

**From:** [Storey, Claire \(NE\)](#)  
**To:** [@111](#)  
**cc:** [@111](#); [Thomas, Paul \(NE\);](#)  
**Subject:** 5698\_75073\_2012\_19709 Clay Pigeon Shoot Prospect Farm, Prospect Lane, Warrington  
**Date:** 29 January 2013 16:22:00  
**Attachments:** [Land Use Planning Consultation Feedback form \(v.2.1.2\)\\_pub\\_0001.pdf](#)

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Dear Richard

With regard to the most recent ornithological report and in relation to our previous email of 8 October, we have the following comments to make.

In our response of 6 August 2012, we stated that we were generally satisfied with the level of survey and the proposals for screening and monitoring. However, you contacted Natural England to advise that it was not possible to condition any of the proposals as specified by the applicant. We stated in our response of 8 October that if conditions could not be applied due to the enforceability of them, then we would still have concerns about this application. Our comments made in the email of 8 October makes it clear that our original objection (29 May 2012) still stands should the mitigation and monitoring proposed be unenforceable through conditions.

As we see it, the objection of 29 May 2012, is still in force as disturbance to breeding birds, which is one of the features of Risley Moss SSSI, is highly likely to occur.

The applicant needs to provide your Authority with a robust method to minimise/ negate disturbance to the notified features of the SSSI. One of the ways in which this may be achievable, but would need a noise specialist to investigate, is to erect permanent acoustic screening to the north of the proposed shooting range. The extent of the acoustic screening would need to be determined by a noise specialist. The visual impacts of such screening would also need to be considered. We are aware of some acoustic screening/ curtains which are used to minimise the noise during construction, but may be possible to consider use in the longer/ more permanent term. We have provided a link to a manufacturer who state in their product information that up to 32dB noise reduction can be achieved by their curtains (<http://soundexsolutions.com/curtains.html>). At this point we are not endorsing the company who supply the acoustic curtains, but offering you and the applicant a way in which the noise could be attenuated to a degree that may lessen/ negate the effect on breeding birds. If the noise specialist can provide confirmation that this mitigation measure would be effective, consideration could also be given to erecting these (or similar) acoustic curtaining around the shooting enclosures.

In light of the above, we re-affirm that we object to this application on the grounds of insufficient information to prevent damage or harm to features of Risley Moss SSSI. Should the applicant provide additional information to satisfy Natural England and your Authority that the proposals will not damage or harm the SSSI, we may be in a position to remove our objection. We look forward to seeing additional information in due course.

If your Authority is minded to grant consent for this application contrary to the advice relating to Risley Moss contained in this letter, we refer you to Section 281 (6) of the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981* (as amended), specifically the duty placed upon your authority, requiring

that your Authority;

- Provide notice to Natural England of the permission, and of its terms, the notice to include a statement of how (if at all) your authority has taken account of Natural England's advice, and
- Shall not grant a permission which would allow the operations to start before the end of a period of 21 days beginning with the date of that notice.

I have also attached a Customer Feedback Survey. The aim of the survey is to monitor the quality of our service and contributes to Natural England's commitment to an improved customer focus. If you would like to let us have your views, we would be grateful if you could take a few minutes to answer these questions and return the completed form to us, by email. Thank you.

Regards

Claire Storey

Lead Adviser

Land Use Operations Team - Crewe

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**Please note I work a 9 day fortnight and my usual non work day is Friday.**

My global crossing teleconference number is 0800 528 5280 (Landlines) and 0207 979 0003 (Mobile phones). Access code: 0604230

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In an effort to reduce Natural England's carbon footprint, I will, wherever possible, avoid travelling to meetings and attend via audio, video or web conferencing.