

Policy E10: Biodiversity and geodiversity

Applications for development that affect biodiversity and geodiversity, and any sites containing priority species and habitats as well as those of local importance, including Sites of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI), and Local Nature Reserves (LNR), will be permitted where they:

- a. ensure any features of nature conservation, biodiversity and geodiversity interest are protected to prevent or avoid any adverse impact and are appropriately managed;
- b. incorporate measures to reduce and / or mitigate disturbance of sensitive wildlife habitats throughout the lifetime of the development; and
- c. seek opportunities to enhance biodiversity and geodiversity through the restoration, improvement or creation of habitats and/or ecological networks.

In accordance with national policy development resulting in the loss or deterioration of Ancient Woodland, and veteran trees will be refused unless there are wholly exceptional circumstances and a compensation strategy exists.

Within the vicinity of areas that support nationally significant numbers of Annex 1 bird species (including nightjar and woodlark), the applicant will need to demonstrate to the Council's satisfaction that there is no significant adverse effect upon these species and their functionally linked habitats.

Biodiversity appraisal

A biodiversity appraisal must be submitted where there are protected or important species and habitat features, within the site or close to it. The appraisal will need to demonstrate that the development will not result in any adverse impacts. The appraisal must involve consultation with the Council and, as appropriate, Natural England.

Ensure high quality, sustainable design fit for all

Pollution

Sewage Treatment Works and Pumping Stations

- 122.** All new development close to existing sewage treatment works and sewage pumping stations needs to effectively integrate with existing infrastructure. The Council expects applicants to demonstrate that the proposed development will not be adversely affected by existing noise, unpleasant odours and vibrations. Early pre-application consultation between applicants and Wessex Water will allow the potential effects of existing sewage treatment works and pumping stations on proposed development to be considered. Applicants will also need to consider whether development will affect the function or operation of existing sewage treatment or sewage pumping stations.