

WSCC COUNTY ARBORICULTURIST response to planning consultation

Application reference number: WSCC/007/24

Location: Staplefield Wastewater Treatment Works, Cuckfield Road, Staplefield, West Sussex, RH17 6ES

Proposal: Installation of Integrated Constructed Wetland (ICW) and associated infrastructure at land adjacent to Staplefield Wastewater Treatment Works.

District: Mid Sussex

Date: 18/06/2024

Summary response:

No objection, subject to the conditioning of approved documents/plans and the amendment of planting details within the Landscape Management Plan.

Response:

The applicant has provided the following additional documentation in support of this application which have addressed most previous outstanding concerns advised on 29/02/2024, including:

- Landscape Management Plan (ref. 752214-UAX-ZZ-ZZ-DR-EN-00007, rev. C02).
- Landscape Plan (ref. 752214-UAX-ZZ-ZZ-EV-EN-00001, rev. C07).
- Arboricultural Report (ref. 639529-MM-N-RPT-0021, rev. C)

The above mentioned Landscape Management Plan is welcomed, however, cross-sectional planting drawings (or descriptive planting techniques) needs to be included for all stock types. This is to ensure that appropriate planting techniques will be employed during planting operations. Section 2.3 provides a link to the UK's Tree Council guidelines on planting and maintenance for newly planted trees. The link does not identify the guidance as stated and the methodology for tree planting techniques needs to be specified within the landscaping documentation, rather than links to guidance.

All other concerns previously raised have been appropriately addressed.

Recommendations:

I recommend that the above matter regarding Landscape Management Plan is addressed prior to making a decision to ensure that landscaping methodology is clear.

Should the decision to approve the application be considered, it is recommended the following documents/plans are recognised as approved documents within the decision, alongside a condition which requires their full adherence:

- Landscape Management Plan (ref./rev. as amended to reflect above matters).
- Landscape Plan (ref. 752214-UAX-ZZ-ZZ-EV-EN-00001, rev. C07).
- Arboricultural Report (ref. 639529-MM-N-RPT-0021, rev. C)

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