

"Natural England's Discretionary Advice Service (DAS) has been invaluable in developing a scheme that fully addresses the requirements of the Habitats Regulations so as to negate the need for Appropriate Assessment.

"Specifically, DAS has provided the North Whiteley Consortium with:

- constructive advice to the North Whiteley Consortium such that it was possible to manage and reduce risks associated with time delays and uncertainty as to the conclusion of the HRA process;
- streamlined, consistent advice from central contact, bringing together inputs from NE staff responsible for SSSI management with those advising on the HRA;
- Support for generation of constructive, creative 'out-of-the box' solutions and ideas to overcome issues that would otherwise have been barriers to a successful HRA;
- a responsive service, able to provide advice at short notice, to meet client needs; and
- on time and on budget advice, with verbal advice always followed with written confirmation"

On 12 October 2015, the Council's planning committee approved the application, with a formal decision to be issued once the Section 106 agreement is completed.

For more information contact **REDACTED**

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