

Date: 16 April 2019
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BY EMAIL ONLY

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

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Mr Boyt,

Arne Neighbourhood Plan, HRA screening and AA document Feb 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.

Thank you for your consultation, my apologies for the delay in responding to your communication. I have reviewed the document and I agree with the conclusions reached in it regarding the scale of additional residential dwellings and other proposals with similar effects eg tourism, sheltered housing etc.

Natural England and the District and Neighbourhood Plan Group had active discussions concerning a suitable and appropriate scale of new housing for individual developments likely to come forward in the Arne NP.

Concerns were raised about ensuring suitable mitigation could be delivered when applications came forward either in a phased manner at one site or several individual locations around a settlement, which if they were all considered at the same point would require bespoke mitigation due to cumulative effects.

Arne NP area is very constrained by the proximity of European and internationally designated sites (see Annexe 1) such that locations for additional residential development which are also in or adjacent to existing settlements and likely to be sustainable are effectively restricted to parts of Stoborough. Other constraints such as flood plans, landscape impacts etc further reduce opportunities.

Natural England and the NP Group therefore reached a conclusion based upon these issues and a need also to meet other policy and residents objectives that a pragmatic and appropriate scale for new developments would be up to 6 dwellings (Policy 4).

Natural England also confirms that the likely adverse effects considered in the consultation which are those relating to two adopted SPDs and one which has recently been the subject of a consultation are those which are relevant to the plan and identify the necessary relevant effects.

This advice confirms the advice of Natural England that the policies proposed are pragmatic and sound and that the conclusions reached in relation to the following specially protected sites are robust:

- Dorset Heathlands SPA/Ramsar
- Dorset Heaths SAC

- Dorset Heaths (Wareham to Studland) SAC
- Poole Harbour SPA/Ramsar

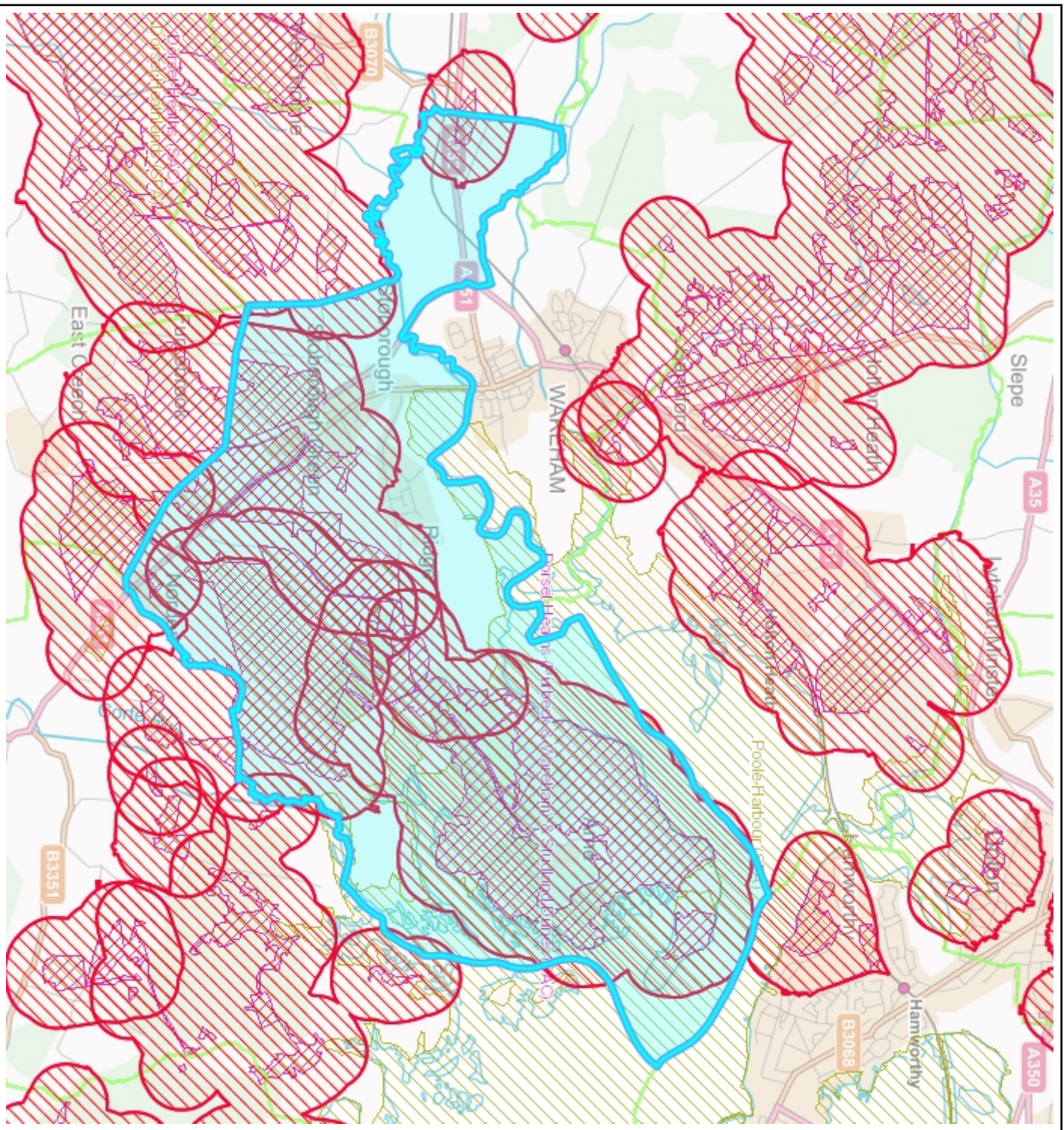
I trust this advice will assist you and the authority in considering the application further.

Yours sincerely

Nick Squirrell
Conservation and Planning Lead Advisor
Dorset and Hampshire Team
Dorset, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Area Team
Natural England
Mob: 07766 133697
Email nick.squirrell@naturalengland.org.uk


Annexe 1

NP boundary edged blue with SPA and Ramsar sites and the 400m zone indicated



Arne

Key

-  Parish © Ordnance Survey
-  Special Areas of Conservation England © Natural England
-  Special Protection Areas England © Natural England
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NATURAL ENGLAND

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