

Date: 25/11/2019
Our ref: 292813
Your ref: Leigh expansion and Hildenborough embankment scheme:



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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Kathy Aucott

Flood and Coastal Risk Management consultation – Option/Scheme advice to the Environment Agency: Leigh expansion and Hildenborough embankment scheme: consultation on the Medway Flood Relief Act.
Location: Leigh Flood Storage Area

Thank you for your consultation dated 25/06/2019 which was received by Natural England on 28/06/2019.

Summary of Natural England's advice	Answer only yes or no
Is the proposal likely to lead to an environmentally acceptable solution?	Yes
Is the proposal likely to require an Appropriate Assessment under Habitats Regulations?	No

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.

Following the information received from the body/bodies above regarding this proposal, we write to confirm that it is Natural England's view that **the proposal is likely to lead to an environmentally acceptable solution.**

This advice is offered based on the information provided to date. It is given without prejudice to any advice that Natural England may offer in accordance with its statutory role under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, or any assent that may be required under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000). Formal comment on the proposal will be provided following consultation on the Environmental Statement as required under the relevant Regulations. We look forward to receiving further information as the proposal is developed.

Should the proposal be amended in a way which significantly affects its impact on the natural environment then, in accordance with Section 4 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, Natural England should be consulted again.

Yours Sincerely

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