

From: Levine, Cody <CLevine@worcestershire.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 February 2022 13:06
To: Aldridge, Steven <SAldridge@worcestershire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: RE: Lea Castle Farm Quarry

Dear Steve,

Following our discussion regarding Lea Castle Farm Quarry and ensuring the Biodiversity Net Gain proposals are adequately captured should planning permission be granted.

I suggested that the previously recommended condition regarding Biodiversity Monitoring Strategy (BMS) is expanded to capture ecological mitigation/enhancement measures (as per Section 11 of the EclA) and proposed BNG (habitat retention/enhancement & creation measures), as well as to secure associated management, monitoring and reporting.

There may be some perceived overlap with the recommended draft LEMP condition (particularly clauses ii and vi), however, in terms of habitat management, I think the BMS can focus on BNG proposals by providing [Habitat Condition Assessment sheets](#) issued to the CPA at set intervals, demonstrating how Biodiversity Unit uplift has been achieved. These will give the CPA confidence that where uplift is not achieved as anticipated, there are set criteria for evaluating 'success' as well as measures for funded intervention addressing remediation if any becomes required. If this approach is acceptable, I suggest the following Biodiversity Enhancement, Management and Monitoring Plan (BEMMP) replaces the previously recommended BMS Condition:

Many thanks
Cody

Prior to the commencement of development a Biodiversity Enhancement, Monitoring & Management Plan (BEMMP) shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the CPA. The purpose of the strategy shall be to ensure the effectiveness of all delivered biodiversity measures for a period of no less than 30 years. The Plan shall deliver a minimum of 232.28 Habitat Biodiversity Units and 5.48 Hedgerow Biodiversity Units, as proposed in the Biodiversity Net Gain Assessment Report (Heatons, Sept 2020) and include all the measures in [insert concept restoration plan document reference and any proposed habitat-specific 'establishment and aftercare' strategy document references here] and Section 8 and 11 of the Environmental Statements Volume 2 'Technical Appendix B – Nature Conservation and Ecology' (Ecological Impact Assessment document reference M16.176(a).R.006, Pleydell Smithyman Ltd, April 2019), and the following:

- a) Aims and objectives of management and monitoring to match the stated purpose;
- b) Identification of adequate baseline conditions prior to the start of development description and evaluation of features to be managed and enhanced, identifying an adequate baseline of conditions prior to start of development, including provision of Habitat Condition Assessment sheets (to be agreed with the CPA) to describe baseline condition of all habitats retained and enhanced

- c) Extent and location/area of proposed enhancement works on appropriate scale maps and plans to include any mitigation and enhancement measures such as bat and/or bird boxes
- d) Ecological trends and constraints on site that might influence management
- e) Methods for data gathering and analysis;
- f) Location, timing and duration of monitoring;
- g) Responsible persons and lines of communication;
- h) Appropriate success criteria, thresholds, triggers and targets against which the effectiveness of the various conservation measures being monitored can be judged; to include reference (where appropriate) to the target condition of habitats and hedgerows
- i) Appropriate management actions for achieving stated aims and objectives
- j) An annual work programme (to cover an initial 5 year period)
- k) Details of the specialist ecological management body or organisation responsible for implementation of the plan
- l) For each of the first 5 years of the plan, a BEMMP progress report to be sent to the CPA reporting on progress of the annual work programme, to include an updated Biodiversity Net Gain metric supported by Habitat Condition Assessment sheets, and confirmation of any required actions for the next 12 month period, and
- m) The plan will be reviewed and updated every 5 years and implemented for 30 years

The Plan shall include details of the legal and funding mechanisms by which the long-term implementation of the Plan will be secured by the developer with the specialist ecological management body or organisation responsible for its delivery. The Plan shall also set out (where the results from the monitoring show that the Aims and Objectives of the BEMMP are not being met) how contingencies and/or remedial action will be identified, agreed and implemented so that the development still delivers the Objectives of the originally approved Plan. The approved Plan will be implemented in accordance with the approved details.

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