

**How is the Council dealing with the environmental impacts of proposed developments?**

The Council recognises that without appropriate mitigation, new development could have a negative impact upon the Borough. These negative impacts could also affect the rivers which flow through the Borough as well as Portsmouth Harbour and The Solent which are of considerable importance in terms of the wildlife they support.

A fundamental part of developing the Local Plan will be to fully understand what negative impacts could occur, and the Council will commission the necessary work to ensure that they are fully understood. Once the impacts have been identified, the Council will work with a broad range of organisations to identify and agree the necessary mitigation measures which will need to be put in place.