

Date: 02 October 2024
Our ref: 487762
Your ref: TCBGC Modifications to DPD



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BY EMAIL ONLY

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Dear Sir/Madam

Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community - Consultation on Modifications to the Development Plan Document (DPD)

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 10 September 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.

Habitats Regulations Assessment Modifications Addendum

The Habitats Regulations Assessment Addendum (Place Services, 2004) provides a review of the Inspector's Schedule of Modifications. Following our response to the Regulation 19 consultation (our ref: 433247, dated 22 June 2023), we advised that changes were made to policy wording regarding green infrastructure provision, functionally-linked land and air quality. These changes have been incorporated into policy wording and we consider that our representations have been taken account of satisfactorily.

Natural England notes that your authority, as competent authority, has undertaken an appropriate assessment of the proposal in accordance with regulation 63 of the Conservation of Species and Habitats Regulations 2017 (as amended). Natural England is a statutory consultee on the appropriate assessment stage of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process.

Your appropriate assessment concludes that the Inspector's Schedule of Modifications for the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community: Development Plan Document will not have any Adverse Effect On Integrity (AEOI) on any Habitats sites, either alone or in combination with other plans and projects, with mitigation embedded into the DPD Policy text. Therefore, Tendring District Council and Colchester City Council can demonstrate that the DPD is legally and procedurally compliant and sound. Having considered the assessment, and the measures proposed to mitigate for all identified adverse effects that could potentially occur as a result of the proposal, Natural England advises that we concur with the assessment conclusions.

Sustainability Appraisal Report Addendum: Main Modifications

The SA Addendum report presents an assessment of the implications of the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community Development Plan Document (DPD) Main Modifications for the findings of the May 2023 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) that accompanied Regulation 19 Garden Community

DPD.

We agree with the revised SA findings for Policy 2: Nature (Table 1.2) as the added requirement for development proposals to include an air quality assessment will help to limit the potential for air quality issues to arise in the Garden Community and wider area and, therefore, SA 13: Air Quality can be strengthened to a significant positive effect.

Modifications for Consultation

We have no further comment on the Modifications for Consultation.

DPD Policies Map Modifications Update

We have no further comment on the updated Policies Map.

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

Yours faithfully

Alison Collins MCIEEM
West Anglia Area Team