

Part B – Please use a separate sheet for each representation

Name or Organisation: **NATURAL ENGLAND**

3. To which part of the Local Plan does this representation relate?

Paragraph	<input type="text"/>	Policy	<input type="text" value="Delivery Policy DES2 - Green Infrastructure"/>	Policies Map	<input type="text"/>
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4. Do you consider the Local Plan is :

4.(1) Legally compliant	Yes	<input type="text" value="✓"/>	No	<input type="text"/>
4.(2) Sound	Yes	<input type="text" value="✓"/>	No	<input type="text"/>
4.(3) Complies with the Duty to co-operate	Yes	<input type="text" value="✓"/>	No	<input type="text"/>

Please tick as appropriate

5. Please give details of why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate. Please be as precise as possible.

If you wish to support the legal compliance or soundness of the Local Plan or its compliance with the duty to co-operate, please also use this box to set out your comments.

We welcome this policy for the important role it has in supporting the protection, management, creation and delivery of this multifunctional resource. Multifunctional green infrastructure (including blue infrastructure) serves to link and buffer habitats and species from the landscape scale right up to people's doorsteps and, as a result, providing people with opportunities for contact with nature, with positive benefits for both physical and mental well-being. The resource also has a critical role to play in safeguarding ecosystem services (promoting clean air and water and healthy soils for

example) and addressing climate change impacts, for example through helping to regulate temperatures and carbon storage.

In terms of the type and scale of green infrastructure benefitting from the plan's policies we also refer to our supporting response on policies DHC6&7:

Natural England is leading the Green Infrastructure Standards project; a vital contribution to delivery of the 25 Year Environment Plan. Research within the project has identified key benchmarks that are informing the update of Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards. We're also developing the first official England-wide map of GI. The new standards are programmed for a launch in the Summer next year and we look forward to working with the Council to contribute to the proposed Supplementary Planning Document on this subject.

(Continue on a separate sheet /expand box if necessary)

6. Please set out the modification(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified at 5 above. (Please note that non-compliance with the duty to co-operate is incapable of modification at examination). You will need to say why each modification will make the Local Plan legally compliant or sound. It will be helpful if you are able to put forward your suggested revised wording of any policy or text. Please be as precise as possible.

N/a

(Continue on a separate sheet /expand box if necessary)

Please note In your representation you should provide succinctly all the evidence and supporting information necessary to support your representation and your suggested modification(s). You should not assume that you will have a further opportunity to make submissions.

After this stage, further submissions may only be made if invited by the Inspector, based on the matters and issues he or she identifies for examination.

7. If your representation is seeking a modification to the plan, do you consider it necessary to participate in examination hearing session(s)?

No, I do not wish to participate in hearing session(s)

Yes, I wish to participate in hearing session(s)

Please note that while this will provide an initial indication of your wish to participate in hearing session(s), you may be asked at a later point to confirm your request to participate.

8. If you wish to participate in the hearing session(s), please outline why you consider this to be necessary:

N/a

Please note the Inspector will determine the most appropriate procedure to adopt to hear those who have indicated that they wish to participate in hearing session(s). You may be asked to confirm your wish to participate when the Inspector has identified the matters and issues for examination.

