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Our ref: 272735



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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Rachel Balmer

Planning consultation: Ryedale Plan - Local Plan Sites Document Consultation on Main Modifications

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 04 February 2019.

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 has considered the changes set out in the Schedule of Proposed Main Modifications to Local Plan Sites Document February 2019 and has no comments to make.

We welcome the additional assessment carried out in the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment Addendum, Assessment under the Habitats Regulations Screening Assessment of Main Modifications December 2018 and Assessment under the Habitats Regulations Appropriate Assessment: Main Modifications MM6 and MM16.

However we have one minor comment regarding the use of terminology. We recommend that the conclusions of the Appropriate Assessment document should conclude that MM6 and MM16 will not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the River Derwent SAC rather than that they will not have a likely significant effect. In the Habitats Regulations Assessment process the screening assessment should be assessing likely significant effects while the Appropriate Assessment should be assessing adverse effects on integrity.

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 please contact Merlin Ash on 02080 266382. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Merlin Ash
Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire Team
Natural England