

Craig Woolmer

From: Wilson , Claire (PLANNING ECOLOGIST) <ClaireWilson3@barnsley.gov.uk>
Sent: 20 March 2024 17:10
To: Bennett , Laura (SPATIAL PLANNING PROJECT MANAGER)
Cc: DevelopmentControl & DevelopmentManagement
Subject: 2024/0122

DM, Laura,

Thankyou for consulting me on the above application. Please find my comments in relation to biodiversity below.

- The site is located within the SSSI Impact Risk Zone for the Dearne Valley Wetlands SSSI. If the proposal is for a total number of dwellings over 100 then consultation with Natural England will be required.
- All habitats need to be assigned strategic significance within the metric due to their location within the Dearne Valley Green Heart NIA and proximity to the Dearne Valley Wetlands SSSI. This was noted within the pre app response for the site (pre app reference - 2023/ENQ/00437).
- I am content with the information provided within the ecological appraisal and as per the recommendations within the report the following surveys should be undertaken;
 - eDNA for GCN;
 - bat activity surveys;
 - breeding bird surveys; and
 - Hedgerows to be assessed for their value to the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.
- The above information can be submitted as an addendum to the ecological appraisal.
- As this is an outline application the landscaping plans are subject to change at the reserved matters stage. As such, any changes to the landscaping should be included within an updated version of the metric to ensure no net loss of biodiversity. As the application was submitted prior to the 12th February 10% BNG is not applicable to the development. This can be secured via planning condition.
- I am content with the proposed habitats within the landscape masterplan and feel that they are appropriate and achievable. My only comment would be that the traditional orchard should be located in the north western corner of the site away from Hemmingfield road and closer to the woodland on the sites northern boundary.

As such, I recommend deferral of the application. Reason: in the interests of Biodiversity & Geodiversity policy BIO1 and the SPDs Biodiversity/ Geodiversity and Trees/ Hedgerows.

Kind regards,

Claire

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Please note, I work part time Wednesday - Friday