

From: Chidswell Actiongroup

Sent: 25 July 2022 21:05

To: Gareth Hey

Subject: Evidence of unrecorded Schedule 1 Kingfisher at Chidswell & Heybeck

Dear Gareth,

Ref: Land east of Leeds Rd, Chidswell, Shaw Cross, Dewsbury / Land south of Heybeck Lane, Chidswell, Shawcross, Dewsbury 2020/60/92331/E / 2020/60/92350/E

We have copied you into a number of emails to Victor Grayson, Planning Officer, for proposed development at Chidswell & Heybeck, but wanted to contact you personally in your role as Biodiversity Officer for Kirklees Council. We've sent numerous emails advising of new evidence of unrecorded Schedule 1 Kingfisher frequently observed on the proposed development site. These emails have neither been acknowledged nor answered by Victor Grayson.

There have been extensive Surveys and reports on the area, commissioned by the Landowner, with recurring conclusions that there are no Schedule 1 or protected species on site; therefore negating a requirement for mitigation in a number of elements of the EIA. Of particular concern is the omission of the Kingfisher in relation to the inevitable pollution of the interconnected waterways on site during, and after, development.

Our evidence is robust: photos are GPS and date/time logged. Videos are date/time stamped and locations can be verified by surrounding foliage, trees and topology of the waterways. Evidence has been submitted to WY Ecology and included in an iNaturalist project: https://uk.inaturalist.org/observations?project_id=103432

We are very concerned that this important information has not been acknowledged nor replied to. We also note that our communications to Victor Grayson have not been uploaded to the Planning Portal in the comments section, even in a redacted form.

As I'm sure you already appreciate, local residents, who visit an area regularly, have an advantage on Ecologists who have a brief time to visit and observe. We would hope our meticulously recorded evidence would be welcomed and appreciated by the Council as we all look to protect, and conserve, protected species in our area.

We would sincerely appreciate a reply to this email.

Kind regards,

Chidswell Action Group