

A19 Downhill Lane Junction Improvement
Scheme Number: TR010024
6.7 Assessment of Nature Conservation Effects

APFP Regulation 5(2)(I)
Planning Act 2008
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)
Regulations 2009

Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

A19 DOWNHILL LANE JUNCTION IMPROVEMENT

The A19 (Downhill Lane Junction Improvement) Development Consent Order 201[]

ASSESSMENT OF NATURE CONSERVATION EFFECTS

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 This document relates to an application by Highways England to the Secretary of State under the Planning Act 2008 (the Application) for the Highways England A19 Downhill Lane Junction Improvement Development Consent Order (the Scheme).
- 1.1.2 This document has been prepared in compliance with the requirements of Regulation 5(2)(I) of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009, which requires an application for a Development Consent Order to be accompanied by:
- ‘Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying –*
- (i) any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation such as sites of geological or landscape importance;*
 - (ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and*
 - (iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan.*
- together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the proposed development.’*
- 1.1.3 This document has also been prepared in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government guidance, ‘Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance’ (June 2013).
- 1.1.4 As this document is part of a suite of documents it should be read alongside and is informed by the other Application documents. In particular, this document should be read alongside the Environmental Statement (the ES) (**Application Document Reference: TR010024/APP/6.1 to 6.3**).

2 ASSESSMENT OF NATURE CONSERVATION EFFECTS

- 2.1.1 Statutory and non-statutory designated sites of nature conservation importance within 2 km of the works are shown on Figure 9.1 of the ES (**Application Document Reference: TR010024/APP/6.2**).
- 2.1.2 Habitats of protected species, important habitats and other diversity features are detailed in Chapter 9 of the ES (**Application Document Reference: TR010024/APP/6.1**), supported by a series of ecological survey reports in Appendix 9.1 of the ES (**Application Document Reference: TR010024/APP/6.3**).
- 2.1.3 An assessment of the effects of the Scheme on the topics listed below can be found in the ES (**Application Document References TR010024/APP/6.1 to 6.3**):
- Habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features are covered in Chapter 9 (Ecology and Nature Conservation).
 - Geological features are covered in Chapter 10 (Geology and Soils) and Figures 10.1 and 10.2. There are no designated geological features in the study area for this topic.
 - Waterbodies are covered in Chapter 14 (Road Drainage and Water Environment) and Figure 14-1. There are no nationally or internationally designated waterbodies in the study area. Five water bodies are designated by the local authority as Local Wildlife Sites (see Figure 9.1):
 - Make-Me-Rich Meadow LWS, 24 m north of the Scheme, containing a section of the River Don;
 - Elliscope Farm East Hylton, 120 m west of the Scheme, containing a section of the River Don leading east from Hylton Bridge Farm;
 - Mount Pleasant Marsh, including open water, at the south-east corner of Testo's Junction roundabout and 910 m north of the Scheme;
 - Boldon Lake, a small artificial lake 950 m north of the Scheme, directly north-east of Testo's Junction; and
 - Calf Close Burn, a priority habitat stream across agricultural land 1.7 km north-west of the Scheme.