

Consultation Response (Biodiversity)

Kirklees Council Conservation and Design Team, Biodiversity Officer

<i>Major scheme consultation response</i>		For office use
Date of response	27/07/2018	<i>Is this a response to an informal consultation request?</i> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Location	Land at Walkey Terrace and Brunswick Street, Heckmondwike	
Application number	2018_91661	
Responding officer	Tom Stephenson	

Adequacy of ecological information

The applicant has submitted a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal. This is contrary to my advice in relation to the previously refused scheme for this site, where I indicated that the proposals need to be supported by an Ecological Impact Assessment. An Ecological Impact Assessment, when undertaken following appropriate guidance (CIEEM, 2016 & 2017), includes information that demonstrates how the ecological mitigation hierarchy has been applied. Given the nature of the habitats present, this information is essential to assessing the application against biodiversity planning policy.

Advice to planning officer

Currently, the supporting ecological information for this scheme includes broad recommendations for the mitigation of ecological impacts, which include working practices and design measures. Insufficient information is available to demonstrate that the proposals comply with, or are capable of complying with policy PLP 30 and chapter 15 of the NPPF (2018).

In the absence of sufficient information I cannot support the application.

References

CIEEM, 2016. *Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the UK and Ireland: Terrestrial, Freshwater and Coastal*. 2nd ed. Winchester: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management.

CIEEM, 2017. *Guidelines for Ecological Report Writing*, Winchester: Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management.