

From: Matthew.Porter <Matthew.Porter@horsham.gov.uk>
Sent: 08 July 2026 19:20:34 UTC+01:00
To: "Matthew.Porter" <Matthew.Porter@horsham.gov.uk>
Subject: FW: Horsham District DC/26/0322 Steyning Grammar Upper School Shooting Field Steyning West Sussex

Matthew Porter

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Principal Planning Officer

Telephone: 01403 21556

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Email: Matthew.Porter@horsham.gov.uk



Horsham District Council, Alberty House, Springfield Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 2GB

Telephone: 01403 215100 (calls may be recorded) www.horsham.gov.uk Chief Executive: Jane Eaton

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From: Laura Downs <Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com>

Sent: 08 July 2026 16:48

To: Matthew.Porter <Matthew.Porter@horsham.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Horsham District DC/26/0322 Steyning Grammar Upper School Shooting Field Steyning West Sussex

Good afternoon Matthew,

Thank you for consulting us on the above application. The applicant has provided an ecological report in the form of - *Construction Ecological Management Plan, Steyning Grammar School, West Sussex, MKA ecology, May 2026*, which states:

- *"Although there is no aquatic habitat onsite, the woodlands and native hedgerow onsite could be used by Great Crested Newts for refuge, whilst the grassland may provide minimal foraging opportunity for common amphibians,"*

- *"in order to mitigate against any risk of causing injury to amphibians, reptiles, and Hedgehogs during the works, a Method Statement is set out below to outline sensitive working measures that should be followed, should areas of habitat suitable for these species (long sward grassland adjacent to woodlands, woodlands, or native hedgerow) need to be cleared" to facilitate works"*

- Precautionary measures for great crested newts are outlined within the CEMP.

Due to the lack of suitable habitat proposed to be impacted by development plans but given the scale of the development, we are satisfied with the suggested approach and recommend that the avoidance measures within the CEMP detailed for GCN and amphibians are secured via compliance condition.

Best wishes,

Laura Downs (*she/her*)

District Licensing Officer (Great Crested Newts) – West Sussex

NatureSpace Partnership

e: Laura.Downs@naturespaceuk.com

m: 07356 159774

w: www.naturespaceuk.com

Company operating hours: Monday to Thursday 09:00 - 17:00

