

Hampshire Ornithological Society (HOS) comments on the Development Consent Order (DCO) for the Hampshire Water Transfer and Water Recycling Project (WTWRP).

Note: These comments relate to Environmental Statement Appendix 8.5 Ornithology provided to HOS by the Project Team on 10 September and as such are additional to the HOS comments submitted on the 24 August 2026.

My comments are submitted on behalf of the Hampshire Ornithological Society (HOS) a registered charity since 1979 with in-excess of 2000 members. The Societies main objectives include the recording and study of bird life in Hampshire and the use of these records to encourage and support the conservation of wild birds and their habitats.

While section 2.3 of the Ornithology statement defines the zone of influence as the area over which ecological features may receive impacts from a development, the document does not address the possible impacts of the release of reject water on the qualifying birds of the Solent and Southampton Water SPA nor the Solent and Dorset Coast SPA. Of particular concern are the Terns and Gulls that use this area.

Section 2.3.8 of the Ornithology statement seeks to justify this exclusion from the impact assessment on the basis that the Eastney LSO and associated Eastney TT are considered as existing infrastructure and as such the assessment needs only to cover the operational change of use.

HOS reject this position and believe the possible impacts on the SPA qualifying birds from all discharges of reject water from this development into the Solent must be fully addressed by the Project Team. Further details of our position are included in our submission dated 24 August 2026.


Conservation Liaison Officer.
Hampshire Ornithological Society (HOS)
02 October 2026.