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From: Bishop, Rebecca (NE) <Rebecca.Bishop@naturalengland.org.uk>
Sent: 24 July 2017 13:44
To: Neighbourhood Planning
Cc: Valerie Dobson
Subject: Publication of the Westbourne Neighbourhood Plan
Attachments: Westbourne NP pre-submission - Consultation Feedback Form.pdf

Importance: High

Thank you for giving Natural England the opportunity to comment on Westbourne's Neighbourhood Plan.

I note that we have previously provided comments and as these still apply, I have copied them below for your convenience, with notes in red, to update them:

Generally this Plan seems to deal responsibly with the Natural Environment and the sites allocated are unlikely to have any significant adverse effect on designated sites. Do note, however, that careful attention needs to be paid to foul water drainage system associated with development in this area can impact on the Chichester & Langstone Harbours Ramsar site if they do not discharge into the mains sewer. This will be covered by the (in preparation) Chichester DC Surface Water & Drainage SPD in due course (**now adopted**) so the Plan could reference that development needs to adhere to this in its points about water and drainage provision.

It may be useful to expand on the term "biodiversity" in Policy OA4, Sustainable Development 4.3.9 (p14) (**now Policy OA1**) to include assets specifically mentioned in the NPPF such as designated sites, priority habitats, protected species and ancient woodland.

There is currently significant pressure from consultations on land-use proposals and appeals, the completion of local plans, the review of existing plans, and work on neighbourhood plans (there are over 500 parishes in Kent and Sussex). This makes it difficult to devote the time that consultations deserve. If there are issues I have not covered, please let me know and I will respond as quickly as possible.

If you wish to comment on the service provided by Natural England please use the appended form.
Yours sincerely,

**Rebecca Bishop MRTPI
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Sustainable Development
Sussex & Kent Team**

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