

Date: 20 November 2020
Our ref: 333647
Your ref: P/20/0912/OA



Richard Wright
Fareham Borough Council

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

T 0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Sir/Madam,

Planning consultation: HRA & Appropriate Assessment - Outline (all matters reserved except for access) for residential development up to 350 dwellings, landscaped communal amenity space, children's play space, public open space, highways, drainage & utilities. Land to the East of Down End Road, Fareham

Thank you for consulting Natural England on the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)/Appropriate Assessment (AA) and further supporting information for the above application.

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.

SUMMARY OF NATURAL ENGLAND'S ADVICE

NO OBJECTION - SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATE MITIGATION BEING SECURED

We consider that without appropriate mitigation the application would:

- Have an adverse effect on the integrity of : Portsmouth Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA), and Solent and Southampton Water SPA. .

In order to mitigate these adverse effects and make the development acceptable, the mitigation measures outlined in the HRA be secured through an appropriate planning condition or obligation.

The issue of Nitrogen neutrality is examined in the HRA for this proposal and identifies that as long as a maximum water useage of 110L/day per person is achieved then this will result in no likely significant effect on the designated sites. This efficiency should be secured through legal agreement, and with this in place Natural England would be satisfied that neutrality has been achieved.

Natural England are aware that Fareham Borough Council adopted the Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy (SRMS) in March 2018, which provides a strategic solution to the issue of recreational disturbance across the Solent SPAs and adherence to the Habitats Regulations.

In addition to this, the increased recreational pressure on the identified European sites is planned to be mitigated by areas of Public Open Space within the proposed site, and that this will be in the form of 3.2ha of alternative green space, and 7.17ha of onsite green infrastructure in the form of parks, amenity open space, and accessible natural greenspace.

NE are satisfied that this approach provides sufficient mitigation for this proposal and avoid adverse effects on the integrity of the designated sites.

Should the proposal change significantly, please consult us again.

Yours faithfully

Alex Wilson
Sustainable Development Lead Advisor
0758 447 5804