

**From:** SM-NE-Consultations (NE) <[consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk)>

**Sent:** 24 October 2019 11:29

**To:** Smart, Chloe <[Chloe.Smart@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Chloe.Smart@herefordshire.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** Response to Planning Consultation - 193458 - West Winds, Cholstrey Road, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 8RT

Please **see below** for Natural England's response in relation to the above consultation.

Dear Sirs,

**Application ref: 193458**

**Our ref: 297079**

Natural England advise that a Habitat Regulations Assessment is required (Screening /and Appropriate Assessment). The River Lugg currently suffers from the effects of point source and diffuse water pollution and levels of phosphates have exceeded the conservation objectives. Please be aware that Natural England is unable to respond to casework in the Lugg catchment in the short term, whilst we seek guidance from national specialists and our legal team regarding our position on proposals that are not phosphate neutral or ecologically inconsequential. We would advise the Local Authority to also seek their own legal advice.

Yours faithfully,

**Kate Stanley**

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Natural England  
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**We are here to secure a healthy natural environment for people to enjoy, where wildlife is protected and England's traditional landscapes are safeguarded for future generations.**

**Natural England offers two chargeable services - the Discretionary Advice Service, which provides pre-application and post-consent advice on planning/licensing proposals to developers and consultants, and the Pre-submission Screening Service for European Protected Species mitigation licence applications. These services help applicants take appropriate account of environmental considerations at an early stage of project development, reduce uncertainty, the risk of delay and added cost at a later stage, whilst securing good results for the natural environment.**

For further information on the Discretionary Advice Service see [here](#)

For further information on the Pre-submission Screening Service see [here](#)