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Our ref: 93414



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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Mr Wilson,

Re: Hertsmere Community Infrastructure Levy Draft Charging Schedule

Thank you for your consultation on the above, which was received by Natural England on the 29 July 2013.

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.

Further to our previous response to the CIL Preliminary Draft Charging Schedule, in our letter dated 7th March 2013, we have no specific comments to make on the Draft Charging Schedule per se. In our previous comments we mentioned that the CIL should seek to deliver a strategic approach to enhancement of the natural environment, to meet NPPF requirements. We welcome therefore that the Infrastructure (Regulation 123) List identifies that CIL will be used as a means of funding open space and allotment provision within the borough. We note from the Infrastructure Assessment (February 2013) that CIL will also be investigated as a means of funding the Green Arc Strategic Green Infrastructure Plan.

The Infrastructure Assessment also suggests that funding for other green infrastructure plans and strategies within the borough has already been identified. We note that these plans and strategies seek to deliver multi-functional benefits which we trust to include biodiversity and landscape enhancements and climate change mitigation and adaptation, in addition to the increased provision of high quality, well connected and accessible open space.

We hope that you find this information useful. For any correspondence or queries relating to this consultation only, please contact Janet Nuttall using the details given below. For all other correspondence, including in relation to forward planning consultations, please contact the address above or email consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely,

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