

City Centre & University AAP Public Examination

Statement of Common Ground between Plymouth City Council and Natural England.

The Council prepared a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report of the City Centre & University AAP in October 2009. Natural England has agreed the recommendations and conclusions within this report, which was submitted alongside the plan.

The results of the HRA do not affect the soundness of the plan, but do require minor points of clarification to ensure the AAP's compliance with this area of legislation.

These changes focus around the need to ensure that the City Centre's surface water drainage infrastructure is sufficient to protect the Plymouth Sound & Estuaries European Marine Site from pollutants generated from surface water run off.

The recommended changes are:

- Add a 5th criteria to Policy CC06 (page 32) stating *'Deliver improvements to Surface Water Drainage systems, reduce Flood Risk and protect Plymouth Sound & Estuaries European Marine Site from water pollution'*
- Add 11th criteria to Policy CC03 City Centre Public Realm (page 24) stating *'Deliver improvements to Surface Water Drainage systems, reduce Flood Risk and protect Plymouth Sound & Estuaries European Marine Site from water pollution'*
- Under Key Infrastructure Requirements (page 17) add a line for Improvements to Surface Water Drainage Systems 2012 – 2020
- Additional line in Chapter 13 Table 2 - Community Benefits : (Requirement : Improvements to Surface Water Drainage Infrastructure; Justification: To manage increasing risks of surface water flooding and ensure run off does not adversely affect the Plymouth Sound & Estuaries European Marine site)

The Council would like to suggest that the Inspector includes these points of clarification within his recommendations on the City Centre & University Area Action Plan.