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Our ref: 319730/15342



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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

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Dear Ms Jackson,

**Discretionary Advice Service Request**

**Development: Crematorium and burial site**

**Location: Turners Hill Burial Ground Site, Turners Hill Road, Turners Hill, West Sussex, RH10 4PE**

Thank you for submitting the Discretionary Advice Service Request Form dated and received by Natural England on 15 June 2020.

Natural England is unable to accommodate this DAS request because of a lack of capacity to take on more cases. The decision to take on DAS requests is made on a case-by-case basis. Natural England is experiencing high volumes of casework at the current time. Should you wish to submit your request form again in a month, we will review if we can accommodate your request then. However due to the current workload, we cannot confirm a definite date that we could take this request on.

Apologies for the inconvenience.

Yours sincerely,  
Dawn Kinrade  
Consultations Team

**Annex 1**  
**European Protected Species**

A licence is required in order to carry out any works that involve certain activities such as capturing the animals, disturbance, or damaging or destroying their resting or breeding places. Note that damage or destruction of a breeding site or resting place is an absolute offence and unless the offences can be avoided (e.g. by timing the works appropriately), it should be licensed. In the first instance it is for the developer to decide whether a species licence will be needed. The developer may need to engage specialist advice in making this decision. A licence may be needed to carry out mitigation work as well as for impacts directly connected with a development. Further information can be found in Natural England's ['How to get a licence'](#) publication.

If the application requires planning permission, it is for the local planning authority to consider whether the permission would offend against Article 12(1) of the Habitats Directive, and if so, whether the application would be likely to receive a licence. This should be based on the advice Natural England provides at formal consultation on the likely impacts on favourable conservation status and Natural England's [guidance](#) on how the three tests (no alternative solutions, imperative reasons of overriding public interest and maintenance of favourable conservation status) are applied when considering licence applications.

Natural England's pre-submission Screening Service can screen application drafts prior to formal submission, whether or not the relevant planning permission is already in place. Screening will help applicants by making an assessment of whether the draft application is likely to meet licensing requirements, and, if necessary, provide specific guidance on how to address any shortfalls. The advice should help developers and ecological consultants to better manage the risks or costs they may face in having to wait until the formal submission stage after planning permission is secured, or in responding to requests for further information following an initial formal application.

The service will be available for new applications, resubmissions or modifications – depending on customer requirements. More information can be found on [Natural England's website](#).