



15 July 2016

Managed Breach of Shingle Spit at Pagham
Further Information for Planning Application and Marine Licence

Comments by the RSPB

1. These comments relate to the document dated May 2016 supplied by ABPmer (as consultants to the applicant, Pagham Parish Council), with regard to the proposed managed breach of the shingle spit at Pagham Harbour. The report in question provides selected further information to supplement that included with the planning application itself, which was validated in December 2015.
2. We apologise for the delay in commenting. The RSPB is not a statutory consultee and, whilst we have played an active role in the process to date and have generally been consulted direct by the applicants or their consultants, this did not occur on this occasion with the result that the document did not immediately come to our attention.
3. We have reviewed the document with particular reference to its ecological content, including the *Implications of breach and project objectives* in section 1.4, *Appropriate Assessment Information* in Section 2 and the *Other EIA and MCZ Information* in Section 3.
4. With regard to these issues, we are satisfied that the applicant has adequately addressed the outstanding issues identified in Arun District Council's letter dated 7 March 2016.
5. Archaeological issues (Section 4) are outside the remit of the RSPB and accordingly we have not offered any views on these aspects. However, in the event that the proposal is approved we undertake to provide such assistance as we are able, through our site-based staff, to ensure that relevant archaeological and historic heritage features are afforded appropriate protection during the construction and operational phases of the project.

Steve Gilbert

Conservation Programme Manager

RSPB South East England Region