

Waltham Forest Town Hall, Forest Road, Walthamstow, E17 4JF

Ask for: Sarah Parsons

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19 October 2022

Dear Mrs S Housden & Mrs C Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 11 October 2022. I can confirm that the documents submitted to you on 29 September are now published on the Examination Website.

In relation to the matter on which you have sought early clarification, I can confirm that the scope of the new Air Quality Study 2 (LPE35) has changed beyond that of the Air Quality Study previously submitted in Appendix 4 of the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) (KD5).

The previously submitted Air Quality Study relied on London-wide data and traffic modelling, but the impacts of Local Plan 1 alone were not determined. As such, the data used to assess likely traffic increases did not properly follow the appropriate Natural England guidance (NEA001). Air Quality Study 2 (LPE35), undertaken with the support of Air Quality Specialists WSP, addresses this omission and concludes that potential impacts of the Local Plan 'alone' can be screened out, as can the relative contribution of the Local Plan to 'in-combination' effects. It also concludes that an Air Quality Mitigation Strategy is not required.

In short, Air Quality Study 2 (LPE35) shows that the implementation of Local Plan 1 will result in a reduction in vehicular trips across the borough, including on the majority of roads within 200m of Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Any predicted increase in Average Annual Daily Trips (AADT) on roads within 200m of Epping Forest SAC is well below the 50 AADT threshold of change that is typically applied by Natural England when considering the impacts of Local Plans alone, and the subsequent need to consider in-combination effects.

We have confirmed with Natural England that their air quality specialists' review of Air Quality Study 2 (LPE35) will be completed by 4th November 2022.

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Parsons
Assistant Director – Place & Design