

Hartlepool Local Plan

Examination Hearings

Matter 13: Natural Environment

Wednesday 11 October 2017 – 10am

Participants:

Hartlepool Borough Council
RSPB
CPRE
Durham Bird Club

Key documents/references:

HLP01/9 Habitat Regulations Assessment 2016
HLP03/5 Green Infrastructure SPD 2014
HLP10/3 Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment
HLP10/6-11 Hartlepool Landscape Assessment
HLP10/14 – Priority Habitats and Species in the Tees Valley
HLP10/5 Tees Valley Green Infrastructure Strategy
EX/HBC/59 Updated Habitat Regulations Assessment August 2017
EX/HBC/60 Mitigation Strategy August 2017
EX/HBC/63 Natural England Correspondence 24 August 2017
EX/HBC/86 Regeneration Services Committee Meeting 15 September 2017

Agenda

1. *General Approach of the Plan to the Natural Environment*

See Inspector's Matter 13 questions 1-3. Additionally the Inspector wishes to discuss:

- (a) The concept of tranquillity and dark skies – see also Policy RUR1
- (b) Is the Plan or accompanying documents sufficiently clear on the mechanism of 'offsetting' and how it will be secured?

2. *Internationally designated sites*

See Inspector's Matter 13 questions 4-12. (Also discussed under Matter 1 questions 6-11.) Additionally the Inspector wishes to discuss:

- (a) RSPBs comments on Policies RC16, LT1 and LT3.
- (b) Supplementary Questions 5-8 issued on 24 August 2017
 - (i) Sign off of Mitigation Strategy

- (ii) Collective ownership of mitigation for SPAs and SAC
 - (iii) Mitigation and plan viability
 - (iv) Modifications to the Plan
- (c) Monitoring of the effectiveness of mitigation

3. Landscape and Green Infrastructure

See Inspector's Matter 13 questions 13-17. Additionally the Inspector wishes to discuss:

- (a) Role of the Green Infrastructure SPD
- (b) Clarity of NE2 categories on the Policies Map
- (c) What is the North Linear Park concept/proposal?
- (d) Findings and recommendations of the open space assessment

Session ends.