

Date: 30 July 2015
Our ref: 159177
Your ref: draft Neighbourhood Plan



Ivybridge Town Council,
Town Hall, Erme Court,
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PL21 0SZ

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BY EMAIL ONLY

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Sir/Madam,

Consultation: Ivybridge Neighbourhood Draft Plan

Location: Ivybridge

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 09 July 2015 which was received by Natural England on 09 July 2015.

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.

Policy INP8 – Historic and Natural Environment

We welcome policy that will ensure “new developments will respect, complement, conserve and enhance...natural environmental assets and their enjoyment by the public.”, “woodlands will be protected from development and their management will promote biodiversity.”, and “water quality in the River Erme and other watercourses will be protected, and where necessary or possible, enhanced.”

These measures will help to ensure that the proposed policy will be in accordance with Paragraph 118 of the NPPF. Additionally, we would draw your attention to Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006) which states that ‘*Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity*’. Section 40(3) of the same Act also states that ‘*conserving biodiversity includes, in relation to a living organism or type of habitat, restoring or enhancing a population or habitat*’.

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 me on 0300 060 0456. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Regards,

Julien

Julien Sclater

Lead Adviser, Devon Sustainable Development Team

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