

## Natural habitats and biodiversity

312

Comment

Respondent: [REDACTED]  
Address: [REDACTED]  
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### Summary:

The draft plan identifies areas of ancient woodland within Northward Hill NNR. However it neglects to mention that Fisher's Wood, east of High Halstow, is also ancient woodland. Ancient woodland is an irreplaceable habitat which the NPPF says should be protected from development except in wholly exceptional circumstances (NPPF para 180c). We recommend amending the plan to add wording to reflect this eg

"To the east of High Halstow lies Fisher's Wood an area of ancient woodland which is an irreplaceable habitat. Appropriate buffer zones must be provided between Fisher's Wood and any developments east of High Halstow."

Attachments:

## Policy HH E1: Natural Environment

313

Comment

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

### Summary:

Para 2 - suggest setting minimum 20% BNG in line with the evidence-based approach advocated by Kent Nature Partnership.

Para 4 - strengthen wording with a) a presumption to retain existing trees and green infrastructure and b) a requirement for greater than 1:1 replacement where trees and GI are unavoidably lost, in order to achieve biodiversity net gain.

Attachments: None

## Policy HH PQ4: Land to the east of High Halstow

314

Comment

[REDACTED]

### Summary:

Fisher's Wood to the east of High Halstow is ancient woodland, a designated irreplaceable habitat that requires special protection (NPPF para 180c). We request that it is explicitly identified in this policy and that appropriate buffering from the impacts of construction and adjacent developments are specified.

We suggest adding a new para or amending existing para 4 to reflect this, eg "Development east of High Halstow will respect the setting of the ancient woodland at Fisher's Wood, with appropriate buffers designated to protect this irreplaceable habitat from the impacts of construction and development."

Attachments:

## Appendix 2: Local Green Space Designations, LGS 5: Fisher's Wood

315

Comment

[REDACTED]

### Summary:

Fisher's Wood is ancient woodland, an irreplaceable habitat which should be protected from development and other impacts, including over usage. If Fisher's Wood is to be made available for public access as a designated Local Green Space then this should be as part of a comprehensive management plan for the wood which incorporates appropriate access alongside sensitive conservation and restoration of the ancient woodland.

Attachments: