

Date: 10 September 2013
Our ref: 95249
Your ref: WRG036 – HCC/2013/0272



Kristina King
Hampshire County Council

Customer Services
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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Ms King

Planning consultation: 1) To infill a scour hole in the river invert adjacent to the upstream apron of the structure The river invert is being put back to its original designed state; the structure will not be physically affected 2) To re point and replace lost brick work to upstream and downstream training walls, materials to be sympathetic to those currently in position. Maintenance only 3) To rebuild brick pilaster which is now becoming unsafe, materials to be sympathetic to those currently in position. Maintenance only 4)The refurbishment of existing wrought iron railings, material to be sympathetic to those currently in position maintenance only

Location: Winchester City Bridge, Bridge Street, Winchester, Hampshire

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 15 August 2013 which was received by Natural England on 15 August 2013.

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.

The application site is in River Itchen Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). This SSSI is part of the River Itchen Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

Natura 2000 site – No objection

Natural England advises your authority that the proposal, if undertaken in strict accordance with the details submitted, is not likely to have a significant effect on the interest features for which River Itchen SAC has been classified. Natural England therefore advises that your Authority is not required to undertake an Appropriate Assessment to assess the implications of this proposal on the site's conservation objectives.¹

SSSI

No objection – with conditions

This application is within and close to River Itchen SSSI. However, given the nature and scale of this proposal, Natural England is satisfied that there is not likely to be an adverse effect on this site as a result of the proposal being carried out in strict accordance with the details of the application as submitted. We therefore advise your authority that this SSSI does not represent a constraint in determining this application. Should the details of this application change, Natural England draws

¹ This reply comprises our statutory consultation response under provisions of Article 20 of the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010, Regulation 61 (3) of the *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)*, (The Habitat Regulations) and Section 28(l) of the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)*.

your attention to Section 28(l) of the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981* (as amended), requiring your authority to re-consult Natural England.

Conditions

- Compliance with the method statement provided as part of the application documents
- Compliance with the proposed mitigation measures in part 4 of the ecological appraisal

These conditions are required to ensure that the development, as submitted, will not impact upon the features of special interest for which River Itchen SSSI is notified.

If your Authority is minded to grant consent for this application without the conditions recommended above, we refer you to Section 28l (6) of the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981* (as amended), specifically the duty placed upon your authority, requiring that your Authority;

- Provide notice to Natural England of the permission, and of its terms, the notice to include a statement of how (if at all) your authority has taken account of Natural England's advice; and
- Shall not grant a permission which would allow the operations to start before the end of a period of 21 days beginning with the date of that notice.

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 Alison Appleby on 07500 913698. 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 a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely

Alison Appleby
Land Use Operations, Winchester team