

Ecosystems Statement - 220401

This Ecosystems Statement has been prepared in accordance with the South Downs Local Plan Core Policy SD2:

“The Core Policy states that the development proposals will be permitted where they have an overall positive impact on the ability of the natural environment to contribute goods and services. This will be achieved through the use of high quality design, and by delivering all opportunities to:

- a) Sustainably manage land and water environments;*
- b) Protect and provide more, better and joined up natural habitats;*
- c) Conserve water resources and improve water quality;*
- d) Manage and mitigate the risk of flooding;*
- e) Improve the National Park’s resilience to, and mitigation of, climate change;*
- f) Increase the ability to store carbon through new planting or other means;*
- g) Conserve and enhance soils;*
- h) Support the sustainable production and use of food, forestry and raw materials;*
- i) Reduce levels of pollution;*
- j) Improve opportunities for peoples’ health and wellbeing; and*
- k) Provide opportunities for access to the natural and cultural resources which contribute to the special qualities.*

Development proposals must be supported by a statement that sets out how the development proposal impacts, both positively and negatively, on ecosystem services.”

We wish to respond to the above criteria as follows:

- a) The site is currently part of the equestrian area of the site and therefore is not affected by policy SD4. There are no trees on the site to be affected by policy SD11.
- b) There will be no impact on Biodiversity on the site (policy SD9) or any impact on any trees and woodland as stated above(policy SD 11) or to any water environment (policy SD17)
- c) The scheme will have no impact on water quality or resources.
- d) There is a no risk of flooding to the site as the area to be affected by the application is not in a flood zone.
- e) The scheme will have no impact on climate change.
- f) The scheme will have no impact on amounts of carbon.

- g) The scheme will involve the stripping of topsoil to enable the extension of the menage to be constructed and this topsoil will be retained on site to fill in low areas of the surrounding areas.
- h) The scheme will have no impact on food production or forestry and raw material extraction.
- i) The scheme will have no direct impact on the reduction of levels of pollution.
- j) The scheme will have no impact on the health and wellbeing of the occupants.
- k) The proposed scheme will have no impact on the natural and cultural resources of the area. The occupants will have the benefit of dark skies as do the current land occupants and also have easy access to the local infant and primary schools.