

From: Alex Harcourt
Sent: Mon, 18 Jan 2021 14:54:42 +0000
To: Melissa Baldwin; Planning Inbox (FODDC)
Subject: RE: Planning Application Consultation: P2130/20/FUL

Dear Melissa,

I have reviewed the documents submitted under the above planning application and reached the conclusion that impacts on GCN are highly unlikely due to the distance from the nearest pond (>250m) and the nature and scale of the proposed works. I recommend that an informative is appended to any consent granted to reduce the risk of any dispersing newts being affected by the proposals.

These comments are provided in relation to great crested newts only and do not address likely impacts on other species or important habitats. Where appropriate, the sustainability team may provide further comments regarding these considerations.

Informative – Great crested newts (European Protected Species):

There is a low risk that great crested newts (GCN) may be present at the application site. Forest of Dean District Council considers it would be unreasonable to require the applicant to submit a survey because this could be considered disproportionate to the scale and the likely impacts of the development. However, the application site lies within a red impact zone as per the modelled district licence map, which indicates that there is highly suitable habitat for GCN within the area surrounding the application site. Therefore, anyone undertaking this development should be aware that GCN and their resting places are protected at all times by The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) and the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended). Planning permission for development does not provide a defence against prosecution under this legislation or substitute the need to obtain a protected species licence if an offence is likely. If a GCN is discovered during site preparation, enabling or construction phases, then all works must stop until the advice of a professional/suitably qualified ecologist and Natural England is obtained, including the need for a licence.

The following recommendations are provided to reduce the likelihood of impacts on this species:

- Any trenches left overnight should be covered or provided with ramps to prevent GCN from becoming trapped.
- Any building materials such as bricks, stone etc. should be stored on pallets to discourage GCN from using them as shelter.
- Any demolition materials should be stored in skips or similar containers rather than in piles on ground.

Kind regards,

Alex Harcourt
Newt Officer and Assistant Biodiversity & Countryside Officer





-----Original Message-----

From: DoNotReply@fdean.gov.uk [mailto:DoNotReply@fdean.gov.uk]

Sent: 07 January 2021 15:05

To: Sustainability (FODDC)

Subject: Planning Application Consultation: P2130/20/FUL

Please see attached document