

Good morning Tina,

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.

Natural England is aware that your authority is developing an interim strategy to address nutrient impacts from developments currently in the planning system and we are working with the Council to develop this approach.

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.

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 existing lawful use of the property. We advise that you seek and rely on your own legal opinion with regard to this approach.

In the absence of a strategic solution, 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 note these matters should be reviewed as the strategic solution is progressed

Kind regards,
Emily

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