

Date: 04 October 2013  
Our ref: 95387



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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

Dear Planning Policy Group,

**Planning consultation:** Development Management Local Plan Proposed Submission.  
**Location:** Lewisham.

Thank you for your consultation on the above dated 16 August 2013.

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.

The Local Plan Proposed Submission version, as at this time, can be broadly supported by Natural England. The comments made previously in our correspondence dated January 14<sup>th</sup> 2013, relating to the updating of the document to come into line with the National Planning and Policy Framework (NPPF) should now be included to bring the document up to date fully. The sections relating to Green infrastructure, whether this is in Plans or Strategies are a very useful tool for attaining high quality sustainable design.

Open Space and Biodiversity and Landscape and Trees are welcomed sections that were commented on in the previous correspondence and would be useful in achieving resilient and sustainable ecosystems within designs.

We really value your feedback to help us improve the service we offer. We have attached a feedback form to this letter and welcome any comments you might have about our service.

Yours sincerely,

Piotr Behnke  
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