

APPENDIX C – APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

FORESHORE AT SOUTH HAYLING – FERRY INN TO HAYLING ISLAND SAILING CLUB, HAYLING ISLAND. 2010 HABITATS REGULATIONS REGULATION 81 APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT BY HAVANT BOROUGH COUNCIL

Chichester Harbour is part of the Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Chichester and Langstone Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA) and is a Wetland of International Importance (a Ramsar Convention Site) for the conservation of wetlands.

Given the environmental sensitivity of this "European" site the above Regulations apply and are supplemented the National Planning Policy Framework, in particular Annex C (extract included at Annex I to this Appendix) which guides on the consideration of development proposals affecting SPA's and SAC's.

It is proposed to follow the steps identified in Annex C in completing this assessment which is based upon information contained within the documents supporting the application entitled:

- Habitats Regulations Assessment Revision 1.0
- Environmental Statement Beach Management Plan – Revision 1.0
- Environmental Statement Appendices – Revision 1.0
- Beach Management Plan – Non-Technical summary – Revision 1.0
- Water Framework Directive Assessment – Revision 1.0

The Solent Maritime SAC abuts but lies outside of the majority of the application site. However, the works at The Ness at the eastern end of the application site lie within both the SAC and the SPA.

1. Is the proposal directly connected with or necessary to site management from nature conservation?

No.

2. Is the proposal likely to have significant effects on the site?

No.

Tables I attached set out the interest features and conservation objectives of the SAC, SPA and Ramsar designations. This table summarises the consequences of the operation on the conservation objectives. Where consequences are likely mitigation measures are proposed.

The only feature of interest that may be affected by the operation given its proximity to the haul route is the annual vegetation of drift lines. The mitigation measure proposed involves the identification of the extent of the vegetated shingle and cordoning this off to ensure there is no disturbance from construction vehicles using the haul route. An annual assessment will be carried out by the applicant to monitor the effects of each annual operation on vegetated shingle habitats and on sediment supply and areas of erosion. The associated report will identify any further mitigation measures required where appropriate. The findings of the assessment will be reported to Natural England for comment on an annual basis and will enable the specific alignment of the haul route to be adapted each year to ensure it avoids ecologically sensitive areas of the foreshore which are subject to natural change.

There are no significant consequences for the other interest features identified within the SAC, SPA and Ramsar sites.

The duration of the operation is approximately 4 weeks. The operation at The Ness is expected to take up to 5 days. On this basis the impact upon the areas of nature conservation interest is considered limited. The recycling process of shingle beach material on the Hayling foreshore has been an ongoing operation for a period of 18 years. No evidence has been submitted by those consulted to show that previous operations have resulted in any adverse impact upon the areas of conservation interest or upon coastal processes. No change to the existing situation is therefore anticipated by the continuation of this process further continuous assessments will take place to evaluate the impact on the protected areas.

Conclusions of Appropriate Assessment

The conclusions of this assessment are that there would be no significant effects as a result of implementation of the proposal on the Solent Maritime SAC, the Chichester and Langstone harbour SPA and the Ramsar Convention Site.

References

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- Environmental Statement Beach Management Plan – Revision 1.0
- Environmental Statement Appendices – Revision 1.0
- Beach Management Plan – Non-Technical summary – Revision 1.0
- Water Framework Directive Assessment – Revision 1.0 ". " produced by Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership on behalf of Havant Borough Council