

Date: 03 October 2022
Our ref: 406693
Your ref: 20220839



Mrs A Grout
Gravesham Borough Council
Civic Centre
Windmill Street
Gravesend
Kent DA12 1AU

Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
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BY EMAIL ONLY - planning.admin@gravesham.gov.uk

Dear Mrs Grout,

Planning consultation: HRA & Appropriate Assessment - Conversion of existing house to 10no. flats including side and rear extension and loft conversion. Conversion of rear annex building to 2no. dwelling houses including proposed new dormers. Construction of new apartment building to form 11no. new apartments. Construction of 8no. semi-detached and 1no. detached houses and associated development

Location: Cobham Lodge, Valley Drive, Gravesend, Kent DA12 5UE

Thank you for your consultation on the above, dated and received by Natural England on 12 September 2022.

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.

DESIGNATED SITES [EUROPEAN] – NO OBJECTION SUBJECT TO SECURING APPROPRIATE MITIGATION

This advice should be taken as Natural England's formal **representation on appropriate assessment** given under regulation 63(3) of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended). You are entitled to have regard to this representation.

With regard to European Sites, Natural England does not object to the granting of this permission subject to the advice given below.

Natural England advises that the specific measures previously identified and analysed by your Authority to prevent harmful effects on coastal European Sites from increased recreational pressure should be applied to this proposed development at appropriate assessment.

Your authority has measures in place to manage these potential impacts through the agreed strategic solution which we consider to be ecologically sound. Natural England is of the view that if these measures, including contributions to them, are implemented, they will be effective and reliable in preventing harmful effects on the European Site(s) for the duration of the proposed development.

Providing that the appropriate assessment concludes that these measures must be secured as planning conditions or obligations by your authority to ensure their strict implementation for the full duration of the development, and providing that there are no other adverse impacts identified by your authority's appropriate assessment, Natural England is satisfied that this appropriate assessment can ascertain that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the European Site

in view of [its conservation objectives](#).

If your authority's appropriate assessment has identified any other adverse impacts from the proposed development in addition to those that may be caused by increased recreational pressure and which have not been addressed by your Authority, you must consult Natural England for further advice on this appropriate assessment. Permission should not be granted until such time as Natural England has been able to consider these additional impacts and respond.

Ancient Woodland

Natural England advises that the proposals as presented have the potential to adversely affect woodland classified on the ancient Woodland Inventory. Natural England refers you to our Standing Advice on ancient woodland <https://www.gov.uk/ancient-woodland-and-veteran-trees-protection-surveys-licences>

For any queries regarding this letter, for new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk

Yours sincerely,

Sally Wintle
Consultations Team