Date: 22 January 2025

Our ref: 495255

Greater Cambridge Planning Policy Team

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BY EMAIL ONLY



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Dear Sir or Madam

Draft Health Impact Assessment Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 28 November 2024, which was received by Natural England on 28 November 2024.

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.

Our remit includes protected sites and landscapes, biodiversity, geodiversity, soils, protected species, landscape character, green infrastructure and access to and enjoyment of nature.

Whilst we welcome this opportunity to give our views, the topic of the Supplementary Planning Document does not appear to relate to our interests to any significant extent. We therefore do not wish to comment.

Should the plan be amended in a way which significantly affects its impact on the natural environment, then, please consult Natural England again.

Strategic Environmental Assessment/Habitats Regulations Assessment

A SPD requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment only in exceptional circumstances as set out in the Planning Practice Guidance here. While SPDs are unlikely to give rise to likely significant effects on European Sites, they should be considered as a plan under the Habitats Regulations in the same way as any other plan or project. If your SPD requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment or Habitats Regulation Assessment, you are required to consult us at certain stages as set out in the Planning Practice Guidance.

We have reviewed the HRA and SA/SEA Screening Reports provided. Natural England agree with the conclusions and that further assessment stages should not be required.

Please send all planning consultations electronically to the consultation hub at <u>consultations@naturalengland.org.uk</u>.

Yours faithfully

Dominic Rogers Consultations Team