

Date: 06 January 2020
Our ref: 304656
Your ref: Isles of Scilly Local Plan HRA



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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Lisa

Planning consultation: Isles of Scilly Local Plan Examination. Revised Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening and appropriate assessment (SD15) and Natural Environment Topic Paper (EB051)

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 31 December 2019

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.

Natural England notes the clarification regarding housing provision set out in the Council's latest 'Natural Environment Topic Paper (EB051). We also note the conclusion regarding recreational pressure set out in the latest version of the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) report (SD15) which concludes there is unlikely to be any significant increase in recreational activity and that no further assessment is required.

Natural England welcomes the clarification provided by the Natural Environment Topic Paper (EB051) and the update to the HRA (SD15) and confirms that we are now able to concur with the conclusion set out in the Habitats Regulations Assessment.

The conclusion regarding recreational disturbance within the HRA was the only outstanding issue between the Council and Natural England on the Local Plan, as set out in the statement of common ground between the two parties (SD04). We can therefore confirm that the outstanding issue has now been resolved.

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 Carol Reeder on 0208 225 6245 / 07721 108902 or carol.reeder@naturalengland.org.uk. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

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