



Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>

To Stefan Galyas

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Good afternoon Stefan,

Thank you for sending over some further photos. The applicant has not submitted any ecological information, however from site photos it seems that the proposed habitat to be impacted is mostly short grassland, as well as a vegetated bed. There are also two waterbodies within very close proximity of the site. It would be unreasonable to require the applicant to submit a survey because this could be considered disproportionate to the scale and the likely impacts of the development. However, the application site lies within a red impact zone as per the modelled district licence impact map, which indicates that there is highly suitable habitat for GCN within the area surrounding the application site. Therefore, I recommend the use of a Precautionary Working Methods Statement (PWMS) with ecological supervision. This must be written by a suitably qualified ecologist and submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval prior to determination or secured in a condition such as below:

Condition *“No development shall take place until a Precautionary Working Methods Statement (PWMS) detailing reasonable avoidance measures for great crested newts has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority. Works shall only be undertaken in accordance with the approved Method Statement.”*

Best wishes,

Laura Downs *(she/her)*

District Licensing Officer (Great Crested Newts) – West Sussex

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