

Scullion, Thomas

Subject: FW: Land Off Scamps Hill Road Lindfield, West Sussex: Planning Application Ref: DM/24/0446 (Appeal reference APP/D3830/W/24/3350075)- Ecology Update & Response to Clarification Request

From: Gen Broad - Ecological Consultant <Gen.Broad@essex.gov.uk>

Sent: 10 October 2024 17:34

To: Suzanne Mansfield <suzanne.mansfield@fpcr.co.uk>

Cc: Stuart Malcolm <stuart.malcolm@midsussex.gov.uk>; Sue Hooton - Principal Ecological Consultant <Sue.Hooton@essex.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Land Off Scamps Hill Road Lindfield, West Sussex: Planning Application Ref: DM/24/0446 (Appeal reference APP/D3830/W/24/3350075)- Ecology Update & Response to Clarification Request

Dear Suzanne

We've been checking the information available and believe that ecology matters can probably fall away from the Appeal if the following information can be provided:

- a) Hazel Dormouse: Outline mitigation measures submitted to support the EPS mitigation licence. These outline measures are required prior to determination. We understand that a dormouse nest was found and so a licence will be required.
- b) The results of the Water Vole survey, as mentioned earlier. I cannot see any reference to the survey results in the documents provided.

We have the following additional comments:

- We understand that the surveys for Otter in April and August showed no evidence of the presence of Otter. So no further information is required.
- With regard to BNG, we've reviewed the submitted Statutory Biodiversity Metric - Calculation Tool and Appendix M of the Ecological Appraisal (FPCR Environment and Design Ltd., July 2024) and are satisfied that the pre-development baseline has been calculated appropriately. Therefore, a Biodiversity Gain Plan, as well as the finalised full Statutory Biodiversity Metric – Calculation Tool, should be submitted prior to commencement as part of the biodiversity gain condition. We do have some slightly more detailed comments, but these do not affect our overall view on the BNG submission.
- We understand that NatureSpace are advising on the GCN situation.

Unfortunately, I don't work on Fridays, but please send any further information to placeservicesecology@essex.gov.uk. Sue Hooton will be looking out for your information and will be available to deal with it.

Also, we unfortunately think it unlikely that anyone can attend the meetings on Monday, given the short notice. But we're hopeful that the ecology issues can be resolved as above.

I hope this is helpful, but please contact us if anything isn't clear.

With best wishes
Gen

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Ecological Consultant

