

Robert Smith
Deputy Head, Major Disposals
DIO Headquarters
Kingston Road
Sutton Coldfield
West Midlands
B75 7RL



Beechcroft House
Vicarage Lane
Curdrige
Hampshire
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6th September 2021

feedback@hiwwt.org.uk

Dear Robert Smith,

I am writing on behalf of Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust (HIWWT) to support the proposal by Littleton and Harestock Parish Council to declare 25 hectares of land in the northern field of Flower Down Estate as a Local Nature Reserve and manage it for the benefit of both people and wildlife locally.

Given the climate and nature crisis, the Trust is clear that we must prioritise making more space for nature to help it recover. We believe a Local Nature Reserve would protect and enhance an ecologically important area for nature and contribute to the wider Nature Recovery Network of joined-up habitats to help wildlife recover and adapt to a changing climate as well as other pressures on the environment.

Furthermore, COVID-19 has made many of us recognise the importance of creating space for nature close to where people live. Evidence demonstrates the importance of green and natural spaces for physical and mental wellbeing, and for the future health and vitality of our communities. We believe that this Local Nature Reserve could provide essential connection to wild and green space, contributing to improving health and wellbeing of local people.

Yours sincerely,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Debbie'.

Debbie Tann
Chief Executive
Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

