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Our ref: 154674



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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear Kim

**Planning consultation:** Gosport Borough Local Plan 2011-2029: Notice Of Proposed Modifications  
**Location:** Gosport Borough Council

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 21 May 2015 which was received by Natural England on the same day.

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.

**The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)**  
**Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)**

**Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications**

Haslar Gunboat Yard lies adjacent to Portsmouth Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA) and Portsmouth Harbour Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The modification proposes to include the Haslar Gunboat Yard as part of the wider Haslar allocation: policy LP6, a mixed use development. Policy LP6 states that “planning permission will only be granted if measures to avoid and mitigate any adverse impacts on internationally important habitats are taken”. We would like to advise your Authority, that development in Haslar Gunboat Yard will need to comply with Gosport’s Bird Disturbance Mitigation Protocol and the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership Strategy, and not merely rely on mitigation that has been proposed/secured already for the wider allocation.

**Schedule of Minor Modifications**

Para 12.76 proposes the following addition: “The Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership (SRMP), which includes Gosport Borough Council has been formed to implement a package of mitigation measures. The Borough Council has prepared a protocol describing how ‘in combination’ effects can be mitigated by a financial contribution”. The protocol also makes it clear that certain developments, due to proximity to the SPA or their size, may lead to significant effects *alone*, in which case additional avoidance and mitigation measures will be required.

In light of the above, we advise that Para 12.76 is amended accordingly.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Francesca Barker on

0300 060 0873. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

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Dorset, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Area Team