

H/26/101265 GLEN LEA, CHURCH HILL, WEST END, SOUTHAMPTON, SO30 3AT

Retention of replacement gabion supporting wall.

Thank you for consulting Ecology, my observations are as follows:

Holding Objection on ecology grounds

The woodland to the northwest of Glenn Lea is identified as WB36 : Lowland mixed deciduous woodland priority habitat:



The submitted block plan indicates that the gabion wall has resulted in the loss of priority habitat. It is possible that the work has also led to wider direct and indirect effects on this habitat:



Adopted Local Plan Policy DM11 has a presumption against allowing development that impacts upon Priority Habitats:

Priority habitats, protected and priority species and the local ecological network

5. Development will not be permitted if it is likely (either individually or in combination with other developments) to have a direct or indirect adverse effect on priority habitats, protected or priority species, or on the local ecological network unless it can be demonstrated that:
- a. there are no alternative solutions;
 - b. the adverse effects are unavoidable;
 - c. measures are taken to mitigate or, as a last resort, compensate for the adverse effects;
 - d. there is an overall biodiversity net gain; and
 - e. if there are any residual adverse effects, the benefits of the development clearly outweigh the adverse effects on priority habitats, priority and protected species, and the local ecological network.

No ecological information has been submitted with the application and therefore at this point I am unable to form a view on the likely impacts the development has had or whether there are suitable mitigation/compensation measures that could be applied to reduce the impacts.

I recommend that a Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) is undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist so that ecology can be properly considered as part of this application. This needs to consider the onsite and adjacent habitats and species and any potential impacts.

In the absence of this information I raise a **holding objection**.

Paul Howe MCIEEM

Ecologist

Date 05/08/26