

From: SM-NE-Consultations (NE) <consultations@naturalengland.org.uk>
Sent: 10 August 2023 06:17
To: Planning Policy CCDC
Subject: Consultations Response - FAO Matthew Hardy - Cannock Wood Neighbourhood Plan - Regulation 16 Consultation
Attachments: Reg 16 Cannock Wood NP Consultee Letter - Copy.doc; 440857 NE Response.pdf; Stafford_Borough_Council-Attachment-Warning.txt

For the attention of Matthew Hardy

Please find Natural England's response in relation to the above mentioned consultation attached.

Kind regards,

Sally Wintle

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Natural England offers two chargeable services - the Discretionary Advice Service, which provides pre-application and post-consent advice on planning/licensing proposals to developers and consultants, and the Pre-submission Screening Service for European Protected Species mitigation licence applications. These services help applicants take appropriate account of environmental considerations at an early stage of project development, reduce uncertainty, the risk of delay and added cost at a later stage, whilst securing good results for the natural environment.

For further information on the Discretionary Advice Service see [here](#)

For further information on the Pre-submission Screening Service see [here](#)

Date: 10 August 2023
Our ref: 440857
Your ref: Cannock Wood Neighbourhood Plan



Mr Matthew Hardy
Cannock Chase District Council

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BY EMAIL ONLY

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Dear Mr Hardy

Cannock Wood Neighbourhood Plan - Regulation 16 Consultation

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 03 July 2023.

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.

Natural England is a statutory consultee in neighbourhood planning and must be consulted on draft neighbourhood development plans by the Parish/Town Councils or Neighbourhood Forums where they consider our interests would be affected by the proposals made.

Natural England does not have any specific comments on the Cannock Wood Neighbourhood Plan.

Natural England does not hold information on the location of significant populations of protected species, so is unable to advise whether this plan is likely to affect protected species to such an extent as to require a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Further information on protected species and development is included in [Natural England's Standing Advice on protected species](#).

Furthermore, Natural England does not routinely maintain locally specific data on all environmental assets. The plan may have environmental impacts on priority species and/or habitats, local wildlife sites, soils and best and most versatile agricultural land, or on local landscape character that may be sufficient to warrant a Strategic Environmental Assessment. Information on ancient woodland, ancient and veteran trees is set out in Natural England/Forestry Commission [standing advice](#).

We therefore recommend that advice is sought from your ecological, landscape and soils advisers, local record centre, recording society or wildlife body on the local soils, best and most versatile agricultural land, landscape, geodiversity and biodiversity receptors that may be affected by the plan before determining whether a Strategic Environmental Assessment is necessary.

Natural England reserves the right to provide further advice on the environmental assessment of the plan. This includes any third party appeal against any screening decision you may make. If a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required, Natural England must be consulted at the scoping and environmental report stages.

For any further consultations on your plan, please contact: consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Sally Wintle
Consultations Team