

Date: 21 February 2017
Our ref: 200322
Your ref: TR010006



M20Junction10a@pins.gsi.gov.uk

BY EMAIL ONLY

Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Sirs

NSIP Reference Name / Code: APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROPOSED M20 JUNCTION 10A, ASHFORD, KENT

Thank you for your consultation on the above. Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

1. NATURAL ENGLAND'S ADVICE

We have no issues, concerns or further advice in relation to the proposal.

1.1. The questions received

In '**Administrative arrangements, agendas and process information for the Examination hearings taking place in w/c 20 February 2017**', the Examining Authority asked Natural England a number of questions. These are set out, along with the answers, in the table provided.

Questions	
	F. Nature Conservation 4. Compensatory habitat for reptiles and amphibians. i. With regard to the alternative pond that will now be created in plot no 4/11/D following discussions with Friends Life (Environmental Update Report (REP3-022)), can the Applicant confirm that this change will not change the conclusions presented in the ES? ii. Are Natural England and the Councils content with this change?
Answer	We are content. There is no requirement for aquatic habitat compensation for great crested newts (in terms of the licence), so the creation of a new pond is likely to fall under enhancement measures and therefore unlikely to negatively change the conclusions of the ES.
	N. Statements of Common Ground 6. Applicant and Natural England – A signed SoCG (REP3-013) was submitted at Deadline 3 with all matters shown as agreed. Would the Applicant and Natural England confirm the status of the SoCG?
Answer	It has been signed and agreed.