

Date: 10 September 2014  
Our ref: 128125  
Your ref: Pre-submission Focused Changes



Mr Trevor Warrick  
Planning Policy Manager  
North Dorset District Council

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear Mr Warrick

**Consultation:** Part 1: Pre-submission Focused Changes  
**Document:** North Dorset Local Plan 2011 to 2026

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 31 July 2014 which was received by Natural England on the same day.

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.

**Pre-submission Focused Changes Document**

Whilst we have no specific comments regarding the proposed changes, we wish to make the following supportive comments.

We welcome the opportunity of incorporating biodiversity features and enhancement of the value of the site that the development of land to the south of the A350/A354 may bring.

We also note that since initial assessment of the site south of the A350/A354 a subsequent and more detailed landscape appraisal has been undertaken that indicates that the development can be adequately incorporated into the landscape (with mitigation to minimise the impact). We suggest that you seek the opinion of the two AONBs involved, if you have not already done so.

**Supplement to the Sustainability Appraisal (incorporating the SEA)**

We confirm that the SEA/SA has been undertaken and meets the requirements of the SEA Directive. The process has been undertaken in an iterative way alongside the preparation of the Local Plan. Natural England has been consulted at each stage of the Plan and we understand that our comments have been taken on board during the revision process.

**Habitats Regulations Assessment**

We concur with the conclusion of the addendum to the HRA (dated 11/7/14 Footprint Ecology) in relation to the Focused Changes.

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 Alison Appleby on 07500 913698. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation



please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto: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.

Yours sincerely

Alison Appleby  
Lead Adviser  
Dorset, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Area Team