

Date: 09 August 2018  
Our ref: 253317  
Your ref: LU DOC 18 0045749



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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear Isla Hoffmann Heap

**Planning consultation:** Brighton and Hove local plan part two - Consultation on the HRA  
**Location:** Brighton and Hove City Council

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 20 July 2018 which was received by Natural England on 20 July 2018.

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.

**SUMMARY OF NATURAL ENGLAND'S ADVICE**

**NO OBJECTION**

Based on the documents submitted, Natural England considers that the proposed local plan will not have significant adverse impacts on the following designated sites :

- Ashdown Forest Special area of conservation (SAC) & Special protection area (SPA)
- Castle Hill SAC
- Lewes Downs SAC
- Arun Valley SAC, SPA & Ramsar
- Pevensey Levels SAC & Ramsar

As such Natural England has no objection.

Natural England notes that your authority, as competent authority under the provisions of the Habitats Regulations, has screened the proposal to check for the likelihood of significant effects.

### **Ashdown Forest SAC & SPA**

Natural England notes that your assessment concludes that it cannot rule out the likelihood of significant effects decreasing air quality would have on Ashdown Forest SAC & SPA as a result of the Brighton and Hove City Plan Part 2.

As such Natural England has also taken the Appropriate Assessment, in the form of the submitted Air Quality assessment, into consideration in order to assess the implications of the proposal for the European site, in view of the site conservation objectives.

Natural England notes that the Air Quality assessment provided with the consultation has screened the proposal to check for the likelihood of significant effects from aerial emissions on Ashdown Forest SAC or SPA.

The assessment concludes that the proposal can be screened out from further stages of assessment because significant effects are unlikely to occur, either alone or in combination. On the basis of information provided, Natural England concurs with the results of the air quality assessment that there will not be an adverse effect on the integrity of Ashdown Forest SAC or SPA from potential air quality impacts.

### **Castle Hill SAC**

Natural England agrees with the conclusion that there are no likely significant effects on Castle Hill SAC resulting from increased recreational pressure or declining air quality caused by the Brighton and Hove City Plan Part 2.

### **Lewes Downs SAC**

Natural England agrees with the conclusion that there are no likely significant effects on Lewes Downs SAC resulting from increased recreational pressure or declining air quality caused by the Brighton and Hove City Plan Part 2.

### **Arun Valley SAC, SPA & Ramsar**

Natural England agrees with the conclusion that there are no likely significant effects on Arun Valley SAC, SPA & Ramsar caused by the Brighton and Hove City Plan Part 2.

### **Pevensey Levels SAC, SPA & Ramsar**

Natural England agrees with the conclusion that there are no likely significant effects on Pevensey Levels SAC, SPA & Ramsar resulting from declining air quality caused by the Brighton and Hove City Plan Part 2.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter only please contact Nathan Burns on 02080266551. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

Yours sincerely  
Nathan Burns  
Area 14- Kent & Sussex Team