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Our ref: 400781



Sara Dilmamode  
City of York Council  
West Offices  
Station Rise  
York  
YO1 6GA  
[Sara.Dilmamode@york.gov.uk](mailto:Sara.Dilmamode@york.gov.uk)

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

**BY EMAIL ONLY**

T 0300 060 3900

Dear Sara

**Planning consultation:** Consultation on the Defence Infrastructure Organisation Hearing Statement for Matter 5 Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall (Sites ST35 And H59) dated July 2022

Thank you for consulting Natural England.

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.

Natural England notes the Defence Infrastructure Organisation Hearing Statement for Matter 5 Queen Elizabeth Barracks, Strensall (Sites ST35 And H59) dated July 2022. We do not consider that the statement presents any new evidence and can confirm that it does not change the position set out in our previous statements on this matter.

We note that para 1.5 g) states that the 2020 HRA takes no account of the 2021 Condition Assessment. Natural England is not concerned that the updated Strensall Common Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) condition assessment would materially affect the assessment or conclusions of the HRA however we advise it would be helpful to append the updated SSSI condition assessment and accompanying assessment notes with the final HRA for completeness.

We would be happy to comment further should the need arise but if in the meantime you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

For any queries relating to the specific advice in this letter please contact Merlin Ash at [Merlin.ash@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:Merlin.ash@naturalengland.org.uk) or on 02080 266382. For any new consultations, or to provide further information on this consultation please send your correspondences to [consultations@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk).

Yours sincerely

Merlin Ash  
Yorkshire and Northern Lincolnshire Team  
Natural England