From:
To: Planning Policy

Subject: FW: TVBC 2040 Draft Local Plan - Horse Field site North of Oxlease Meadows, West of Cupernham Lane ,

Romsey

**Date:** 21 February 2024 09:10:57

From: Keith Harrison

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 20, 2024 7:29 PM **To:** Planning User <planning@testvalley.gov.uk> **Cc:** Goodman, Paul

**Subject:** TVBC 2040 Draft Local Plan - Horse Field site North of Oxlease Meadows, West of Cupernham Lane , Romsey

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I refer to the proposals to progress the next edition of the Draft Local Plan. I would like the following objections to be taken into account in relation to the Land North of Oxlease Meadows and West of Meadow View, known locally as the Horse Field.

This site has previously been rightly recognised as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation - Policy BI01. The site is enclosed on 3 sides by forest and on the fourth side is adjacent to the canal and water meadows.

The site has an open aspect to the water meadows and if developed would impact visually on this important wildlife area.

The site is discreet from the surrounding sites, which were developed in contravention of the previous allocation as reserved sites. This site is clearly in a separate location from the urban area of Romsey from visual, accessibility and location perspectives. This site is part of the countryside.

The forest and water meadows provide vital habitat for flora and fauna in the area especially owls, deer and migratory birds. Development of the site both during construction and in subsequent use would cause noise and light disturbance to animals and birds, resulting in displacement of them in the short and long term.

The horse field site is not adjacent to a public highway and is not easily accessible from the local highway and footpath network. It is located half a mile from Fishlake Meadows and access by vehicle is tortuous and difficult.

The Cupernham Lane area suffers from drainage problems. There are frequently and for long periods Southern Water pumping installations clearing sewerage and surface water.

Development of the horse field would only exacerbate this problem and would provide risk of serious harm to the water meadows and the canal.

In addition to the drainage, other infrastructure is also overloaded as a result of the Abbots Wood and Cupernham Lane developments. Roads, GP's, pharmacies, dentists and school and nursery places are all beyond capacity.

I strongly recommend that the horse field site should be allocated as unsuitable for development in the Local Plan currently being formulated.

Regards

Keith Harrison

