From: Planning For Nature
Sent: 04 August 2023 17:43
To: Lisa Jackson; Johnston, Christopher; Swithenbank, Arne; Planning Comments (SMDC); Ben Hurst; Alan Lynch
Subject: Re: No specific comments

Categories:

SMD/2023/0232 Land Off Rownall Road

Staffordshire Wildlife Trust has been asked to review the above applications as part of a service level agreement with Staffordshire Moorlands District Council to provide ecology advice regarding planning and development management functions.

There are either minimal ecological issues apparent, or these cases are not a high priority within our capacity to respond to the most impactful proposals.

We advise that you check that:

1. Ecology information is adequate. The following checklist should be referred to, along with the relevant Planning Practice Guidance: https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/environment/Environment-and-countryside/biodiversity/Documents/0030703233Planningapplicationvalidationbiodiversit.pdf
2. Any surveys have covered all parts and aspects of the proposals/ site and habitats beyond if relevant e.g. ponds within 250m, visibility splays, drainage excavations, spoil disposal.
3. Any further surveys required have been submitted.

Any recommendations and requirements within the ecology reports should be secured via conditions, provided they are not required before determination.

You many wish to seek further details regarding a drainage scheme if not provided, as these can present further impacts or opportunities outside of the application boundary. Detailed drainage plans incorporating sustainable surface water drainage methods should be secured.

Policy NE1 in the Staffordshire Moorlands Local Plan Adopted September 2020, expects that 'all development where possible seeks to deliver a net gain in biodiversity proportionate to the size and scale of the development.'
We recommend securing net gain through a good quality landscaping scheme, which replaces any vegetation lost e.g. hedgerows, and incorporates other native planting and habitats such as flower-rich grassed areas, wetlands and trees suitable to the site, as well as species enhancements such as bird and bat features. Where existing green areas are proposed to be lost to hard development, an adequate area

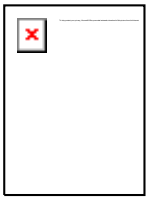
of retained land should be enhanced. If a clear gain is not shown, consider requesting a biodiversity net gain metric.
If there are specific queries you need further assistance to determine, please let us know and we will endeavour to comment.

Regards,

Kate Dewey BSc (Hons) MCIEEM

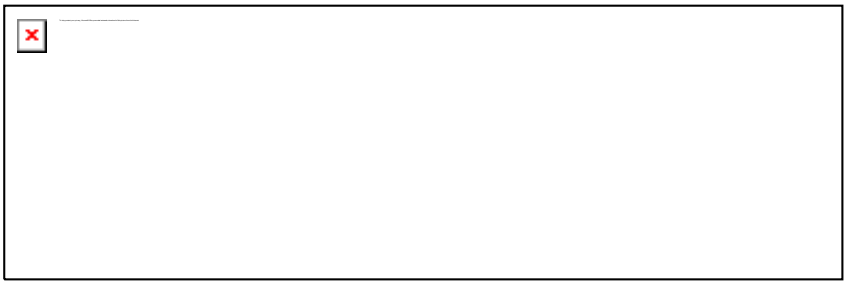
Senior Planning Officer





Please note, ecology advice is provided to SMDC 2 days per week- working days are normally Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Planning consultations- please send to



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