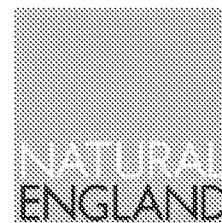


Date: 05 February 2015
Our ref: 143441
Your ref: LU/385/14/PL



Mr J Baeza
Planning Officer
Arun District Council

Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Baeza,

Planning consultation: Construction of a solar energy park to include the installation of solar panels, security fencing, transformer housing, access and other associated works
Location: Land at Brookbarn Farm Courtwick Lane Littlehampton BN17 7PX

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 26 January 2015 which was received by Natural England on 26 January 2015.

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.

No Natural England Comment – Advise consultation with South Downs National Park

Having reviewed the application Natural England does not wish to comment on this development proposal.

The development however relates to the South Downs National Park. We therefore advise you to seek the advice of the National Park. Their knowledge of the location and wider landscape setting of the development should help to confirm whether or not it would impact significantly on the purposes of the National Park designation. They will also be able to advise whether the development accords with the aims and policies set out in the National Park management plan.

Protected Species

We have not assessed this application and associated documents for impacts on protected species.

Natural England has published Standing Advice on protected species. The Standing Advice includes a habitat decision tree which provides advice to planners on deciding if there is a 'reasonable likelihood' of protected species being present. It also provides detailed advice on the protected species most often affected by development, including flow charts for individual species to enable an assessment to be made of a protected species survey and mitigation strategy.



You should apply our Standing Advice to this application as it is a material consideration in the determination of applications in the same way as any individual response received from Natural England following consultation.

The Standing Advice should not be treated as giving any indication or providing any assurance in respect of European Protected Species (EPS) that the proposed development is unlikely to affect the EPS present on the site; nor should it be interpreted as meaning that Natural England has reached any views as to whether a licence is needed (which is the developer's responsibility) or may be granted.

If you have any specific questions on aspects that are not covered by our Standing Advice for European Protected Species or have difficulty in applying it to this application please contact us with details at consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

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 David Pearce on 07775016822. 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.

We also welcome your feedback on Natural England's revised standing advice in terms of its usability (ease of access, presentation), quality of content and, its clarity and effectiveness as a tool in guiding decision-making. Please provide this, with any suggested improvements, by filling in the attached customer feedback form or by emailing your feedback direct to

Yours sincerely

David Pearce
Adviser, Sussex & Kent Team, Natural England