

Joseph Walker

From: NIBLETT, Robert <Robert.NIBLETT@gloucestershire.gov.uk>
Sent: 14 July 2017 16:41
To: Neighbourhood Planning
Subject: RE: Fairford Neighbourhood Plan: Consultation on the Revised Sustainability Appraisal and Site Assessment

Dear Sir

Thank you for consulting Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) on the above matter. I have the following officer comments to make.

Ecology Comments

Revised SA

We are pleased to note several references to priority habitats, Key Wildlife Sites and Strategic Nature Areas (SNAs of the Gloucestershire Nature Map) in the document. References to species include non-priority and priority species with no distinction made between the two. This is not an issue just an observation. All species records can inform the sustainability of NDP site allocations and policies.

Para 5.17: The whole of the Fairford NDP area falls within several SSSI Impact Risk Zones rather than just one as is stated. Most of Gloucestershire falls within an SSSI impact zone of some sort so the SA report needs to be a bit more specific on this point. The zones covering the sites being allocated in the NDP should not give rise to concerns unless they are for residential units of 100 or more or for non-residual units with 1,000m² of floorspace or footprint of 2ha. Other types of development have different trigger points but these are not usually covered by NDP allocations.

Site Assessment Report

The presence of priority species, priority habitats and designated sites have been used under the theme of 'Biodiversity' in the assessment of proposed site allocations. This is appropriate and we have no observations to make on this particular theme in the report.

If you would like to discuss any of the points raised above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you

Rob Niblett
Planning Officer
