023 Extension to existing gym facilities to create a new gym on two storeys and a new two storey height indoor play centre, with ancillary facilities, plus refurbishment of existing. Waterloooville Leisure Centre, Waterberry Drive, Waterloooville, PO7 7UW 14.0073**

Thank you for consulting me on this application. In summary, I have no overriding concerns in respect to ecological matters at this site and consider that the ecological information provided is sufficient.

The application is accompanied by an Ecological Scoping Survey Report (Greenlink Ecology Limited, December 2013) which provides a useful summary of the application site's current ecological value. It is evident that the site is of low ecological value, containing predominantly hardstanding with associated areas of managed amenity grassland and planted trees and shrubs. There is minimal potential for legally-protected species to occur.

I am content that the site is indeed of limited ecological interest and that the proposed works are not likely to result in unacceptable ecological impacts. I am pleased to see that, despite the obvious lack of ecological value, the applicant's ecologist has nevertheless provided recommendations for mitigating the impacts as well as enhancing the biodiversity value of the site post-development – such measures include timing works so as to avoid the bird nesting season, installing bat and bird boxes and the use of appropriate native species planting to contribute to local biodiversity. I would concur with the comments made by the landscaping officer that these measures are implemented in full.

Therefore, if you are minded to grant permission, could I recommend that these ecological mitigation and enhancement measures are secured via a suitably-worded planning condition, such as:

*Development shall proceed in accordance with the ecological mitigation and enhancement measures detailed within the Ecological Scoping Survey Report (Greenlink Ecology Limited, December 2013) unless otherwise agreed in writing by the local planning authority. Reason: to protect and enhance biodiversity in accordance with NPPF, NERC Act 2006 and local planning policy.*

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Tristan

**Tristan Norton**

**Senior Ecologist  
Ecology Team**

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