
From: SM-NE-Consultations (NE)
Sent: 02 February 2023 20:55
To: Planning (SMDC)
Subject: PLANNING REF SMD/2022/0654

Categories:

FAO Ben Hurst

Dear Mr Hurst

Re: planning application SMD/2022/0654 Proposed new hardcore service pathway/track to existing Biomass Boiler across existing private agricultural land (retrospective permission). Land at Basford Hall, Basford Green Road, Cheddleton, Staffordshire, ST13 7ER.

Natural England has received notification from a member of the public raising concerns about the impacts of the above-mentioned development on deciduous woodland priority habitat (PH), veteran trees and protected species and the lack of ecological/arboricultural survey effort which accompanies the above-mentioned planning application.

As you may be aware, paragraph 180 (c) of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that planning permission should be refused for development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats, including ancient woodland and the loss of aged or veteran trees found outside ancient woodland. Paragraph 180 (a) states that if significant harm to biodiversity resulting from a development cannot be avoided (through locating on an alternative site with less harmful impacts), adequately mitigated, or, as a last resort, compensated for, then planning permission should be refused. ([National Planning Policy Framework - Guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework-guidance)).

Protected Species:

Natural England has produced [standing advice](#) to help planning authorities understand the impact of particular developments on protected species. We advise you to refer to this advice or seek advice from your County Ecologist in relation to this matter.

Natural England will only provide bespoke advice on ancient and veteran trees and protected species where they form part of a Site of Special Scientific Interest or in exceptional circumstances.

Kind regards

Sally Tainton
Natural England



www.gov.uk/natural-england

We are here to secure a healthy natural environment for people to enjoy, where wildlife is protected and England's traditional landscapes are safeguarded for future generations.

In an effort to reduce Natural England's carbon footprint, I will, wherever possible, avoid travelling to meetings and attend via audio, video or web conferencing.

This message has been sent using TLS 1.2 This email and any attachments is intended for the named recipient only. If you have received it in error you have no authority to use, disclose, store or copy any of its contents and you should destroy it and inform the sender. Whilst this email and associated attachments will have been checked for known viruses whilst within the Natural England systems, we can accept no responsibility once it has left our systems. Communications on Natural England systems may be monitored and/or recorded to secure the effective operation of the system and for other lawful purposes.