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5th June 2017

Dear Chris

Solent Waders & Brent Goose Strategy (SWBGS) – with regards to land at Manor Road, Hayling Island

Many thanks for sending through the comments from the LPA. With regards to ecology, an addendum to the report was considered necessary to review the site in relation to the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy (SWBGS)

The SWBGS is a Solent-wide strategy for determining the value of sites for supporting overwintering bird species, and particularly those listed as qualifying features of the Solent SPAs and Ramsar sites.

Each SWBGS site has been given a site status based on the degree of certainty that can be assigned to the brent goose or wader records therein. The site status categories are:

- **No recorded use** – Sufficient data to be certain that site is not used by target species.
- **Uncertain** – Insufficient data to confirm site importance.

- **Important** – Sufficient data to confirm that site is important for target species.
- **Unknown** – No information.

The site has been designated as having 'uncertain' suitability for Brent geese and waders in 2010 and therefore in line with Policy DM23 a review of whether the site has potential to support Brent Geese or waders must be considered.

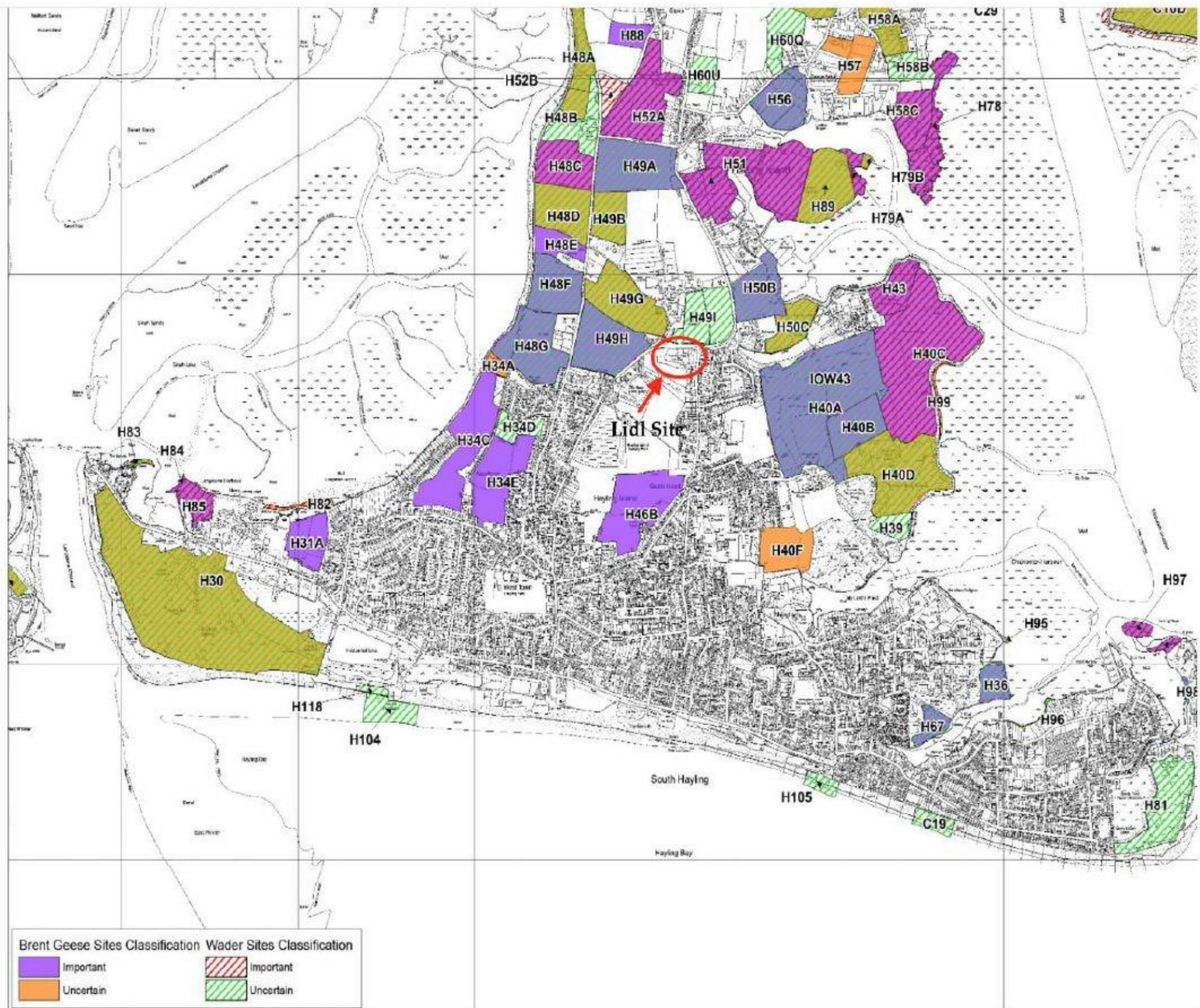
In relation to the site, it is not considered likely that these species would utilise the habitats present within the redline boundary. Three sides of the site are surrounded by woodland, and the open access to the site is from the roadside with high disturbance levels. These birds are unlikely to land onto the site from the roadside. The grazed grassland on site is disturbed frequently by horse and human activity creating unsettled conditions for feeding geese and wader birds. The vegetation is also considered to be limited as a food source available to these species. The habitat is not a wetland and does not provide the shelter required by wader species. No geese or waders were present at the time of the survey and no evidence of use of the site by these species was identified, and it is highly likely that further visits to the site will result in similar findings.

Since the original land designations were undertaken in 2010, an update review of the sites and land parcels in the area have been updated and the report 'The Status of Solent waders and Brent Goose Strategy Sites in Havant Borough (Jan 2017)' has been undertaken to remove uncertainty surrounding sites and to support additional ongoing surveys of the wider landscape.

The majority of sites that were considered in the report were selected as they fall within, or in close proximity to, potential development sites within the borough. Others were selected due to their potential to shape any future strategic approach to SWBGS site protection. Of the 103 selected sites, only six are currently classified as important sites for either Brent Geese or waders. The remaining 97 are either 'no recorded use' or 'uncertain' or unclassified.

With regards to the proposed development site, the updated report does not identify the site as being either 'uncertain' as in previous reports, or indeed any other category. Please see figure 1 below which highlights the location of the site in relation to the other surrounding land parcels which have

been designated. As such the site is not considered to be an important site for either Brent goose or waders associated with the SPA or Ramsar sites.



Current Use Analysis: Important Sites Update

Figure 1: Location of the site identified by the red circle which has not been identified as a land parcel of interest.

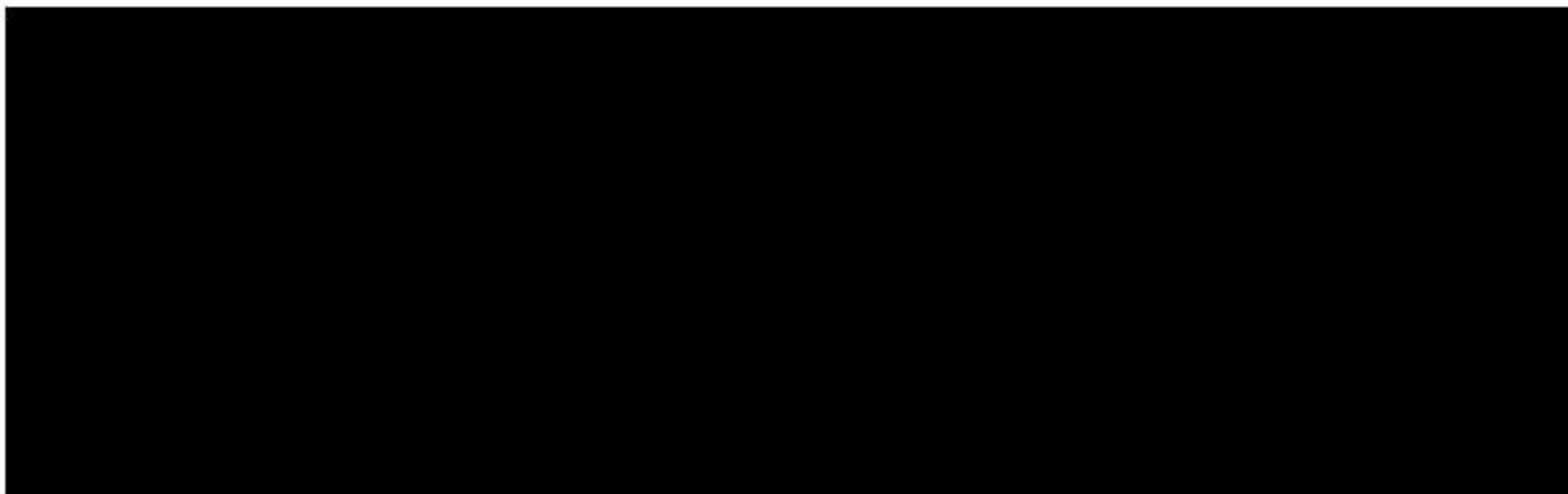
None of the grassland areas or habitats within the red line boundary were considered suitable for supporting feeding or roosting birds. The habitats are well grazed and managed and subject to

distance. As such it is not likely to be regularly frequented by geese or waders and so impacts with regards to proposed development are therefore considered to be negligible.

It must be concluded that the proposed development site is not considered to be important with regards to the SWBGS and no further surveys are considered to be necessary. It is considered that the proposed development is not considered to be constrained by the presence of these species.

If you have any questions or queries, then please do not hesitate to get in touch. I look forward to hearing from you.

Many thanks



Alexia Tamblyn MA (Oxon) MSc CEnv MCIEEM FRGS
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