

Doc Ref:B229/Planapp/NE consent

Peter

Thank you for your note. Thank you for chasing NE to gain the consent for the work.

With regard to your query regarding reseeded of the bank - it is not our intention to carry out reseeded here as the bank has as far as we know naturally seeded itself in the past. We intend simply to make good where the footbridge etc has disturbed the soil and then leave the rest to nature. In the event that this plan changes closer to the time I will get back in touch with you so that a mix can be agreed with you/NE.

Thanks

Pete

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**From:** McKeon, Peter  
**Sent:** 20 December 2011 09:49  
**To:** Mabey, Pete  
**Subject:** FW: SSSI Consents in Test Valley

Pete,

I have heard back from Natural England - see email below.

Having considered the proposals, they believe that we would not need a separate NE consent for the works over and above the EA consent. They just ask that we inform them of the seed mix to be used if the bank is to be re-seeded following the completion of the works.

Regards,

Peter

**Peter McKeon BSc (Hons) MSc MIEEM**  
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**From:** Graham-Smith, Alison (NE) [<mailto:Alison.Graham-Smith@naturalengland.org.uk>]  
**Sent:** 19 December 2011 17:10

**To:** McKeon, Peter  
**Subject:** RE: SSSI Consents in Test Valley

Peter

Sorry, there was a misunderstanding here and I thought that a response had gone back to the Environment Agency via our Land Use team who deal with a lot of the consultations regarding road and bridge works after discussion with ourselves in Land Management. I've now had a chance to check with them and it turns out we were talking about different bridge proposals.

I do not feel there needs to be a separate assent for these works over and above the Flood Defence consent you have from the EA. I have checked the EA consent and their Biodiversity Team's comments and would echo those, particularly their comment regarding limiting pollution risks by looking into the use of something in addition to sedimats. With regard to making good the soil bank, there is no mention of whether this is to be re-seeded. If it is please contact us to agree the seed mix to be used.

Again, I apologise for our delay in getting back to you regarding this. If you have any questions please get in touch. I'm available Tuesday and possibly Thursday this week. I'm then back on the 4<sup>th</sup> January.

All the best for Christmas and the New Year.

Alison

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**We are here to secure a healthy natural environment for people to enjoy, where wildlife is protected and England's traditional landscapes are safeguarded for future generations.**

In an effort to reduce Natural England's carbon footprint, I will, wherever possible, avoid travelling to meetings and attend via audio, video or web conferencing.

**From:** McKeon, Peter [mailto:Peter.McKeon@hants.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 14 December 2011 15:26  
**To:** Graham-Smith, Alison (NE)  
**Subject:** SSSI Consents in Test Valley

Dear Alison,

I'm sorry to bother you.

I was just wondering whether you have had chance yet to look at the details I sent you in October regarding the proposed works to the bridge at Stockbridge?

The Environment Agency have now given their consent, which I have attached for your information.

Regards,

Peter

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**From:** McKeon, Peter  
**Sent:** 24 October 2011 13:51  
**To:** 'Graham-Smith, Alison (NE)'  
**Subject:** RE: SSSI Consents in Test Valley

Alison,

thanks for getting back to me.

In this case, the Highways Department is the landowner and would also be exercising their duties under the Highways Act.

The existing bridge consists of a steel troughing deck filled with concrete. The steel is badly corroded and due to the very low headroom is not maintainable. It is therefore the intention of Hampshire County Council to demolish the bridge and replace it with a new concrete beam and slab structure which requires much less maintenance over its lifetime. Using this construction type reduces the amount of scaffold props that will be required in the river to a minimum. Any props that are required will be checked and cleared on a daily basis.

Removal of the existing structure will take place with due regard for anti-pollution measures as detailed in the attached method statement. Work is scheduled to commence, subject to the necessary consents / assents, in early to mid May 2012 and would have a duration of approximately 12 weeks.

Due to the width of the carriageway at this location, and the need to keep the road open during the works, it will be necessary to install a temporary footbridge to the north of the site to allow pedestrians safe passage over the river. This footbridge will have the same soffit level as the existing road bridge. Supports at the centre of the span will be kept to a minimum.

An ecological assessment has been undertaken by a colleague and this found that protected species were unlikely to be impacted by the works. Any disturbed banks would be made good following completion.

As the works will be impacting upon a watercourse, we have also consulted the Environment Agency. In their initial response they stated that they would be discussing the proposals with Natural England.

In addition to the method statement, I have attached several site and location plans. If you require any further information in order to grant consent / assent please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Peter

**Peter McKeon**  
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**From:** Graham-Smith, Alison (NE) [<mailto:Alison.Graham-Smith@naturalengland.org.uk>]

**Sent:** 24 October 2011 12:40

**To:** McKeon, Peter

**Subject:** RE: SSSI Consents in Test Valley

Peter

I deal with works within Test Valley district so this one would come to me if it affects the River Test SSSI or another SSSI. Are Highways section acting as a landowner or as the highways authority exercising their duties? This affects whether it's consent or assent that we give.

All the best

Alison

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**From:** McKeon, Peter [mailto:Peter.McKeon@hants.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 24 October 2011 11:30  
**To:** Graham-Smith, Alison (NE)  
**Subject:** SSSI Consents in Test Valley

Dear Alison,

Do you deal with consents for works on SSSIs in the Test Valley?

Colleagues of mine in our Highways section need consent to undertake works to replace a bridge adjacent to the River Test SSSI at Stockbridge (grid ref SU3533 3514). If you are the correct person, I could send details across.

Regards,

Peter

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