
From: Levine, Cody
Sent: 10 December 2021 10:50
To: Aldridge, Steven
Subject: RE: Lea Castle - Biodiversity Net Gain

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Steve

Apologies for the oversight. I have now reviewed the metric and have very limited comments:

1. Under strategic significance criterion, as the whole site is located within a 'B rLine Corridor', as identified in Worcestershire's [Biodiversity Action Plan](#) (2018-2027), I believe the correct selection is more likely to be 'within area formally identified in local strategy'. However, as the strategic significance multiplier would then apply equally to habitats lost to development as it would habitats recreated on restoration, I don't believe this will make a significant difference to the final BNG tally, and a further iteration of the BNG metric should therefore be appended to a conditioned LEMP so as to reflect this refinement and to inform a baseline for future habitat monitoring efforts.
2. Secondly a number of proposed habitats have been identified with 'high' or 'very high' difficulty for creation, with a time to target condition of 30 and 32 years respectively. This will exceed the typical timespan of usual LEMP periods secured by mineral consent (usually an aftercare period of 5 years, unless otherwise agreed between the applicant and CPA). It is therefore requested that the applicant confirm they are amenable to offering an aftercare period aligning with the proposed habitat.

With regard to Biodiversity Net Gain, the County Ecologist welcomes the headline figures but re-iterates his previous comments that he requires submission of the DEFRA metric spreadsheet in order to review and comment on the evidence itself.

I don't appear to have received any further comments from you on this matter, since the applicant provided the requested metric (see email attached), likely because the focus has been on the potential ancient woodland. Are you able to confirm if this matter has been closed off?

Thanks

Steve

StevenAldridge
TeamManager– DevelopmentManagement
WorcestershireCountyCouncil
CountyHall, SpetchleyRoad, Worcester, WR52NP
Alz3dge
i Â c RAđ À"ÚÝà î ðÆ% Ý0