Dear Astrid Harvey

Planning consultation: Chipping Norton Neighbourhood Plan

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 17 June 2015 which was received by Natural England on the same date.

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.

SCHEDULE 2, THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 2012

Natural England has the following comments to make on the plan:

We support policy M4 on greenspace and the use of the ANGST standards as a benchmark against which new development will be considered.

We support policies M7-11 on the natural environment and landscape

We support the policies B10-12 on the use of SUDS in new development. However Natural England would advise that there is an opportunity to fit SUDS to both new and existing development within the area. This would help reduce the risk of surface flooding in extreme weather conditions, which has been highlighted in the plan, by holding back the rainwater, as well as improving the attractiveness of the local environment and being beneficial for biodiversity. An example of this being used successfully in an urban area is the Lost Effra project run by the London Wildlife Trust: http://www.wildlondon.org.uk/lost-effra-project

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 only please contact Charlotte Frizzell on charlotte.frizzell@naturalengland.org.uk or 07824597885. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.
Yours sincerely

Charlotte Frizzell
Sustainable Development and Regulation
Thames Valley Team