

Date: 08 February 2013
Our ref: 75190
Your ref: None given



Planning Policy Business Unit
Newark & Sherwood District Council
Kelham Hall
Kelham
Newark
Notts
NG23 5QX

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: Newark and Sherwood Submission Allocations & Development Management Policies DPD- Final Modifications

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 06 February 2013 which was received by Natural England on the same date.

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.

Natural England welcomes the proposed changes. We support for the numerous changes that strengthen the requirements regarding landscaping, sustainable drainage and green infrastructure.

We support the proposed changes in FPM212, which relate to ED/VC/1 Edwinstowe – Sherwood Forest Visitor Centre, as they add clarity and are in line with our expectations following our meeting on 16 August 2012.

We particularly support the proposed changes in FPM284, which relate to DM7: Biodiversity and Green Infrastructure. The proposed changes clarify the requirements with regard to the provision of SANGs to relieve pressure on Birklands and Billhaugh SAC, and meet with our expectations following discussion our meeting on 16 August. We are pleased to note that the requirement for SANGS to be “in perpetuity” has been added. We welcome the inclusion of a local definition of SANGS in Appendix A: Glossary. We would have supported a reference to green infrastructure within this definition, but in its absence we welcome the reference to “multi-functional sites”.

We welcome the production of the SA and HRA review. In relation to FRM296, which relates to the proposed new policy on the presumption in favour of sustainable development, the HRA review recommends that the second part of the policy highlights the need for mitigation/enhancement to address instances where harm would otherwise occur. We assume that this recommendation will be implemented.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Hayley Pankhurst on 0300 060 1594. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours faithfully,

Hayley Pankhurst

Lead Adviser

Land Use Operations

Tel: 0300 060 1594

Email: hayley.pankhurst@naturalengland.org.uk

Address: Block B, Government Buildings, Whittington Road, Worcester, WR5 2LQ