

Email from National Park Authority dated 7 October 2016

Dear Ailsa,

I write to advise that the Latchmore planning application will not be reported to this month's Planning Development Control Committee (PDCC) meeting as originally planned.

As you know, there has been mention in recent weeks of Natural England undertaking a 'review' of wetland restoration in the New Forest, and how this might be relevant to the consideration of the current proposals for Latchmore Brook.

Natural England have since confirmed that the review is an ongoing piece of work that has been progressing for the past 12 months, looking at the evidence supporting wetland restoration projects in the New Forest. Both Natural England and the Forestry Commission recently agreed to prioritise finalising this assessment of the evidence via an independent peer review, which is expected to be completed within the next two weeks. A copy of Natural England's latest letter dated 27 September 2016 is attached FYI (which is available to view on the NPA website).

Whilst we have been advised that this work does not include a detailed review of the Latchmore Brook planning application, we have nonetheless made the decision to delay reporting the planning application to PDCC to allow the review to be completed. Accordingly, the application will now be reported to PDCC on 15 November 2016.

In the meantime, we are keeping DCLG officials informed as the application progresses, which includes the revised timetable for reporting the application to PDCC (following the two local MPs' request to the Secretary of State to 'call in' the application).

Kind regards,

Steve

**Steve Avery**

**Executive Director (Strategy and Planning)**

New Forest National Park Authority

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